

## Eric Lacombe Con't

Pets: I had a few dogs in the past, but have none at the moment. I really like dogs.

Partner/Family: A wonderful girlfriend and no children.

Sports/Hobbies: Quite a few...football, baseball, hockey, golf and tennis. I also enjoy reading and gardening.

Your ideal weekend would be: Any weekend I can do a new, relaxing activity.

Favorite Foods: French cuisine.

If I could be anything at all (besides a SAS programmer): I would be working in the health sector, probably as a doctor or pharmacist.

When I'm not programming in SAS, I like to learn new things.

One thing every SAS programmer should know:

I've often been asked by other SAS programmers how to verify whether or not a file is empty. Here's a simple program to accomplish this:

```
/* Specify the file to check */
FILENAME DATAIN 'YOUR-INPUT-FILE';

/* Check if the file is empty */
/* If the file is empty, the program abends using a
specified error code */
DATA _NULL_;
  INFILE DATAIN END=THE_END;
  IF THE_END THEN ABORT ABEND 21;
RUN;
```