```
square += odd;
}
return 0;
}
```

The for statement in this program initializes one variable (square), tests another (i), and increments a third (odd). i is the number to be squared, square is the square of i, and odd is the odd number that must be added to the current square to get the next square (allowing the program to compute consecutive squares without performing any multiplications).

linked lists ➤ 17.5

The tremendous flexibility of the for statement can sometimes be useful; we'll find it to be a great help when working with linked lists. The for statement can easily be misused, though, so don't go overboard. The for loop in square3.c would be a lot clearer if we rearranged its pieces so that the loop is clearly controlled by i.

## 6.4 Exiting from a Loop

We've seen how to write loops that have an exit point before the loop body (using while and for statements) or after it (using do statements). Occasionally, however, we'll need a loop with an exit point in the middle. We may even want a loop to have more than one exit point. The break statement makes it possible to write either kind of loop.

After we've examined the break statement, we'll look at a couple of related statements: continue and goto. The continue statement makes it possible to skip part of a loop iteration without jumping out of the loop. The goto statement allows a program to jump from one statement to another. Thanks to the availability of statements such as break and continue, the goto statement is rarely used.

## The break Statement

We've already discussed how a break statement can transfer control out of a switch statement. The break statement can also be used to jump out of a while, do, or for loop.

Suppose that we're writing a program that checks whether a number n is prime. Our plan is to write a for statement that divides n by the numbers between 2 and n - 1. We should break out of the loop as soon as any divisor is found; there's no need to try the remaining possibilities. After the loop has terminated, we can use an if statement to determine whether termination was premature (hence n isn't prime) or normal (n is prime):

```
for (d = 2; d < n; d++)
  if (n % d == 0)
    break;</pre>
```