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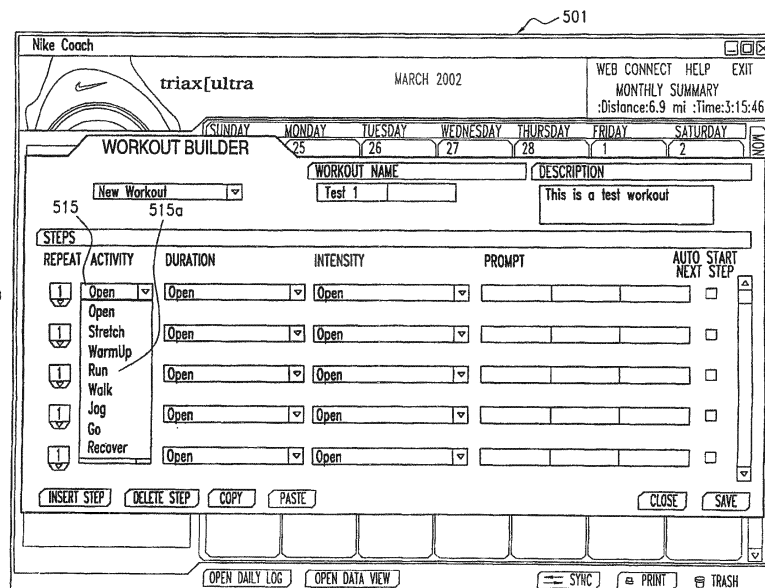
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(54) **A TRAINING DEVICE USING ELECTRONIC WORKOUT SCRIPTS**

(57) A training script device is described that conveniently allows a user to create a training script defining one or more steps of a workout routine, where each step may include an activity, a duration for performing that activity, and an intensity at which the activity is to be performed. Further, one or more steps of the training script can be self-starting in response to performance data detected

by sensors of training script device executing the training script. This conveniently frees the athlete from having to continuously monitor the status of his or her workout activities. Still further, the training script device conveniently allows a user to transfer training scripts to other training script devices, so that athletes can share successful training scripts.

FIG.5D



Description

RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/386,210, filed on May 30, 2002, entitled "Training Scripts" and naming Albert Shum as inventor, which provisional patent application is incorporated entirely herein by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The invention relates to a workout script for providing a user with workout instructions based upon characteristics of the user during the workout, or upon characteristics of the workout itself. For example, a workout script may instruct a user to run until the user's heart rate reaches 80 beats per minute, and then subsequently instruct the user to stretch for a cooling-off period of ten minutes. Alternately, a script may instruct a user to run for a predetermined distance or for a predetermined period of time, and then instruct the user to take another action after the distance has been run or the period of time has expired. Still further, the invention relates to the creation and use of such workout scripts.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] There has been a steadily growing interest in fitness, both for health reasons and for personal development. As the popularity of various physical fitness activities has grown, people have become more interested in achieving specific goals through these activities. For example, some people take up exercise to lose weight, others to participate in a particular type of sport, such as soccer or marathon racing, and still others just to gradually improve their overall physical condition. Correspondingly, a great deal of scientific research has been conducted as to how people may reach these specific goals. For example, some scientific research has indicated that the fastest way for someone to lose fat through exercise is to exercise such that the person's heart rate is maintained within a specific range or "zone" of beats per minute.

[0004] This research should ideally allow people of all walks of life to maximize the results obtained from their fitness activities. In practice, however, few people can take advantage of this research. While an athlete may create a schedule of fitness activities or training routine designed to obtain specific results through one or more physical activities, he or she will probably have difficulty following that training routine while actually engaged in those physical activities.

[0005] For example, an optimized group of physical activities or "workout" may call for an athlete to run until his or her heart rate is within a desired heart rate zone (that is, a percentage range of his or her maximum heart rate), and then switch to another, less strenuous activity,

such as jogging or stretching, after ten minutes. While running, however, that athlete cannot easily determine when his or her heart rate reaches the targeted zone. Even if he or she employs a heart rate monitor to measure his or her heart rate, the athlete must continuously watch the heart rate monitor to ascertain when his or her heart rate reaches the desired zone. The athlete must then initiate a timer to measure how long his or her heart rate remains within the desired zone.

[0006] This module requires significant concentration that detracts from the workout itself. Thus, users will commonly not adhere to a training routine, or, alternatively, will not prepare a detailed training routine that maximizes the results of their workout. Accordingly, there is a need for a method and apparatus that will allow a person to create a training routine scheduling each part or step of a workout, determine when the requirements of a particular step have been fulfilled, and then prompt the user to begin the subsequent step of the workout.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] Advantageously, the invention allows a user to create a training script for a workout. That is, the invention allows a user to create a set of instructions that defines a series of activities to be performed during a workout, and a quantity associated with at least one of the activities. When executed, the instructions prompt a device to sequentially display each activity until the athlete has performed the defined quantity associated with that activity, and then to display the next activity. The device may further allow a user to electronically share created training scripts with others.

[0008] Still further, the invention may include a device that displays a physical activity listed in an electronic training script to a user. The device then detects at least one characteristic of the user's workout associated with a quantity defined in the training script for that physical activity. When the device detects that the workout characteristic matches the defined quantity, the device then displays the next activity subsequently listed in the electronic training script. Thus, the invention provides a way for a user to design a precise training routine, and then to be timely prompted to follow the training routine. Further, the invention allows a user to share a successful training routine with others. These and other features of the invention will become apparent based upon the following description of the invention with reference to associated drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009]

Figure 1 shows a generic computing device that can be used for creating a training script or for implementing a training script according to an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 2 shows a schematic diagram of a device for creating a training script and a device for implementing a training script according to an embodiment of the invention.

Figures 3, 4A, 4B, 5A-5P, 7A-7C and 9 show various user interfaces according to an embodiment of the invention.

Figure 6 illustrates a flow chart for creating a training script.

Figure 8 illustrates a flow chart for using an interface according to an embodiment of the invention to create a plan of one or more training scripts.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Overview

[0010] The invention allows a user to create a training script for a workout. A training script is a group of one or more training steps corresponding to different portions of a workout. Each training step includes instructions to be executed by a computing device. These instructions define an action, such as a physical activity to be performed during a workout, and a quantity associated with that action. When executed by a computing device, the instructions command the computing device to display a prompt for the user to perform the action, until the device receives performance data indicating that the user has performed the quantity designated for the action. The device then executes the next sequential training step. Using these instructions, the device will sequentially display a prompt for the user to perform each action in a workout, until the user performs the designated quantity for each of the actions.

[0011] According to various embodiments of the invention, the quantity for performing an action can be the duration of the action itself. For example, the duration may be the time period for which the action is to be performed. Alternately, the duration may be a distance to be traversed by performing the action. A training step may thus call for an athlete to run for the duration of five miles. Still further, the duration may be the number of times that an action should be repeated, or an amount of work exerted while performing the action. A training step could, for example, call for an athlete to repeat a weight-lifting exercise 20 times, or jog until the athlete has burned 600 calories.

[0012] A step may also specify a quantity for performing an action that is based upon an intensity associated with that action. The intensity of an action may be defined by any desired unit, such as the heart rate experienced by the user while performing the action. The intensity may also be, for example, a pace at which the action is performed, or an amount of force created while performing the action. Still further, a step may include a quantity

specifying both an intensity and a duration. Thus, a step may call for a biker to bike at a force of 200 dynes for 35 minutes. Of course, still other units of measurement can be used to define a quantity for performing an action, such as a user's blood oxygen level or blood pressure level.

General Computing Device

[0013] Various embodiments of the invention may conveniently be implemented on a general-purpose computing device, such as a desktop personal computer, a laptop computer, or a personal digital assistant (PDA), or on a special-purpose computing device, such as a digital wristwatch. Referring now to Figure 1, this figure illustrates an exemplary general-purpose computer device that can be used to implement various aspects of the invention. In Figure 1, the computer device 101 has a computer 103 that includes a processor 105, such as a programmable microprocessor, and a system memory 107 coupled to the processor 105. The system memory 107 may be implemented using any appropriate memory devices, such as one or more microcircuit devices. The system memory 107 will typically include both a read only memory (ROM) 109 and a random access memory (RAM) 111. The ROM 109 and RAM 111 may be connected to the processor 105 using a conventional bus structure (not shown), such as a memory bus or memory controller, a peripheral bus, and a local bus using any of a variety of bus architectures.

[0014] The computer device 101 will also include one or more input devices 113. For example, if the computer device 101 is a conventional desktop computer or laptop computer, it may include a keyboard 113a, and a pointing device 113b, such as a mouse or touchpad. Further, the computer device 101 may include additional or alternate input devices 113, such as a microphone, a pointing stick, or a digitizer for accepting input through a stylus. If the computer device 101 is a special-purpose computing device, such as a digital wristwatch, it may instead only have input devices suited for its particular purpose.

[0015] For example, rather than a large keyboard 113a or pointing device 113b, if the computer device 101 is a wristwatch it may instead include a button interface 113c having a small number of depressable buttons. It may also have one or more sensors 113d for measuring characteristics of the device's environment. Thus, the sensors 113d may include a heart rate monitor for measuring the heart rate of a person using the computer device 101, an accelerometer or pedometer for measuring the travel of a person using the computer device 101, a thermometer, an altimeter, a compass, a blood oxygen monitor for monitoring the blood oxygen content of a person using the computer device 101, or other measurement device. A sensor 113d may be included in the same casing as the computing device 103, or the sensor 113d may be remotely locating and transmit measured data to the computing device 103 using a wired or wireless medium.

[0016] The computer device 101 will also include one or more output devices 115, such as a display screen 115a, a printer 115b, and speakers 115c. For example, if the computer device 101 is a conventional desktop computer, then the display screen 115a may be a large CRT or flat panel monitor. Alternately, if the computer device 101 is a special-purpose computing device, it may only have the output devices 115 suited for its particular purpose. For example, if the computer device 101 is a digital wristwatch, display screen 115a may be a small LCD display, and the computer device 101 may have only one small speaker 115b and omit the printer 115c altogether. Of course, the computer device 101 may also include additional or alternate output devices 115 as desired.

[0017] Depending upon its configuration, the computer device 101 may also include one or more peripheral data storage devices 117. The computer device 101 may have, for example, a magnetic disk drive 117a for reading from and writing to a magnetic disk (such as a hard disk drive or a floppy disk drive), and an optical disk drive 117b for reading from or writing to a removable optical disk (such as a CD ROM or other optical media). Of course, the computer device 101 may also include other types of data storage devices 117, such as magnetic cassettes, flash memory cards, digital video disks, Bernoulli cartridges. Also, if the computer device 101 is a digital wristwatch, then the computer device 101 may include a small peripheral data storage device 117, such as a Memory Stick or a Secure Digital card.

[0018] As will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, the computer device 101 executes instructions stored in the system memory 107. These instructions may be retrieved to the system memory 107 from one or more of the peripheral storage devices. In addition, the computer device 101 may receive input data for executing the instructions from a user through the input devices 113. Similarly, the computer device 101 may output the results of executing the instructions to the user through the output devices 115.

[0019] Some computer devices 101 can operate in a network of other computer devices 101. The network may be, for example, a local area network (LAN) 119 or a wide area network (WAN) 121, such as the Internet. For connection to the local area network 119, the computer device 101 may include a network interface or adapter 123. For connection to the wide area network 121, the computer device may include a modem 125 or other means for establishing communications over the wide area network 121. Of course, it will be appreciated that the network connections shown are exemplary, and that other techniques for establishing a communications link with other computer devices 101 can be used. Further, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that a variety of communication protocols may be used for exchanging data between computer devices 101, such as TCP/IP, Ethernet, FTP, HTTP.

System For Creating And Executing A Training Script

[0020] Figure 2 illustrates a master device 201 for creating a training script, and a servant device 211 for implementing a training script. More particularly, a user employs the master device 201 to create instructions making up a training script, and the servant device 211 executes the instructions of the training script. As will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, the master device 201 may be a computer device 101 of the type described above, such as a desktop or laptop computer, implementing a software application for defining training scripts. Of course, with various embodiments of the invention, the master device 201 may instead be a hardware or firmware device for creating training scripts.

[0021] Once the user has created the training script, the script is transferred from the master device 201 to the servant device 211. With some embodiments of the invention, the servant device 211 may be a portable computer device 101 of the type described above that can be easily carried by an athlete during a workout. For example, the servant device 211 may be embodied as a wristwatch with one or more remote sensors for measuring various characteristics of the user's workout. Of course, the servant device 211 also may be implemented with other types of portable computer devices, such as personal digital assistants. Alternately, the servant device 211 may be implemented using hardware or firmware.

Device For Creating A Training Script

[0022] As seen in Fig. 2, the master device 201 includes a master control module 203, a master user interface module 205, a master device interface module 207, and a master script database 209. As will be discussed in detail below, for each step to be included in a training script, the master user interface module 205 prompts a user to input data specifying an action to be performed for that step. The master user interface module 205 also prompts the user to specify a quantity of the action to be performed. From the input data received through the master user interface module 205, the master control module 203 creates training steps for operating the servant device 211, and compiles the training steps into a training script file.

[0023] The master control module 203 then forwards the training script file to the master script database 209 for storage. As will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, the master script database 209 may be embodied using any suitable memory medium. The master script database 209, for example, may be implemented on a microcircuit random access memory, a magnetic disk drive, a writable optical disk drive or the like.

[0024] When the user desires to exercise using the created training script, the user instructs the master control module 203 to transfer the training script file from the master script database 209 to the master device interface

module 207. The master device interface module 207 then provides the training script file to the servant device 211. As will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, the master device interface module 207 can be implemented using a variety of techniques. For example, the master device interface module 207 may employ a wireless communication device to communicate with the servant device 211, such as an infrared or radio frequency transmitter. Alternately, the master device interface module 207 may include a cable port for employing a hard-wired communication device to communicate with the servant device 211, such as an RS-232, USB or Firewire link.

[0025] With some embodiments of the invention, the master device interface module 207 or other interface module may allow the master device 201 to transmit training scripts files to and/or receive training script files from a variety of other devices in addition to the servant device 211, such as other computing devices 101 including, for example, other master devices 201. Again, the master device interface module 207 may employ any suitable communication protocol to transfer training script files from the master device interface module 207 to these other devices. It should be noted that training script files, like other electronic files, can be transferred from the master device 201 to other computer devices 101 using any known file transfer technique. For example, the master device 201 may be embodied by a personal computer that also supports electronic mailing protocols, such as the POP3 protocol. With this arrangement, a user can transfer a training script from the master device 201 to another computer device 101 using electronic mail. Also, protocols such as WiFi or Bluetooth for wireless communications can be used to wirelessly transmit training script files to other devices.

[0026] By allowing a user to transfer created training script files from the master device 201 to another computer device 101, athletes may easily and conveniently share successful training routines with each other. Rather than having to write down a particular training routine, an athlete can simply transfer the electronic training script file to another athlete using, for example, electronic mail. The athlete receiving the electronic training script file can then forward the file to his or her servant device 211, and exercise according to the routine defined by the training script file without ever having to examine or manually copy the workout routine defined by the training script.

Creating A Training Script

[0027] Figure 3 illustrates a first user interface 301 provided by the master user interface module 205 for creating a training script. The interface 301 includes a group of data fields that allow a user to define a user profile. As will be discussed below, defining a user profile allows a user to associate one or more workouts and a servant device 211 with a particular athlete. This conveniently allows more than one person to share the use of the

master device 201 without confusing training script files between the users.

[0028] The interface 301 includes a name field 303 naming the profile. Thus, a user may enter his or her own name into the name field 303 to identify the user profile with that particular user. Each user profile includes a schedule of training scripts selected by the user. Each profile also contains a group of training script files, referred to as the "favorite workouts" group. A user may then add existing training script files to or delete training script files from this group of favorite training scripts. The favorite workouts group allows a user to avoid having to scroll through every training script created with or received by the master device 201 each time the user wants to use a particular script. Instead, the user can simply include his or her favorite training script in the "favorite workout" group for the user's profile, and select a desired script for use directly from this smaller group. As will be explained in detail below, when a user "synchronizes" the servant device 211 to the master device 201, both the training scripts in the "favorite workout" group and the scheduled training scripts are copied to the servant device 211.

[0029] In addition to the name field 303, the interface 301 also has a servant device identification field 305, which associates the user profile with a particular servant device 211. As noted above, a computer device 101 used to embody a servant device 211 may have one or more sensors 113d for measuring the characteristics of a user's activities. A training script may thus include instructions that are executed in response to the servant device 211 receiving data from a particular type of sensor 113d. Different servant devices 211 may have different types of sensors 113d, however, so a workout that may execute on one servant device 211 may not properly execute on a different servant device 211. The value of the servant device identification field 305 can be used to address differences in servant devices by specifically identifying the user's servant device 211, and, by extension, the sensors 113d and other equipment included with the user's servant device 211.

[0030] For example, the master device 201 may include a table correlating servant device 211 identification values with one or more sensors 113d. Thus, when the user enters a value into the servant device identification field 305, the master device 201 can determine the sensors 113d employed by the user's servant device 211 from the table. Alternately, the master device 201 may use the value entered into the servant device identification field 305 to determine the sensors 113d available for use by the servant device 211 from a remote source, such as a database available over a network (e.g., the Internet). If the user's servant device 211 does not have a particular sensor 113d required by a training script, then the master device 201 may refrain from copying that training script to the user's servant device 211 during synchronization.

[0031] The interface 301 also includes age, weight and

sex fields 307-311, respectively. The user may enter this information about himself or herself into these fields. Of course, with other embodiments of the invention, the interface 301 may include fields for additional user health information, or may omit any of fields 307-311 entirely.

[0032] After the user has created a user profile by entering the relevant values into the interface 301, the master user interface module 207 displays interface 401 shown in Figure 4A. This interface, which is the main user interface for creating and using training scripts, includes a user profile sub-interface 403, a set watch sub-interface 405, a plans sub-interface 407, a workout sub-interface 409, a favorite workouts sub-interface 411, and a calendar sub-interface 413. The user profile sub interface 403 includes a name field 403a, identifying the name of the currently selected user profile, and an edit button 403b, which, when activated, causes the master user interface module 207 to display the user interface 301. The set watch sub-interface 405 is a command button. As will be discussed in detail below, activating the command button 405 causes the master user interface module 207 to display a user interface for adjusting the settings of the associated servant device 211, which, in this embodiment, is a watch. The favorite workouts sub-interface 411 provides a listing of the training scripts the user has included in the favorite workouts group of the profile.

[0033] The workout sub-interface 409 includes a list 409a of previously created (or received) training scripts corresponding to individual workout routines. The workout sub-interface 409 also includes a workout builder command button 409b that allows a user to create a new training script. When a user activates the workout builder command button 409b, the master user interface module 207 provides the user with interface 501 shown in Figure 5A. The operation of this interface will be explained with reference to Figures 5A-5P and to Figure 6, which illustrates a flowchart showing how a training script can be created using the interface 501.

[0034] First, in step 601, the user enters the name of the training script into the workout selection field 503 of the interface 501. As will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, the workout selection field 503 provides a drop-down menu 503a, listing the previously created workout training scripts associated with the current user profile, as shown in Figure 5B. Thus, if the user is going to edit a training script that already exists, the user simply selects the name of that training script from the drop-down menu 503a. If the user instead wishes to create a new workout training script, he or she selects the name "New Workout" from the drop down menu 503a. This selection ensures that the remaining fields in the display 501 are empty for the user to enter values, as shown in Figure 5A.

[0035] The interface 501 also includes a workout name field 505 and a description field 507. The workout name field 505 allows a user to create a name for the new workout training script, as shown in Figure 5C. Providing a

name for a workout training script conveniently allows it to be easily referenced later. As also seen in Figure 5C, the description field 507 can contain a brief description of the workout training script, such as an identification of its purpose or difficulty.

[0036] The interface 501 further includes a steps interface 509 (referred to by the title "STEPS" in the figure). The steps interface 509 includes a plurality of step sub-interfaces 511. Each step sub-interface 511 appears as a row of six fields 513-523. More particularly, as seen in Figure 5A, each step sub-interface 511 includes a repeat field 513, an activity field 515, a duration field 517, an intensity field 519, a prompt field 521, and an auto start field 523. The function and operation of each of these fields 513-523 will be described in detail below. The steps interface 509 also includes edit buttons 525-531 for editing the arrangement of the step sub-interfaces 511. The function and use of these edit buttons 525-531 are well known in the art, and thus will not be discussed in detail here.

[0037] Turning first to the field 515, this field provides a drop-down menu 515a listing a variety of actions. For example, as seen in Figure 5D, the drop-down menu 515a may include the actions "open" (that is, no specified activity), "stretch," "warm up," "run," "walk," "jog," "go," and "recover." Of course, it will be appreciated that other embodiments of the invention may list more, less or different activities. Using the drop-down menu 515a, in step 603 the user selects a particular activity to be displayed in the field 515. It should also be noted, however, that while the illustrated embodiment of the invention employs the drop-down menu 515a to select a value for the field 515, other embodiments of the invention may allow a user to enter a value directly into the field 515.

[0038] When the user selects the value of the field 515, this value is then added to the prompt field 521. The prompt field 521 for a step sub-interface 511 contains the information that will be displayed to a user when instructions corresponding to that step are later executed by a servant device 211. Thus, if the user selects the activity "run" for the field activity field 515, the word "run" is added to the prompt field 521, as seen in Figure 5E. Of course, the display of the selected activity (or duration or intensity, as will be discussed below) in the prompt field 521 may be omitted with various embodiments of the invention. Further, as will be appreciated by those of ordinary skill in the art, some embodiments of the invention may omit the prompt fields 521 altogether.

[0039] The duration field 517 in a step sub-interface 511 allows the user to select a duration for performing the activity designated in the step. Thus, the duration field 517 provides a drop down menu 517a listing a variety of duration units, as shown in Figure 5F. The menu 517a may include, for example, "open" (indicating that no duration has been selected) "time," and "distance." Of course, other embodiments of the invention may provide still other units for determining a duration of an activity. Using this menu 517a (or, with some embodiments of

the invention, entering a value directly into the duration field 517), the user selects a duration of the activity in step 607.

[0040] Depending upon the duration type selected for the duration field 517, the interface 501 may provide a sub-field corresponding to the selected duration type. For example, if the user selects the value "time" for the duration field 517, the interface 501 provides a time sub-interface 517b as shown in Figure 5G. The time sub-interface 517b includes a chronographic display defining the time period for which the activity defined for the step is to be performed. Using conventional arrow buttons, the user can adjust the value of the sub-interface 517b to define a desired time period.

[0041] Similarly, if the user selects the value "distance" for the duration field 517, the interface 501 provides sub-interfaces 517c with fields 517d and 517e, as shown in Figure 5H. The field 517d contains a value for a distance to be traveled while performing the activity. The user can type a desired value into this field 517d. The field 517e then provides a drop down menu, accessed by activating the button 517f, listing different distance units. For example, with the illustrated embodiment, the list includes "miles," "kilometers," and "meters." Of course, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that still other distance units, such as "yards" and "feet," may be alternately or additionally included in the list.

[0042] Thus, a user selects a particular type of duration, and enters values into the sub-interface fields associated with that type of duration in step 605. The values entered by the user then also appear in the prompt field 521. For example, if the user selects a duration value of "6.00 miles" for the duration field 517, this value also appears in the prompt field 521 as shown in Figure 5I. It should be noted, however, that a user might choose not to select any values for a duration of the designated activity, and instead leave the value of the field 517 as "open." In this situation, no information is added to the prompt field 521, as shown in Figure 5E.

[0043] Next, in step 607, the user may select an intensity for the workout by entering a value into the intensity field 519. As seen in Figure 5J, the intensity field 519 provides a drop down menu 519a listing different types of intensity measurements. For example, with the illustrated embodiment, the intensity field 519 provides a drop down list 519a including the intensity types "open" (when no value is selected), "heartrate," "pace", "heartrate less than or equal to," and "heartrate greater than or equal to." Of course, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that other units of intensity may alternately or additionally be displayed. As with the duration field 517, when any of the units are selected from the drop down list 519a, the interface 501 provides a sub-interface associated with that type of intensity measurement

[0044] For example, if a user selects the intensity type "heartrate," the interface 501 provides the sub-interface 519b containing the fields 519c and 519d for defining a range of heartrates (measured based upon a percentage

of a user's previously recorded maximum heartrate, for example), as shown in Figure 5K. Thus, a user types a minimum desired heartrate percentage value into the field 519c and a maximum desired heartrate percentage value into the field 519d. The values entered into these fields are then displayed in the prompt field 521. For example, if the user enters the value 60% into the field 519c, and the value 85% in the field 519d, these values appear in the prompt field 521, as shown in Figure 5K.

[0045] Similarly, if a user selects the intensity type "pace," the interface 501 provides the sub-interface 519e, as shown in Figure 5L. The sub-interface 519e includes a maximum time field 519f and a minimum time field 519g, in which the user enters values to select a maximum pace time and a minimum pace time, respectively. The sub-interface 519e also includes a distance unit field 519h, which provides a drop down menu listing various distance units. With the illustrated embodiment, the menu lists "kilometers," "miles," and "0.4/kilometers."

Of course, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the menu may include more, fewer, or different units. By selecting a maximum pace time, a minimum pace time, and a distance unit, the user can define a maximum and minimum pace for performing the selected activity. It should be noted that, as the values are entered into each of the fields 519f-519h, a mean of maximum pace time and the minimum pace time are added to the prompt field 521. Thus, if the user selects a maximum pace of 6:00 minutes per mile, and a minimum pace of 8:00 minutes per mile, the average of 7:00 minutes per mile will appear in the prompt field 521, as shown in Figure 5L.

[0046] If the user selects the "heartrate less than or equal to" intensity type, the interface 501 provides the sub-interface 519i containing the field 519j, as shown in Figure 5M. The user can simply enter a desired maximum heartrate (measured based upon a percentage of a user's maximum heartrate) into the field 519j. Likewise, if the user selects the "heartrate greater than or equal to" intensity type, the interface 501 provides the sub-interface 519k containing the field 519l, as shown in Figure 5N. Again, the user can simply enter a desired minimum heartrate (measured based upon a percentage of a user's maximum heartrate, for example) into the field 519k. With both sub-interfaces 519i and 519k, the selected heartrate value is then displayed in the prompt field 521.

[0047] In this manner, a user will employ fields 515-519 of a step sub-interface 511 to define one step of a training script. By entering values into the fields of multiple step sub-interfaces 511, a user may create a training script with a plurality of steps sequentially arranged in the order displayed in the step listing 509. When the training script file is then created from the training script, it will contain instructions commanding the servant device 211 to sequentially display the value of the prompt field 521 (that is, the prompt) for each step, starting with the first step in the sequence, until the servant device 211 is instructed to display the value of the prompt field 521 for the next step.

[0048] The servant device 211 may receive an instruction to display the prompt for the next step of the training script file directly from the user. For example, if the servant device 211 is implemented as a digital watch, it may display the prompt for a step until the athlete using the servant device 211 depresses a command button, and then start the next sequential step in the training script file by displaying the prompt for that next sequential step. Thus, a user would perform the activity displayed in the prompt for a step for the duration and/or intensity specified in the prompt. Then, when the activity was completed, the user would depress the command button to start the next step. That is, the user would depress the command button to instruct the servant device 211 to display the prompt for the next step in sequence. Alternately, when a step is completed, the servant device 211 may receive an instruction to automatically start the next sequential step from within the instructions for the completed step, as will be explained below.

[0049] When creating or editing a training script, the user determines whether a step will have this automatic start feature by placing a check value in the auto start field 523 for that step's sub-interface 511 in step 609. More particularly, if the user leaves the auto start field 523 for a step empty in step 609, then the training script will not include an instruction in that step for the servant device 211 to automatically begin executing the instructions for the subsequent step. Instead, when that step is completed, the servant device 211 will temporarily stop executing instructions of the training script until receiving an input from the athlete using the servant device 211. On the other hand, if the user inserts a check into the field 523 of a step's sub-interface 211 in step 609, the resulting training script file will include instructions to automatically have the servant device 211 begin executing the instructions for the subsequent step when that step is completed.

[0050] As will be discussed in detail below, the servant device 211 may have one or more sensors 113d for measuring characteristics of the user's workout or performance data. These characteristics may include, for example, a time duration measured by a chronometer, a heart rate measured by a heart rate monitor, and a distance measured by an accelerometer or pedometer. These sensors 113d allow the servant device 211 to detect when a user has completed a specified duration or intensity for a step. For example, if the user selects the duration of a step to be six minutes, then a servant device 211 having a chronometer may begin measuring a period of six minutes from when the step is started (that is, from when the value of the field 521 for that step is displayed to the user). If the value of the field 523 for that step was checked when the training script was created, then the training script file will include instructions commanding the servant device 211 to automatically begin executing the instructions for the subsequent step when the chronometer indicates that the six minute time period has expired.

[0051] Similarly, a step may call for a user to run a distance of six miles at a heart rate of 60% of the user's maximum heart rate or greater. If a servant device 211 executing that step had both a pedometer and a heart rate monitor, it could employ the pedometer to measure the distance run by a user and the heart rate monitor to measure the user's heart rate during that run. The servant device 211 could then record a total distance traveled by the athlete while the athlete's heart rate was above the minimum amount. If the user had placed a check in the auto start field 523 when defining the step, then the instructions in the training script file would command the servant device 211 to automatically begin executing the instructions for the next subsequent step after the servant device 211 detected that the athlete had run a total of six miles with his or her heart rate above the minimum amount.

[0052] Thus, by using creating a training script with steps that automatically start a subsequent step when the defined performance data is measured, the invention advantageously frees an athlete from having to constantly consider the status of his or her workout routine. That is, an athlete can focus on each activity of a workout, without having to continuously monitor if the athlete is complying with the planned duration or intensity for the activity. The servant device 211 informs the user when an activity has been satisfactorily performed by prompting the athlete to begin performing the next scheduled activity in the workout.

[0053] In addition to the auto start field 523, each step sub-interface 511 also includes a repeat field 511, as noted above. In step 611, a user may employ the repeat field 511 to define a training script that repeats one or more steps. For example, if the user inputs the value "3" into the repeat field 511 for a step, as shown in Fig. 5O, then the training script file will include instructions commanding the servant device 211 to repeat the step three times before executing the next sequential step. In addition, the user may use a linking arrow 511a attached to the repeat field 511 to link two or more sequential steps together for repetition, as shown in Fig. 5P. Thus, the resulting training script would include instructions commanding the servant device 211 to execute the instructions of the first three steps listed in the step listing 509 once in sequence, and then to repeat the execution of these linked steps a second time before proceeding to the fourth step in the step listing 509 (that is, the "jog" step).

[0054] After the user has created a training script file by saving the steps making up a desired training script in step 613, the user may return to the interface 401 shown in Fig. 4A. Advantageously, in addition to allowing a user to create a new training script file or modify an existing training script file, the master device 201 will also allow a user to define a schedule of training scripts, hereafter referred to as a "plan." The creation of a plan will be discussed with reference to Figs. 7A-7C and Fig. 8, which illustrate an interface 701 for creating a plan and

a flow chart for using the interface 701 to create a plan, respectively.

[0055] As previously noted, the plan field 405 of interface 401 displays existing plans. If the user wishes to create a new plan, the user activates the plan builder command button 407a. In response, the master device 201 provides the user interface 701 illustrated in Fig. 7A. This user interface 701 includes a plan selection field 703, a plan name field 705, and a plan description field 707. In step 801, the user enters the name of the desired plan into the plan selection field 703. Conveniently, the plan selection field 703 may include a drop-down menu 703a, as shown in Fig. 7B. If the user is editing an existing plan, the user may simply select the name of that plan from the drop-down menu 703a. If, however, the user wishes to create a new plan, the user selects the name "New Plan" from the drop-down menu 703a. The user may then enter a name into the planned name field 705 and a brief description of the new plan in field 707, as also shown in Figure 7B.

[0056] The interface 701 also includes a settings sub-interface 709, a workout sub-interface 711, and a calendar sub-interface 713. The calendar sub-interface displays a generic calendar with columns corresponding to the days of the week, while the workout sub-interface 711 displays a listing of existing training script files. In order to create or modify a plan, in step 803 a user drags each training script file from the workout sub-interface 711 to the desired location on the calendar sub-interface 713.

[0057] For example, in Figure 7A, the workout sub-interface 711 lists the training script files entitled "stretch test," "Test 1," and "Test workout." The user may want to create a three-week workout plan having the "stretch test" workout scheduled on the Monday, Wednesday, and Friday of the first week of the plan. The user may also want the "Test 1" workout scheduled on the Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday of the second week of the plan, and the "Test workout" workout scheduled on the Monday and Thursday of the third week of the plan. To create this plan, the user can simply drag and drop icons for the corresponding training script files to the desired locations on the calendar sub-interface 713, as shown in Figure 7C.

[0058] The module of dragging and dropping file icons is well known, and thus will not be discussed here in detail. Of course, those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that alternate techniques may be used to schedule training script files. Also, as seen in Figure 7C, the calendar sub-interface 713 may not continuously display the titles of the placed training script file icons, but may instead only display their titles when, for example, the user places a pointer over an icon. Alternately, the calendar sub-interface 713 may display the title of each icon placed in the calendar sub-interface 713.

[0059] Once the user has placed the desired training script files at the appropriate locations in the calendar sub-interface 713, the user designates the settings for scheduling the training script files to create or edit the

plan in step 805. As previously noted, the interface 701 includes a settings sub-interface 709. The settings sub-interface 709 includes two fill radial buttons 715 and 717, entitled "forward" and "backward," respectively. It also includes three anchor date radial buttons 719-723. Beneath the first anchor date radial button 719, entitled "fixed," is a calendar field 719a that allows a user to select a specific month, date and year. The second anchor date radial button 721 is entitled "user choice." The third anchor date radial button 723 includes a drop-down menu 723a listing the days of the week.

[0060] In order to establish a workout plan, the user anchors the first date or the last date of the training script files scheduled in the generic calendar of the calendar sub-interface to an actual date. For example, the user may wish to schedule training script files to prepare for a marathon on November 13, 2002. Accordingly, the user may want to anchor the plan so that the last workout of the plan takes place on November 12, 2002. To do so, the user would select the anchor date radial button 719, and set the value of the calendar field 719a to November 12, 2002. The user would then select the "backward" fill radial button 717, to have the plan scheduled backward from the last workout of the plan occurring on November 12, 2002.

[0061] Alternately, the user may want to schedule a three-week plan that starts on the first Tuesday of each three-week period. In this case, the user would select the anchor date radial button 723, and select the day Tuesday from the drop down menu 723a. The user would also select the "forward" fill radial button 715, to have the plan scheduled forward from the first workout of the plan occurring on the first Tuesday of each three-week period.

[0062] Accordingly, in step 803, the user selects a fill setting for the plan, and in step 805 selects an anchor date for the plan. Then in step 807, the user activates the "save" button 725 to save the plan, completing the plan creation process.

[0063] Returning now to Figure 4A, a user may select a schedule for plans or individual training script files to be included in the user's profile. As previously noted, the interface 401 includes a calendar sub-interface 413. The calendar sub-interface 413 displays a calendar showing the current month. To include a plan in the user's profile, the user first drags and drops a plan onto a date in the calendar sub-interface 413, as shown in Figure 4B. In response, the master device 201 displays the schedule plan interface 901 shown in Figure 9.

[0064] As seen in this figure, the plan interface 901 includes a plan data sub-interface 903, a fill setting sub-interface 905, a "cancel" button 907 and an "ok" button 909. The plan data sub-interface 903 includes the plan name, the length of the plan schedule, and the description of the plan. The fill setting sub-interface 905 includes two fill dial buttons 905a and 905b, entitled "forward" and "backward," respectively. The fill setting sub-interface 905 also includes an anchor date field 905c, which allows the user to specify a specific calendar date, and a drop

down menu 905d listing the days of the week. As with the settings sub-interface 709 in the interface 701, the user may employ the fill setting sub-interface 905 to anchor the plan. When the user is satisfied that the plan schedule is correct, the user activates the "ok" button 909. In response, the master device 201 may place icons for the training script files making up the plan on their appropriate dates in the calendar sub-interface 413.

[0065] As previously noted, in addition to placing a plan schedule in the user profile, a user may also place a schedule for individual training scripts into the his or her user profile. That is, a user may drag and drop an icon for a single training script file from the workout sub-interface 409 at a desired location on the calendar sub-interface 413.

Synchronizing The Master Device With The Servant Device

[0066] When a user wishes to download training script files from the master device 201 to the servant device 211, referred to as "synchronizing" the master device 201 with the servant device 211, the user activates the "sync" button 415 in interface 401. In response, the master device 201 transfers all of the training script files listed in the favorite workouts sub-interface 411. In addition, the master device 201 transfers the upcoming scheduled training script files that have been placed in the calendar sub-interface 413.

[0067] More particularly, the master device 201 notes the date of the synchronization, and identifies the subsequent dates for, for example, the upcoming week. The master device 201 then attaches a date tag to each of the training script files that have been placed in the calendar sub-interface 413 on the dates in the week following the synchronization date, and transfers these training script files with their associated date tags to the servant device 211. As will be discussed further below, the servant device 211 can then employ these date tags to ensure that the training script file is presented to a user for execution on the date scheduled with the master device 201.

[0068] In addition to transferring training script files to the servant device 211, the master device 201 may also receive information from the servant device 211 during synchronization. For example, with some embodiments of the invention, the servant device 211 may collect actual data regarding a user's workout, including the actual duration or intensity completed for activities listed in a training script file. The master device 201 can then associate this data with the icons for those training scripts in the calendar sub-interface 413. This conveniently allows a user to review his or her athletic performance in comparison with the criteria of the training script.

Device For Executing A Training Script

[0069] As previously noted, Figure 1 also illustrates a servant device 211 for executing a training script. The

servant device 211 includes a servant control module 213, a servant device interface module 215, and a servant script database 217. The servant device interface module 215 receives a training script file from the master device 201. The servant control module 213 then stores the training script file in the servant script database 217.

[0070] The servant device 211 also includes a display 219 and one or more sensors 221 (identified as sensors 115d in the above description of a general computer device) for detecting a characteristic of a user during a workout. The sensors 221 may include, for example, a heart rate monitor to measure a user's heart rate, an accelerometer, pedometer or Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) receiver to measure the distance that a user travels, or a blood pressure monitor to monitor a user's blood pressure. The sensors 221 may also include sensors for detecting a characteristic of the user's workout itself. For example, the sensors 221 may include a chronometer or chronograph for measuring time periods during which an action is performed. The sensors 221 may also include a bicycle force sensor, to measure an amount of force produced by a bicyclist while biking. Still further, the sensor 221 may be a special purpose sensor that can, for example, detect the operation of a weightlifting machine or other exercise device configured to provide performance data to the sensor. Of course, any suitable device for measuring performance data relating to a workout may be used as a sensor 221.

[0071] Still further, the servant device 211 may include a servant user interface module 223 for detecting an input by a user. For example, the servant device 211 may have a servant user interface module 223 for detecting the depression of an input button. This servant user interface module 223 allows a user to input data to the servant device 211 regarding the user's workout that may not easily be detectable by a sensor 211. For example, a training step may call for an athlete to perform 30 repetitions of a weight lifting exercise. An automated sensor cannot easily detect the number of repetitions of a weight lifting exercise using a convention weight lifting device. The athlete, however, may conveniently depress a command button after having performed the scripted 30 repetitions. The servant user interface module 223 can then detect the depression of the command button, and forward this information to the servant control module 213.

[0072] When an athlete wants to exercise according to a training script, the user selects the training script file with that training script from the servant script database 217. In response, the servant control module 213 executes the appropriate instructions defined in the training script. More particularly, by executing the instructions in the training script file, the servant control module 213 causes the display 219 to display the prompt for each step included in the training script file. As previously noted, the display 219 will sequentially display the prompt for each step in the training script until the servant control module 213 receives an instruction commanding the display 219 to display the prompt for the next step. As was

also previously explained, this instruction may be provided directly from the user by, for example, the user depressing a command button. Alternately, this instruction may be automatically generated when one of the sensors 221 measures a specified value, as discussed in detail above.

Conclusion

[0073] Thus, the master training script device of the invention conveniently allows a user to create a training script defining one or more steps of a workout routine, where each step may include an activity, a duration for performing that activity, and an intensity at which the activity is to be performed. Further, one or more steps of the training script can be self starting in response to performance data detected by sensors of the servant training script device. This conveniently frees the athlete from having to continuously monitor the status of his or her workout activities. Still further, the training script device conveniently allows a user to transfer training scripts to other training script devices, so that athletes can share successful training scripts.

[0074] While the invention has been described with respect to specific examples including presently preferred modes of carrying out the invention, those skilled in the art will appreciate that there are numerous variations and permutations of the above described systems and techniques that fall within the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

[0075] There further follows a series of numbered features defining particular embodiments of the invention. Where a numbered feature refers to one or more earlier numbered features then the earlier numbered features should be considered in combination with the referring feature or features.

1. A training device for receiving and employing an electronic training script, comprising: a receiver for electronically receiving an electronic training script ; a sensor for detecting at least one characteristic of a workout; a display unit for displaying activity information designated by the electronic training script in response to a detected status of the at least one characteristic detected by the sensor.

2. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the receiver is an infrared receiver.

3. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the receiver is an electronic mail account for receiving electronic mail.

4. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the receiver is a cable port.

5. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the receiver is a wireless radio receiver.

6. The training device recited in feature 1, further including a transmitter for electronically transmitting the electronic training script to another device.

7. The training device recited in feature 6, wherein the transmitter is an infrared transmitter.

8. The training device recited in feature 6, wherein the transmitter is an electronic mail account for sending electronic mail.

9. The training device recited in feature 6, wherein the transmitter is a cable port.

10. The training device recited in feature 6, wherein the transmitter is a wireless radio transmitter.

11. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the at least one characteristic is a time duration.

12. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the at least one characteristic is a physical characteristic of a user employing the training device.

13. The training device recited in feature 12, wherein the at least one characteristic is a heart rate of the user.

14. The training device recited in feature 12, wherein the at least one characteristic is a blood pressure of the user.

15. The training device recited in feature 12, wherein the at least one characteristic is a blood-oxygen content of the user.

16. The training device recited in feature 12, wherein the at least one characteristic is a distance travelled by the user.

17. The training device recited in feature 12, wherein the at least one characteristic is a speed travelled at by the user.

18. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run.

19. The training device recited in feature 18, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run at a predetermined speed.

20. The training device recited in feature 18, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run a predetermined distance.

21. The training device recited in feature 18, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run for predetermined amount of time.

22. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the activity information is an instruction to rest.

23. The training device recited in feature 22, wherein the activity information is an instruction to rest for a predetermined amount of time. 5

24. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the activity information is an instruction to stretch. 10

25. The training device recited in feature 24, wherein the activity information is an instruction to stretch for a predetermined amount of time.

26. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the sensor is a second receiver for receiving information from a remote sensing device. 15

27. The training device recited in feature 26, wherein the remote sensing device is a heart rate monitor. 20

28. The training device recited in feature 26, wherein the remote sensing device is an accelerometer.

29. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the sensor is a pulse rate sensor for contacting a user of the training device to detect a pulse rate of the user. 25

30. The training device recited in feature 1, wherein the sensor is an accelerometer for measuring a travel speed, a travel distance or both a travel speed and a travel distance of a user of the training device. 30

31. A method for receiving and employing an electronic training script, comprising: electronically receiving an electronic training script; detecting at least one characteristic of a workout; and displaying activity information designated by the electronic training script in response to detecting the at least one characteristic. 35
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32. The method recited in feature 31, further including: detecting a second characteristic of the workout; and displaying second activity information designated by the electronic training script in response to detecting the second characteristic. 45

33. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the electronic training script is received by an infrared transmission. 50

34. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the electronic training script is received via an electronic mail account. 55

35. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the electronic training script is received through a cable

port.

36. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the electronic training script is received through a wireless radio transmission.

37. The method recited in feature 31, further including electronically transmitting the electronic training script to another device.

38. The method recited in feature 37, further including electronically transmitting the electronic training script to another device by infrared transmission.

39. The method recited in feature 37, further including electronically transmitting the electronic training script to another device by electronic mail from an electronic mail account.

40. The method recited in feature 37, further including electronically transmitting the electronic training script to another device a cable port.

41. The method recited in feature 37, further including electronically transmitting the electronic training script to another device by a wireless radio transmission.

42. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the at least one characteristic is a time duration.

43. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the at least one characteristic is a physical characteristic of a user employing the training device.

44. The method recited in feature 43, wherein the at least one characteristic is a heart rate of the user.

45. The method recited in feature 43, wherein the at least one characteristic is a blood pressure of the user.

46. The method recited in feature 43, wherein the at least one characteristic is a blood-oxygen content of the user.

47. The method recited in feature 43, wherein the at least one characteristic is a distance travelled by the user.

48. The method recited in feature 43, wherein the at least one characteristic is a speed travelled at by the user.

49. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run.

50. The method recited in feature 49, wherein the

activity information is an instruction to run at a pre-determined speed.

51. The method recited in feature 49, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run a pre-determined distance. 5

52. The method recited in feature 49, wherein the activity information is an instruction to run for pre-determined amount of time. 10

53. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the activity information is an instruction to rest.

54. The method recited in feature 53, wherein the activity information is an instruction to rest for a pre-determined amount of time. 15

55. The method recited in feature 31, wherein the activity information is an instruction to stretch. 20

56. The method recited in feature 55, wherein the activity information is an instruction to stretch for a predetermined amount of time.

57. The method recited in feature 31, further including detecting the at least one characteristic by receiving information from a remote sensing device. 25

58. The method recited in feature 57, wherein the remote sensing device is a heart rate monitor. 30

59. The method recited in feature 57, wherein the remote sensing device is an accelerometer. 35

60. The method recited in feature 31, further including detecting the at least one characteristic by receiving information from a pulse rate sensor contacting a user of the training device. 40

61. The method recited in feature 31, further including detecting the at least one characteristic by measuring a travel speed, a travel distance or both a travel speed and a travel distance of a user of the training device. 45

62. A device for designating a workout script, comprising: an activity unit for designating a first activity to be performed by an athlete during a first step of a workout and a second activity to be performed by the athlete during a second step of the workout; and an quantity unit for designating a quantity for performance of the first activity after which the athlete performs the second activity; and a transmitter for transmitting a designated workout script to another device. 50

63. The device recited in feature 62, wherein the

quantity defines an amount of performance of the first activity.

64. The device recited in feature 63, wherein the quantity is a distance to be traveled by the athlete while performing the first activity.

65. The device recited in feature 63, wherein the quantity is a number of times the first activity is to be performed by the athlete.

66. The device recited in feature 63, wherein the quantity is a time duration for which the first activity is to be performed by the athlete.

65. The device recited in feature 62, wherein the quantity defines an intensity of performance of the first activity.

66. The device recited in feature 65, wherein the quantity defines a heart rate of the athlete while performing the first activity.

67. The device recited in feature 65, wherein the quantity defines a force generated by the athlete while performing the first activity.

68. The device recited in feature 65, wherein the quantity defines a pace at which the athlete performs the first activity.

69. The device recited in feature 62, wherein the quantity defines both an intensity of performance of the first activity and an amount for which the athlete performs the first activity at the defined intensity of performance.

70. The device recited in feature 69, wherein the quantity defines a heart rate of the athlete while performing the first activity, and a time duration for which the first activity is to be performed by the athlete at the defined heart rate.

71. The device recited in feature 62, wherein the transmitter is an infrared transmitter.

72. The training device recited in feature 62, wherein the transmitter is an electronic mail account for sending electronic mail.

73. The training device recited in feature 62, wherein the transmitter is a cable port.

74. The training device recited in feature 62, wherein the transmitter is a wireless radio transmitter.

[0076] Further embodiments are described below:

1. A method comprising:

prompting for first input to identify a plurality of activities and a number of repetitions of each of the activities;
 for each of the activities, prompting for second input specifying a duration and intensity, and of whether to automatically proceed to a subsequent one of the activities upon determining completion of a previous one of the activities;
 receiving the first input and the second input; and
 generating, by a processor, an electronic training script defining a sequence in which to perform the plurality of activities.

2. The method of 1, wherein the electronic training script comprises an instruction for instructing a device to generate a prompt for prompting performance of a second of the activities in the sequence based on a measurement of a physiological characteristic indicating completion of a first of the activities in the sequence.

3. The method recited in 2, wherein the physiological characteristic is at least one of heart rate, blood pressure, and blood-oxygen content.

4. The method recited in 1, wherein the intensity is an indication of heart rate or pace.

5. The method recited in 1, wherein the electronic training script corresponds to an anchor date.

6. The method recited in 1, wherein the second input indicates not to automatically proceed from a first of the activities to a second of the activities.

7. The method recited in 6, wherein the second input indicates to prompt a user to provide third input prior to proceeding to the second of the activities.

8. The method recited in 1, further comprising communicating the electronic training script to a plurality of devices.

9. An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and
 a memory storing instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus at least to perform operations comprising:

prompting for first input to identify a plurality of activities and a number of repetitions of each of the activities;
 for each of the activities, prompting for second input specifying a duration and intensity, and of whether to automatically proceed to a subsequent one of the activities upon determining completion of a previous one of the activities;
 receiving the first input and the second input; and
 generating an electronic training script de-

fining a sequence in which to perform the plurality of activities.

10. The apparatus of 9, wherein the electronic training script comprises an instruction for instructing a device to generate a prompt for prompting performance of a second of the activities in the sequence based on a measurement of a physiological characteristic indicating completion of a first of the activities in the sequence.

11. The apparatus recited in 10, wherein the physiological characteristic is at least one of heart rate, blood pressure, and blood-oxygen content.

12. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the intensity is an indication of heart rate or pace.

13. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the electronic training script corresponds to an anchor date.

14. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the second input indicates not to automatically proceed from a first of the activities to a second of the activities.

15. The apparatus recited in 14, wherein the second input indicates to prompt a user to provide third input prior to proceeding to the second of the activities.

16. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to communicate the electronic training script to a plurality of devices.

[0077] Further embodiments are described below:

1. A method comprising:

processing input specifying a plurality of athletic activities;
 processing input specifying a heart rate threshold for a particular one of the activities; and
 generating, by a processor, an electronic training script including the heart rate threshold for the particular activity and defining a sequence in which to perform the plurality of activities.

2. The method of 1, wherein the heart rate threshold is a minimum percentage of a maximum recorded heart rate for a user.

3. The method of 1, wherein the heart rate threshold is a maximum percentage of a maximum recorded heart rate for a user.

4. The method recited in 1, further comprising processing input specifying a pace for at least one of the activities.

5. The method recited in 1, further comprising processing input specifying a duration for at least one of the activities.

6. The method of 1, wherein the electronic training script comprises an instruction for prompting performance of a next of the activities in the sequence based on a measurement indicating completion of a previous one of the activities in the sequence.

7. The method recited in 1, wherein the electronic training script is configured to prompt for input upon determining completion of a current activity in the sequence prior to prompting performance of a next activity in the sequence.

8. The method recited in 1, further comprising communicating the electronic training script to a plurality of devices.

9. An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus at least to perform operations comprising:

processing input specifying a plurality of athletic activities;

processing input specifying a heart rate threshold for a particular one of the activities; and

generating an electronic training script including the heart rate threshold for the particular activity and defining a sequence in which to perform the plurality of activities.

10. The apparatus of 9, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to process input specifying a pace for at least one of the activities.

11. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to process input specifying a duration for at least one of the activities.

12. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the electronic training script comprises an instruction for prompting performance of a next of the activities in the sequence based on a measurement indicating completion of a previous one of the activities in the sequence.

13. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the electronic training script is configured to prompt for input upon determining completion of a current activity in the sequence prior to prompting performance of a next activity in the sequence.

14. The apparatus recited in 9, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to communicate the electronic training script to a plurality of devices.

15. The apparatus recited in 14, wherein the heart rate threshold is a percentage of a maximum recorded heart rate for a user.

[0078] Further embodiments are described below:

1. An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

a memory storing instructions that, when executed by the processor, cause the apparatus at

least to perform operations comprising:

processing input specifying a plurality of athletic activities;

processing input specifying a heart rate threshold for a particular one of the activities;

generating an electronic training script including the heart rate threshold for the particular activity and defining a sequence in which to perform the plurality of activities; measuring a physiological characteristic of a user during the plurality of athletic activities; and

prompting the user to perform a next activity in the sequence based on a measurement of the physiological characteristic indicating completion of a previous activity in the sequence.

2. The apparatus of 1, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to process input specifying a pace for at least one of the activities.

3. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to process input specifying a duration for at least one of the activities.

4. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the electronic training script is configured to prompt for input upon determining completion of a current activity in the sequence prior to prompting performance of a next activity in the sequence.

5. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to communicate the electronic training script to a plurality of devices.

6. The apparatus recited in 5, wherein the heart rate threshold is a percentage of a maximum recorded heart rate for a user.

7. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to measure a distance travelled by the user, wherein the indicating completion of the previous activity is based on the distance travelled exceeding a predetermined distance.

8. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to measure a travel speed of the user, wherein the indicating completion of the previous activity is based on the travel speed exceeding a predetermined rate.

9. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to process information received from a remote sensing device.

10. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the training script includes a plurality of steps, and wherein each of the steps has a defined performance data, and wherein the plurality of steps each automatically start

a subsequent step when the defined performance data of the previous step has been measured.

11. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the physiological characteristic is at least one of a heart rate of the user, blood pressure of the user, and blood-oxygen content of the user. 5

12. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to run.

13. The apparatus recited in 12, wherein the instruction is at least one of an instruction to run at a predetermined speed, an instruction to run a predetermined distance, and/or an instruction to run for a predetermined amount of time. 10

14. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to rest for a predetermined period of time. 15

15. The apparatus recited in 1, wherein the heart rate threshold is a minimum heart rate specified by a user. 20

[0079] Further embodiments are described below:

1. A method comprising:

measuring a physiological characteristic of a user; 25

processing, by a processor, an electronic training script defining a sequence of athletic activities to be performed by the user; and 30
prompting the user to perform a next athletic activity in the sequence based on a measurement of the physiological characteristic indicating completion of a previous athletic activity in the sequence. 35

2. The method recited in 1, wherein the physiological characteristic comprises at least one of a heart rate of the user, blood pressure of the user, and blood-oxygen content of the user. 40

3. The method recited in 1, further comprising:
receiving input specifying at least one athletic activity. 45

4. The method recited in 3, further comprising:
receiving input specifying a duration of the at least one athletic activity. 50

5. The method recited in 1, further comprising:
transmitting, by a communication device, the training script to a servant device. 55

6. The method recited in 5, wherein the communication device comprises a wireless communication device configured to communicate with the servant de-

vice.

7. The method recited in 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to rest for a predetermined amount of time.

8. The method recited in 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to stretch for a predetermined amount of time.

9. The method recited in 1, further comprising:
processing information received from a remote sensing device, wherein the remote sensing device includes one or more sensors.

10. The method recited in 9, wherein the information comprises at least one of heart rate information and acceleration information.

11. The method recited in 9, wherein the training script includes a plurality of steps, the method further comprising:

processing at least one step in response to the remote sensing device receiving information from at least one of a specified sensor and a specified sensor type.

12. The method recited in 1, wherein the training script includes a plurality of steps, and wherein each of the steps has a defined performance data, and wherein the plurality of steps each automatically start a subsequent step when the defined performance data of a previous step has been measured.

13. The method recited in 1, wherein the prompting of the user prompts for input prior to prompting the user to perform the next athletic activity.

14. An apparatus comprising:
a processor; and
a memory storing instructions that, when executed, cause the apparatus at least to:

process a measurement of a physiological characteristic of a user;
process an electronic training script defining a sequence of athletic activities to be performed by the user; and
prompt the user to perform a next athletic activity in the sequence based on a measurement of the physiological characteristic indicating completion of a previous athletic activity in the sequence.

15. The apparatus recited in 14, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to:

process information received from a remote sensing device, wherein the remote sensing device includes one or more sensors.

16. The apparatus recited in 15, wherein the information comprises at least one of heart rate information and acceleration information.

17. The apparatus recited in 15, wherein the training script includes a plurality of steps, and wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to:

process at least one step in response to the remote sensing device receiving information from at least one of a specified sensor and a specified sensor type.

Claims

1. A method comprising:

measuring at least one physical performance characteristic of a user during a workout; processing, by a processor, an electronic training script defining a sequence in which the user is instructed to perform a plurality of activities; and

prompting the user to perform a next activity of the plurality of activities in the sequence based on a measurement of the at least one physical performance characteristic indicating completion of a previous activity in the sequence.

2. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the physical performance characteristic is at least one of a heart rate of the user, blood pressure of the user, and blood-oxygen content of the user.

3. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to run.

4. The method recited in claim 3, wherein the instruction is at least one of an instruction to run at a predetermined speed, an instruction to run a predetermined distance, and/or an instruction to run for a predetermined amount of time.

5. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to rest or stretch.

6. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the prompting of the user comprises presenting an instruction to rest or stretch for a predetermined amount of time.

7. The method recited in claim 1, further comprising processing information received from a remote sensing device.

8. The method recited in claim 7, wherein the information comprises at least one of heart rate information

and/or acceleration information.

9. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the at least one physical performance comprises at least one of a pulse rate of the user, a travel speed of the user, and/or a travel distance of the user.

10. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the training script includes a plurality of steps, and wherein each of the steps has a defined performance data, and wherein the plurality of steps each automatically start a subsequent step when the defined performance data of a previous step has been measured.

11. The method recited in claim 1, wherein the prompting of the user prompts for input prior to prompting the user to perform the next activity.

12. An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and
a memory storing instructions that, when executed, cause the apparatus at least to:

process a measurement of at least one physical performance characteristic of a user during a workout;

process an electronic training script defining a sequence in which the user is instructed to perform a plurality of activities; and
prompt the user to perform a next activity of the plurality of activities in the sequence based on the measurement of the at least one physical performance characteristic indicating completion of a previous activity in the sequence.

13. The apparatus recited in claim 12, wherein the physical performance characteristic is at least one of a heart rate of the user, blood pressure of the user, and/or blood-oxygen content of the user.

14. The apparatus recited in claim 13, wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to process information received from a remote sensing device.

15. The apparatus recited in claim 13, wherein the training script includes a plurality of steps, wherein each of the steps has a defined performance data, and wherein the instructions, when executed, cause the apparatus to automatically start a subsequent step when the defined performance data of a previous step has been measured.

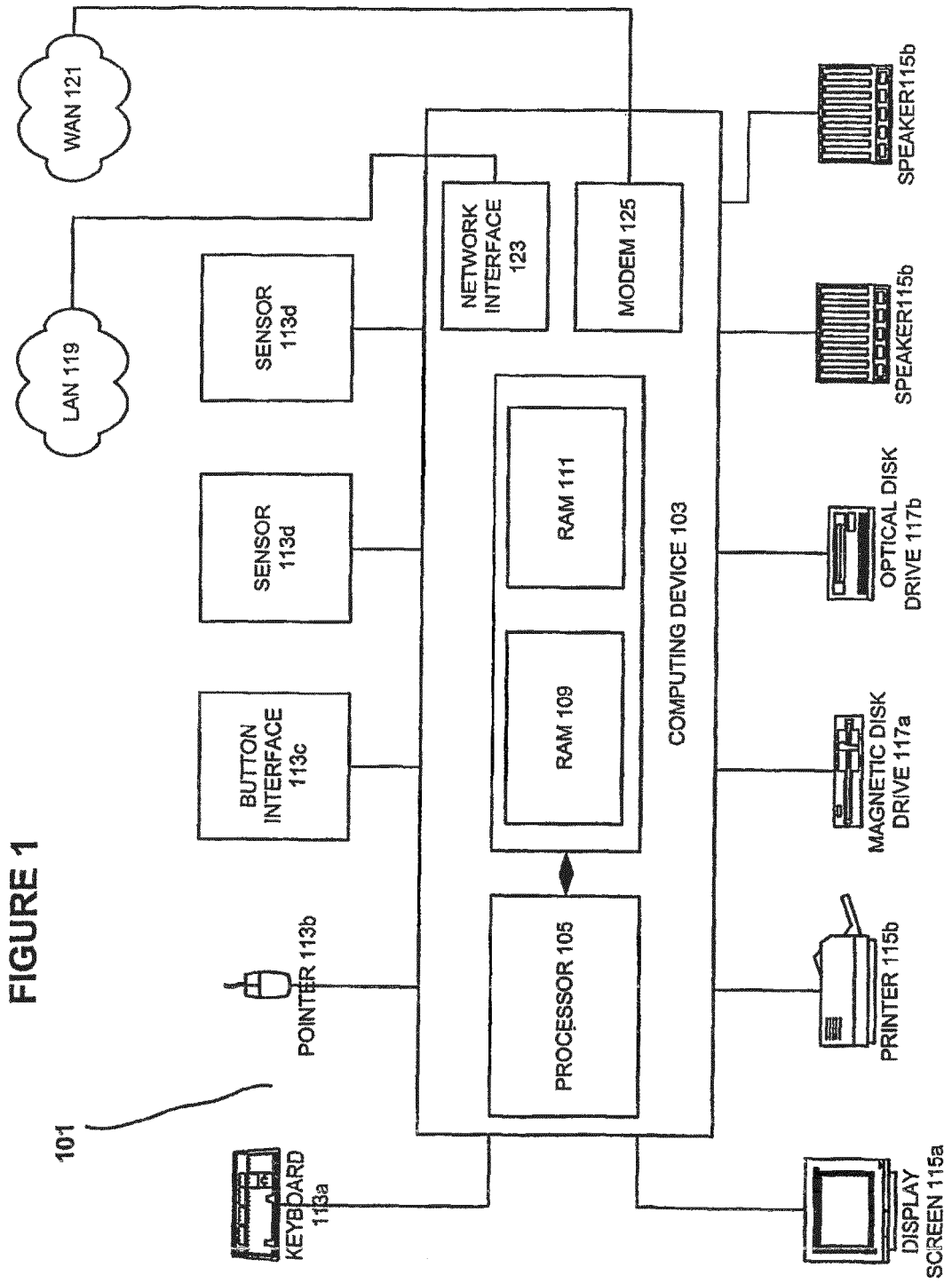
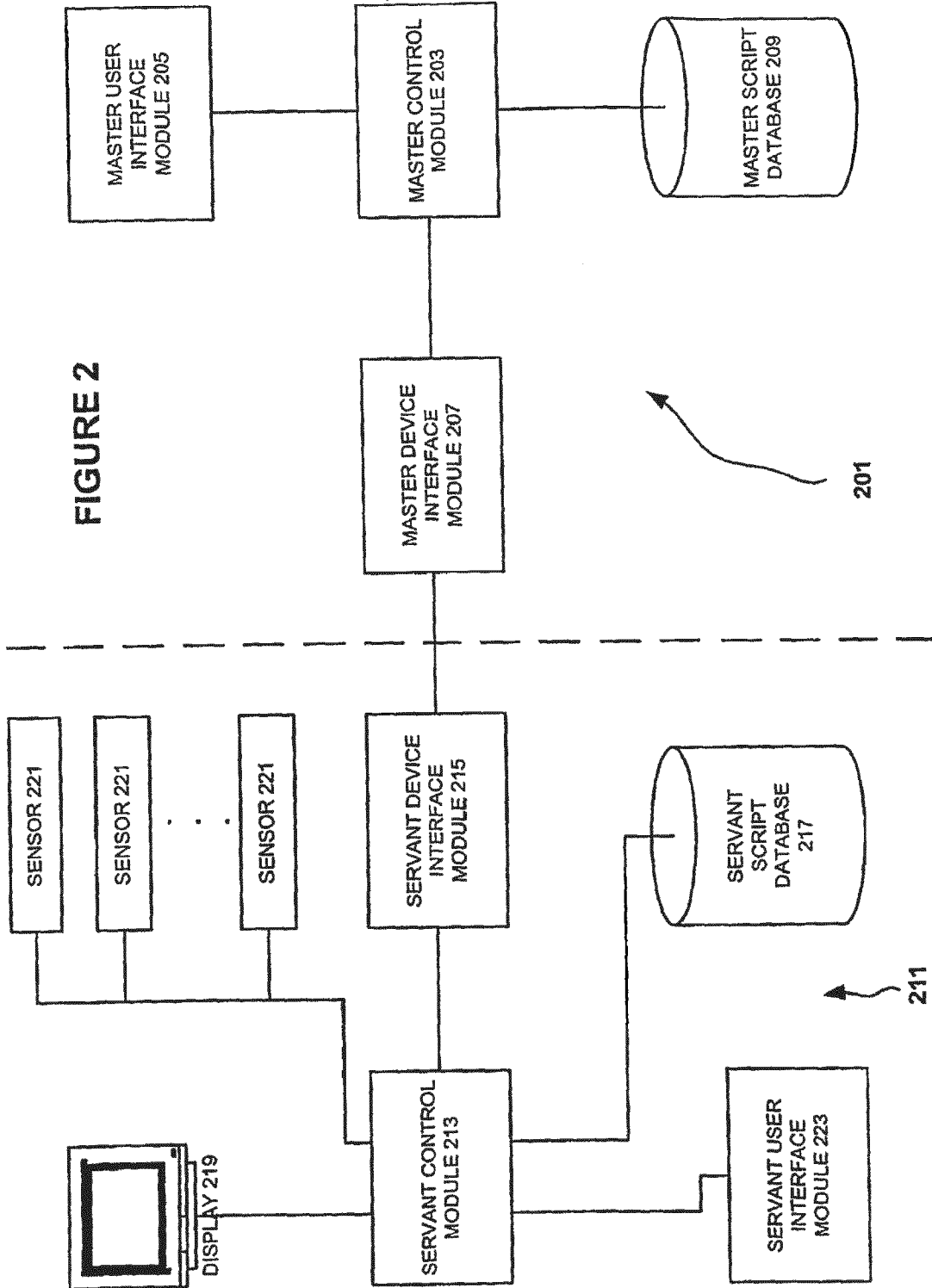


FIGURE 1

101



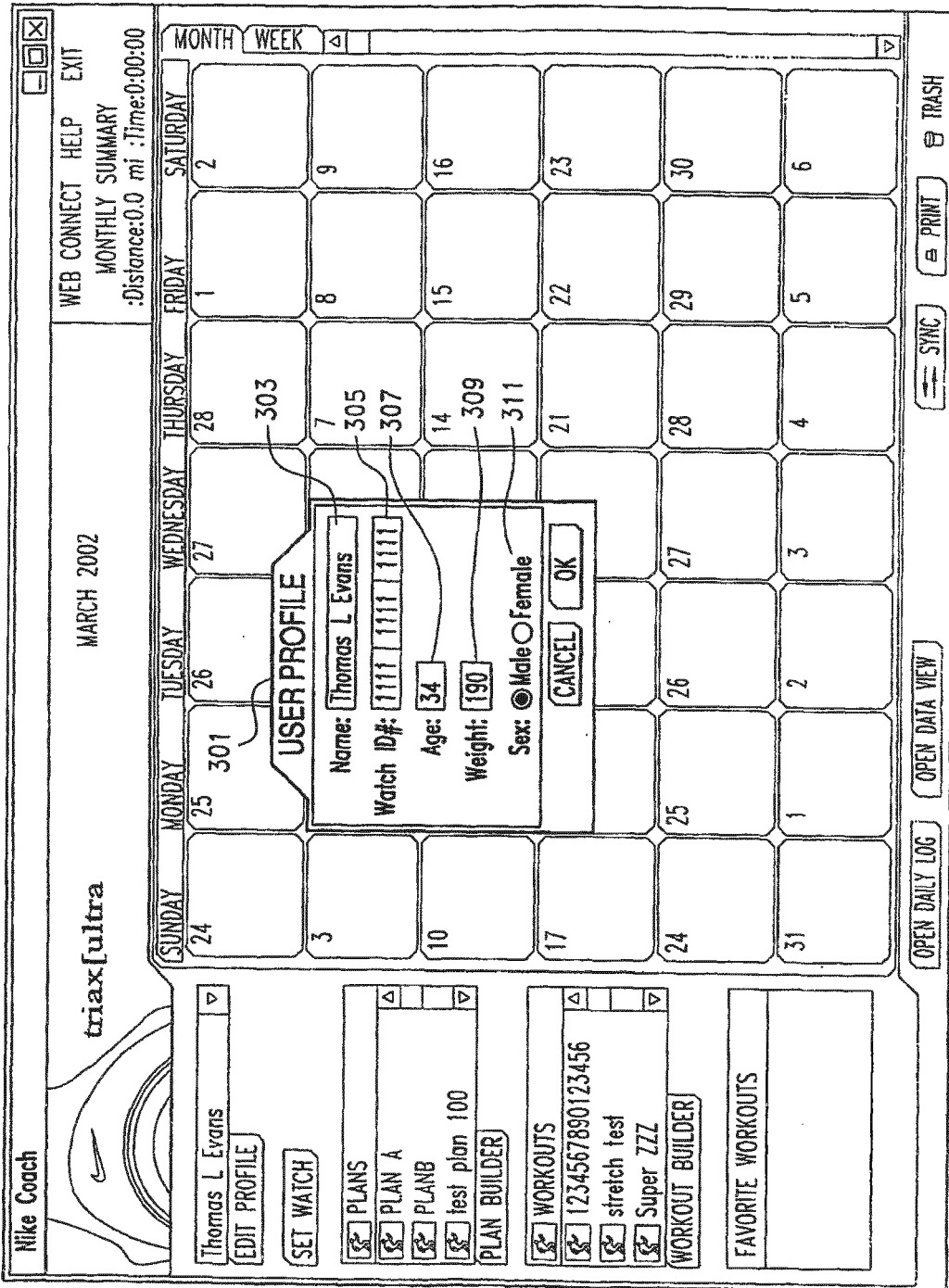


FIG. 3

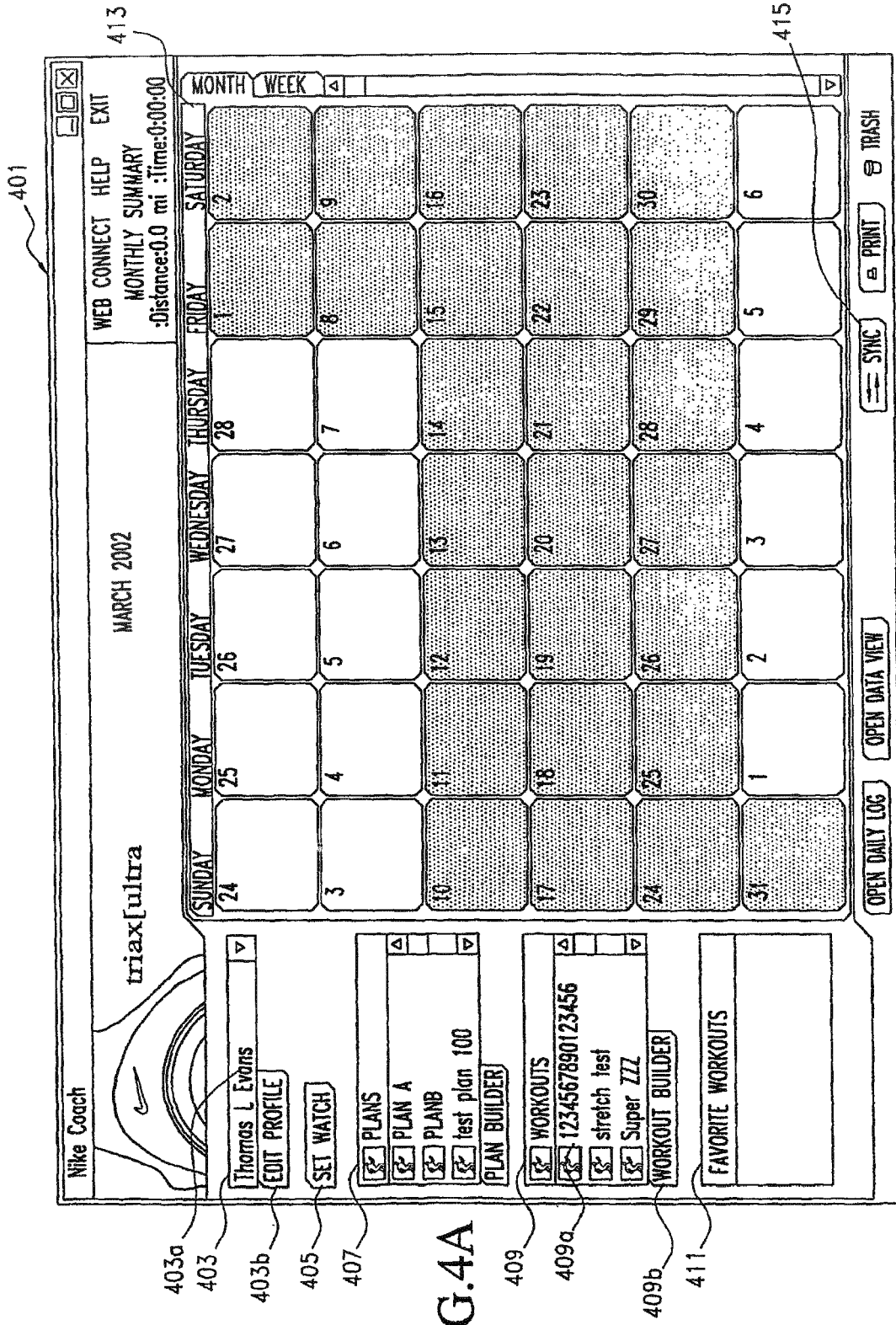


FIG.4A

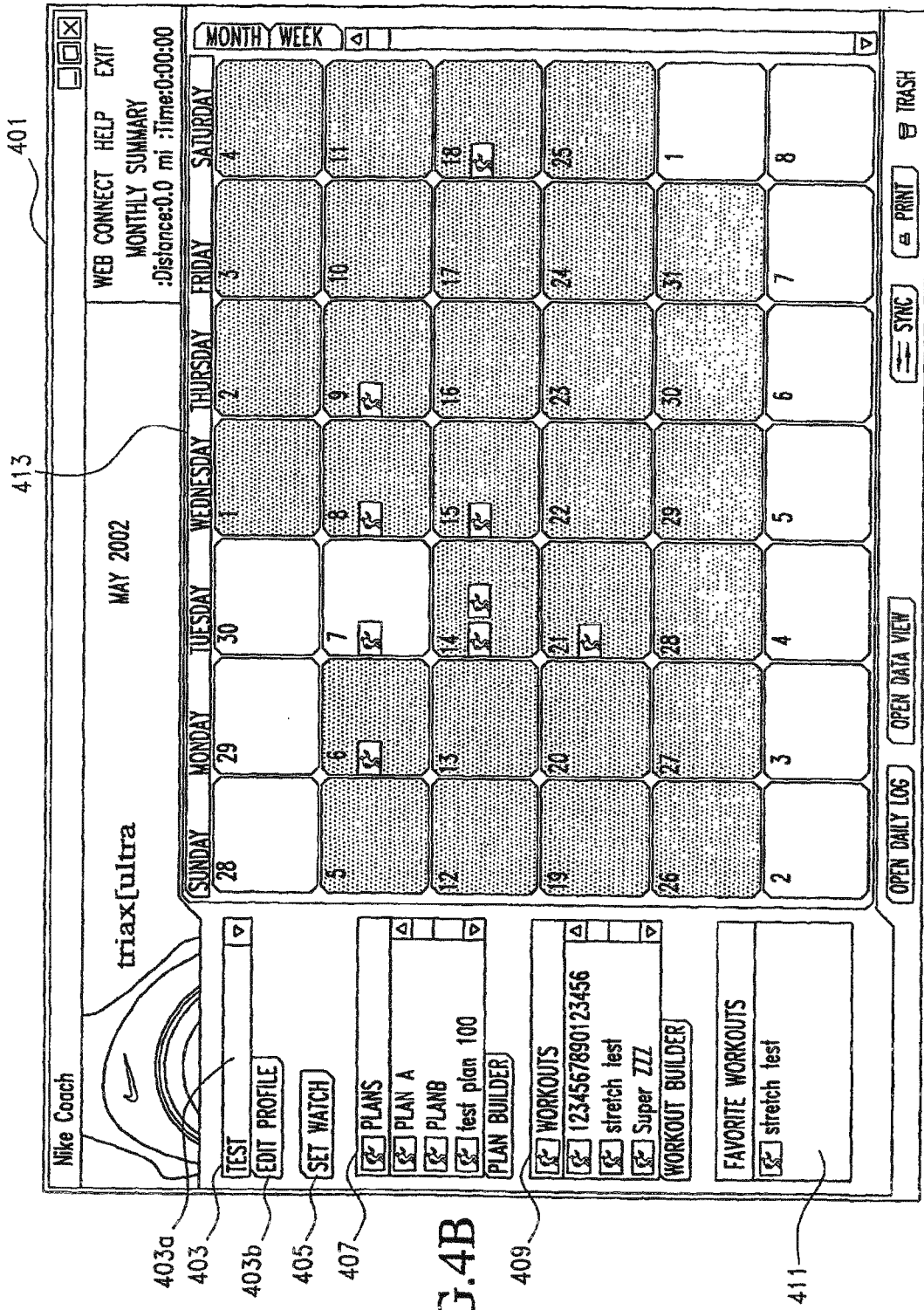


FIG. 4B

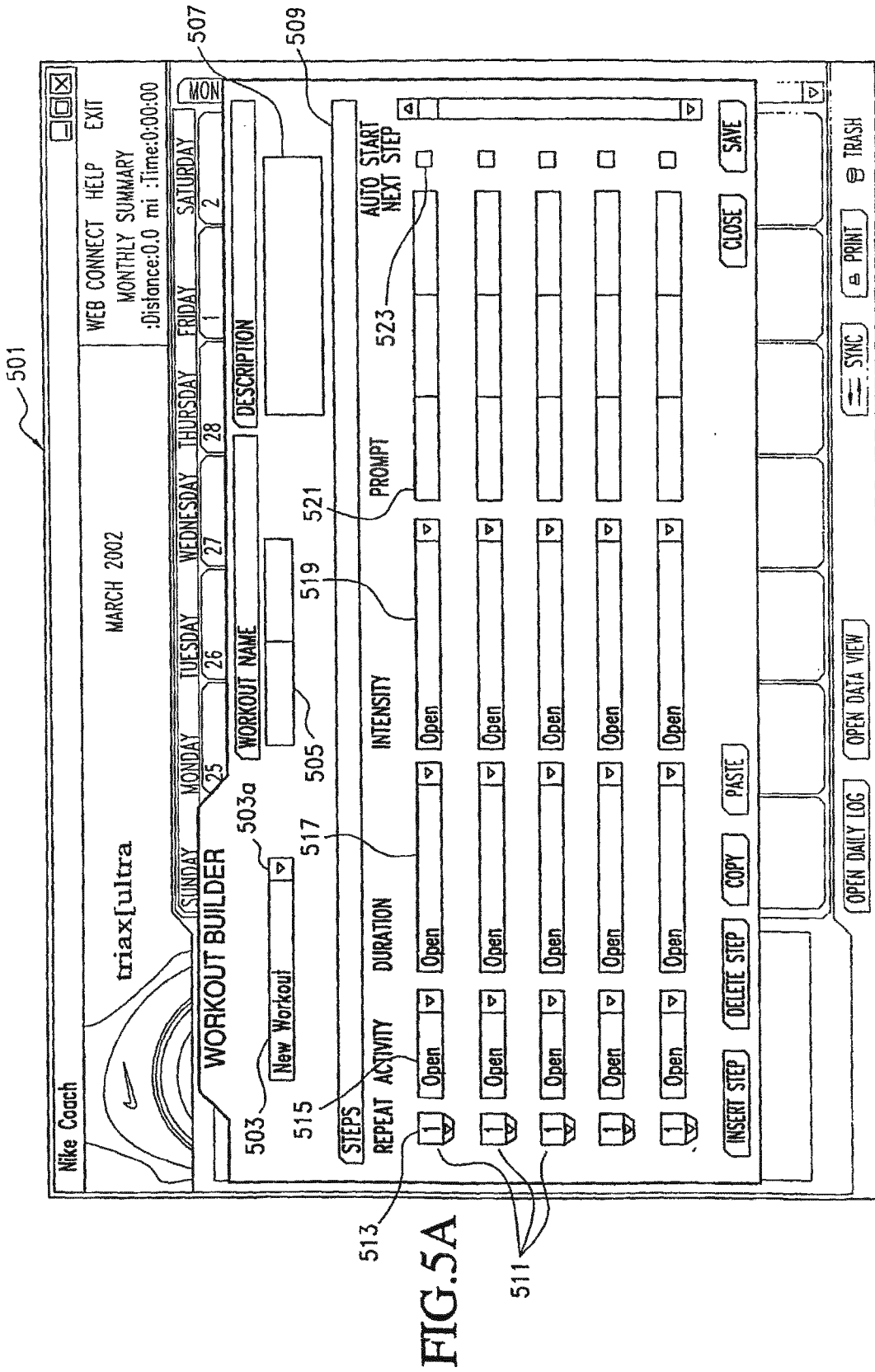


FIG. 5A

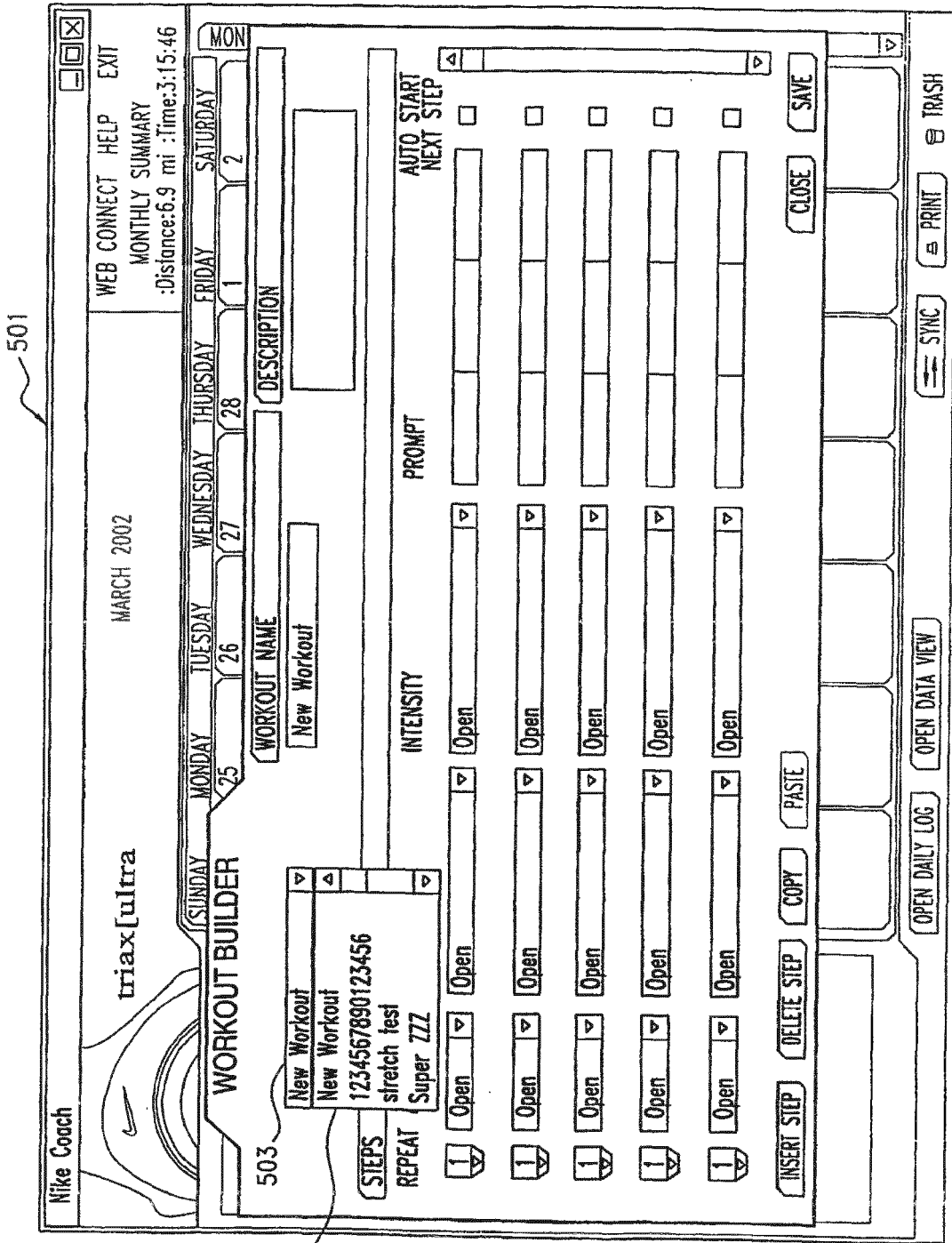


FIG.5B

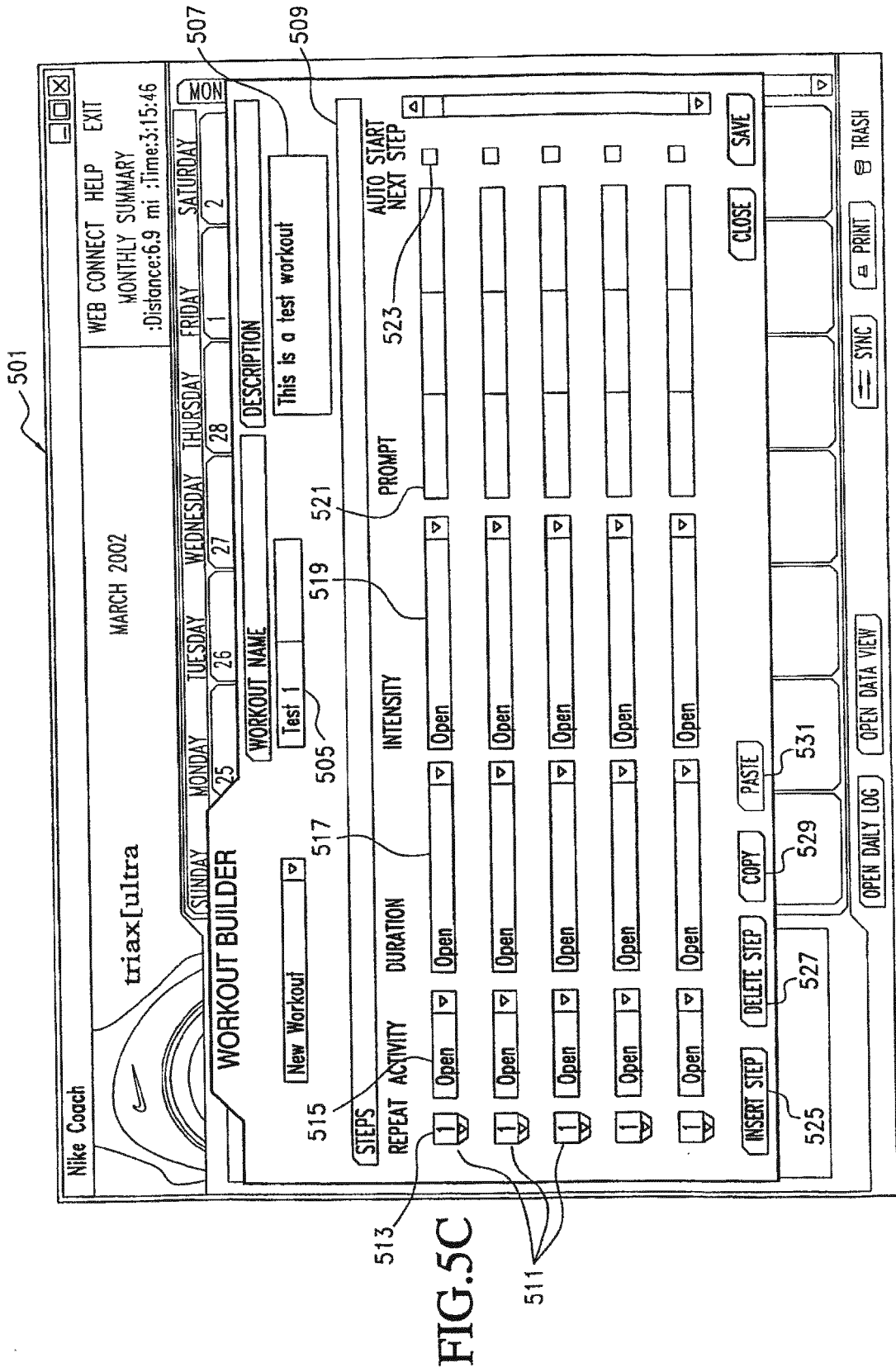


FIG. 5C

501

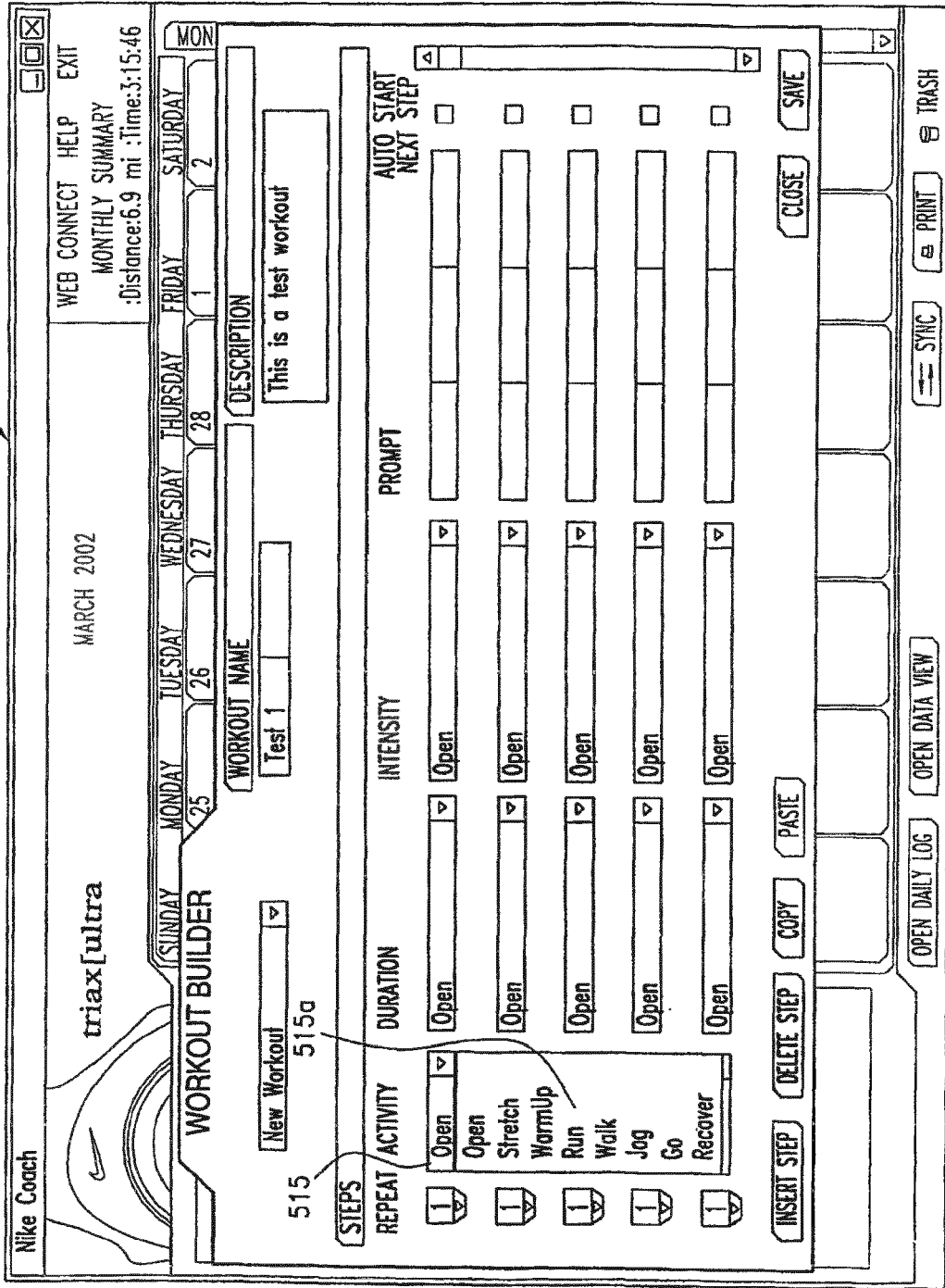


FIG.5D

501

515

521

STEPS	REPEAT	ACTIVITY	DURATION	INTENSITY	PROMPT	AUTO START NEXT STEP
1	1	Run	Open	Open	Run	<input type="checkbox"/>
1	1	Open	Open	Open		<input type="checkbox"/>
1	1	Open	Open	Open		<input type="checkbox"/>
1	1	Open	Open	Open		<input type="checkbox"/>
1	1	Open	Open	Open		<input type="checkbox"/>

FIG.5E

501

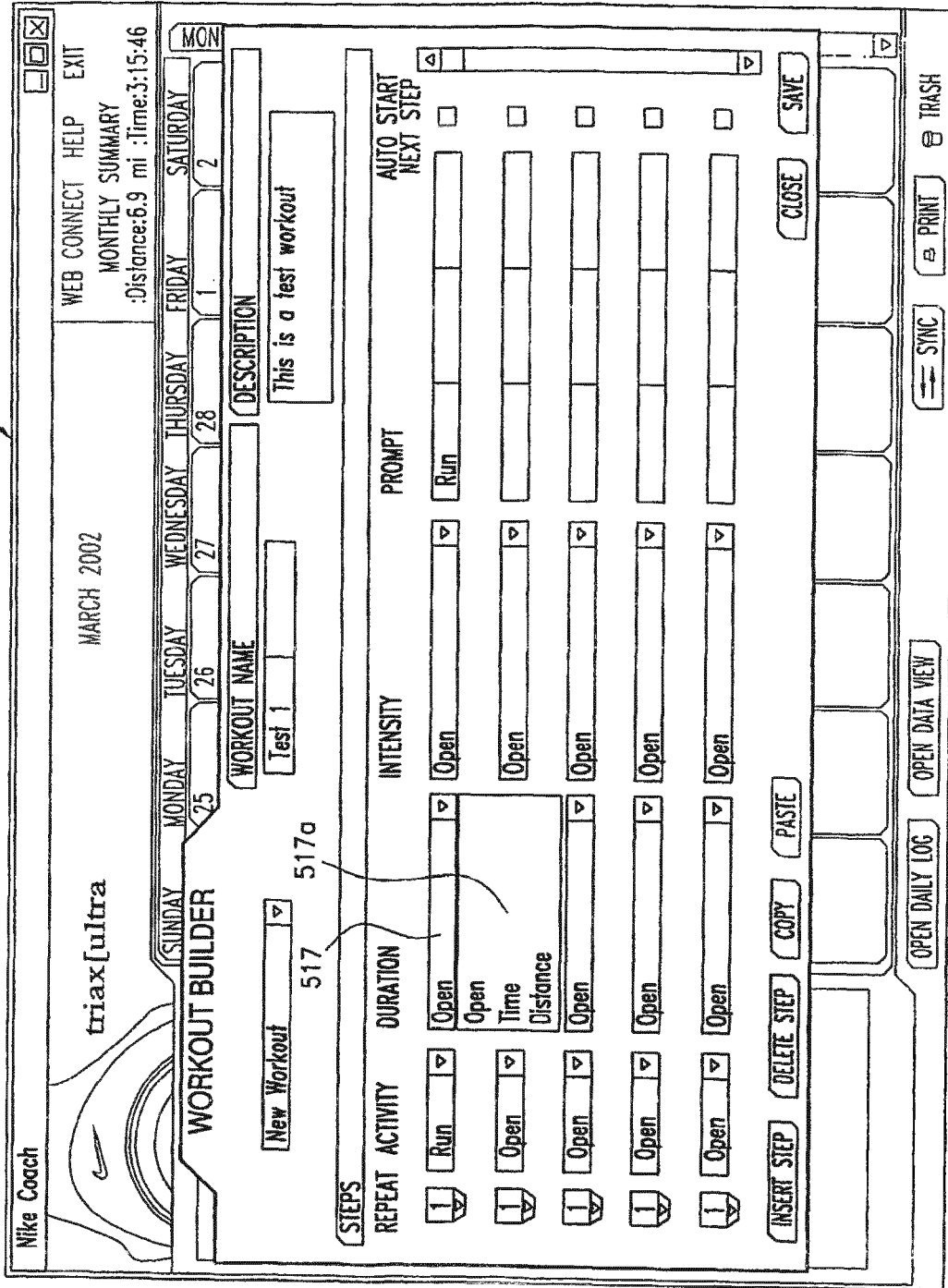


FIG. 5F

501

Nike Coach triax[ultra] MARCH 2002 WEB CONNECT HELP EXIT
 MONTHLY SUMMARY :Distance:6.9 mi :Time:3:15:46

WORKOUT BUILDER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY MON
 25 26 27 28 1 2

WORKOUT NAME: Test 1 DESCRIPTION: This is a test workout

[New Workout] 517 517b

STEPS	REPEAT	ACTIVITY	DURATION	INTENSITY	PROMPT	AUTO START NEXT STEP
1	Run	Time	0:00:00	Open	Run	0:00:00
1	Open	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open	Open		

INSERT STEP DELETE STEP COPY PASTE CLOSE SAVE

OPEN DAILY LOG OPEN DATA VIEW SYNC PRINT TRASH

FIG.5G

501

Nike Coach triax[ultra] MARCH 2002

WEB CONNECT HELP EXIT
MONTHLY SUMMARY
:Distance:6.9 mi :Time:3:15:46

MONDAY 25 TUESDAY 26 WEDNESDAY 27 THURSDAY 28 FRIDAY 1 SATURDAY 2

WORKOUT BUILDER

WORKOUT NAME: Test 1
DESCRIPTION: This is a test workout

STEPS: 517
517c 517d 517e 517f

REPEAT	ACTIVITY	DURATION	INTENSITY	PROMPT	AUTO START NEXT STEP
1	Run	Distance 0.00 mi	Open	Run	0.00 mi
1	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open		

INSERT STEP DELETE STEP COPY PASTE
 CLOSE SAVE
 OPEN DAILY LOG OPEN DATA VIEW SYNC PRINT TRASH

FIG.5H

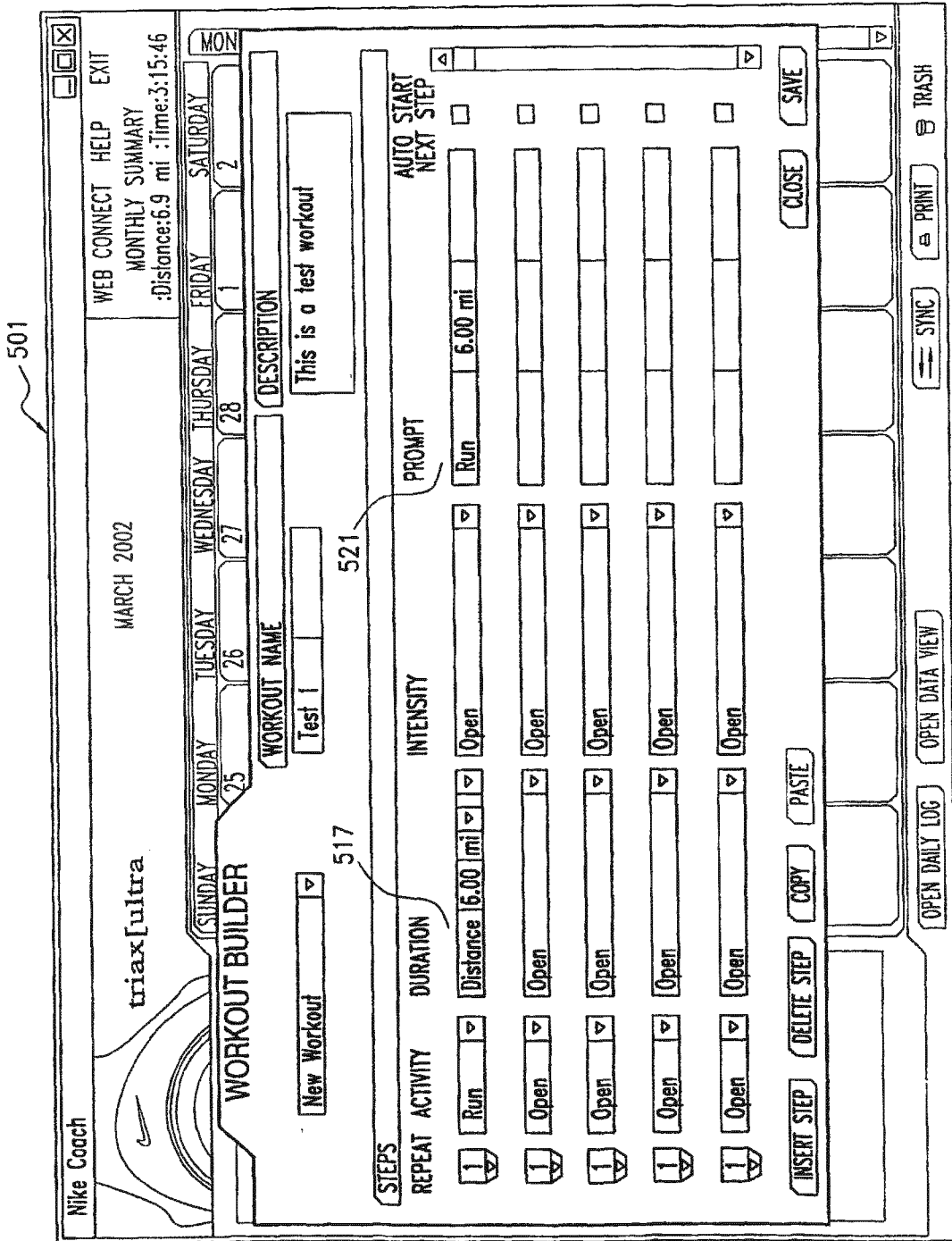


FIG.5I

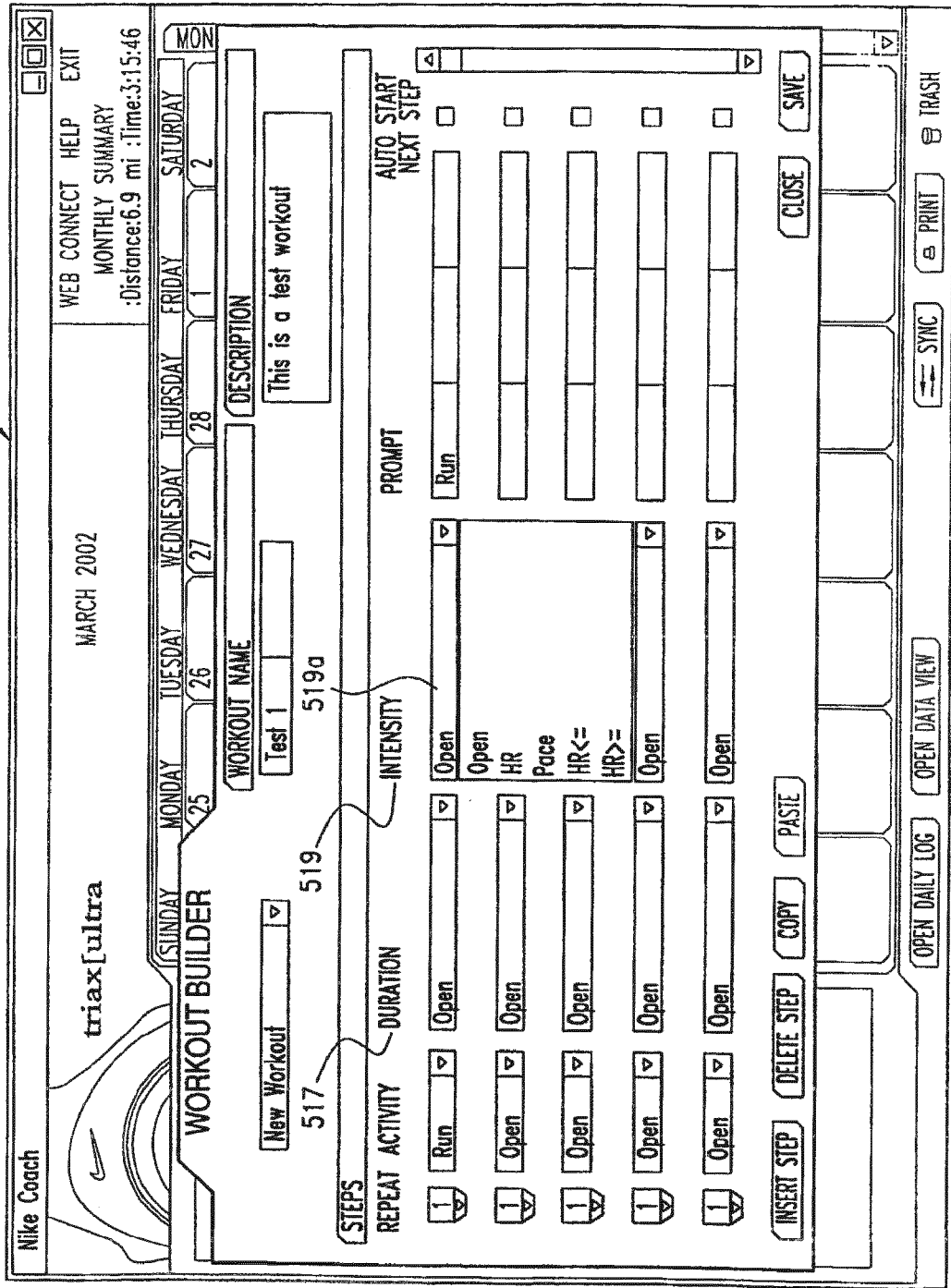


FIG. 5J

501

Nike Coach triax[ultra] MARCH 2002

WEB CONNECT HELP EXIT
MONTHLY SUMMARY
:Distance: 6.9 mi :Time: 3:15:46

MON
SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY
25 26 27 28 1 2

WORKOUT BUILDER

New Workout [v] WORKOUT NAME: Test 1 DESCRIPTION: This is a test workout

519c 519d

STEPS	REPEAT	ACTIVITY	DURATION	INTENSITY	PROMPT	AUTO START NEXT STEP
1	[v]	Run	Open	60% to 85%	Run	60-85%
1	[v]	Open	Open	Open		
1	[v]	Open	Open	Open		
1	[v]	Open	Open	Open		
1	[v]	Open	Open	Open		

519b

INSERT STEP DELETE STEP COPY PASTE CLOSE SAVE

OPEN DAILY LOG OPEN DATA VIEW SYNC PRINT TRASH

FIG.5K

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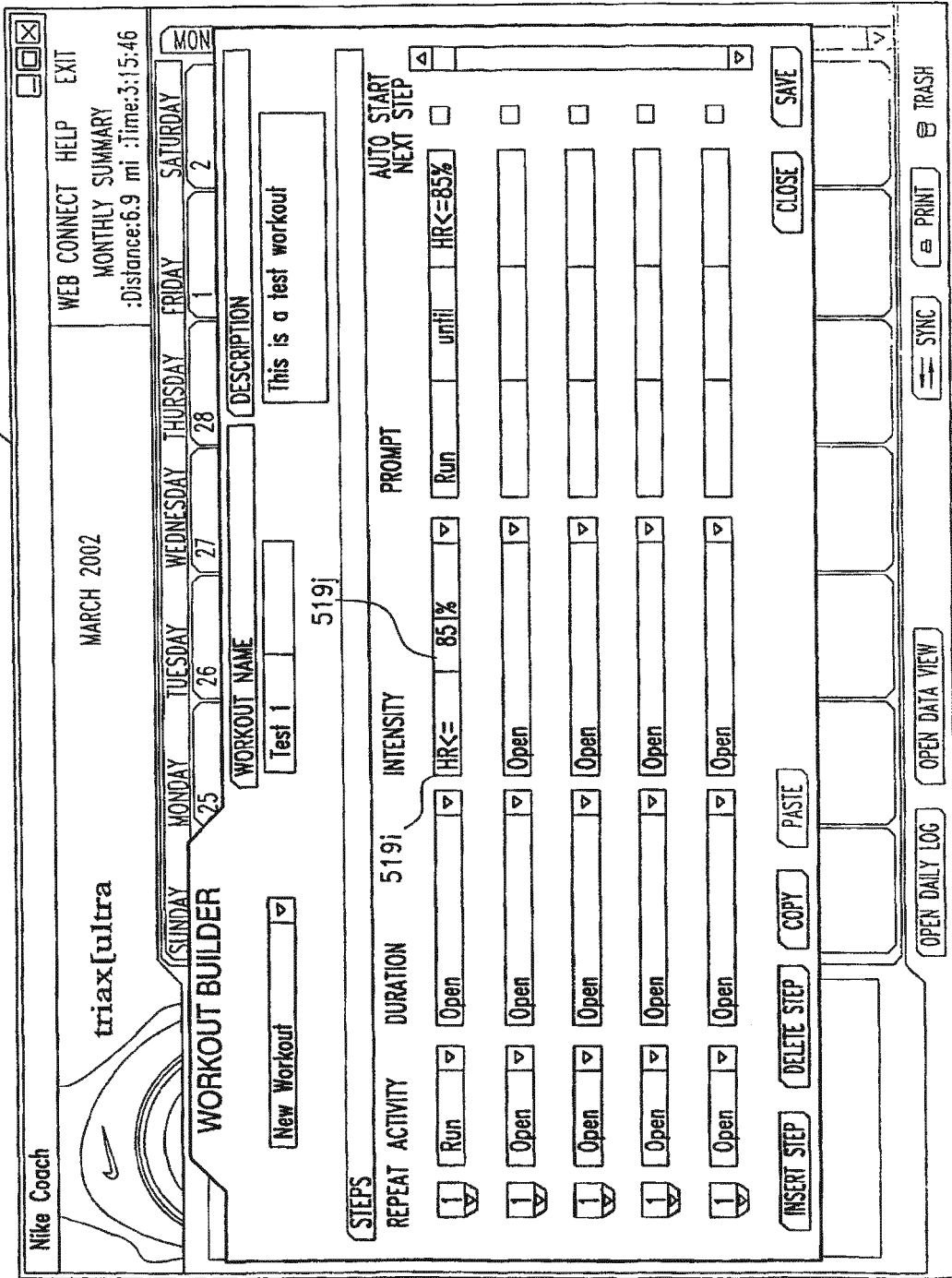


FIG.5M

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Nike Coach WEB CONNECT HELP EXIT
 triax[ultra] MARCH 2002
 MONTHLY SUMMARY
 :Distance:6.9 mi :Time:3:15:46

WORKOUT BUILDER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY MONDAY
 25 26 27 28 1 2

New Workout

WORKOUT NAME: Test 1
 DESCRIPTION: This is a test workout

519i

STEPS	REPEAT	ACTIVITY	DURATION	519k	INTENSITY	PROMPT	AUTO START NEXT STEP
1	Run	Open	Open	HR>=	60%	Run	HR>=60%
1	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		
1	Open	Open	Open	Open	Open		

FIG.5N

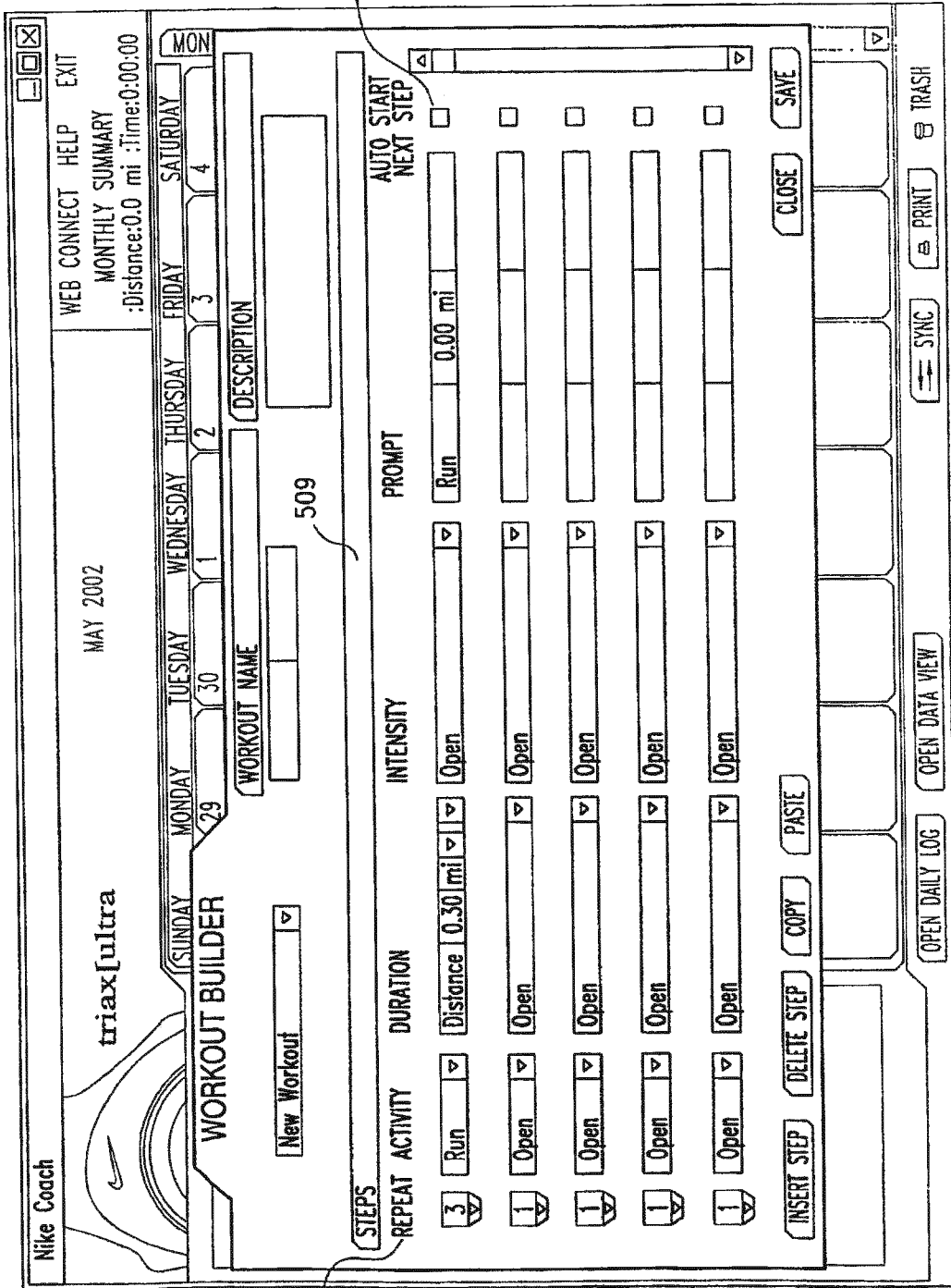


FIG.50

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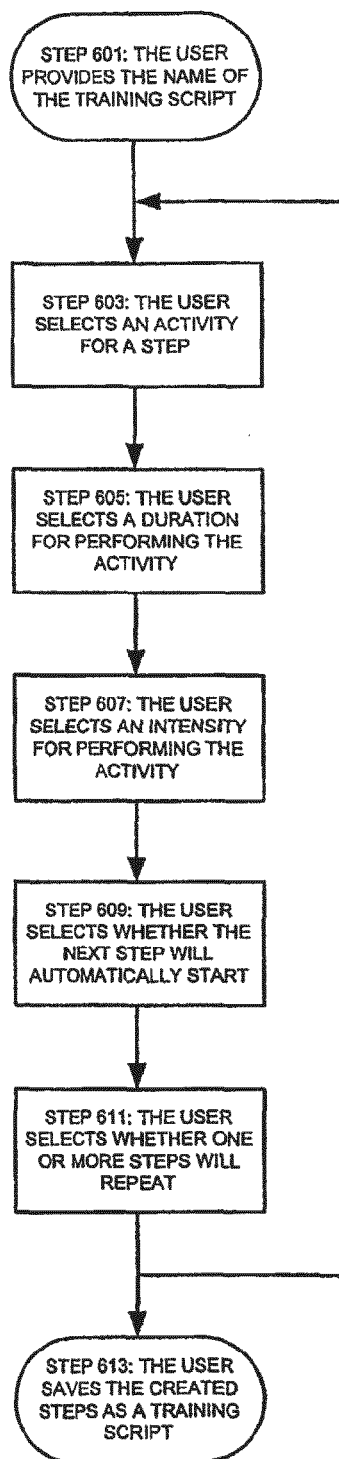


FIGURE 6

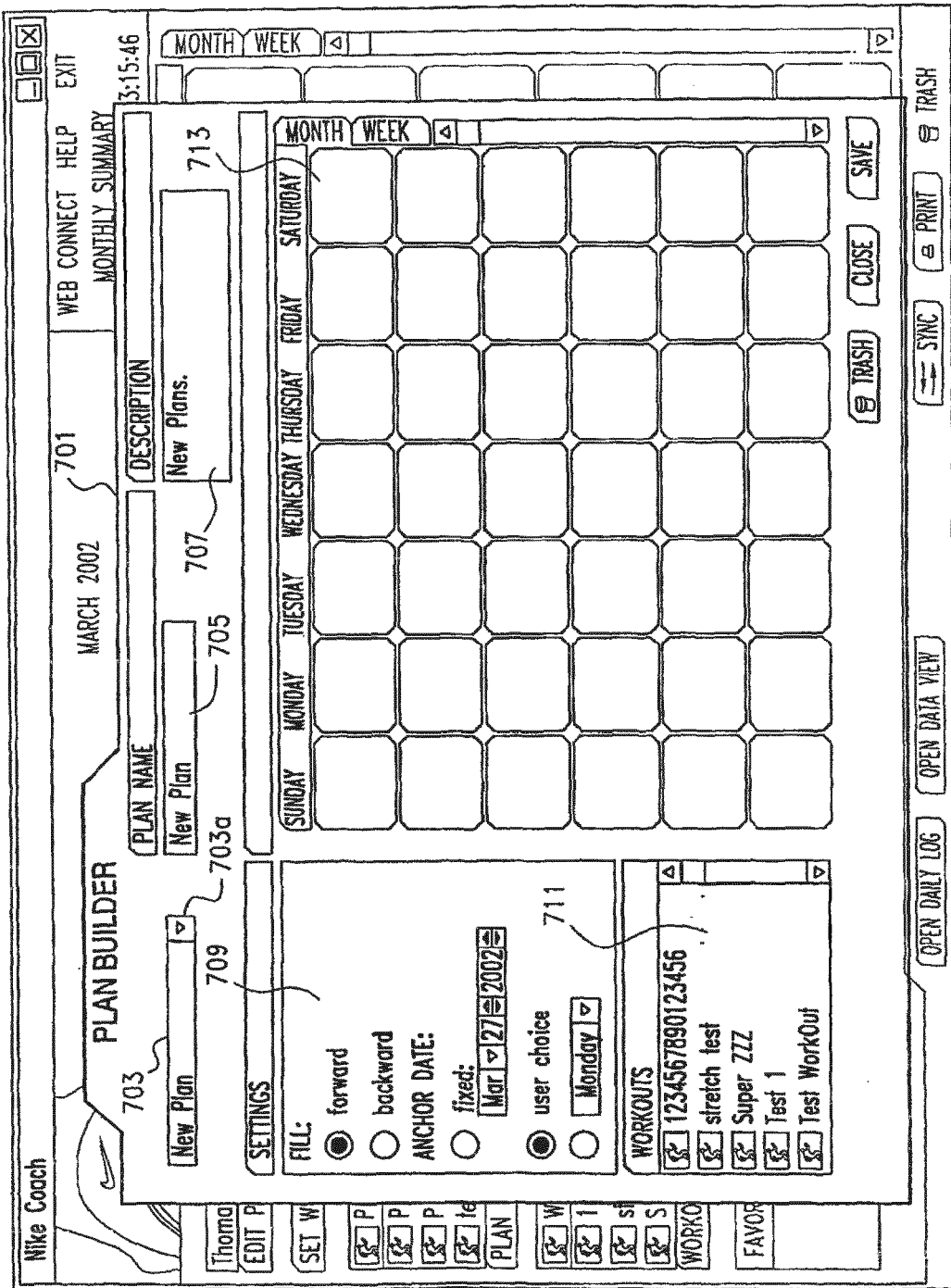


FIG. 7A

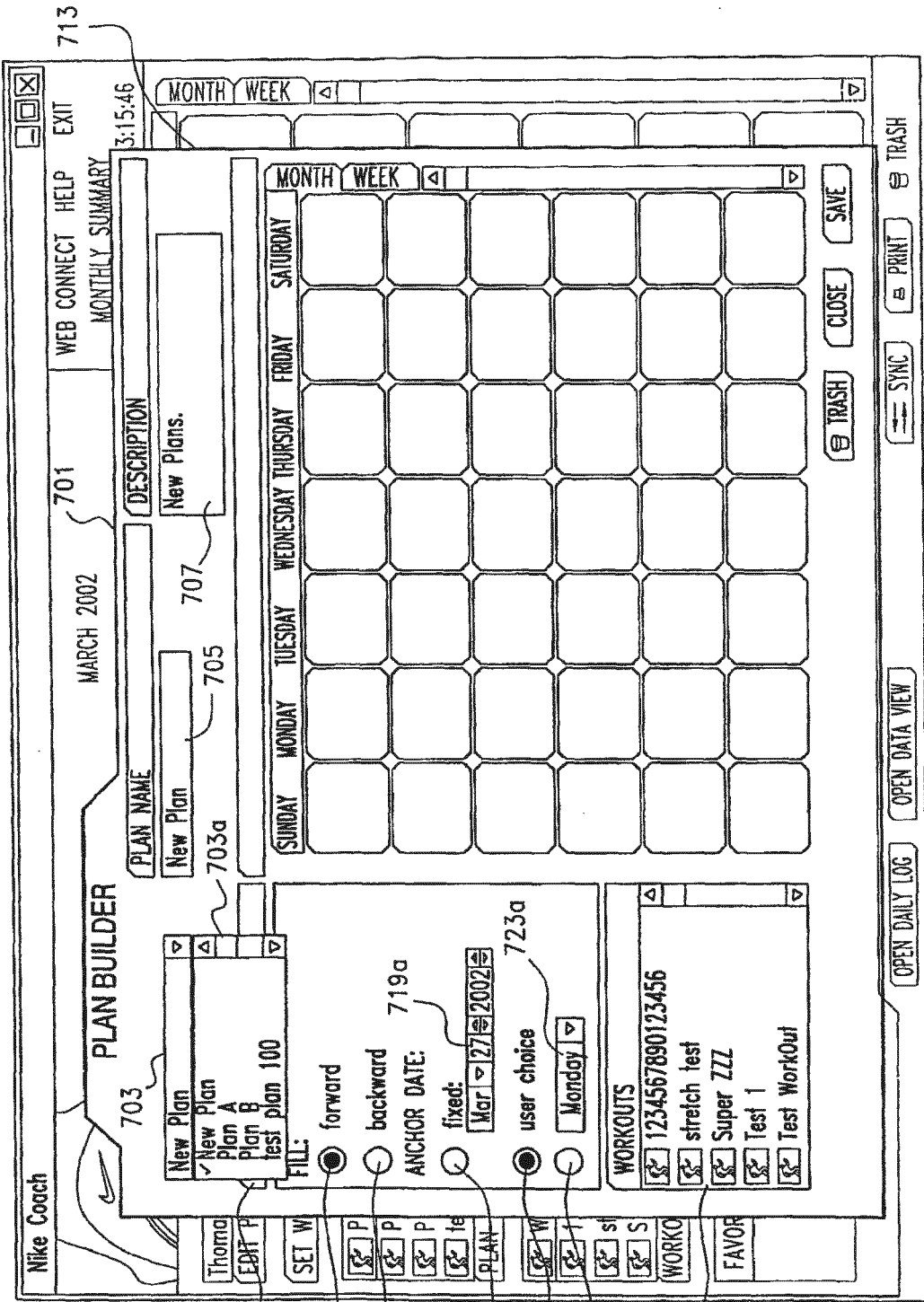


FIG. 7B

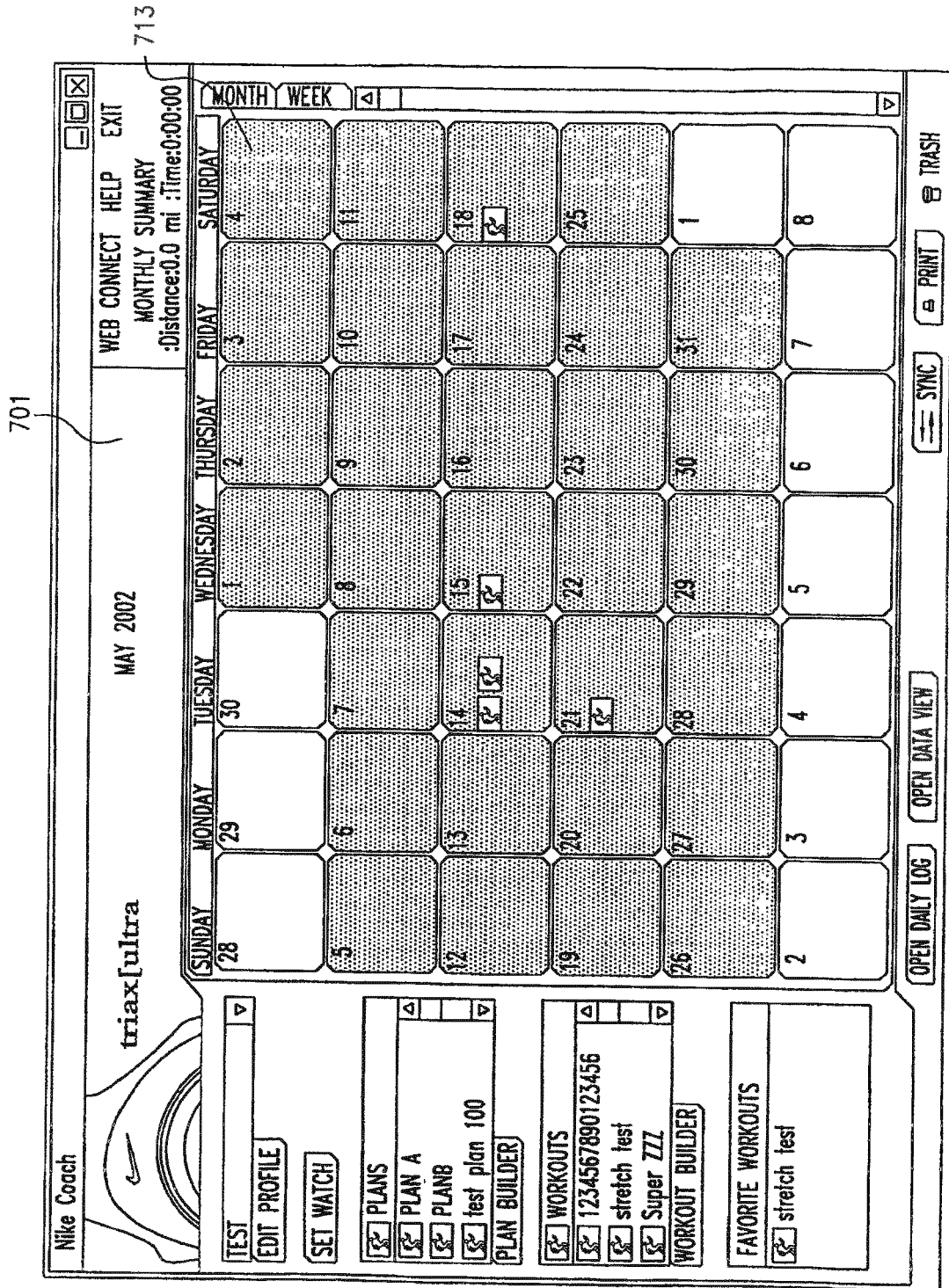


FIG. 7C

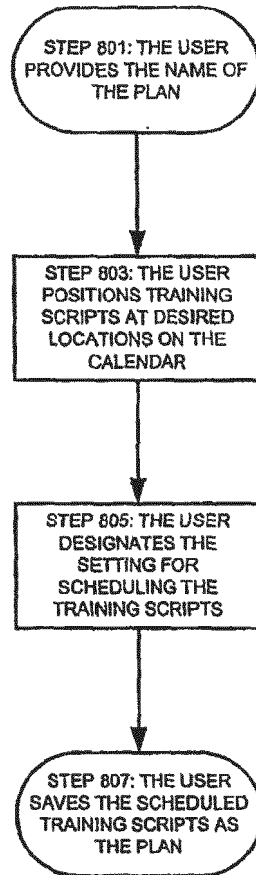


FIGURE 8

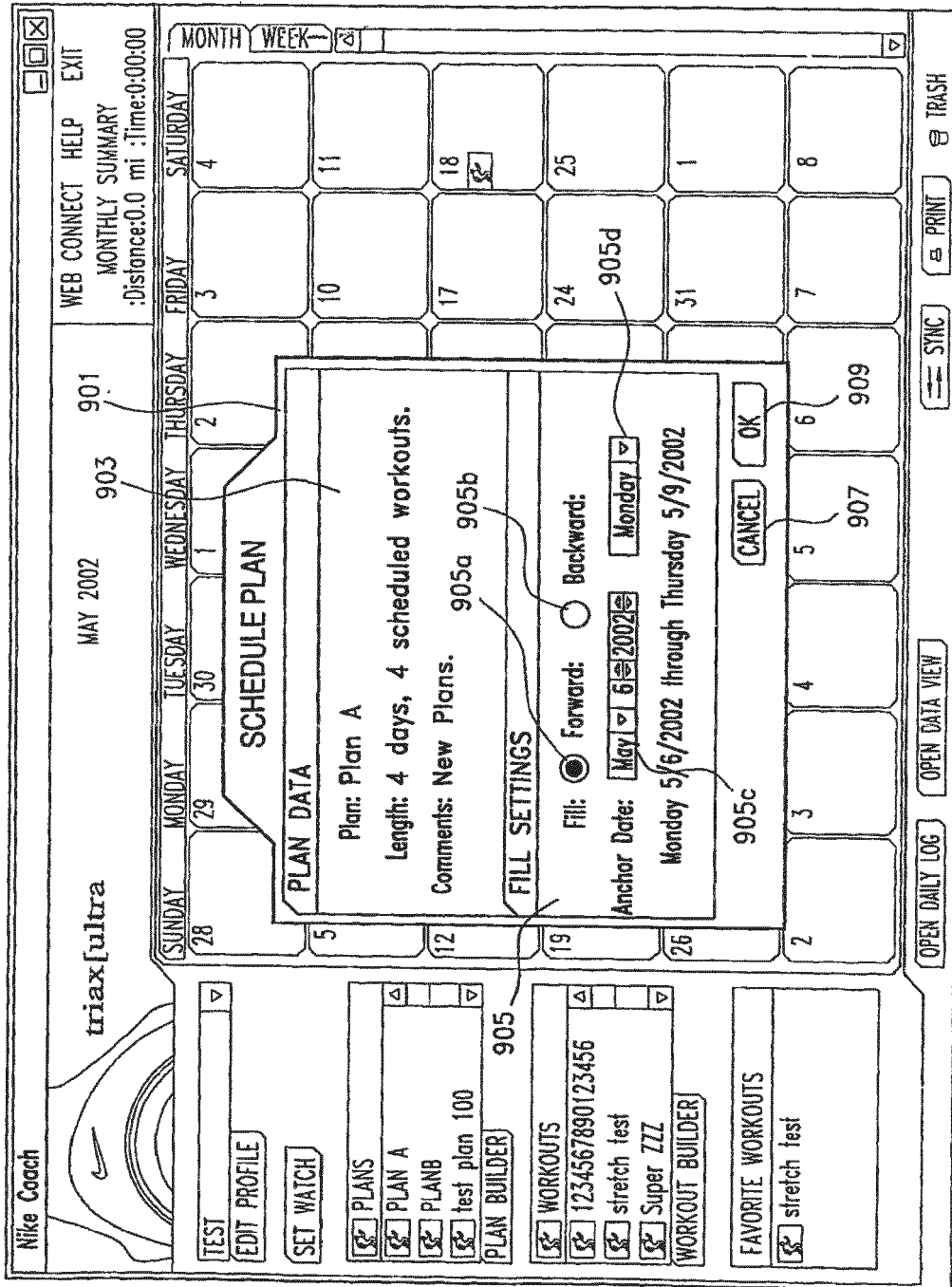


FIG.9



EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 16 15 0863

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
X	WO 02/39363 A1 (GPSports Systems Pty Ltd [AU]; FACCIONI ADRIAN MARK [AU]; GRAY DEAN RU) 16 May 2002 (2002-05-16) * page 5, line 26 - page 6, line 42 * * page 10, line 21 - page 11, line 44 *	1-15	INV. G09B5/02 G09B19/00 A63B24/00 A61B5/103
X	US 6 059 576 A (BRANN THEODORE L) 9 May 2000 (2000-05-09) * abstract * * figures 2C,4,5A-5D * * column 3, line 20 - column 5, line 3 * * column 5, line 33 - line 66 * * column 7, line 6 - line 43 * * column 10, line 62 - column 11, line 6 *	1-15	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC) G09B A63B A61B
X	US 6 027 428 A (THOMAS MARK ET AL) 22 February 2000 (2000-02-22) * abstract * * figure 5 * * column 6, line 15 - column 8, line 12 *	1-15	
X	US 4 571 682 A (BRUDNY JOSEPH ET AL) 18 February 1986 (1986-02-18) * abstract * * column 5, line 20 - column 8, line 64 * * column 12, line 41 - column 13, line 11 *	1-15	
A	US 6 287 239 B1 (HERNANDEZ FERNANDO J) 11 September 2001 (2001-09-11) * the whole document *	1-15	
A	US 4 867 442 A (MATTHEWS H GERARD) 19 September 1989 (1989-09-19) * the whole document *	1-15	
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 11 April 2016	Examiner Hanon, David
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03/02 (P04/C01)

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 16 15 0863

5 This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

11-04-2016

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 0239363 A1	16-05-2002	AU 1479602 A WO 0239363 A1	21-05-2002 16-05-2002
US 6059576 A	09-05-2000	AU 1421299 A CA 2311559 A1 EP 1032459 A1 JP 2001523536 A US 6059576 A WO 9926704 A1	15-06-1999 03-06-1999 06-09-2000 27-11-2001 09-05-2000 03-06-1999
US 6027428 A	22-02-2000	NONE	
US 4571682 A	18-02-1986	NONE	
US 6287239 B1	11-09-2001	NONE	
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EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

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Patent documents cited in the description

- US 38621002 P [0001]

专利名称(译)	使用电子锻炼脚本的训练设备		
公开(公告)号	EP3026657A1	公开(公告)日	2016-06-01
申请号	EP2016150863	申请日	2003-05-30
[标]申请(专利权)人(译)	耐克国际有限公司		
申请(专利权)人(译)	NIKE INNOVATE C.V.		
当前申请(专利权)人(译)	NIKE INNOVATE C.V.		
[标]发明人	SHUM ALBERT HELPRIN THEODORE H CLARK JAMES W		
发明人	SHUM, ALBERT HELPRIN, THEODORE H. CLARK, JAMES W.		
IPC分类号	G09B5/02 G09B19/00 A63B24/00 A61B5/103 A61B5/00 A61B5/021 A61B5/024 A61B5/11 A63B69/00		
CPC分类号	A61B5/021 A61B5/02438 A61B5/1112 A61B5/1118 A61B5/145 A61B5/486 A61B5/681 A61B2503/10 A61B2562/0219 G06F19/3481 G06Q10/06311 G06Q10/109 G09B5/02 G09B19/0038 G09B23/303 G16H20/30 H04L67/306 Y10S482/901 A63B24/00 A63B24/0075 A63B69/00 A63B71/0619 A63B2024 /0078 A63B2071/0663 A63B2220/12 A63B2220/17 A63B2220/34 A63B2220/40 A63B2225/20 A63B2225/50 A63B2230/04 A63B2230/207 A63B2230/30 A63B2230/50 G09B19/00		
审查员(译)	哈农, DAVID		
优先权	60/386210 2002-05-30 US 10/413366 2003-04-15 US		
外部链接	Espacenet		

摘要(译)

描述了一种训练脚本设备，其方便地允许用户创建定义锻炼例程的一个或多个步骤的训练脚本，其中每个步骤可包括活动，执行该活动的持续时间以及活动的强度。被执行。此外，训练脚本的一个或多个步骤可以响应于执行训练脚本的训练脚本设备的传感器检测到的性能数据而自启动。这方便地使运动员不必持续监视他或她的锻炼活动的状态。此外，训练脚本设备方便地允许用户将训练脚本传送到其他训练脚本设备，以便运动员可以共享成功的训练脚本。

FIG.5D

