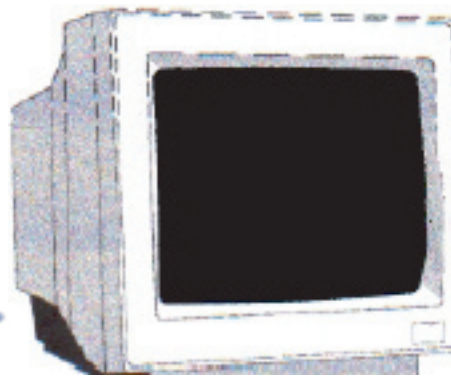


# CVAUG Monitor



Cumberland Valley Apple User Group Newsletter [WWW.CVAUG.ORG](http://WWW.CVAUG.ORG) February 2005

## A Note From the President

The past couple of months have been fairly exciting for Apple. Holiday sales were very high and the Apple community was looking forward to any new product announcements at the Macworld Expo in San Francisco in early January. After that, in the end of January, Apple announced even more products.

## Apple Product Announcements at Macworld Expo San Francisco '05

Apple made several product announcements at this January's Macworld Expo in San Francisco's Moscone Center. Here are some of the major ones:

### Mac mini

The Mac mini is the result of the public's outcry for an inexpensive, entry level computer. The Mac mini is just that, included is the computer and the software and that is about it. There is no monitor, keyboard or



mouse included with the computer. Here are the specs. The computer can be ordered with a 1.25Ghz or 1.45Ghz G4 processor. It ships with 256 MB of RAM and can support up to 1 GB of RAM.

However, you must order the computer with the amount of RAM that you want in it because Apple says that the internal components of the Mac mini are not user serviceable and that if the case is opened by anyone but an Apple Certified Technician the computer's warranty is voided. The hard drive can be either a 40 GB or 80 GB model. The other drive in the computer is a Combo Drive. This is a drive that can read and write CDs and read data and video DVDs. There is a build to order option to replace the Combo drive with a SuperDrive capable of reading and writing CDs and

DVDs. There are also two USB 2.0 ports, a Firewire port, a headphone jack, a DVI video port (with a VGA monitor adapter) and an Ethernet Networking jack. Wireless options include an internal

## Mac mini Demo

Bluetooth module and Airport

Extreme wireless networking.

The base price of the 1.25Ghz Mac mini is \$499 and the base price of

the 1.45Ghz model is \$599.

## iPod shuffle

Before the iPod mini was released a year ago the Apple rumor mills were projecting that Apple was going to release a flash drive based iPod. A

flash based MP3 player relies on chip based storage rather than a hard drive to store data. The upside of Flash memory is that it takes

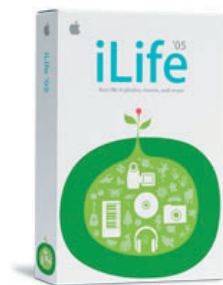
very little power. The downside is that chip based memory is much more expensive per MB than Hard Drives. The iPod shuffle, like



the Mac mini to the Macintosh, is a stripped down version of the iPod. There is no display on the iPod shuffle and only the basic controls. Apple figured that most people with iPods listen to their music in shuffle mode to mix up their music between artists and albums. The iPod mini has two modes of play, straight or shuffle. The lack of a display means you can't pick a song from your iPod shuffle's library, you can only skip forward, backward or pause your music. The iPod mini is a USB based device that in addition to being an MP3 player, can also be used as a Jump or Thumb Drive. This means you can plug the iPod shuffle into a computer and move files onto it and move those files onto a different computer. The iPod shuffle is available in two different sizes. The 512 MB model can store about 120 songs and the 1 GB model can hold around 240 songs. They each have a battery that can last up to twelve hours and gets recharged while the iPod shuffle is plugged into a USB port. Each model weighs a little over 3/4 of an ounce. The 512 MB model costs \$99 and the 1 GB model costs \$149. Each model comes with a lanyard and a pair of earbuds.

## iLife '05

The announcements were not limited to Apple's Hardware.



Apple has updated their iLife line of software with iPhoto 5, iMovie HD, iDVD 5, GarageBand 2 and iTunes 4.7.

Here is a look at each of them.

### iPhoto 5

iPhoto 5 can now accept photos in RAW format which is a format that professional level digital cameras use to store their photos. It has some more advanced photo enhancement and editing capabilities. The slideshow options are improved and a new calendar view gives you a chronological view of your photo history.

### iMovie HD

Most notably iMovie HD can now handle High Definition video from professional and consumer Digital HD camcorders. There are improvements to the audio capabilities in the program and the Magic Movie option uses a kind of Artificial Intelligence that can put your imported video clips into an edited movie for you complete with titles and transitions.

### iDVD 5

Fifteen new DVD menu themes is one of the big new features in the new version of iDVD 5. A one step DVD option allows you to go directly from video tape to DVD with one push of a button. For those who create multi level menus on their DVDs a map view shows an overview of the menu structure to help with organization.

### GarageBand 2

First announced at Macworld Expo in January 2004 GarageBand, the simple music creation software got its first major update in iLife '05. New features include multi-track recording and live music notation. You can also change the tempo and key of your recorded instruments as well as create your own music

loops.

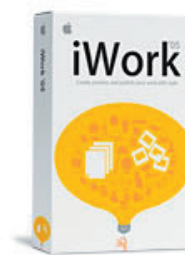
### iTunes 4.7

iTunes has been updated to be compatible with the new iPod shuffle. Other new features include the ability to print CD inserts from your iTunes music library. iTunes is the only software title in iLife '05 that can be downloaded for free.

The iLife '05 package is available now and costs \$79

## iWork

iWork is a new software package that includes a new version of



Keynote, Apple's presentation creation software and a whole new product called Pages.

## Pages

Pages is a brand new word processor that creates documents from themes (much like in iDVD). Pages can read files created with Microsoft Word and it can also write files that can be opened with Microsoft Word so it is compatible with your friends/co-workers in the Windows world.

## Keynote

Keynote is still a very easy to use presentation program that makes creating cinema quality presentations a snap. A new and important feature is the ability to output your presentation to Flash format that can easily be posted to a web page for distribution.

iWork is available now for \$79.

## More January Apple Product Announcements

The last day in January saw Apple announcing updates to their entire PowerBook product line. The PowerBooks are still available in the three familiar sizes, 12, 15 and 17 inches. The updates include faster processors of course, but each model got some enhanced technology. First is the new trackpad with scrolling capability. The new trackpad lets you scroll through a document by using two fingers on the trackpad instead of the little scroll arrows on the screen. Slide two fingers down on the trackpad and the window on the

screen scrolls down. Every other direction works the same way. This stands to be quite a time saver. The second technological advance is Apple's Sudden Motion Sensor which watches the computer's orientation and can physically protect the hard drive in case the computer is dropped or jostled sharply. This cannot



guarantee that data will not be lost if the computer is dropped, but it can help make the data safer and easier to recover if the drop is severe enough. The backlit keyboard has been made brighter, but is still only available as an option on the 15 inch model and is standard

equipment on the 17 inch PowerBook model. The hard drive capacity has been increased to a maximum of 100 GB and the graphics abilities have been improved as well. With the higher end graphics card option the 15 and 17 inch models have the ability to work with Apple's beautiful 30 inch LCD display.

Another improvement is the option to have a SuperDrive installed in the 12 inch model. This option was not available in previous 12 inch models.

The 12 inch PowerBooks start at \$1499. The 15 inch models start at \$1999. And the 17 inch model starts at \$2699. Each model comes with the new version of iLife installed.

**“A computer lets you make more mistakes faster than any invention in human history... with the possible exception of handguns and tequila.”**

**–Anon.**