Solution to Date Book

By Stephen Sisk

1. Read the names of all of the meetings on the calendar to find the capital letters. In some cases, the letters are in the middle of the word (p**R**oject on Aug 9), in other cases the letter is at the beginning of the word (**T**eleconference on Aug 1). Read the letters in the order implied by the dates (Aug 1 -> Aug 28.) In some cases, there are multiple capital letters per day. Read down in the day to get the correct order. That spells out TIMES ARE SEMAPHORE FLAGS.
2. If you search for SEMAPHORE FLAGS on Wikipedia, you'll find a reference for modern semaphore, which involve a person holding two flags. TIMES refers to the times on the calendar meetings. Convert the times to an analog clock, and look at position of the hour and minute hands. Those hands correspond to the position of the flags in semaphore. Reading in the same order as you did in part (1), you get COLOURS ARE GUITAR HERO.

   Here's how the conversion works for the first time on the calendar:

5:53am C

3. You're going to convert the color of appointments on a given day to a bit field and then to letters using a guitar hero controller. The colors present in a given day indicate bits that are 1, while colors that aren't present are 0. You can search for images of the guitar hero controllers on the web, which gives you the order of bits (Green Red Yellow Blue Orange). Convert from binary to decimal, then use the A=1, B=2 translation to get THEY WANT YOU TO PLAY FREEBIRD.

Here's how the conversion works for the first day of the calendar:

Green and Yellow are present	GRYBO 10100	10100 = 20	20 = T

Looking back at the calendar, you see that there are certain days highlighted on the calendar by a yellow background. Those days correspond to the letters for the answer, **FREE BIRD**.