

# At a Glance

<b>P6 Underscores Intel's Lead.....</b>	<b>1</b>
Intel's P6 processor, expected to deliver 200 SPECint92 later this year, will push x86 performance to a new level. Prices will start high but quickly drop, pushing P6 into the mainstream by 1997.	
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CPU vendors cannot afford to offer unconditional guarantees on their chips, but they must find ways to satisfy end users.	
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Pentium prices plunge precipitously; Intel to reveal Pentium errata list; Digital StrongArms embedded market; PowerPC 603+ announced as 603e; Intel launches Triton PCI chip set; TI takes floating-point DSP to new low; Cirrus to ship Rambus graphics chips.	
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Like AMD's K5, the P6 translates x86 instructions into RISC-like operations and can execute them out of order, but the Intel chip promises a higher clock speed and implements a larger reorder buffer and fast L2 cache, yielding significantly better performance.	
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Second-generation Magic Cap platforms will use RISC processors with software applications written in "intercode" for portability.	
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The R3900 is an embeddable ASIC core with R4000-class performance that also forms the basis of a new line of standard products.	
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A survey of currently advertised RISC PCs shows that they still can't compete with low-cost x86 systems and may never be able to, as technology trends begin to favor the x86 chips.	
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## MICROPROCESSOR REPORT

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