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Subject: Re: IDLWAVE Manuals: Your Support Needed  
Posted by [K. Bowman](#) on Thu, 31 Mar 2005 21:36:33 GMT  
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In article <MPG.1cb5d5f06d3f79309899a8@news.frii.com>,  
David Fanning <davidf@dfanning.com> wrote:

> savoie@nsidc.org writes:  
>  
>> I would have just taken vacation, or more likely sick. When my emacs is  
>> crippled it's like trying to program with crayons, or I imagine it's like  
>> punch cards.  
>  
> At least with punch cards, you learned to think. Younger  
> programmers, lacking the discipline of heavy typewriter keys and  
> unforgiving chads, tend to type first and think later, it  
> seems to me. Perhaps that's what RSI has in mind with the  
> standard UNIX interface---slow everyone down and give them  
> a chance to write better programs. Good on ya', as the Aussies  
> say! :-)  
>  
> Cheers,  
>  
> David

Oh, don't get me started! I did my graduate work at an institution that made the same argument (punch cards = slow = thinking). My view, then and now, is that computer programming is fundamentally alien to human thought processes. I will always make typographical, syntactical, and logical errors when writing a program. I want to make (and correct) the errors \*fast\*. Thirty minutes (punch card turnaround time) to find a typo is torture.

Ken

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