



# NewtNews Pro

For additional information contact <nnpro@aol.com> or <NewtNews@pobox.com>  
Comments and suggestions welcome!

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## Top News!

### Booming Sales?!?

Apple sent out a press release on Friday afternoon, 18Apr97, at 5:03 P.M (EDT) that reports that since the MessagePad 2000's introduction on 24Mar97 that it is "selling briskly at both the corporate and retail levels." No hard data was available to back-up the 'booming sales' headline, but sources close to the 'real' numbers say that all 10,000 or so first run MP2Ks have been sold to Apple's retail channels. The only hint of real information was the phrase "our bookings rates are running five times as high as they were a year ago." The only other new piece of information was -- Steve Elms at Newton Source was quoted as saying that 60% of MP2K purchasers at Newton Source are Windows users, and 40% are Macintosh users. For more information check out: <<http://www.newton.apple.com>>.

### National Newton Association Created

Steve Kramer <stevenkr@xnet.com> reports the creation of the National Newton Association -- a non-profit Association of Newton User Groups in the United States that's has been formed to create a closer relationship between Apple Computer (or any computer company that purchases the Newton) and the respective Newton User Groups. The relationship will provide Newton User Groups with more immediate support and dialog with the Newton System Group. As well as provide Newton User Groups with accreditation programs and evangelizing materials for supporting the Newton. For more information send Steve an email message to the address listed above.

### Apple Offers Deals to Previous Owners

Apple is offering previous MessagePad owners either a free Newton Keyboard or a US\$80 rebate on a Megahertz CruiseCard 28.8 PC Card modem (XJA3288). Apparently no photocopies of the rebate are allowed, and there doesn't appear to be a pointer available to this offer on the WWW. To learn more information about the U.S. Robotics' CruiseCard modem check out: <<http://www.usr.com/mobileus>>.

### More Info on Newton Coupon for MP2K

On 19Apr97, MacInTouch <<http://www.macintouch.com>> reported the following in regards to the previous Newton owners deal on purchasing a MP2K:

The deal requires a coupon, however, and not all MessagePad owners have

received the coupon. If you have registered an earlier MessagePad, and you have not received the coupon, you can email: <[mp2000promo@newton.apple.com](mailto:mp2000promo@newton.apple.com)> with the serial number of your early MessagePad to get it. The offer is:

"Purchase a MessagePad 2000 and receive EITHER a free keyboard OR an \$80 mail-in rebate on the Megahertz XJA3288 modem. Once you get the coupon, send it in along with a copy of the MP2000 receipt (and if you want the rebate also include a copy of the XJA3288 sales receipt and the UPC code cut from the XJA3288 carton)."

### Newton Continues to Create Rumor Press

The 'rumor mill' got started again recently with more rumors on what is going to happen with the Apple's Newton System Group (NSG). While the stories started out with Sun Computer being interested in purchasing the NSG so that they could get a jump start on building small Java based PDAs, but by the end of the week the rumors 'matured' into a more of a partnership between Apple and Sun on the Newton.

The USA Today (article by Julie Schmit) also reported on the Newton status on 10Apr97. The article did point out that even though the MessagePad 2000 and the eMate 300 are "selling well", the high cost of Newton R&D is what Apple is apparently trying to negotiate with Sun. This article also mentioned that Apple talked with a Taiwanese company called Inventec about the NSG.

This 'investing' in Newton 'idea' was also pushed by Reuters over the weekend with quotes from Apple Internet Wizard Larry Tesler. So you could see 'investments' by other licenses of the Newton like: Motorola, Sharp, Panasonic, Digital Ocean, and Schlumberger.

### Hancock Quote on the Newton

Benjamin Smith <[benjs@ix.netcom.com](mailto:benjs@ix.netcom.com)> reports that Apple's Ellen Hancock was recently quoted on the WWW at Seybold conference via the following link: <<http://www.techweb.com:80/wire/news/apr/0423apple.html>>. In summary:

In response to a question on whether Apple was brushing up its Newton handheld to possibly sell it off, Hancock said: "Newton is a viable platform. We are looking to our Newton partners for financial help." Sources have said that Apple explored selling the Newton business. In addition, sources said, Apple has talked to venture-capital companies about spinning the business off as a separate company.

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## DateMan 3.0

The complete date manager. Allows drag-and-drop creation of items from almost anywhere on the Newton, provides you with a fully integrated agenda display, and allows you to link together all of your Newton's data. DateMan is fully compatible with all of the Newton's built-in apps.



## Super Names

Enhances the built-in Names file of your Newton, adding more comprehensive searching, the ability to tag names and create custom filters, and a small view for quick access to your names.



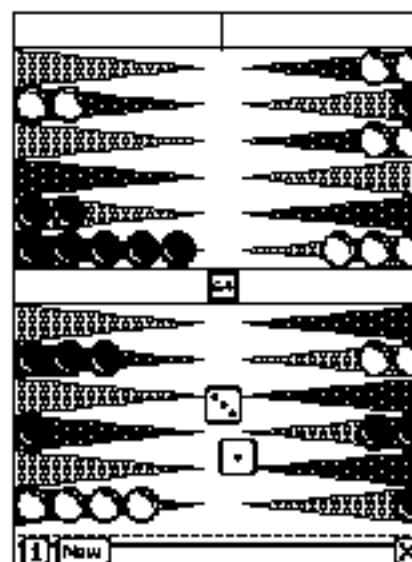
## Backgammon 2.0

Backgammon for the Newton for 1 or 2 players. Features 10 skill levels, several play styles, and full game statistics.



## BackDrop Plus

Replaces the Notepad as the backdrop app, freeing up heap and give you quick access to frequently used packages and several system functions.



## Stationery Construction Kit

Create your own stationery types right on your Newton! Use powerful tool palettes to create views, buttons, input lines, and much more.

For info on purchasing and more, check out our web site at <http://www.standalone.com/newton>, or call us at (773) 471-2492.

### Big News from Revelar

Van Evans <van@revelar.com> reports to two very important news items related to Revelar:

- RCU Lite has been release for free for end users so that 3rd party developers can use RCU to transfer their Newton applications data to Mac or PC desktops. There will be a small fee or annual license option for developers.
- Revelar has announced the acquisition of TaxPro software for the Newton from Advanced Mobile of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. A new Newton 2.0 version should be out by May97.

For more information check out: <<http://www.revelar.com>> or send Van an email message at the address listed above. The above WWW site also has information about their commercial version of RCU that enables built-in application to desktop communication.

## Newton Tidbits

### Major Cool Newton Review

Mary Hayes has a Newton article in the 'Hardware' section of Information Week published on 28Apr97. The article is pretty positive on the current Newton technology, but also mention the recent apparent pondering of Apple selling off the Newton technology. The article does mention that Apple's current MessagePad 2000 could be sold in the 'thousands' of units to the Defense Department to be used with a Global Positioning Systems (GPS) space system.

The article also mentions the eMate 300, and that Apple has projects currently underway to improve Newton networking features, and to improve Newton access to corporate databases. There was also mention of a 'software modem' to lighten the 'weight' load on current MP2K systems. The article highlights two vertical MP2K solutions being deployed at The Sally Jobe Breast Diagnostic and Counseling Center in Englewood, Colorado; and at Bell Atlantic's Nynex Mobile New York district.

But the end of this article has some of the most interesting information seen recently:

Ken Dulaney, VP of mobile computing at Gartner Group Inc., an IT advisory firm in Stamford, Conn., estimates Apple has sold no more than 350,000 Newton-based systems since announcing the line in 1993. During that same period, Dulaney says, Apple's total investment in the product line has "easily" reached about \$1 billion. With the average MessagePad system selling for about \$800, that would mean total sales have come to only about \$300 million-or less than a third of Apple's total investment.

### MSNUG Newton Newsgroup

Douglas Luckie <luckie@pilot.msu.edu> reports that the Michigan State Newton Users Group (MSNUG) has created a local newsgroup via: <news://msu.newton.misc>. For more information about MSNUG is: <<http://pilot.msu.edu/~luckie/msnug.htm>>.

### Tool to Help Apply WrightRights???

Looking for a way to apply the WrightRight screen protection material without air pockets?!? Aaron Propes <alpropes@bitstream.net> suggests trying out the Gerber Scientific squeegee -- originally designed to help apply vinyl lettering. The price of the 2.5 inch squeegee is relatively expensive, and you can order them directly from his company called Tierney Brothers via: 800.933.7337.

### More Newton Sales Booming News

Steve Baker <power@startext.net> reported that TipWorld's Tip of the Day on 25Apr97 covered Apple's MessagePad 2000 "booming sales" news. The article also quotes the Casio Windows CE product manager as saying "Our

sales stink." And apparently the Windows CE hardware manufactures have submitted a list to Microsoft of all the stuff they need fixed before they release new hardware.

Tom Unkefer <nomadict@ix.netcom.com> responded to the Don Crabb news on comp.sys.newton.misc with a pointer to an independent market research report that he read awhile back. This report projected some 500,000 to 600,000 Windows CE devices would be sold in the first 3-6 months of shipping. The logic to this was apparently the large number of Windows users; and that the above numbers is definitely 'covered' by potential early adopters and 'techno-freaks.' If Casio did indeed make 200,000 units and only sold 120,000 this would probably be a 'big' problem with Casio financial and accounting folks.

### Email Rebellion???

There appears to be the 'beginning of an email rebellion' on the USENET newsgroup comp.sys.newton.misc by many MP2K users who are not at all satisfied with the EnRoute email package that is shipping with the MP2K. The apparent popular other options include: Go Fetch Software's Go Fetch and Qualcomm's Eudora Pro for Newton.

One NewtNews reader has determined that if you wish to do away with Enroute you need to delete the following from your MP2K:

- EnRoute Core
- EnRoute Internet
- inet Text Encoding
- Message Rules Filter
- Message Signature
- Message Size Filter
- POP List Manager
- Resolve inet URL
- EnRoute Rule Editor

You can learn more about Go Fetch at: <<http://www.fetchsoft.com>>. The Enroute folks are at: <<http://www.netstrat.com>>.

### Newton Client Part of AllPen Java Server

Dan Briody has an article with a Newton mention entitled "PDA Web Browser: AllPen Software brings the Web to handheld devices" on page 32 of InfoWorld published on 14Apr97. This new system uses AllPen's NetHopper Web browser on PDAs (Windows CE, Newton, & PalmPilot) to communicate with a NetHopper Server that will build 'Web content' ideal for a PDA's specific features and compatibilities. Some other features include: data compression, and simultaneous queries from multiple clients. For more information: <<http://www.allpen.com>>.

### Newton not at Comdex UK

Roger Coleman <Roger\_Coleman@compuserve.com> reports that Apple UK was not at the recently held UK Comdex so he did not see the new MessagePad 2000 or any of the Macintosh systems either.

### Cheaper MP2K

It seems that MicroCenter <<http://www.microcenter.com>> has gone back to offering a version of the MessagePad 2000 for US\$839. Their stores are located in various places around the United States. You might be able to get mail order information or a list of store locations via: <<http://www.mei-microcenter.com/index.htm>>.

### Bulls Use Newt to Win Big!

Marton Carungay <martonx@macconnect.com> reports that you can learn more about how the Chicago Bulls organization uses Newtons to "improve their on-the-court teamwork" via the following ZiffNet WWW site at: <<http://www5.zdnet.com/zdnn/content/zdnn/0417/zdnn0007.html>>.

### Eudora Pro for the Newton Info

If you'd like to try out a demo of Eudora Pro for the Newton use this URL:

<<ftp://ftp.qualcomm.com/quest/eudorapro/newton>>. Technical support issues should be sent to: <[eudora-support@qualcomm.com](mailto:eudora-support@qualcomm.com)>. You can purchase the software on the WWW via: <<http://www.eudora.com/newton.html>>. The list price is US\$49.95, and the software supports the MP2000 and the MP130 running Newton 2.x with NIE 1.1 recommended.

### MP2K Bundled with Powertrans in Germany

Stefan Klocke <[100121.2013@compuserve.com](mailto:100121.2013@compuserve.com)> reports that his weekly weekend Web surfing of Newton Webpages has turned up some information that might be of special interest for European Newton users: Propad <<http://www.propad.de>>, the largest German retailer for Newtons and other PDAs, is bundling the MP2K with Travel Concept Solutions <<http://www.travel-cs.com>> PowerTrans 3.0 for DM 1998 only (with keyboard DM 2098). PowerTrans is according to Stefan the only language translator and vocabulary trainer for the Newton which is multilingual, customizable, speaking, contains huge vocabulary and full Newton 2.1 featured. This bundle is also very attractive because:

- costs as much as you have to pay anywhere else
- gives you via PowerTrans any European keyboard localization
- gives the prospective buyer in my honest opinion a true killer application if command of languages is important for your career or business

Stefan discovered PowerTrans about a year ago, and found it indispensable in mastering technical translations between French, German and English. The unique learning mode of PowerTrans is another highlight. If you ever tried to learn a foreign language, than you will love this training mode: no more endless word lists, stupid repetitions of already known words, instead an intelligent Newton like learning that adapts to your individual abilities. With the latest version's support of speech, one can even get pronunciation right from the beginning. I think that the above decision of Propad is great news for all European Newton buyers.

### Act! for Newton Support Pointer

Colin Harmer <[mountain@atcon.com](mailto:mountain@atcon.com)> reports that Symantec does have an external USENET newsgroup that you can access for ACT! for Newton support via <<news://sos.symantec.com/symantec.support.pda.act.newton.general>>.

### Digital Camera and Newton Make Trip Documentation Possible

Brian Adair <[adairb@gatwick.geco-prakla.slb.com](mailto:adairb@gatwick.geco-prakla.slb.com)> and MacCentral WWW site <<http://www.maccentral.com>> bring NewtNews readers news of a new Newton to digital camera transmission solution. The test environment appears to be an expedition in Tibet by Sir Chris Bonington, and will include an AFGA digital camera <<http://www.afgahome.com/ephoto>> and a MP130 using a network connection and custom Newton software developed/engineered by Logica. For more info: <<http://www.bonington.com/sepuweb/sepuhow.html>>.

### The Worlds Suckiest Newton Review

Benjamin Smith <[benjs@ix.netcom.com](mailto:benjs@ix.netcom.com)> reports that the New York Times has posted another 'hatchet' attack on the Newton. You can check out the article if you are subscribed to their WWW news service via: <<http://www.nytimes.com/library/cyber/compcol/041597compcol-manes.html>>. The article is written by Stephen Manes [Ed: A pseudo-name for John Markoff?] and is in the Personal Computing section.

Mr. Manes is unimpressed with: cost (according to him you can get a laptop for the US\$1100 price of an MP2K); handwriting recognition (still inaccurate); the screen technology (too slippery); poor documentation; non-attached keyboard and serial connector are 'design flaws'; weighs too much, too big to fit in a pocket; PC Cards are power hogs; power-eating backlighting; user interface is 'different enough' from others to be confusing and frustrating [Ed: Just say you want a Windows CE device and move on please.]; the MP2Ks IrDA can only communicate with other MessagePads [Ed: Wrong!]; voice dictation is rudimentary; and oversimplified modem

setup.

Mr. Manes [Ed: Probably because his editor forced him to] apparently tried to find some good things to say: desktop syncs with Mac and Windows; you can read the screen on an airplane; handy stand to prop the unit up [Ed: Called a 'lid?']; and he was surprised to find a lot of modems supported the Newton.

Overall, the MP2K was "too quirky and too expensive" and a perspective user would be better off with a laptop in Mr. Manes opinion.

[NewtNews has now learned the sad news that this MessagePad 2000 review has been picked up by the AP Newswire and is making its rounds across the United States and apparently the whole world. NewtNews saw the piece in the San Diego Union-Tribune's ComputerLink insert published on 22Apr97 (pages 12 - 13), and another NewtNews reader reported the review also made it to the front page of the IT section of the leading national newspaper in Australia.]

### Some EMate News

MacHome Journal recently published a review of the eMate 300 in an article entitled "eMate 300: So Close, Yet So Far". The article is overall pretty good, but has some inaccuracies. For more information check out: <<http://www.machome.com:80/Reviews/emate.html>>.

Also according to this Web page on Apple's Educational Resources page: <<http://204.96.17.75/education/education/ematepromo.html>> anyone can purchase an Newton eMate 300 directly from Apple using a credit card that is drawn on a U.S. bank.

### Internet Conferencing On A MP2K?!!

Michael Walsh <[walsh@cs.odu.edu](mailto:walsh@cs.odu.edu)> reports that you can learn more info about an innovative VisualPhone being developed by a Russian company via: <<http://paragon.mda.de/video.htm>>. This MP2K system is being developed specifically to help deaf people communicate better between each other when separated by long distance.

### Newton's Used for Data Collection

John Meyer <[j.m.meyer@larc.nasa.gov](mailto:j.m.meyer@larc.nasa.gov)> reports that Sony booth workers were using Newton MessagePad 130s equiped with a magnetic card readers at the recent National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) convention held in Las Vegas, Nevada. The units were used to scan attendees cards to add them to Sony's customer mailing list.

### Hyping Newton Intelligence

Raven Zachary <[raven@rinzai.com](mailto:raven@rinzai.com)> reports that he is expanding the number of folks who can participate in the Newton Intelligence Hotline server system by enabling mirroring via an IRC Channel (#newton at IRC server irc.webmaster.com 6667) and via a very easy to add Java applet to a standard WWW browser. To learn more about the Java solution check out: <<http://www.rinzai.com/ni/chat.html>>. To learn more about Newton Intelligence check out: <<http://www.rinzai.com/ni/>>.

### Newton Rumors

Robert X. Cringley in his 'Notes From The Field' column published in 31Mar97 of InfoWorld has the following Newton mention:

The Newton group rumors are cranking up. Apple continues to vie resources to the Newton group -- all part of a plan to fatten it up for market. If the Newton team goes on the block, Sun is rumored to be a likely buyer. Developers at Apple have a certain expertise in miniaturization and handwriting recognition technology. Sun's getting customer calls for a Java-based handheld, and the Newton team's expertise could get Sun into that business pretty quickly.

Spencer F. Katt at PC Week's Rumor Central has this Merger from Hell on page 170 (07Apr97):

Apple could merge with McDonald's and help Gil Amelio Dump



some dead weight by offering McNewtons in every Happy Meal. Just glue some small plastic Ronalds, Grimaces and Mayor McCheeses on all those old Newtons, and you've got "insanely great products!" Toss in an Apple Pie and some McJobs brand Kool-Aid and you'll be in Happy Meal Hell.

Robert Cringley had a Newton mention on page 118 of InfoWorld published on 07Apr97. Someone actually called Robert up on 01Apr97 and swore that the following wasn't an April Fool's Joke -- "Gaia Software (a Newton developer in Portland, Oregon) was negotiating with Apple to buy the Newton division."

#### Short Blurbs of Interest

You can check out the full page Apple's MessagePad 2000 ad in the 31Mar97 edition of MacWeek on page 9.

"Redemption of John Sculley?" by Lawrence Aragon, PC Week Inside, 07Apr97, page A1. Several passing historical Newton mentions. Scully reported that Apple never spent more than 4% of their R&D budget on the Newton while he was at Apple. I also said "To this day, I have never used a Newton. It never met my test: It had to be an efficient, easy-to-use wireless device."

Frank Beacham <frank@beachman.com> comes to the MP2K's rescue with his opinion piece on page 54 - 55 of InfoWorld published on 07Apr97. Frank lays out all the 'good' reasons why the MP2K should have been chosen as better than Windows CE devices in a recent review. According to Frank the MP2K should actually be considered a 'portable computer' that rests between PDA and subnotebook.

#### Creative Digital's Reference And Conference News

Creative Digital Publishing has some late breaking news:

On 25Apr97 they will ship their latest Handheld Computer Almanac -- "definitive guide to products and services for the handheld computer industry, from organizers to ruggedized terminals." You can download an order form (US\$24.95 + S&H) via: <<http://www.cdpubs.com>>.

Their upcoming Handheld Systems Conference agenda has gone final and you can find all the sessions, speeches, and speaker bios posted via: <<http://www.cdpubs.com>>.

There will be a Windows CE pavilion at the conference, and their will be 'free' exhibits open from 1-5 p.m. on 25-26Apr97.

For more information call: 415.621.4252.

#### Great MP2K Review

The Orlando Sentinel had a Newton mention in an article entitled "Apple has hit with Newton MessagePad" by Barry Cooper published on 03Apr97. The article is very pro-Newton and includes quotes like "best hand-held personal computer available"; 'innovative'; "[Apple has] done everything right with the MessagePad [2000]"; and "IBM-compatible users will love linking" [with the MP2K]. The article did note that the MP2K competes against Windows CE, and that other devices, like Magic Cap, has 'failed'.

#### Newtonscript Gets Good Review in Byte

Marton Carungay <martonx@macconnect.com> reports that the latest issue of BYTE magazine has a side-by-side comparison of the development environments for Windows CE, Newton, PalmPilot, and Magic Cap. Marton writes:

The Newton development platform (mentioning NewtonScript specifically) received a very favorable review from BYTE magazine. For "technology", Newton development received 5 star out of 5 stars possible. For "implementation", the Newton development side received 4 stars out of 5 stars possible.

#### MS Outlook to Newton Sync

Steven McPherson <smcthe19@mail.idt.net> answered an interesting question posted by Shawn Laemmrich <swlaemmr@mtu.edu> on comp.sys.newton.misc. Shawn would like to sync his Newton with Microsoft Outlook on Windows 95. Steven responded with:

I use Outlook and the Newton Connection Utilities and export all appts from the Newton to my desktop PC with the Schedule Plus format. This seems to work well both for appts, todos, and contacts.

#### Macway Newton Mentions

Guy Kawasaki's MacWay email listserver had the following Newton pointers:

- Parents can get more information about ordering an eMate 300 with a loan from Apple calling: 800-APPLELN (800-277-5356) or 800-434-3033 (ext. 502)
- Pointer to a Mac Home Journal eMate review: <<http://www.machome.com/Reviews/emate.html>>
- A recent Bob Levitus column for the Houston Chronicle. has a Newton mention as a 'killer new product' <<http://www.mediamall.com/mmall/now/Dr.Mac/Dr.Maclist.html>>
- European Smart Card venture uses MP2K: <<http://www.hyperion.co.uk/pub/library/PRLibrary/pr012-uni9703.html>>, <<http://www.mondex.com/>>, <<http://www.mondexusa.com/>>
- Newton Book of Airports (US\$10) posted via: <<http://prairie.lakes.com/~j5rson/business/ebooks.html>>.

For more information: <<http://www.evangelist.macaddict.com/>> or send an email to: <evangelist@macway.com>.

#### Newton Mentions In Windows Magazine

Martin Heller <<http://www.winmag.com/people/mheller>> had two handheld articles recently in Windows Magazine published on 01Apr97. The first was on developing for the Newton and Windows CE called "Think Small-If you're tired of bloated desktop programs, you can develop tiny ones for Windows CE and the Newton." The second article is called "Head to Head: Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) Give a Little", and is a review of the Casio Windows CE savvy Cassiopeia vs. the Apple Newton MessagePad 2000. In the end Martin can't recommend either device because they basically don't work well for him.

#### More Newton Mentions

Paul Hood <PFHood@aol.com> reports that the May97 issue of Bicycling magazine has a MP2K mention on page 91. The article with the mention is about the coolest computer related bicycle tools.

David Gewirtz <david@component-net.com> reports the posting of "A Review of the Newton MessagePad 2000 for Prior MessagePad Owners" via the following URL: <<http://www.component-net.com/dg/97-04-25-review.html>>.

Gerard Grivois <GTLAND@aol.com> was the first to alert NewtNews of two recent Newton related reviews found in The Boston Globe on 24Apr97. The first was by Hiawatha Bray <Bray@globe.com> on the front page of Business section [D], and it is a good review of the eMate 300. The second is on D4 and was written by Simson Garfinkel <plugged-in@simson.net>. This is a follow-up story about four palmtop computers that he did several weeks ago. In the story he asked for feedback and the readership chose the PalmPilot as #1 for them, but Simson picked the MP2K as #1 for him personally. The MP2K did come in as a close #2 in the readership poll.

Marc Schmitt <evangel@tap.de> reports that the latest issue of Business Week has a column by Stephen Wildstrom <swildstrom@businessweek.com> that has a MessagePad 2000 mention. The article gives "Apple an A" and is 'enthusiastic' about the Newton, but

also reports that Apple is busy 'shopping' the Newton System Group to outside parties.

### MP2K Review in MacAddict

The May 97 edition of MacAddict has a MessagePad 2000 review on page 73. Overall the magazine scores the MP2K as "Freakin' Awesome" with the following Good News -- "Built-in Internet and productivity software, long battery life, powerful processor, and new backlighting." On the Bad News side of things -- "Too wide to be comfortable in small hands, heavier than predecessors, and flat serial port requires retooled cables." The article is written by Kathy Tafel, and includes pictures of the built-in spreadsheet by Pelicanware and some very detailed graphics on the new hardware and software features found on the MP2K.

### VisualNewt News

Serg Koren <archimag@netaxs.com> reports that he has made a decision to move VisualNewt forward as a Newton 2.0 package that will only run under Newton 2.x operating systems. Registered users of VisualNewt who are using Newton 1.x can get a refund. Send email to the address above for more information.

Serg also recently announced that Steve Weyer as agreed to license to him Newt Development Environment's (NDE) plug-ins, so VisualNewt users will not have to own NDE to get VisualNewt to work. So there will now be two new products VisualNewt Lite (US\$40 no plug-ins), and VisualNewt (US\$55 full NDE plug-ins).

You can learn more about VisualNewt and many of Serg's other Newton products (Newt'sPaper, Newt'sWeather, etc. ...) via the following URL: <<http://www.netaxs.com/~archimag/Newton/MyStuff/VisualNewt.html>>. You can learn more about Steve Weyer's NDE check out the following WWW site: <<http://www.netaxs.com/~weyer/newton/newtdev.htm>>.

### Newton Answers

Want to learn more about FTP clients for the MP2K? Or interested in finding out if there is a Lotus Notes client for the Newton? Want an SKEY/OTP client for the Newton? Then check out Clay Irving's <clay@panix.com> excellent Newton Reference site on the Web at: <<http://www.panix.com/~clay/newton>>. It has answers to these and other questions.

### Newton Software Digest Updated

Ian Robinson <ian@stormont.compulink.co.uk> has posted a new version of his "most excellent" Newton Software Digest on 22Apr97. You can check it out at: <<http://www.compulink.co.uk/~stormont/newton/weekly.htm>>. This version includes reviews and pointers to: Action Names 4.03 Demo; Airports; Backlight Control Button; Card Creator 1.0; Corrector 2.2; Earth; From The Earth; HexConv 1.1; Int Keyboards; Morgan 1.0; Morgan Pro 1.0; Newtiles 1.0; NewtNews 136 (15 Apr 97); Pocket DiabetiCare; Pownavigator 2.0; Quotemaker Pro 1.06; Spellman 1.0; Styles+2.0; Sub Patrol Demo 1.01; Super Names 1.0; Writehere 2.0 Beta 8; and Yazi 1.01.

### Announcing the Arrival of Art Gallery from K2

Sandeep Shah <k2@skyscape.com> reports the release of a CD-ROM called ART Gallery that showcases K2's Advanced Reference Technology based products for the Newton. To learn more check out the following Web page at: <<http://www.skyscape.com/k2>> or call: 617.497.1243.

### Newton on Cable TV Show

Paul Duckenfield <paul@widomaker.com> and Michael Stango <PhillyMJS@aol.com> report that on a recent CNBC's "Power Lunch" there was a MessagePad 2000 appearance. The show highlighted the improved handwriting recognition and also mentioned how "terrific" the MP2K was.

### Cool Traveling Phone Cord

Jim Felder <jfelder@traveller.com> has found a new cool 'phone gadget' that mobile MP2K power users should appreciate. It is called SureLink -- an 8-foot phone cable that retracts into a Type III PC card size. For more info: <<http://www.port.com>>. Peter <mightbe\_peterw@clark.net.foo.com> followed up with information that you can pick up these cords for US\$8 + S&H via The Palmtop Network <<http://www.palmtop.net/commlink.html>>.

### Newton Register 1.0.2 Needs Text Stationery

Flash Sheridan <FlaSheridn@pobox.com> reports:

Newton Register <<http://pobox.com/~flasheridn/register>> lets you pay for shareware programs with a credit card via electronic mail. Several MessagePad 2000 users have recently reported being unable to use the current version (1.0.2, 6/27/96). My tentative diagnosis is that these users don't have Apple's Text Stationery extension, which is installed by a number of mail clients and internet utilities. (This, presumably, is why my beta testers and I never saw the problem.) I'm investigating including the Text Stationery extension with Newton Register, and distributing it to users who already have 1.0.2. In the meantime, the simplest workaround is to temporarily install the free CompuServe mail client from Apple <<http://newton.info.apple.com/newton/solutions/cismail.html>>. Once you've installed it, you're free to remove the CISMail extension, so long as you leave the Text Stationery extension.

### More Info on Siemens Newton Device

The 'prototype' SIEMENS Newton phone (tentatively called "Online Terminal") continues to make news. You can check out a picture of the device that was recently posted to Newton Central at: <[http://newton.theonly.com/images/Siemens\\_OnlineTerminal.jpg](http://newton.theonly.com/images/Siemens_OnlineTerminal.jpg)>. The German 'Computer Bild' magazine published in 07/97 has an article about the device on page 98. The Online Terminal first shown at the recent CeBIT computer fair. You can also check out a related press release via: <<http://www.siemens.de/pn/press/97pn016.htm>>.

### MP2K Available at ClubPDA

Chris Parker <Chris2@pacbus.com> reports that ClubPDA has fulfilled nearly all their pre-orders, and currently has some 200 MessagePad 2000s in stock and ready to sell. For more information check out: <<http://www.clubpda.com>> or call: 888.258.2732. You can also find out more information about the MessagePad 2000 and ClubPDA availability via: <<http://www.pacbus.com/ClubPDHome/PDAResourcesFolder/PDARMP2K.html>>.

### New Newton Keyboard Report

Tetsuya Iinuma <iinuma@highway.or.jp> reports the posting of an interview Tetsuya recently completed with Mr. Ohsugi of The NewtonShop (Tokyo Japan) about the new Newton keyboard unveiled at MacWorld Expo/Tokyo '97. You can check out the article via Tetsuya's Web page at: <<http://www.cyborg.or.jp/~iinuma/html/Newton.html>>.

### Newton Non-file System Gets Respect

Victor Rodriguez <Bit-Man@intersolar.Com.AR> reports that those interested in American Scientist's "Reinventing The Computer" article with several Newton mentions (reported in issue #135) should check out: <<http://www.amsci.org/amsci/issues/Comsci97/compsci9701.html>>.

### Items Worth Mention

Cyberian Outpost <<http://www.cybout.com/>> is offering 'deals' on two Newton software products from Landware: Merlin/WordSleuth and WriteStuff. On the PalmPilot side of things you can get Landware's Financial Consultant from Cyberian Outpost also.

Guy Kawasaki's listserver <<http://www.evangelist.macaddict.com/>> had pointers to Catamount Software's Morgan (Media ORGANizing tool), and

RoadRunner Tracks' The BARRIER 2000 (screen protectors).

TidBITS#372/31-Mar-97 had an article called "News from Cupertino" with a Newton MessagePad 2000 mention in a review of what was recently released by Apple on the hardware and software front.

### In Search of the Perfect Newton Case!?!?

Timothy Killian <tkillian@eventure.com> has found his perfect case at Bergmann Luggage store (a West Coast chain) called the Kenneth Cole Hand Bag (Model #55425, Price US\$90). Timothy also found that Toys-R-Us has a 'great' potential MP2K case in the form of Nintendo Game-Boy cases that run under US\$10.

Simon 'Gadget Man' Coulthurst <gman@globalnet.co.uk> has found a 'good' one at Leeds (a specialist leather-goods store) in the UK called "Extras" made by the Italian company called Condor Leather. It is a 'sawn-off brief-case' that is shorter than others, made of fine leather, and antique brass fittings, so the price is kind of steep at UK POUNDS 180.

David MacNeill <dmacneill@pencomputing.com> reports that Pen Computing has some MessagePad 2000 cases (one designed for men, and another designed for women) posted via their World Wide Web pages at: <<http://www.pencomputing.com/pcdesigns/index.html>>

Gregory Andreas <gregor1@ix.netcom.com> has found Domke's OutPack to be a pretty good carrying case. The unit also has a belt loop. Domke is also the manufacturer of the Camere cases.

Tim Benning <tbenning@execpc.com> suggests those that want a more day planner case, check out the Cambridge Personal Day Planner with three ring binder. You can much the binder, and use this under US\$20 (sold at Target stores) to hold an MP2K "perfectly".

NewtNews has found the Eagle Creek Wanderer (#D2229C) that retails for US\$30 to be pretty good case. The size of the unit is 9 x 12 x 7 inches (23 x 30 x 18 cm), and includes a pocket for cellular phone. There is enough room in the main compartment to hold a MP2K, a QuickTake 150, and a Newton keyboard.

Greg Spencer <73007.141@compuserve.com> thinks that the 'compact camera' bag called "Eagle Creek Padded Travel Pouch" (PTP-B4610K) is a great MP2K case that can hold a great deal of other stuff. It also has detachable strap/waist belt with a quick release buckle.

Dan Nakamoto <nakamoto@cris.com> likes the Passport At-A-Glance Organizer that retails for under US\$20, and you should be able to find a dealer via: 800.849.7929. Dennis Miller <denmilr@concentric.net> also likes this case.

John Ormsby <jdorsmby@ro.com> found a "Five-Star" organizer sold by Mead at Office Depot for US\$15 what will work with a MP2K. You can also get more info via the following site that has a host of cases highlighted: <<http://www.student.uni-kl.de/~oehl/newtoncases.html>>.

## Newton & the Web

### For Sale Newton Site

Anthony Matthews <bnet@pobox.com> would like to remind NewtNews readers that if you have to buy or sell Newtons and/or Newton Stuff you should do so via his Newton Classifieds site. You can check out all the fun and excitement via: <<http://pobox.com/~bnet/newton/index.cgi>>.

### European Newton FTP Site

Greg Newton-Ingham <Greg@uea.ac.uk> reports that the European Newton Archive is now back-up and running after a couple of problems last week. You can check it out at: <<ftp://newton.sys.uea.ac.uk/>>.

### Collection of Updated Newton Links

Thomas Rhee <cafepda@earthlink.net> reports that Cafe PDA has moved to its new WWW site at: <<http://www.cafepda.com>>.

Robert Bruce <rbruce@tactile.com> reports the complete update to his very useful Ultimate Newton page: <<http://rainbow.rmi.net/~rbruce/tactile/>>, and also has a pointer to their recent acquisition -- Solito DX 2.1. This new version is now available for public beta testing via the following URL: <<http://rainbow.rmi.net/~rbruce/tactile/solito.html>>.

Michael Neely <webmaster@newtoninfo.com> has posted his NewtWire Issue 3C via: <<http://www.newtoninfo.com/newtwire>>. This issue has comments from Michael, a 'Review of The Executive', a 'First Impression of the MP2K, and 'Titbits from the Net.'

Mike Bothe <mbothe@netuser.com> reports that Sine of the Times is now distributed a 'free' fix for Eclipse calculator owners that fixes a bug with the new MP2K units. For more info: <<http://www.sineware.com>>.

The folks at Newton Developer Technical Support (DTS) have updated their "Landline, Wireless, GSM, and Cellular Modems" page on 10Apr97. You can check it out at: <<http://devworld.apple.com/dev/newton/commsoln/modsetup.html>>.

### NS Basic Reference Site

George Henne <gh@nsbasic.com> reports that their NS BASIC BBS is back up and running again via: <<http://nsbasic.com/wwwboard/wwwboard.html>>.

### EMate News

Andy <mccann@hotmail.com> reports some interesting eMate tidbits via: <<http://members.tripod.com/~planetzine/emate.html>>.

Benjamin Smith <benjs@ix.netcom.com> reported that the following URL: <[http://www.canoe.com/CyberHardware/oct28\\_apple.html](http://www.canoe.com/CyberHardware/oct28_apple.html)> has some eMate information in it like this:

"Analysts were less enthusiastic about the eMate than the MessagePad 2000, saying it probably would appeal only to young children whose older siblings may already be used to full-fledged PC."

### Online Survey

Robert Adams <robert@qmark.co.uk> reports that there is an online survey to track MP2000 demand via: <<http://www.qmark.com/tryitout.html>>.

### Newton Hall of Fame Opens

Douglas Luckie <luckie@pilot.msu.edu> reports the creation of an annex off The Michigan State Newton Users Group (MSNUG) called the "Newton Gallery" which will honor Newton Programmers and Evangelists in a "Newton Hall of Fame." You can get a direct link to:

- Newton Hall: <<http://pilot.msu.edu/~luckie/hallofame.htm>>
- Newton Gallery: <<http://pilot.msu.edu/~luckie/newtgal.htm>>
- MSNUG: <<http://pilot.msu.edu/~luckie/msnug.htm>>

### New Newton Related Sites

Eugene Gerstein <eugene@netmedia.net.il> reports the creation of a new Newton related site at: <<http://www.toptown.com/hp/eug/newton>>. Eugene also reports a site with information about buying a Newton in Israel via: <<http://www.netmedia.net.il/pczone>>.

Dave Luna <dluna@voicenet.com> reports the creation of a Newton Survey site that attempts to make it easy for average Newton users to request software to be developed by Newton Developers. For more info check out: <<http://www.voicenet.com/~dluna/survey.html>>.

Bob Strenger <bloby@skypoint.com> has begun publishing the Newton Underground 2000 via: <<http://www.skypoint.com/~bloby/newton>>.

Ken Alan <kalan@farallon.com> has created a Farallon Newton page that outlines their Newton related networking products via the following URL: <<http://www.farallon.com/markets/solutions/newtsolutions.html>>.



M. Coan Dillahunt <mdillah@emory.edu> reports the posting of Newton Memory Card information for the MessagePad 2000 and eMate 300 via the following URL: <<http://userwww.service.emory.edu/~mdillah/>>.

## Other PDA News

### New HandHelds

There is a quick blurb and a picture of the new Sharp SE-500 on page 3 of PC Week published on 14Apr97. The unit will be out at the Jun97 PC Expo being held in New York City. The unit is: PalmPilot size, will include TCP/IP networking (Web access & email messaging), desktop PC sync, and a built-in wired modem.

Fujitsu has two new ruggedized ultra-lightweight pen-based handheld computers available called the TeamPad 7200 and the TeamPad 7600. It was also announced that RDC Networks will be providing wireless LAN engineering services for the TeamPad product line. [iNews]

### Pilot

MacCentral <<http://www.maccentral.com>> recently reported that Now Software <<http://www.nowsoftware.com>> has posted a 30-day demo version of Now Synchronize for PalmPilot (Mac OS) to their WWW site. Folks who purchased this software [Ed: Like at MacWorld SF 1997] should receive their copy the week of 28Apr97.

### Windows CE

InfoWorld published on 07Apr97 has a small blurb on page 3 that states that NEC will have soon have a 2nd generation Windows CE savvy processor available called the Vr4102 running at 66-MHz. This issue also says on page 29 that Microsoft has a new version of their Windows CE Explorer 1.1 posted on their FTP sites that enable compatibility with Windows NT 4.0 and Outlook 97 email.

Mark Moore has Windows CE news on page 46 of PC Week published on 31Mar97. The article says that sometime in Apr97 Puma Technologies <<http://www.pumatech.com>> will have new Windows CE data sync software, and Microsoft will ship Visual C++ 5.0 with a Windows CE development add-on.

Jeff Bliss has an article entitled "Windows CE slow to take off -- Underwhelming enthusiasm shown for new handheld devices" on page 6 of Computer Reseller News (CRN) published on 31Mar97. Some general problems with the Windows CE HPC marketplace according to this article include: lack of market development funds, lack of channel training, and less than expected co-marketing with Microsoft. The article also sited the lack of Windows CE connectivity to Windows NT 4.0 and Outlook products as being a problem in corporate markets. [Ed: These problems have been reportedly already addressed by Microsoft.]

ParaGraph International reports that their CalliGrapher 4.3 for Windows CE has been 'certified' by Microsoft as Windows CE compatible, and some analysts think that this handwriting recognition (HWR) software could be bundled in future versions of Windows CE. Chris Frost <jfrost@hiwaay.net> points out you can get more info about Paragraph and this recent news (which includes Newton mentions) via: <<http://www.news.com/News/Item/0,4,10069,00.html?latest>>. [iNews]

### Intel Will Play In NC World

Several of the big weekly technology magazines had pointers to articles pointing out the recent news that Oracle's Network Computer standard will in the future include Intel based machines. The first still appears to be a series of Acer Group personal computers tweaked to meet Network Computer standards. For more information:

- "No NC success without Intel inside" by Rob Guth, InfoWorld, 21Apr97, page 5
- "Oracle subsidiary unveils software, new alliances", PC Week, 21Apr97,

page 3.

- "Java Finds Yet Another Niche: Embedded systems makers rally around JavaOS for low-end devices" by Cesar Alvarez, LAN Times, 28Apr97, page 38.

## Software Releases

### UseNet Newsreader for Newton is Updated

Serg Koren <archimag@netaxs.com> reports Newt'sPaper has been updated on 4/20/97-1 -- this NIE savvy application enables users to access USENET newsgroups from your Newton. Some new features:

- Added a "Smiley" picker to the Posting window
- Added heap low indicator in upper right corner of main window. If the heap drops below 25k.

You can get more information about this 'unique' solution via this URL: <<http://www.netaxs.com/~archimag/Newton/MyStuff/Newt'sPaper.html>>.

### Digital Objectives Announces PURL V1.1

Jerry Kaplan <digobj@earthlink.net> reports a new version 1.1 of pURL - a URL manager for the Newton that interfaces with Newton Internet Enabler (NIE) based applications -- will be released in Q2'97. New features include:

- Import of bookmarks from Internet Explorer. pURL will continue to support the import of bookmarks from Netscape Navigator.
- Export of bookmarks to Internet Explorer.
- Export of bookmarks to Netscape Navigator.
- pURLite: a new component with a very small memory footprint, designed for use on Newton devices with only a single PC Card slot.

You can get more info at: <<http://members.aol.com/digobj/pURL.html>>.

### Area Code Change 1.0 Released!

Adam Tow <atow@tow.com> reports the release of a new utility called Area Code Change 1.0 that makes it easy to change area codes in your Names soup. The utility is freeware, and you can get more information via: <<http://www.tow.com/downloads/downloads.html>> or send an email to: <info@tow.com>.

### Medical Application Goes Into Public Beta Testing

J. Rick Adams <jradams@kagi.com> reports that JRAd consulting has decided to post a beta of their Palmedic v2.0 -- a patient management Newton solution. This is the 7th beta release and should be pretty stable. The current price of Palmedic 1.x is US\$100 and will be a free upgrade to version 2.0 (which will retail for US\$200). For more information: <<http://www.maxmac.com/jrad>>.

### Names URL Launching Utility

Serg Koren <archimag@netaxs.com> has announced a new 'freeware' utility called "WebJump v1.0" that enables "URL launching" from within the built-in Names application. For more information check out the following URL: <<http://www.netaxs.com/~archimag/Newton/MyStuff/WebJump.html>>.

### New Spelling Utility Released

Stand Alone <info@standalone.com> reports the release of SpellMan -- a spell checker for the MessagePad 2000 that works with the built-in NotePad of the Newton, and enables developers to 'easily' integrate SpellMan into their applications. Spellman uses the built-in dictionary on the MP2K and eMate 300 to quickly spell check documents, notes, and more. The software retails for US\$15 and a 30-day demo can be found at: <<http://www.standalone.com/>>.

### New Newton Game Released

Scrawl Software <<http://www.scrawlsoft.com>> has released Chiral v0.92b



for the Newton -- "a game based on the formation of molecules -- kind of like a cross between Tetris and that 10th grade chemistry class you tried to forget." The original game concept is by Ambrosia Software and they have a Macintosh version available for the those interested. Check out: <<http://www.ambrosiasw.com>>.

#### **New Word Processor Utility Suite**

Stand Alone <[info@standalone.com](mailto:info@standalone.com)> has a new US\$29.95 enhancement package called "Works Better" for the built-in Word Processor used on the MessagePad 2000 and eMate 300. Some features include: additional fonts & styles; page navigation; handwriting recognition; notepad importing; columns; key caps; headers & footers; page numbers; word count; and style definitions. For more information and to download a 30-day demo check out: <<http://www.standalone.com>>.

#### **New GIS Solution for Newton**

Richard Saint <[rsaint@pocket.co.uk](mailto:rsaint@pocket.co.uk)> reports that Pocket Systems has released a new Geographical Information System (GIS) Newton interface called PocketGIS. The system can also interact with a Positioning System (GPS) receiver for data capture or location tracking. For more info: <<http://www.pocket.co.uk>> or <[sales@pocket.co.uk](mailto:sales@pocket.co.uk)>.

#### **New MP2K GPS Savvy Solution Available**

TeleType GPS reports that they have a new version of their flagship TeleType GPS software for the Newton that is MessagePad 2000 savvy. The new software is 300% faster running on a MP2K than running on a MP120 doing redraw, loadings, and refreshings of map overlays. For more info check out: <<http://www.teletype.com/gps>>; pricing starts at US\$195 (Windows CE version also available); and the upgrade will be free for customers who purchased after 01May96.

#### **UnixNPI - Newton Package Installer for Unix**

Richard Li <[clli@ee.cityu.edu.hk](mailto:clli@ee.cityu.edu.hk)> reports the Linux savvy beta of UnixNPI that will install packages from a Linux platform to a Newton. For more information check out: <<http://www.ee.cityu.edu.hk/~clli/unixnpi.html>>.

#### **Media Organizing Tool Released!**

Hardy Macia <[hardy@catamount.com](mailto:hardy@catamount.com)> has officially released MORGAN - the complete Media ORGANizing tool for the Newton platform. MORGAN catalogues books, CDs, comic books, tapes, records, laserdiscs, magazines, and can be extended by the user track any collection... baseball cards, trains, cars, Barbie dolls. There are two version so suite your needs and budget: MORGAN (US\$20) [good number of features] and MORGAN Pro (US\$60) [tons of features]. For more info: <<http://www.catamount.com/MORGAN.html>>.

#### **AlarmClock 2.3 -- Waking You Up, Everyday**

Foundation Systems <<http://www.tow.com>> has released a bug fixed version of AlarmClock -- version 2.3 -- that resolved a problem with ICS' Button Bar enhancer, and BarKeep. AlarmClock is an 'easy-to-use' alarm clock for the Newton that is loud, has big buttons, auto wakeup, auto shutoff, adjustable snooze, and recurring alarm features.

#### **WriteStuff V1.1 Update Available**

Clinton Logan <[clinton@landware.com](mailto:clinton@landware.com)> at Landware has updated their writeStuff -- eight add-on tools for NewtWorks -- to version 1.1. This update is free for registered users. The tools include: AutoText, Stylesheets, ScribeWorks, proPoint, Wordcount, Tabulator, and CharPicker. For more information check out: <<http://www.landware.com>>.

#### **German MP2K Extension Released**

Christian Schweizer <[christian@swix.ch](mailto:christian@swix.ch)> reports the release of some free keyboard and location related fixes for those folks in Germany, Switzerland and Austria that are trying to use English MessagePad 2000s. For more info: <<http://www.swix.ch/clan/christian/newton.html>>.

#### **YAZI 1.01 Released**

Scrawl Software <<http://www.scrawlsoft.com>> has announced the availability of YAZI 1.01 (updated for Newton 2.1 keyboard and other enhancements) -- a "text adventure engine" which takes "datafiles" as input and allows you to play them on the Newton. Some of the games you can download include: Ballyhoo, Cutthroat, Deadline, Enchanter, Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy, Leather Goddess of Phobes, Lurking Horror, MiniZork I, Moonmist, Planetfall, Seastalker, Sorcerer, Spellbreaker, Starcross, Wishbringer, Zork I, II and III. For more info send email to: <[help@scrawlsoft.com](mailto:help@scrawlsoft.com)>.

#### **New Japanese Newton Shareware**

Marton Carungay <[marton@macconnect.com](mailto:marton@macconnect.com)> reports some new Japanese created Newton products were highlighted on Newton Reference recently - - NewtWars, VideoGameFont, and a clock utility for Newton. Most of the pages are in Japanese, so compatibility with Newton OS 2.1 might be in question. For more information check out 'Newton Reference' or <<http://www.inagaki.nuie.nagoya-u.ac.jp/newton/nagoya-u/newtwars/>>.

#### **Announcing Pocket DiabetiCare 1.10 Beta 8**

Darin Capp <[OrcaWare@kagi.com](mailto:OrcaWare@kagi.com)> reports that OrcaWare has released version 1.10 Beta 8 of their Pocket DiabetiCare package for the Newton. This new version includes glucose meter connectivity to meters like the Lifescan One Touch II and Profile meters. The software costs US\$20 and can be downloaded via: <<http://www.halcyon.com/dcapp/OrcaWare/>>.

#### **Airports for Newton**

Iverson Software has released a collection of 5,000 codes used to identify airports in a Newton Book package. This shareware \$10 package can be downloaded via Iverson Software's great collection of electronic books at: <<http://prairie.lakes.com/~j5rson/business/ebooks.html>>.

#### **New Stuff from Scrawl**

Scrawl Software was a guest on Newton Intelligence Hotline Server on Sunday, 04Apr97. They announced 'Chirval' for the Newton (a port of a Macintosh game of the same name by Ambrosia Software) and a 'kerborized' version of Telnet via PT100. Check out: <<http://www.scrawlsoft.com>> for more information.

#### **NewtCase Updated**

Don Vollum <[dony@teleport.com](mailto:dony@teleport.com)> reports that PelicanWare and ICS are now shipping NewtCase 3.0.2 that adds support for the MessagePad 2000 and eMate 300. Included in this package of utilities are the two heavy weights: "NewtCase Package Manager and NewtCase Extensions Manager, along with Extensions Manager, Desktop, GestureLaunch, NewtInfo, SleepAid, and Soup Kitchen (but GestureLaunch is only compatible with MP120/130 devices). The upgrade is free for NewtCase 3.0.x users, and sells in Newton retail stores for US\$49.95. For more information check out: <<http://www.pelicanware.com>> or send an email to: <[sales@pelicanware.com](mailto:sales@pelicanware.com)>.

#### **Blueprint 1.6 Demo Now Available**

Ashish Mishra <[ash@sineware.com](mailto:ash@sineware.com)> reports the 12-day limited demo of Sine of the Times' Blueprint -- a project manager -- is now available. This version works on Newton 2.x devices and supports multiple projects, relational tasks, task filtering, and gantt charting. For more information check out: <<http://www.sineware.com/products/Blueprint/>>.

#### **Bills to Pay Pro Updated**

Edward Martin <[EdMartin@marsoftware.com](mailto:EdMartin@marsoftware.com)> reports the release of version 3.5.6 of Bills to Pay Pro on 31Mar97 with full support for new Newton 2.1 features, and more interoperability with other finance packages. The following languages are also being supported: German, Japanese, French, and Spanish. For more info check out: <<http://www.marsoftware.com>>.

**E-Z Access Updated**

Jack Starmer <jack@simplemed.com> reports that Morgan Creek Medical has released version 2.0 of E-Z Access -- a pop-up button for launching applications and books that can be accessed from any application on a Newton device. For more information check out the following site: <<http://www.simplemed.com>> or send email to the following address: <freeware@simplemed.com>.

**Merlin and WordSleuth Updated**

Clinton Logan <clinton@landware.com> reports the release of Merlin 1.1 (spell checking utility) and WordSleuth 1.1 (thesaurus) that are now fully compatible and integrated to work with the NewtWorks wordprocessor on the MP2K and eMate 300. These are being bundled for US\$49.95, and you can get more information via: 201.261.7944, <info@landware.com>, and <<http://www.landware.com>>.

**New Stationary Should Help Dieters**

Jason Dufair <funne@holli.com> has created a Newton 2.0 Notepad stationary that he calls "ww 1.1" that should make it easier for those on the Weight Watchers diet system to plan meals and track their food intake based on their own individual weights. For more information check out: <<http://www.holli.com/~funne>>.

**MP2K Versions of LightSwitch and PowerPrefs Available**

Jim Bailey <jdb@shore.net> reports that he has released new versions of two of his excellent utilities -- LightSwitch 1.2 (shortcut for turn on/off backlighting) and PowerPrefs 2.1 (activates some hidden features). You can download them via: <<http://www.tiac.net/users/jdb/index.html>>, and you can also find Jim very useful TimeStamp 2.0 utility (updates a Note's timestamp) on this site.

**New Stuff from Foundation Systems**

Foundation Systems has released the following Newton packages:

- Corrector+ v2.2: improves the accuracy of handwriting recognition by adding limited word-based recognition
- Styles+ 2.0: a replacement for Apple's built-in style palette that offers more font sizes and better ease-of-use
- WriteHere 2.0 (b8fc1): handwriting recognition (HWR) and text-editing solution

You can also purchase Corrector+ and WriteHere for US\$34.99. For more information check out: <<http://www.tow.com/index.html>> or send an email to: <info@tow.com>.

**Several Cool Utilities Released**

Richard Schaeren <rschaeren@newton.ch> reports the release of several new utilities via <<http://www.newton.ch/compower/MP2000.html>>:

- MP2KSWIS.SIT: Swiss Keyboard-Driver for the US MessagePad 2000
- MP2KGERM.SIT: German Keyboard-Driver for the US MessagePad 2000
- BLC2.SIT: Backlight Control Button 2.0 which adds a backlight button on top of the overview button.
- PWN2.SIT: PowerNavigator 2.0, this utility provides fast and easy access to your most used packages and instant Fax and Beam receive.

Dr. Darwin Liao <darwin@amtidesign.com> has announced the release of Firefly -- a backlight toggle utility that works via the Newton 2.1 software button bar. For more info: <<http://members.aol.com/amt>>.

Dan Rowley <dan@newts.com> at Innovative Computer Solution reports the beta release of their new shareware solution called BarKeep -- a button bar enhancement for Apple's new MessagePad 2000. The goal of BarKeep is to let the user "control the location, size, and appearance of the button bar, and customize these settings for each of the four possible screen orientations." It is also bundled with an extension called KillBB which will temporarily disable the button bar altogether. For more information check

out: <<http://order.kagi.com/?IC>>.

Alessandro Soldo <soldoa@FH-Trier.de> has released a new collection of software called "Make My Day" which includes the following date related utilities -- Find Collision, Meeting Manager and Week Overview. For more info/demo check out: <<http://www.fh-trier.de/~soldoa/MakeMyDay>>.

Serg Koren <archimag@netaxs.com> reports the release of US\$15 shareware Newt'sTime 1.0 - a time-synchronization application for communications savvy Newtons. Updates your internal clock via a simple phone call (does not require NIE but requires Newton 2.0). For more information check out: <<http://www.netaxs.com/~archimag/Newton/MyStuff/Newt'sTime.html>>.

**New Version of LifeKeeper**

Saint John <morrisoj@post.drexel.edu> has announced the release of LifeKeeper v2.0 -- a Newton utility for use in Magic: the Gathering card games. For more information check out the following LifeKeeper site at: <<http://www.dusers.drexel.edu/~stjohn/newton.html>>.

**Project Management Software Ships**

Nomadic Technologies has announced that they are now shipping their N\*Project (Personal Edition) -- a complete project management system for Apple Newton 2.x units. Plans can be created and viewed as outlines, Gantt charts, network diagrams, or budget graphs. These views are interchangeable and each can be printed, along with several text reports. For more info: 800.713.6291, 216.331.5771, <<http://www.NomadicT.com>>, or <info@NomadicT.com>.

**More Newton Utilities News**

Want to change all your Names to a specific card style?!? Then check out Paul Rekieta <rekieta@newton.apple.com> CardStyler posted to this URL: <<http://members.aol.com/fitnesslog/index.html>>.

David Dunham <dunham@pensee.com> reports that if you are interested in a Newton based dice roller that you check out his dice roller program at: <<http://www.pensee.com/netfinder/netfinder.acgi?Root=RPG>>.

**Foreign Language Solution Gets Upgrade**

Frank Wegener <wegener@travel-cs.com> reports the release of their English, Spanish, German, French, and Italian language translator and vocabulary trainer called PowerTrans 3.0. This version also includes 15 foreign keyboard layouts, and completely supports the new MessagePad 2000 and eMate 300. You can get more info via: <<http://www.travel-cs.com>>.

# Newton Tips

**Eject That Modem Card Before Reset**

Josh Peterson <petersjf@ctrvax.vanderbilt.edu> reports that the current wisdom from Apple's SOS folks is that if you have to do a soft-reset or your Newton system restarts automatically on you, that you should remove a PC Card modem ASAP to insure things restart correctly. This is especially true if you are using a MP2000 with a Megahertz PC card modem (specifically the Megahertz XJ1144). Several folks on USENET newsgroup comp.sys.newton.misc have confirmed this suggestion works well.

**Turn Off Apps with a Restart**

Nick Mandich <nmandich@netcomuk.co.uk> and Ralf Hinz <hinz@dbag.ulm.DaimlerBenz.COM>.

To restart the Newt without loading any apps/autoparts press the restart button then press the pen against the left edge of the screen 1 cm above the end of the edge of the silkscreen above Names. A slip will ask if you want to load packages from internal. Tap no, then press the pen again in the same spot, and another slip will ask the same for card.

"Light" restart maximizes frame heap by sacrificing functionality. You can still activate packages selectively by tapping an inactive package's icon in

extras which has a large X across it.

Use "Light" restart to increase responsiveness in special cases. Nick uses it when reconciling in PocketMoney to speed up scrolling dramatically and also to speed-up HWR recognition in long, or time critical note taking sessions.

This tip is most appropriate on MP120/2.0. MP130 has twice the frame heap of the MP120 so the frame conservation strategy may be less relevant. I don't know if it works on MP2K.

### Open Apps With Keyboard Shortcuts

Bryson Jack <BrysonJ@ix.netcom.com>

Stemming from my wish to be able to open applications with keyboard shortcuts I thought of a way to open the built in applications such as the, Names, Dates, and Notepad (if using a backdrop application). All of the built in applications can be accessed via the built in find utility (which of course can be brought up by pressing Command(Apple) F) after setting up a variation of the following procedure in each area.

To set up the Notepad to open with the keyboard do the following:

1. Open up an untitled note and select the title (Command E)
2. Write "keyword:" if desired and then enter a symbol that is easy to associate the application with. You can select a special symbol or character by using shift & option at the same time but option by itself is much quicker. For example, I typed in the character that is created by holding the option key and tapping the letter N twice. As long as you choose a character that you have written no where else, this trick will work.
3. Close the title and file the Keyword Note away where it wont bug you.
4. Try it out. Exit the Notepad, hit command F then hold option and tap the letter "N" for notepad twice then enter. Presto! From there you can use the command O for overview, command arrows to scroll up and down and the various other shortcuts to access folders. This trick is equally effective as a name card or a continuously forwarding to do item (which will always take you to the current day).

## Developer's Corner

### Newton Toolkit News

Several of Apple's very dedicated Newton Developer Technical Support (DTS) folks posted some details about what is going on with Newton Toolkit (NTK) for Macintosh and Windows recently on the USENET newsgroup comp.sys.newton.programmer.

Currently you can upgrade from NTK 1.0 to 1.5 to version 1.6.x for US\$50. The currently shipping version for the Macintosh is version 1.6.3 and will soon be upgraded to version 1.6.4. One of the new features in 1.6.4 is the ability to handle grayscale pictures and icons. If you are going to write new Newton OS 2.1 functionality then you'll need the Newton OS 2.1 platform file which is distributed among other places on the latest Newton Developer CDROM.

Apple Developer News #51 published on 04Apr97 reports the release of Newton Toolkit for Windows, Version 1.6. The software kit retails for US\$150. For more info check out: <<http://www.devworld.apple.com/>> or to purchase check out: <<http://www.devcatalog.apple.com>>.

What are the main differences between Macintosh NTK and Windows NTK? Here is a summary:

- MacNTK has Bookmaker and support for the C++ tools (which run only on the Mac). WinNTK has none of these.
- There is a converter to go from MacNTK to WinNTK. There is no converter for the opposite direction.
- WinNTK is a port of a Mac program, and sometimes that shows in the interface.
- MacNTK allows AppleTalk connections to the Newton device in addition

tion to serial connections; WinNTK has only the serial connection.

- The QuickView online documentation that comes with MacNTK is a little more accessible (easier to use) than the WinHelp documentation that comes with WinNTK.

For more info: <<http://devworld.apple.com/dev/newton/tools/ntk.html>>.

## Admin Stuff

To receive a notification when NewtNews Pro is first released each month, send email to <nnpro@aol.com> with "Notify NewtNewsPro" in the subject line. Past issues and additional information can be found at the NewtNews Pro website at <<http://members.aol.com/nnpro/newton.html>>. Please contact me with any questions, comments, etc. Any contributions to the content of NewtNews should be sent to Steve Holden <sholden@ridgecrest.ca.us>, Editor and Publisher of NewtNews.

Dave Hina

Editor & Producer, NewtNews Pro

<nnpro@aol.com>

## Products/Services

Solutions From **Landware**. All work in the Newton 2.0 OS.

- *ProCalc Ex*: Programmable calc. w/ SAN & RPN, incl: proCALC 12c.
- *QuickNames Pro*: Rapid access to names and much more.
- *X-Port*: The 2.0 connection utility. Send/receive notes, contacts...
- *KwikMenu*: the Newton dashboard, includes GestureLaunch Lite.
- *NewtPaint*: "MacPaint" on your Newton, w/zoom-in and screen shot.
- *Sync+*: Dates to Schedule+ 1.0 or 7.0

LandWare, 201-347-0031, <sales@landware.com>, <<http://www.landware.com>>

Frustrated by the amount of time required to input long notes? Looking for a faster method? **Gesture Mosaic** is a hybrid keyboard/recognition system which enables the rapid (30-40+wpm) pen-based entry of text. Now updated for OS2.0, you can use it to quickly input text anywhere in your Newton. FREEWARE versions are available at: <<http://www.amtelcom.com/Mosaic>> For more information contact: <amtelmit@aol.com> or call: 800-696-6724.

**ChessPad 2.0** turns the Newton into a digital chess book and a portable chess set. It contains 28 fully-annotated games played by the greatest players of all time, 100 brilliant winning combinations by Morphy, Tal, Fischer, and Kasparov, and 100 chess problems. ChessPad can also import games in Portable Game Notation format. Only \$39.95. Clear Lake Research 713.663.7513 <DavidL62@aol.com> <<http://members.aol.com/clrsch/chesspad.html>>

**Stand Alone** offers a variety of Newton applications for Newton 2.0:

- *Package Popup*: instant access to all your packages, launch with a tap, automatically thaw and re-freeze. \$15.
- *Secure-A-Newt*: Password protect folders in your NotePad, Names, and Extras Drawer. Protect your info from prying eyes. \$20.
- *KeyMan*: Adds function keys, a multi-function calculator, and a new keyboard designed for one-fingered typing. \$20.
- *NoteMan*: Instant access to the NotePad from any package. \$10.
- *BackGammon*: The classic board game, brought to Newton. \$20.
- *Super Sorter*: Fast, Usable list management, featuring fully expandable and customizable list creation and editing. \$20

For information about any of these or other Stand Alone products, contact us at: <info@standalone.com>, or (312) 262-5150. Also check out our Web site at: <<http://www.standalone.com/newton>>.



**Tim Constantine** has several cutting edge Newton solutions: *Flash* - A Speed Reading Tutor; *CrazyDice* - Multi-player Strategy Game, and *Clean Notes* - Stationary w/o Lines. For more info: <timconstan@kagi.com> or <<http://www.kagi.com/timconstan>>. Tim is also available for custom Newton application development. Send Tim email if you have a question about custom application development or about his cutting edge solutions.

NEW! 8th Volume of the **Totally Incomplete PDA CD-ROM** for Newton! This CD-ROM from AMUG CD, Inc. contains over 1400 packages, and 600+ megs in Mac and PC format. 2.x & 1.x Packages can be downloaded directly from the CD to your MessagePad. Maximize your Newton experience! \$29 + S/H. Call AMUG 602.497-2244, or email <sales@amug.org> to order! See our Newton CD web page at <<http://cdrom.amug.org/>>.

Business Productivity Packages from **Pelicanware**. All packages for Newton 2.0 OS - Upgrades also available.

- *QuickFigure Pro 3.0*: Spreadsheet application \$59.95
- *NewtCase 3.0*: The Ultimate Utility Suite \$49.95
- *Notion 1.5*: High Performance List Manager \$59.95
- *AvailWorks 2.0*: Text, spreadsheets, drawing, and graphing \$79.95.

All from Pelicanware. For more details email: <info@pelicanware.com>, vox: 503-221-1148, fax: 503-221-8709, or <<http://www.pelicanware.com>>.

**Catamount Software** offers the following:

- *Pocketmoney* assists you in balancing your checking, savings, credit card and loan accounts. Export and import transactions to Quicken, MYM and other desktop based program.
- *Namigator* gives rapid access to Names. I know, I have over 5000.
- *MPG* helps you keep your vehicle records in order. Track fuel economy, record mileage for tax purposes, schedule repeating vehicle maintenance items for multiple vehicles.
- *Morgan* is the Newton Media ORGANizer. Track CDs, tapes, records books, laserdiscs, videos, and more...

For more information call 802-372-9512, email <products@catamount.com>, or visit our web site <<http://www.catamount.com>>.

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**GPS Map** and **GPS Map Lite** -- GPS based navigation with real moving maps, showing all details as familiar from paper based maps. Features -- map calculator, route planning, database, history track, and mission recorder. Import your own maps from your Mac or PC at any scale. Connects to most GPS receiver's offering a NMEA183 interface. For more info/demo: <[http://www.soaring.de/gps/GPS\\_Map.html](http://www.soaring.de/gps/GPS_Map.html)> or <gerds@micronet.de>.

**Newt Development Environment**: develop object-oriented applications in NewtonScript on the Newton (shareware: \$49.50; tools, examples, support). **Newt's Cape**: create Newton books with text, graphics, tables, links, and forms from HTML (via web browsing or Notepad) (shareware: \$38.50; tools, examples, support). For details, software, and registration info: <<http://>

<[www.netaxs.com/~weyer/newton/releases.html](http://www.netaxs.com/~weyer/newton/releases.html)> or <weyer@netaxs.com>

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