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recent news...

#### Thursday, October 23

evening edition

Newer's MAXpowr PRO & PRO+ Installer 1.1 includes both a revised Extension and Control Panel (as well as the latest Gauge series) that allows you to turn off the L3 (formerly known as the L2, but the backside is now L2) cache on their motherboards. The results of this are mixed as our benchmarks indicate that keeping it turned on may give up to a seven percent increase.

Maxum Development's <u>Rumpus 1.1.1fc1</u>, is the first final candidate of their high-performance update.

A Macinsearch.com press release, public HTML documents located at <a href="www.cnet.com">www.cnet.com</a>, apparently intended for search engine spamming (i.e., using repeated keywords, displayed using the same color as the background of the web page and using a META tag to refresh the page to c'net's main page); however, modern search engines, such as Macinsearch's, appear to avoid the problem by filtering repeated words. Some of the alleged pages (which do appear suspicious):

- 1. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat/
- 2. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat /1 macintosh.html
- 3. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat /2 macintosh.html
- 4. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat /3 macintosh.html
- 5. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat/1 browser.html
- 6. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat/1\_freeware.html
- 7. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat/1\_hotwired.html
- 8. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat/1\_game.html
- 9. http://cnet.com/Welcomemat/1\_mac.html



## Mac OS Components

AppleShare IP 5.0.2s1**MPEG** Extension 1.01 **AppleGuide** 2.1.1 **Open Transport** 1.1.2 OT/PPP 1.0 OpenDoc 1.2 QuickDraw GX QuickDraw 3D 1.5.1 QuickTime VR 2.01 QuickTime 2.5 Video Software 1.5.1

QuickTime VR 2.01 PlainTalk 1.5 VideoPhone Lite 1.5

7.5.5 <u>Update</u> 7.5 <u>Update</u> 2.0

5500/6500 Video Input CW 6000 3.1.1 FontSize Patch 1.1 Desktop Printing

2.0.2

1 of 14

MacInTouch has some very useful hints (we've been receiving many as well, thanks!) on <u>installing</u> Rhapsody DR 1.

morning edition

Apple has posted a <u>Firmware Update 1.1</u> for 1.2 Gb Power Mac and Performas--some of which have experienced <u>blinking question mark problems</u>. The description reads:

This bootable disk image contains a utility to fix a problem with a limited number of 1.2 GB ATA hard drives in some Power Macintosh and Performa configurations that can cause a flashing question mark at startup. 1.2 GB Download Utility 1.1 will upgrade the firmware on the affected drives and is only needed for 1.2 GB ATA drives with firmware versions 1.37 and below.

Adam Bebery's <u>Distributed.net</u>, a non-profit venture focused on distributing computing, solved RSA's 56-bit secret challenge after 4000 teams checked nearly 47% of the "key space" or 34 quadrillion keys at an estimated rate of 7.2 billion keys per second. The winning key found by an Intel Pentium 200 on October 19, revealed the hidden message, "It's time to move to a longer key length." The consumed computing power was equivalent to 14,685 Intel Pentium Pro 200 processors or 13,362 Motorola PowerPC 604e/200 processors, according to the press release. A Mac-client for the 64-bit challenge is "under construction," according to a webpage. Update: It appears that Andrew Meggs has released a 64-bit Mac client this morning. (Thanks Chris C.)

Intuit will release <u>Quicken 98</u> today. Webintosh has a <u>review of the Deluxe</u> and an <u>interview with Adam</u> Samuels, Senior Product Manager at Intuit

Today's update to <u>Reality</u> addresses the truth behind recent COS Screen Shots that have been circulating the 'net.

Proteron's GoMac 1.4.2, the utility that adds the famous Windows Task Bar and Start Menu to the Mac, has been posted; this version addresses a problem when neither the Apple Menu Options nor the General Controls was in the Control Panels folder, desktop pictures compatibility, generic icons in the Start Menu and a problem with Virtual PC. A special \$14.95 upgrade offer for Now Utilities users is available for a limited time.

MacWEEK has an article on Pacific Coast's \$99 Webserver utility <u>Typhoon</u> which makes websites interactive based on "WebDNA" (Dynamic Naming Architecture) in lieu of traditional CGIs and employs a RAM-cached database. (See yesterday's news about WebSiphon 1.5)

<u>iCount 1.2.1</u> is the latest incarnation of the replacement for the standard Macintosh calculator.

PB 1400 HD
Upd 1.0
Clr StyleWriter
2.2.1
PB 3400 AT set
TokenTalk Prep
2.5.3
AppleVision
1.5.2Display
Enabler 2.2.2
Chinese Lang.
Kit 1.2
Language Kit
Updater 1.0

The lowest Prices anywhere: MacGURUs

The shareware program offers a much larger feature set than the standard calculator.

Newer Technology's <u>NUpowr 500/183c</u>, the 183MHz PowerPC 603ev processor upgrade with 128K of Level 2 cache on the card is "shipping in quantity," according to a press release.

MacWest Expo '97, "Southern California's Best Macintosh Computer Show", kicks off tomorrow in Los Angeles. The action includes innovative seminars, compelling keynote speakers, book signings, and a wide variety of macintosh related exhibitors.

An Apple <u>press release</u> covers a study released by the Business Research Group that shows that Apple's workgroup servers offer a considerable advantage in overall cost-of-ownership, ease-of-use and maintenance for customers in small business or workgroups. (This was published here several weeks ago as well).

<u>ClearPhone 4.0</u> has been released. A 30-day demo is available for all users; a <u>press release</u> gives full details.

Rockstar is now shipping Internet Setup Monkey 2.0, software that allows Internet Service Providers and network administrators to build custom Internet access kits; this new version includes a plug-in architecture "capable of supporting virtually any Internet-configurable application." A demo is available Licenses for ISM 2.0 start at a minimum \$300 for building 200 user kits distributed annually.

The Beale Street Group has posted updaters (and new demos) to their powerful screen editing utility, Screen Shot 2.5.5 (only works on v2.5.x) and, even more powerful sibling, Exposure Pro 2.03 (only works on v2.0.x); this version fixes a problem with DoubleScroll among other bugs.

Apple has discontinued PostScript Fax development and does not plan to incorporate Fax capabilities in current or future versions of Macintosh or PC LaserWriter drivers, according to Apple TIL 30211. LaserWriter 8.4.3 that ships with Mac OS 8 does not include fax support (for LaserWriter 16/600 PS Fax, the LaserWriter Select 360f, LaserWriter Pro 810f, and the LaserWriter 16/600 PS Fax); however, the older driver LaserWriter 8.2.3f does support faxing.

Apple has also identified a "Video Static" problem using the PC Compatibility Card (166MHz Pentium) running under Windows 95 only (some of the pixels flicker on and off) which has been isolated to a problem in the DRAM chips and offers replacement to customers who experience this problem.

World Wide <u>Web Weaver 2.1.1</u>, a popular Web page creation tool, is now available. A fully-function demo copy is available from the site.

Adobe has posted EPS Font Scanner 2.4, which "

improves the way Adobe PageMaker reconciles fonts embedded in EPS files with fonts installed on your computer." This version "attempts to recognize" TrueType fonts embedded in EPS Illustrator 7.0 (or later) files whose names have been altered by removing the space between names. (Thanks Jan S. and Version Tracker.)

MailBurst 2.0.1b12 is the most recent beta of the EIMS plugin that adds support for multiple domains, wild cards, auto replies, tracking email bandwidth use by user or domain and more.

John Moe's Netprint 8.0b20 is now available.



# Wednesday, October 22

evening edition

Apple has posted a <u>firmware update 1.1</u> for 1.2 Gb Power Mac and Performas. The description reads:

This bootable disk image contains a utility to fix a problem with a limited number of 1.2 GB ATA hard drives in some Power Macintosh and Performa configurations that can cause a flashing question mark at startup. 1.2 GB Download Utility 1.1 will upgrade the firmware on the affected drives and is only needed for 1.2 GB ATA drives with firmware versions 1.37 and below.

Purity Software has released WebSiphon 1.5, its powerful web-application scripting tool for Mac OS web servers that can be used for "Simple Dynamic Page Serving based on Browser, IP Address, etc; online shopping carts, database publishing, user tracking and session management, and bulletin board systems and online conferencing." This version now includes FileMaker Pro databases, a complete suite of file manipulation functions, send e-mail support, HTTP cookies and session tracking, MacAuthorize support for online commerce sites, and sending AppleEvents.

Purity has also posted a final version of WebSentinel 1.0, their security software for webservers. A demo is also available.

Photodex announced a \$50 Mac version of CPIC, multimedia viewer/file manager software that features multitasking and an integrated thumbnail viewer. Beta testers will receive a free copy, according to the details on their website. Mark Pellechi reports that Virex 5.7.1 flagged a 'MBDF A' virus in the PPC beta file.

Computers Plus sent us the following press release:

We assure you that MacInsider was NEVER a division of Computers Plus Company. We have been a long standing, reputable Apple Specialist dealer (in business since 1983), this false accusation has hurt our credibility. We have won many accolades for our service to the Apple community (Apple's Prestigious Outstanding Service Award) and have donated more than 125 preowned, refurbished, and new Macintosh computers to local charities in the last 5 years alone. We have worked hand in hand with Apple maintaining its positive image in the industry. Our 22,000 retail, Apple-only superstore in the affluent Arcadia district of Phoenix has been a model for many other Apple dealers and is highly regarded by many at Apple as one of the best Apple Specialist retail storefronts in the country.

Blue World announced a \$100 rebate on Lasso 2.0, a web- and java-enabler for FileMaker Pro 4.0 owners through December 31 (with a free upgrade to Lasso 2.5 later this year). A free Lasso 2.0 evaluation version is available.

Director of Software procurement Stephen Decker testified that Microsoft threatened to cut off Compaq Computer's access to crucial software because Compaq wanted to highlight an Internet Web browser from competitor Netscape. (Thanks Scott S.)

Adrenaline Charts SE 1.0, a sophisticated charting program, can be purchased online at a for \$60, until December 1 when the price reverts to the suggested retail price of \$150. A demo is available now.

<u>Mushashi 2.06</u> is the latest version of the powerful shareware email client; this version addresses main window viewing and scrolling mail problems.

morning edition

Apple has posted MkLinux DR 2.1 Update 5 which includes support for large memory configurations, altered bus speeds, virtual memory support, and the Twin Turbo PCI card compatibility. More details are available at the site.

Freedows 98 is a free OS being developed under the GNU Public License based on a design that will allow it to run programs from multiple OS simultaneously. According to their page it will be based on the "Cache Kernel" design developed by researchers at Stanford University, which is able "to run applications from many different OSes, even those based on completely different processors and hardware, like the Macintosh or Amiga... {and] through the use of "application kernels," Freedows will be able to provide dynamically loaded, on-the-fly OS support." Final release is planned for sometime in 1998; however Mac OS support is not due until 2000. (Thanks "s a t a d r u.")

BMUG, one of the world's largest Macintosh user groups, is restructuring in order to make the group more efficient. Read the story in MacWeek.

MacInsider has apparently closed its doors for good. The MacInsider home page has an <u>explanation</u>, and MacCentral offers a sightly <u>different perspective</u>. We have received many messages from them, flatly contradicting the explanation on their website; however, it is not uncommon for several websites with the same ISP to have common technical and billing contacts in cases where the ISP handles InterNIC domain charges.

MacWEEK has a list of <u>Rhapsody Database</u> applications (most previously announced here).

Mac Home Journal has <u>interesting follow-up article</u> on the Yale-Mac Saga, which details Updegrove's continuing denials of wrongdoing, but alleges that a personal website described the "Mac Win Migration:"

While the letter may not have been meant for faculty, apparently its message was. On Updegrove's <u>Website</u> in a section called "Mac Win migration," he seems to go even further in his instruction to faculty than he did for students, including an implicit warning that ITS support wouldn't be available past 2000 for those departments that didn't go the migration route." (Note we have posted the correct link, but the website has since, apparently, been modified.)

Symantec's Norton Utilities is listed as a top-selling Macintosh business software titles according to PC Data's August 1997 Retail Report (second only to Mac OS 8). More than 300,000 unit sales of NUM 3.5 in the third quarter of 1997, representing a 70 percent increase in revenue from the previous quarter.

Joe Costello's <u>recent resignation</u> as CEO of Cadence Deign and new full-time position at Knowledge Universe have prompted reconsideration of his candidacy for the Apple CEO position.(Thanks John B.)

A press release from Newer Technology revealed that the MAXpowr PRO and PRO+ are fully compatible with Adaptec's fast and wide SCSI implementation and driver version 2.5. This was apparently a hardware revision and any MAXpowr PRO/PRO+ customer who would like the update may obtain an RMA number by calling Newer Technical Support, at 800-678-3726 or 316-943-0222 (or email techsupport@newertech.com). Shipping (both ways) will paid by Newer.

Active Concepts Funnel Web 1.05, a Web site analysis tool "which provides detailed charting and statistical analysis of any Web Server log file" now includes support for WebTen, Apache, and Netscape Enterprise servers.

Marc Moini's StartupDoubler 1.0 has elicited several different types of experiences including the following from one reader, which appears to a more general concern (although several users report great improvements in startup times):

I downloaded the package, read the docs, boosted my disk cache to the recommended 1024K and timed three startups to establish a baseline. I run a 7500 boosted to a 604/132 so the bus is at 44 Mhz. I have 32Mb physical RAM and RAM Doubler set to bring it to 48Mb. I have a 1Gb Quantum Fireball internal drive. My regular startup set puts 57 icons across the screen, and Conflict Catcher tells me I have 121 of 261 files enabled.

My baseline average time was 1:18... I installed StartupDoubler, restarted to let it "learn and adapt," and then restarted three times to see what the boost was. Three restarts all clocked in at 1:06...So the verdict on my machine was 11 seconds saved (~15%) in exchange for 1.3Mb of disk space and a cache set higher then I prefer.

Marc Moini's SmartScroll is a real gem, but for now I think I'll pass on StartupDoubler.

<u>AutoMenus Pro 3.5</u> is a control panel that gives sticky menu functionality to non-Mac OS 8 users and allows multitasking for background applications when browsing menus; this version fixes Mac OS 8 compatibility.

<u>Killing Time</u> is a hot new first-person game from Logicware. A demo is available from the website; the full version is scheduled to be released on November 1st.

John Moe's <u>NetPrint 8.0b19</u> utility that allows you print portions of webpages, is now available.

iView 2.8.5 is the latest version of the multimedia scrapbook organizer that adds an 'Export' option, which now saves files as individual files: PICT, JPEG with adjustable compression and poster previews and includes a bug fix for 68k users. Script Software has also posted iSearch 1.1.1, a utility that lets you search folders or entire disks, CD's, for text with an accelerated engine "that can work equally fast in the background while you carry on your work."

An editorial on thessaSOURCE titled "Communication Breakdown" discusses the current lack of information about upcoming products from computer companies (namely Apple).

<u>Bovine RC5 2.006b3</u> is a new client for the RC5 code-cracking contest. (Thanks Dave J.)

The popular internet BBS program Hotline 1.2.1 has been updated (both server and client versions are

available). The Hotline tracker has also been updated to version 1.1.

<u>Call to Arms</u>, which has been recently updated "with a bright, new, easy-to-navigate interface," is a website that petitions to bring smash-hit PC games to the Mac OS.

MacOnCall has 32 Mb and 64 Mb 5v FPM DIMMs for \$109.50 and \$202.50 respectively as a special through October 24.

Version 0.b5 of BBCNA (BasketBall Coaches Newton Assistant) is available for public beta testing which is the "beginning of a fully featured shareware version [for the Newton Operating System]." (Thanks MacMarines.)

### Tuesday, October 21

#### morning edition

Claris announced <u>record revenue</u> of \$91.1 million (up 61 percent) for its fourth fiscal quarter, bringing their fiscal 97 total revenue to \$281.7 million, the company's highest annual figure ever. The press release confirms that 2 million Mac OS 8 licenses have been sold to date.

Extensis' announced \$130 QX-Effects 3.0, the latest version of the Quark Xpress tool that lets users create and interactively control professional-quality, print-ready effects, including 3-D cast (perspective) shadows, drop shadows, glows, bevels and embosses, directly in QuarkXPress (upgrade available for \$50).

A reader forward the following message to us about installation of Rhapsody DR 1 on Apple 73/75/7600 series machines:

I can confirm that I was able to install RDR on my 7500 with a 604/120 CPU card installed. I installed it on an external drive set to ID 0. Everything went very smoothly and it appears to be stable... no problems so far!

Spinfree's OutBox 1.5 is an e-mail merge application for the Mac OS that automatically personalizes and customizes each message; this version has a number of new feature and improvements. Spinfree is currently offering OutBox at the special introductory price of \$99.99 (through December 31, 1997).

Radius' \$999 EditDV system for nonlinear video editing is due to ship later this month and will include a FireWire cable as well as Radius' PhotoDV FireWire PCI card to produce playback will be at the official NTSC rate of 29.97 frames per second. (requires a 7,200 rpm drive; MotoDV users can upgrade for \$249).

Michael Coyle's <u>Desktop Madness</u> is web site dedicated to Macintosh resource editing covering how to make a command key to for "Hide Others," automatically remove the word "alias" after creating

them, and how to edit communicator toolbars.

A MacWEEK <u>review of RealPC</u> appears not to have covered many of the problems run into by <u>many</u> <u>readers</u> regarding Sound Blaster emulation, but does indicate generally better printing results with RealPC.

Although the page is unreadable with Navigator 4.03, the MacOS Mania has been updated- the author has shut the site down, and will relocate to <a href="http://home.earthlink.net/%7Eevandoll/macosmania">http://home.earthlink.net/%7Eevandoll/macosmania</a> sometime this week.

The shareware PPC-only fractal generation program Fractals 2.0 is available.

QuickCRC is a "software design tool for discovering objects and related information for an object-oriented software development project."

The Mac Partisan Page "contains dozens of links to sober information you will find useful when you need to back up your arguments that the Mac platform would be the best for your home, business, workplace, school or anywhere else you might want to put a Mac. " They are also giving away a Kodak DC-120 Digital Camera.

Crush Software's WebFind Assistant 1.02, a browser-integrated search engine that allows you to search the top nine engines, is a maintenance release that "enhances the application's stability." A <u>demo version</u> is available.

The popular arcade game emulator, <u>MacMAME</u> <u>0.29</u>, improves speed, adds a new video mode, but disables the "Game Save/Restore" feature for this release.

Turly O'Connor's FinderPop 1.5f8 "should fix the odd font behavior seen by Japanese users, plus a couple of other bugs [and] also adds a first stab at 'Grabbing'-- press the 'G' key when you have something selected in a FinderPop submenu, and you can pick it up and drag it around the Finder, to do with what you will." (A warning on the page states: this may cause your Mac "to crash and burn."

Fetch-O-Matic 2.0 is a new approach to automated website maintenance via FTP. Fetch-O-Matic allows web authors to freely create and update files locally without needing to keep track of their work, and then automatically catalog the alterations and update the website. [MRP]

ClearPhone 3.8.9 has been updated again.

The ICQ chat client Mirabilis ICQ 1.1.0 is now available.

The <u>Digitek Blowout Page</u> is a great place to look for hardware deals, such as a 9600/300 for \$2,147 (!) [MacCentral]

<u>SuperDuper 2.1.1</u> is a freely distributable disk copier for the Macintosh. It copies all types of disks -

floppies, zips, Jaz, syquests, and more. It works with and mounts disk image files.

Purity has posted <u>WebSIPHON 1.5b4</u>, the next release of their CGI-like programming interface for websites.



#### Monday, October 20

evening edition

Michael Kamprath has released a minor update, <u>Program Switcher 4.4.2</u>, fixes a few problems that users encoutered if they weren't running Mac OS 8 (startup crash).

FWB has posted their interim device files update for FWB HDT 2.06; it includes SCSI support for IBM: DCAS-32160, DVAS-2810; OEM DCHS-09Y; Micropolis: 4743WS, 4743NS; and Seagate: ST52160N, ST34501N; IDE support for IBM: DCRA-22160 drives. A support page has extensive notes on invidual drive support.

<u>Mac OS Rumors</u> appears have addressed its DNS problems and a note on the <u>MacInsider</u> indicates that they next update may be posted today.

<u>SiteLink</u> has been "overhauled and optimized for speed" according to John Brochu.

An interesting article detailing AOL's latest <u>legal</u> <u>measures</u> to counter SPAM, reveals that up to 30% of AOL's mail traffic can be due to SPAM.

## afternoon edition

This week's <u>Reality</u>, our newest addition to MacNN, talks about Apple's fourth quarter in a column entitled "<u>Apple, Down by Twenty Four</u>." In addition, there are extensive looks at Microsoft Office 98 Beta, the new PowerBooks (!), Myth, and of course, screen shots and info on the latest versions of Mac OS 8.1 and Rhapsody. (The layout has been tweaked considerably for faster download times.)

Apple today will officially announce the MessagePad 2100, which is due "sometime in early November" (contrary to a few other reports on the web indicating its availability this week). Previous users can upgrade to the MessagePad 2100 for \$99 (purchases before Nov 7; \$199 for purchases after Nov. 7).

Wall Street Journal Reporter Jim Carleton's new book is turning a lot of heads after revealing that "Bill Gates gave Apple the best advice they ever ignored [namely, licensing the Mac OS back in 1985]" according to Bob Moriarity, who has posted a review at MacCPU's website. (sponsor)

The U.S. Department of Justice announced today it is seeking a <u>civil contempt</u> order against Microsoft for "business practices since its 1995 antitrust agreement [which] represent a clear violation of the terms of the pact"--alleging that Microsoft violated the order by requiring PC makers to license and distribute its Internet Explorer browser as a condition of licensing the Windows 95 operating system and seeking daily fines of \$1 million.

The PowerPage is reporting <u>Kanga</u> (PowerBook 3500) will be announced on November 8 (rather than Oct 23), but will now ship with 1 Mb of backside cache (instead of 512k cache) running at 125 MHz. (Thanks Derrick J.)

A New York Times article on the <u>Yale-Mac</u> <u>Controversy</u> includes a few comments from Intel regarding the timing of the grant. (requires a free registration; thanks Dana H.).

Aladdin announced today that it is shipping \$120 Spring Cleaning 2.0, a utility designed to clean up your hard drive by removing unnecessary files, applications, folders, and fonts. New features in this version include a new user interface, "Duplicates Remover," new storage folders, a document finder, integration of Aladdin's StuffIt compression technology and file archiving. Registered users of v1.0 can upgrade for free via the Internet (not there yet) or the upgrade may be ordered free from Aladdin--plus shipping fee through the end of the year.

PenTekk's \$34.95 WebXpress 1.02, software for the MessagePad 2000 series and the eMate 300 that will automatically download the text and graphics of webpages at regularly scheduled intervals, is bundled with the MessagePad 2100. A free 14-day demo of WebXpress 1.02 is available, but requires Newton OS 2.1 or higher, NetHopper 3.2 or higher. (A note on the website also recommends users of v1.0 to upgrade due to a bug in the software).

<u>URL Manager Pro 2.0b3</u>, the latest development version of the useful shareware bookmark manager, is now available.

A few readers have noted the availability of <a href="CyberStudio 2.01">CyberStudio 2.01</a>, an upgrade to GoLive's web design and management tool that includes spell checking capabilities for some foreign languages however, we have been unable to verify this (since it requires a log-in). Users who haven't registered can follow this link to do so.

WhatRoute 1.5b6 was quickly pulled from the ftp servers, according to one reader and replaced by WhatRoute 1.5b7, which fixes a Tree display problem, but still has a lingering memory leak during Tree displays.

A pre-release version of <u>Alpha 7.0b2</u>, the powerful text editor that gives BBEdit a run for its money, is

now available from its ftp servers. (Note you cannot use older software plug-in with this release; a few new ones are bundled, but others will need to be rewritten slightly for compatibility).

morning edition (updated and added items)

Marc Moini has posted a final release of <u>Startup</u> <u>Doubler 1.0</u>, a software acceleration program that "compensates for sub-optimal disk performance to make extensions and control panels load faster."

<u>CDIconKiller 1.5</u>, a freeware utility that removes customs icons on CDs that sometimes slow down the Finder, was announced yesterday. The press release reveals that it is now Mac OS 8 savvy.

Look Mom, No Hands 1.5, a shareware utility that allows you to invoke the CM without using the control key, fixes the bug we reported here earlier and adds "Keyboard-less Finder Navigation", which lets users see the location of a folder without pressing the Command key.

ZCurve Software's <u>Visual MacStandardBasic</u> is scheduled for release on Thursday, October 23rd, 1997 will be available from <u>Developer Depot</u> (800-622-338) for \$99 or as a free upgrade to owners of previous versions MacStandardBasic from ZCurve. (Note that Developer Depot is an alternate source for software as the <u>Apple Developer Catalog</u> is expected to close down at the end of October.)

Greg Landweber let us know about <u>Aaron Light 1.2.1</u>, a new version of his shareware GUI extension that "makes Mac OS 8 look more like Mac OS 8 by patching progress bars, floating windows, dialog boxes, and menu glitches in third party application that are not yet Appearance-savvy." Version 1.2.1 patches the indeterminate progress bars (barber poles) in MT-NewsWatcher 2.3.5, removes the dialog box patch for BBEdit that was causing problems that were reported here a few weeks ago, and fixes a glitch drawing default button borders.

Michael Kamprath's <u>Program Switcher 4.4.1</u> is the latest version of his control panel that gives your Mac the ability switch between running applications from the keyboard (user configurable with multiple "themes" that are extensively customizable); this version adds the ability to quit all applications except the Finder and the current running application.

IBM's new Unix workstations are based on the Power2 chip "Super Chip" and a 332 MHz version of the 604 PowerPC. The article also details a new 630 PowerPC chip family due out in 1998, which will merge "the floating point performance [Power2 chip] with the best of the 604 [PowerPC chip]" and apparently replace the long overdue 620 PowerPC processor. (Thanks Teg B.)

A thessaSOURCE editorial entitled "nc - Not

<u>Computer</u>" attempts to explain the new paradigm behind this new machine based on server-client technology.

<u>MacUpdate.com</u> is giving away software, shareware and hardware worth over \$700.

Don Crabb's latest column, "The Pride is Back," has a more upbeat look at Apple's "Think Different" campaign (in contrast to a previous "Think Different? Think Again" column).

After word of their IP number got around after our post here yesterday, Mac OS rumors has posted a message that indicates that it will back online as soon as the DNS is correctly routed (usually takes only a few days).

<u>Let'er RIP! 2.5</u> is an "intelligent, fully featured downloader/server for PostScript files...designed for professionals whose work involves imaging PostScript code." An updater for previous version and a <u>trialware version</u> is available. (Thanks <u>Version Tracker</u>).

A contest at Macsites--beginning today and running until November 24--will feature a free copy of Shaman Update Server Personal Edition to a lucky winner every Monday (look for a small message to appear in the ad frame at the top of the Macsites window, and be the first email your entry).

BookValue is the latest PowerBook Memory column: entitled "The PowerBook 3400 Modem: A Mixed Bag", Craig Hunter "focuses on the PowerBook 3400 machine's one potential shortcoming -- its 33.6, or not so 33.6, internal modem/ethernet card."

Several readers noted that the <u>Iomega Website</u> was hacked over the weekend with some very offensive comments. The site was running a Netscape-Enterprise 3.0 Server, but has now apparently switched v2.0d (possibly for security reasons?).



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AlwaysApple: The UK's Number 1 Mac Website