

Pentium II Debuts at 300 MHz 1
 Intel has announced Pentium II, formerly known as Klamath, at clock speeds of 233, 266, and 300 MHz, although the fastest part is quite expensive and intended for workstations, not PCs. The processor is sold only in modules that come with 512K of level-two cache. Pentium II is faster than all other x86 processors and delivers better integer performance than all RISC chips except Digital's 21164.

Editorial: Java Not to Everyone's Taste 3
 While Java is a fine programming language, the benefit of Java byte-codes is limited, particularly for embedded applications. This problem makes Java chips of little value, despite their relentless hype.

Most Significant Bits 4
 Tillamook to boost notebook performance; Intel, HP developing Merced follow-on; Intel trims most prices; Exponential plans delayed; Chromatic gains first design win; First SLDRAM faces tough battle; UltraSparc-2 reaches 300 MHz; Argonaut licenses ARC to Opti; MMX trademark conflict resolved.

WinHEC Shows Road to Memphis 10
 With new versions of Windows 95 (Memphis) and Windows NT (5.0) delayed until early 1998, hardware vendors deploying USB and AGP are left hanging. The new operating systems focus on ease of use, supporting features such as Device Bay, Plug-and-Play for NT, zero-administration Windows (ZAW), and a simplified DirectX API.

Philips Updates MIPS Line With 31700 13
 Targeting the Windows CE market, the 31700 improves upon earlier parts by supporting color displays and raising the CPU clock speed.

MIPS Roadmap Focuses on Bandwidth 14
 The R12000, due early next year, is an upgrade to the R10000. A completely new design, known as Beast or the H1, is due in 1H99, delivering more than 5 Gbytes/s of main-memory bandwidth. SGI is already working on the H2, aimed at multiprocessor systems in 2001.

Temic SPARClet Takes Aim at Telecom 17
 The European vendor's TSC7xx chips combine a common SPARC core with high-speed serial links that will support ISDN, ATM, xDSL, and other telecommunications applications.

The Slater Perspective: The PC Refrain—Waiting for Microsoft . . . 19
 Microsoft and Intel have teamed to deliver PC98, the document that defines the future of the PC platform, but hardware vendors are already complaining that Microsoft isn't moving fast enough.

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