



JULY 2003

## PANTHER HIGHLIGHTS

By Jim DaMico

HOT TOPICS SIG LEADER

This year's World Wide Developers Conference in San Francisco saw the announcements of many more great things to come from Apple in the coming months. First and foremost is **PANTHER** or OS X.3, the fourth iteration of OS X due out at the end of the year. Apple has added and improved this OS in many facets both small and large – more than 100 to be exact. With Panther, Apple has overhauled the Finder, introduced Expose as well as iChat AV (this is more than just simple text messaging), File Vault, Pixlet, Font Book, Fast User Switching and much more.

### FINDER



Let's start with the new and improved Finder. In Panther, you will find all of your hard drives, network drives, optical media, iDisk and other removable volumes (such as CDs and flash memory cards) on the left hand

side of the window in the Places sidebar. Removable volumes are signified with a triangular eject symbol. The use of this symbol eliminates the extra step of having to drag a volume to the trash. Upon making a Finder window smaller, icons and text of the Places sidebar dynamically scale which reduces the need to scroll thus eliminating another unneeded mouse or keyboard move. This is just the tip of the Panther's tail.

### EXPOSE

*Webster's Dictionary defines expose as "To make known: reveal."*

Expose makes great use of three function keys:

- **F9** tiles all open windows, scales them and arranges them so you can see every one.
- **F10** tiles all open windows for the currently running application and fades all other windows to grey. Along with the **F10** key, you can tab to switch between open applications and their associated windows.

- **F11** allows you direct access to the desktop by hiding all open windows

If using or typing out function key commands isn't your game, you can assign display corners the same commands and just move your mouse over that area to get the same result. Or better yet, you can put that multi-button mouse of yours to work and assign the buttons specific commands to achieve the same result.

## X FILE VAULT

So, you do top secret work and you stay up nights worrying that anyone with a little know-how and fortitude can easily gain access to your Mac and wreak havoc on you and the world. Fear not for Apple has incorporated an easy way to secure not only your home directory but also securely delete your trash. How can this be done you may ask? It is quite simple. By using the Advanced Encryption Standard, which is based on 128 bit keys, File Vault encrypts and decrypts data behind the scenes so you can work on other things and not have to think about it. Worried about that trash basket overflowing with sensitive data? Relax, because by using Secure Erase Trash, the data is overwritten with random data so that the file can't be put back together and deciphered.

More information on the Advanced Encryption Standard can be found here: < <http://csrc.nist.gov/CryptoToolkit/aes/> >

### FAST USER SWITCHING

Tired of having to quit all of your applications and log off your account just so someone else can use your Mac? Those days are numbered because, with Fast User Switching, you can have multiple personal user accounts that keep accounts active in the background and the data and applications secure. Apple has added a new menu to make this as easy as possible. After activating Fast User Switching in System Preferences, a new menu comes up on the right of the menu bar with all of the users on that particular Mac. Also, you set up all of your passwords, security levels, limitations, enable or disable Fast User Switching in the Accounts panel.

Need to get a graphical representation of each user? In Panther, the transitions between users desktops is animated on a 3D cube where the outgoing users desktop rotates out of view while the incoming user rotates into view. ●

# iChat AV and iSight: More Killer iApps

By Jim DaMico  
HOT TOPICS SIG LEADER



## iChat AV

Not being satisfied with the standard text messaging capabilities of iChat, Apple has upped the ante with the introduction of iChat AV. Taking advantage of the advanced graphics that are built into OS X, you can now enjoy full screen personal audio and video conferencing.

On the video side of things, a patented anamorphic resizing technique will fill your entire screen with the person you are chatting with without distortion. The default size of the video window is 352 x 288 pixels, but you can make it any size you want. Also in iChat, you can have full 30 frames per second (fps), full screen video between Mac users with a fat broadband connection.

On the audio side of the equation, the same audio technology that is found in CDMA cell phones is implemented in iChat, which results in crystal clear two-way audio. iChat also uses echo cancellation, thus eliminating audio feedback, allowing you to use just about any internal or external microphone.

Like to save money on your long distance phone bill? Now you can talk online without incurring any of those pesky phone charges, and all you need is iChat AV and a 56k modem.

Lights, camera, action... no, wait, I have to brush my hair and pick that spinach leaf from my teeth. Now you can look your best because iChat has an automatic preview window to check yourself out with before you go live to your millions of adoring fans all across the globe.

For best results with iChat AV, you will need at least a 600-MHz G3 for video to work properly. The application is free until December 31, 2003, as well as in the next release of OS X. Otherwise, it will cost you 29 clams.

## iSight Camera

Weighing in at a feather-light 2.3 ounces, the new iSight video camera from Apple is sure to be a hit for those who love to do video chat.

Let's take a look at some of the great and beautiful features of the iSight: an aluminum alloy exterior that wraps and protects the underlying electronics and auto focus lens, and a single firewire cable that moves audio, video while supplying power to the camera. Add to this three stands and a tilt and swivel mechanism, and you are ready for any situation. Need to be mobile? Then you are in luck because a handy travel case comes with the camera as well.

## The Video Side of Things

The iSight is made up of a 3-part lens that consists of two aspherical elements that focus on a 1/4-inch CCD sensor, as well as a lens aperture of F/2.8. Combined, these imaging components deliver a VGA resolution of 640 x 480, as well as full motion video at 30 fps in 24-bit color. So, no matter where you are, whether in a dingy nightclub or in the backyard at high noon, the iSight will provide a clean, crisp image along with true color reproduction. Also built into the iSight is a processor that automatically adjusts white balance (so you don't look like a Martian), sharpness, and color, focus, exposure, and noise filtration.

Look into the light...a green on air light will always let you know when you are participating in a live video chat and when you get tired of chatting just twist the lens cover and walk away.

## How do I sound?

Amazingly clear, thanks to a built-in, dual-element, noise-suppressing microphone that takes in the sound from both elements and, with a little number crunching, determines which sounds stay and which go.

If the iSight is something you must have, then you will need to fulfill a couple of hardware and software requirements: iChat AV, OS X 10.2.5 or higher, a 600MHz G3 processor or higher and a broadband connection (to fully enjoy 30 fps video). ●



## A New Resource Center Location for dBug!

The Resource Center location is expected to change by September 1. Great things are in the works, but details are not yet finalized. Check the website at < [www.dbug.org](http://www.dbug.org) > for updates.

### Top 5 Reasons to Join dBug

1. You own a Mac.
2. You like to hang around with other Mac fans.
3. You want help from practical Mac users not magazines.
4. You've got the coolest software, but now you need to figure out how to use apps like iTunes, iDVD, iMovie, iCal, etc.
5. Your iPod needs a computer to go with it.

### dBug's 2003 Board

**Don Arbow**, President  
**Jim DaMico**, Hot Topics SIG Leader  
**Mike Grueter**, SIG Coordinator  
**Karen Lindner**, Treasurer  
**Allan Swensson**, Internet SIG Leader  
Membership info at [www.dbug.org](http://www.dbug.org)

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# World Wide Developers Conference at The Ram Brewery Recap: Steve Jobs Keynote

Submitted by Mike Grueter  
Edited by Jim DaMico

Even with short notification the night before, a whopping 20 people showed up early at The Ram on June 23 for the big keynote news. Ram employee Michelle Baroh put us in the bar area and turned on a huge projection TV above the bar as well as six or eight larger tube TVs around the rest of the room. She tuned the satellite to the correct frequencies, and we were right there in the keynote hall with all of the 3,000+ developers. To make us feel even more like we were there, Charles Wheeler brought Krispy Kreme donuts hot off the assembly line.

Steve Jobs walked on stage at 10 AM and immediately got things moving. Here are some of the highlights of his keynote:

AirPort Extreme, now compatible with the ratified standard, has shipped over 300,000 units.

There have been 17,000,000 visitors to Apple Stores so far. New stores in Chicago, San Francisco, and Tokyo will be opening soon (not to mention the huge new store in the works next door to the Ram).

Apple on June 23 will ship the 1,000,000th iPod, and the iTunes Music Store has sold over 5,000,000 songs in the first eight weeks.

There were 5,000,000+ downloads of the Safari beta software. Version 1.0 is now released and is available for free download now at < [www.apple.com/safari/](http://www.apple.com/safari/) >.

There are now over 7,000,000 active Mac OS X users and over 6,000 native Mac OS X applications.

## Panther Highlights

Mac OS X.3 (aka "Panther") will have over 100 major new features, including: X11, FreeBSD 5, latest samba, IPSec-VPN, better Active Directory, and a new Finder that has a more user-centric interface, Places sidebar, fast searching as you type, an action button that shows what you can do with the selection, labels, dynamic network browsing, and better open and save panels.

Pixlet is a new QuickTime codec that is studio-grade quality, based on Pixar Wavelet technology, high-definition quality, 48 bits, has no noticeable visual artifacts, and no inter-frame compression, allows for easy editing, and smooth back and forth scrubbing. It looks awesome!

Preview will be the fastest PDF viewer in the world. It will be three to four times faster than Acrobat on the fastest Windows PC. Preview will allow on-the-fly PostScript to PDF conversion and

## dBug Annual Picnic & Food O'Rama Wednesday, August 13 • 6 - 9 PM Meridian Playfield Picnic Area

< <http://cityofseattle.net/parks/parkspaces/MeridianPlayground/picnics.htm> >

Come one, come all to this year's annual dBug Summer Picnic extravaganza for great food, fun and fashion. This year, as in years past, the picnic will be held at the beautiful Meridian Playground Park in lovely Wallingford.

Not only will we be flipping hamburgers, hot dogs and other goodies, but we will also be holding the hallowed **MOST EXOTIC T-SHIRT CONTEST** with cool prizes. So dig out your trusty old T-shirts and bring an appetite to share in Mac camaraderie, networking and friendship.

Bring a friend or two or three to share in the love of all things Macintosh.

See the next page for directions.

printing of Postscript on inkjet printers. Steve scrolled through a 900+ page PDF, displaying every page in an amazingly short amount of time. It reminded me of Data on *Star Trek Next Generation* reading stuff on the screen (faster... faster...) < [www.apple.com/macosx/panther/preview.html](http://www.apple.com/macosx/panther/preview.html) >

A new set of developer tools will be included in Panther for free. Xcode is a rewrite of Project Builder, has a new interface similar to iTunes or the new Finder, includes the latest GCC 3.3 compiler, and compiles code much faster. It allows for distributed builds using idle processor resources from other networked Macs to compile code. Other new features include "zero link" (which links only to the objects needed to launch the application for debugging), "predictive compile" (which compiles code during editing), and "fix and continue" (which allows developers to make changes to their code while debugging the application). Together these new features should dramatically cut down the time developers wait for their Macs.

Huge thanks to Keith Ronnholm for setting this up and to Michelle Baroh for tending to our every need while we were there. She also said The Ram would be happy to host other keynote events for us! It sure was nice watching the event in full (huge) screen with no drop outs or frame/audio loss. ●

# dBug Annual Picnic & Food O'Rama

## Wednesday, August 13, 6-9 PM • Meridian Playfield Picnic Area

**I-5 Northbound:**

- Take the NE 45TH ST/NE 50TH ST exit towards UW, exit #169
- Turn left on 7TH AVE NE
- Turn left on NE 45TH ST
- Turn right on SUNNYSIDE AVE N

**I-5 Southbound:**

- Take the NE 45TH ST/NE 50TH ST exit towards UW, exit #169
- Continue on 5TH AVE NE
- Turn right on NE 45TH ST
- Turn right on SUNNYSIDE AVE N



## July / August / September (partial)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Jul 28</b> Internet SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Aug 1</b>	<b>2</b> dBug Café Resource Center 9:05 a.m.
<b>4</b> Beg. Mac Users SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>5</b> Intermed. Mac Users SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>6</b> dBug Board Meeting Resource Center 7:00 p.m.	<b>7</b> Final Cut Pro 4.0, DVD Studio, & Photoshop Materials Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> dBug Café Resource Center 9:05 a.m.
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> WebObjects SIG Resource Center 7:00 p.m.	<b>13</b> dBug Picnic Meridian Park Picnic Area 6:00 p.m.	<b>14</b> Hot Topics SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> dBug Café Resource Center 9:05 a.m.
<b>18</b> Filemaker Pro SIG Resource Center 7:00 p.m.	<b>19</b> Hypercard SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>20</b> Mac OS X SIG Resource Center 7:00 p.m.	<b>21</b> Backing up Entourage Mail Resource Center 7:00 p.m.	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> dBug Café Resource Center 9:05 a.m.
<b>25</b> Internet SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>26</b> 4th Dimen. SIG Resource Center 6:00 p.m.	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> dBug Café Resource Center 9:05 a.m.
<b>Sep 1</b> HOLIDAY Beg. Mac Users SIG cancelled	<b>2</b> Intermed. Mac Users SIG Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>3</b> dBug Board Meeting Resource Center 7:00 p.m.	<b>4</b> Final Cut Pro 4.0, DVD Studio, & Photoshop Materials Resource Center 6:30 p.m.	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> dBug Café Resource Center 9:05 a.m.
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Be sure to check the website at < [www.dbug.org](http://www.dbug.org) > or call the info line 206.624.9329 for last-minute changes.