Encartaphillia Richard S. Simpson, Columbia, MD, USA

I purchased my copy of Encarta before I got a CD-ROM drive! I wasn't sure what kind of drive I would buy but I knew what I wanted to put in it!

My experience with Encarta had more than met my expectations, but there is a word of caution to those thinking about purchasing it -- make sure your system is powerful enough. I first tried Encarta on a 386sx with 2MB of RAM and a VGA card -- it was awful! Many of the pictures were undecipherable and it could take almost a minute to move from one area to another. I now have a double-speed CD-ROM drive, a 40Mhz '386 and 8MB of RAM with a Gravis Ultrasound and a SVGA adapter -- that's about what Encarta needs to really shine.