

Talking Newspapers??!!

By MEL ROTHENBURGER

It's been a tough day at the office. You park your car in the driveway, walk into your house, kiss the wife, settle into your chair and switch on the evening newspaper.

The Mrs. hands you a can of beer and you lay back, eyes closed, listening to the day's news events.

Wait a minute. Talking newspapers?

That's right, and it's not necessarily something for the 21st Century. According to Detlef Kratz, a Shelley sawmill worker who has invented just such

a machine, it will be a reality within just two years.

Kratz figures it will take that long for his invention to wipe out newspapers as we know them today.

When it does happen, Kratz will be a multi-millionaire and you won't be reading as you are doing now, but listening.

Here, basically, is how it works as far as the subscriber is concerned. Your "paper boy" will deliver a small roll of thin plastic to your doorstep.

You plop the roll in your machine, which could range in size anywhere from that of a large matchbox to a desk type-

writer depending on the publishing company, and the recorded news is spoken to you.

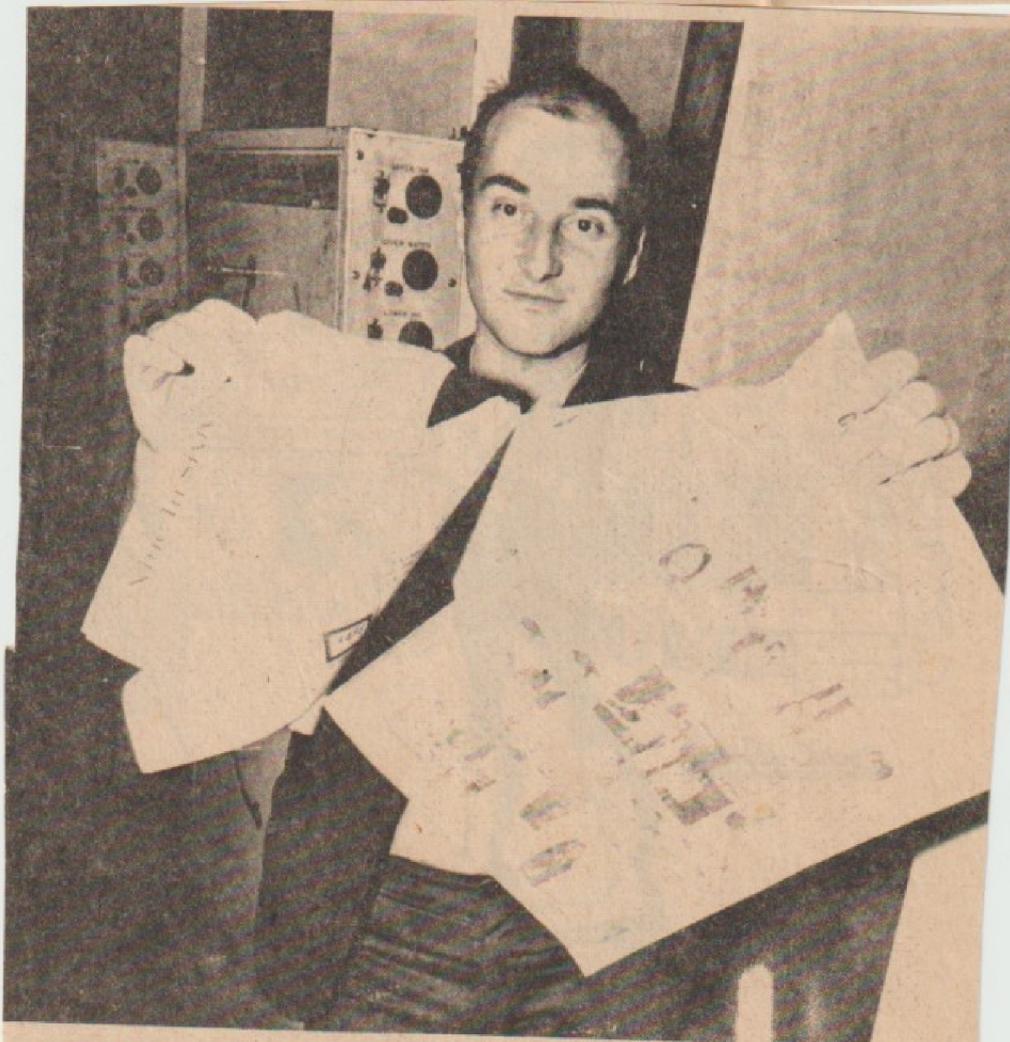
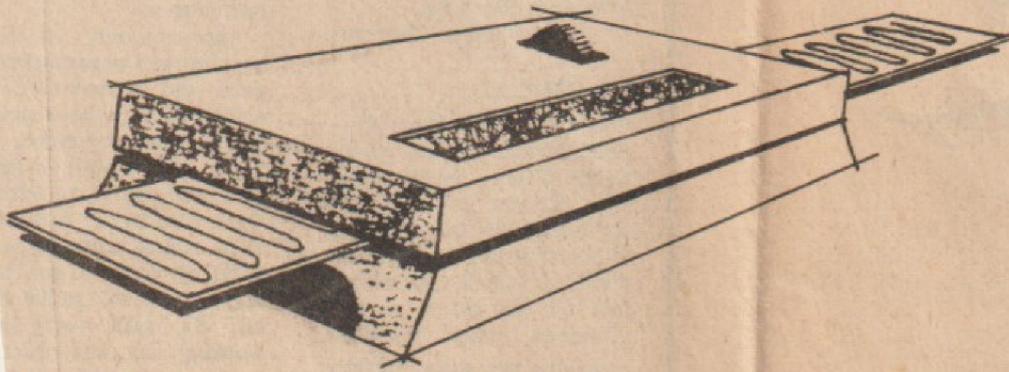
Next day, much the same as with pop bottles, you leave the used roll on the doorstep for the paperboy to exchange.

But Kratz' invention is much more than a tape recording. It employs use of printed photographs and headlines.

But let's start at the beginning.

Kratz first thought of the idea of talking newspapers and magazines about four years ago

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Detlef Kratz says "good-bye" to silent newspapers.