■ Deep Impact. Armageddon. Comdex.

An enormous inert mass is hurtling toward us, and nothing short of an atomic blast can turn it away. Yes, it's once again time for **Fall Comdex,** "celebrating" its 20th year in Las Vegas on November 15–19. Not just trapped inside Windows, the show this year is paired with the **Linux Business Expo.** The enormous gathering features the usual keynotes (Gates, McNealy, Chambers, and Mr. Linux himself), the usual slew of product introductions, and the slogan "the new TechnoMillennium."

Registration fees range from $1,095 for the conference to $1,999 (get it?) for the full "Millennium Passport." Register before 11/5 to weasel into the exhibits for free. For more information (as if you need it), access *www.comdex.com.*

■ If a DSP Gets Swatted, It Sounds Like …

Get up to speed on the world of signal processing at two conferences in one, **DSP World/ICSPAT,** held in Orlando (Florida) on November 1–4. DSP World is chock full of tutorials and workshops that cover everything from the basics of DSP to specific algorithms and products. Featured presenters include MPR contributors Jeff Bier and Krishna Yarlagadda. ICSPAT offers papers on the latest advances from vendors and researchers.

Registration fees range from $695 for the ICSPAT program to $1,295 for a package including workshops and tutorials. Call 800.789.2223 or check out *www.dspworld.com.*

■ Wear Your Hard Drive on Your Sleeve

If clipping a cell phone, a pager, and a Palm computer to your belt doesn't make you feel enough like Batman, pretty soon you'll be able to wear a full-blown PC, too. The **future of wearable computing** is explored in a fascinating white paper, the result of a study conducted at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU). The researchers drew upon their backgrounds in anthropology and industrial design to study spaces on the human body where solid and flexible forms can rest without obstructing free motion.

The paper is available for free on the Web. Download it in Adobe Acrobat (PDF) format at *http://panopticon.edrc.cmu.edu/ design/wearability/front.html.*

■ Living on Internet Time

The technologies behind the Internet are changing as rapidly as the Internet itself. Get up to date at **Next Generation Networks,** covering networking hardware and software in Washington, D.C., on November 1–5. Learn about optical networking, implementing voice-over-IP, 10-gig ethernet, building massive routers, and (one last chance) Y2K issues. The conference is sponsored by *Business Communications Review* and chaired by network pioneer and venture capitalist John McQuillan.

The three-day conference costs $1,795 to attend, or $2,295 including a Monday tutorial and Friday symposium. Register by 10/28 for a free exhibit pass. Register online at *www.ngn99.com.*