

it with the current discussions of cloud, edge, and other computing models and their impact on corporate and private life.]

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### Biometrics: A New Era in Security; George Lawton.

(p. 16): “Biometric technology would change security and access control by providing systems that recognize us by our biological or behavioral characteristics, such as fingerprints, iris patterns, facial characteristics, and speech patterns. ... Biometric applications frequently store authorized users’ data on site for comparison with input data. However, biometric systems can also transmit input data over private networks or the Internet to remote servers for comparison with information in databases. In such cases, security is a critical issue.” (p. 17) “CardTech/SecurTech’s Bowman said biometrics initially will be most popular for computer-network security and access control, but soon will be widely used to prevent credit card and ATM card fraud in point-of-sale transactions, and to control access to buildings, equipment,

and vehicles.” [Editor’s note: This is an interesting short article about different approaches to biometrics. However, many of the applications predicted in the article are still not commonly used and then often used together with other security mechanisms. Technical as well as privacy issues have delayed their wide acceptance.]

### Multiprocessors Should Support Simple Memory Consistency Models; Mark D. Hill

(p. 28): “The author argues that multiprocessors should support sequential consistency because—with speculative execution—relaxed models do not provide sufficient additional performance to justify exposing their complexity to the authors of low-level software.” (p. 29) “The interface for memory in a shared memory multiprocessor is called a *memory consistency model*. ... A multiprocessor can use the same relatively simple memory interface as a multitasking uniprocessor. Leslie Lamport formalized this memory consistency model as sequential consistency (SC). ... Perhaps surprisingly, the hardware memory consistency models of most commercial multiprocessors are not SC because alternative relaxed models are believed to facilitate

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