

🔆 Go If You Must

We hesitate to offer alternatives to our own *Microprocessor Forum*, but two are worth mentioning. The first is the Fibre Channel Technologies Conference, to be held October 10–12 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Jose, just a few blocks from the *Forum*. The dual-track, three-day conference will focus on the role of Fibre Channel in storage-area networks and include presentations from vendors and industry experts.

Early-bird registration, available through September 15, costs from \$25 (for university students) to \$995 (for professionals attending all three days). For more information, visit the conference Web site: *www.fibreconference.com*.

♦ VISUALIZE WORLD PIECES

If you care more about 3D graphics than microprocessor architecture, we suggest you consider attending **Visualization 2000**, October 8–13, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Vis2K, sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society, will present the latest research in visualization algorithms, techniques, and applications for fields such as medicine and geology.

On-site registration prices range from \$190 to \$700. Visit *www.erc.msstate.edu/vis00* for more details.

E Pluribus Unum

"Out of many, one." It's a great motto for a nation of states and a good recipe for a cheap supercomputer. A new O'Reilly book, *Building Linux Clusters*, by David H.M. Spector, explains in practical terms the ways many small Linux computers can work together to solve big problems. Spector discusses the systems to use, the ways to connect them, and the software to run. Clustering software for Red Hat Linux is provided on a CD-ROM that comes with the book.

The book's ISBN number is 1-56592-625-0, and it carries a list price of \$44.95. For more information, visit the publisher's Web site at *www.oreilly.com*.

◇ DEATH, TAXES, AND FALL COMDEX

There are certain events we all fear but can't avoid. The next such event for most of us is **COMDEX Fall 2000**, which will take place November 13–17 at the Las Vegas Convention Center and on almost every other horizontal surface in the city. Wear comfortable shoes and drink lots of water.

Registration fees range from free (for exhibits only) to \$2,795 (for everything plus a free Handspring Visor PDA). More information is available at *www.comdex.com*.