he Month That Was

News and info kindly donated by the:-
Northern Ireland Macintosh User Group: http://welcome.to/nimug/

Up, up and away!

Apple posted the largest sales increase on a year-over-year basis in January with a 176 percent increase, making it the sixth-largest computer vendor in ASW's "retail and computer superstore" channel in January.
http://www.techweb.com/wire/story/TWB19990308S0020

More choice

AppleInsider.com has some very interesting screen-shots of Mac OS X Server. for those of you who like UNIX or Linux it seems that this OS will be something to get, if it weren't for the very hefty price tag.
http://www.appleinsider.com/articles/9903/osxserver/index.shtml

Anyone for a Spritza

David McGavran's Spritz beta 6 is a freeware tool that allows you to create QuickTime movies with interactive content--button bars, slide shows, simple animations and other sprites that hide/show, rotate/scale, move, and send the user to URL's.
http://home.earthlink.net/~dmcgavran/spritz/

Pathetic 3..oops sorry Pentium III

In its Pentium III examination this week, PCWeek Labs notes, "During testing, we discovered that, unlike previous processors from Intel, the Pentium III cannot be clocked up or down."

Insignia updates for its SoftWindows and RealPC emulators.
ftp://ftp.insignia.com/mac/

Modem for USB

USB modems are shipping from Best Data.
http://www.bestdata.com/modem.html

This means that G3 Pro machines have the choice of Best Data's USB modem and Apple's internal modem for blue G3 Power Macs as well as Boca's TelePort Internal for blue G3 models. Boca's USB model is not due until next month.

The new G3s do not come with the Apple Phone software and indeed this software is not supported under Mac OS 8.5.

Alen Shapiro found a neat trick for handling voice mail with Apple's blue G3 internal modem: "After a frustrating few hours trying to get the FaxSTF software that came with my friend's B&W G3 to be stable (even with the upgrade, which helped a bit) we finally gave up and installed MacComCenter and guess what...

MacComCenter identified the new internal B&W G3 modem as"voice capable" so we tried it out and it worked, it actually records phone messages through the modem. We had no idea that this was not just another 56k data/fax modem. So, at least some new G3 modem owners have voice answerphones in their computers and don't know it. $100 for an internal, voice/fax-capable 56k v.90 modem...cool!"

First fruits
Netscape Communicator 4.51 with AOL Instant Messenger 2.0, security enhancements and a variety of bug fixes.
ftp://ftp.netscape.com/pub/communicator/4.51/english/mac/

Game on
The long awaited iMac Game Wizard, a Voodoo 2 based acceleator card for original bondi-blue iMacs, has finally shipped and IMG's Chris McVeigh reviews this hot little board from Micro Conversions. In the review Chris finds that while the installation is not trivial, the iMac Game Wizard turns the iMac into a true gaming machine. For more on Chris' findings, head over to the IMG web site and check out our review!
http://www.imgmagazine.com/reviews/03_99/imac_gamewizard.html

The force is with us
pple and LucasFilms have teamed up to
preview the latest Star Wars trailer, available
only in QuickTime 3 format. Quicktime is available
from
http://www.apple.com/quicktime/
The trailer (in 11Mb, 13MB and 25MB versions)
is available from
http://www.apple.com/quicktime/trailers/fox/episode-i/
On a normal modem, that would take a long time to
download.

Jargon-Buster===
Symmetric MultiProcessing - a buzzword for a system actually using the extra processors you put into it. For some people this means Windows NT but for people with any sense this means UNIX. Golden Master - when a software application is completed the guys burn it onto a CD-ROM which has a golden appearance. They then hastily scribble MASTER on the side to distinguish it from BUILD copies (unfinished varieties) and send it off for duplication.

RUMOURS===
... a new iMac is close to release, (code name "Eight Ball?").
It will have DVD on board, 300 MHz so forth. The other cool thing was the color; all black with a luminescent blue power switch. $1499.00

BUT
Talk of the "Black iMac" may be very premature. Shortages of the multicoloured iMacs have been put down to the recent moving of production centres. It does seem true that these centres will only be making purple and blue iMacs - apparently the inventory of the rest is more than enough.

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