

At a Glance

Cyrix M1 Tapes Out	1
While preparing to receive first silicon of its Pentium-class processor, Cyrix has revealed new chip parameters. The M1's microarchitecture outclasses Pentium's, but die size and schedule concerns will limit the M1's market impact until 1996.	
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As multimedia data types become a large portion of the processing load, CPUs must be designed to better handle this data.	
Most Significant Bits	4
Intel P6, AMD K5 hit first silicon; Digital, Mitsubishi push 21066 to 233 MHz; SPEC changes rules, results inflate; Intel fixes Pentium FPU bug; Opti Viper supports Pentium-class CPUs; Errata: National 32000.	
Apple Plans Open Licensing for PPC Platform	8
In a historic announcement, Apple says that it will encourage a Macintosh clone market by providing open access to Mac OS and, with IBM and Motorola, developing a common hardware platform for Mac OS, Windows NT, and other PowerPC operating systems.	
Philips Hopes to Displace DSPs with VLIW	12
LIFE lives, as Philips' new TriMedia group brings a radical VLIW approach to market in hopes of offering far more performance than existing DSP chips, particularly for multimedia applications.	
UltraSparc Adds Multimedia Instructions	16
Sun seeks to eliminate the need for a multimedia accelerator by adding new features to its forthcoming UltraSparc processor.	
Brooktree Reveals Multimedia Plans	19
MediaStream chip set handles audio, video, and graphics.	
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VLIW, multiprocessor chips, and reprogrammable accelerators promise to break the superscalar bottleneck.	
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