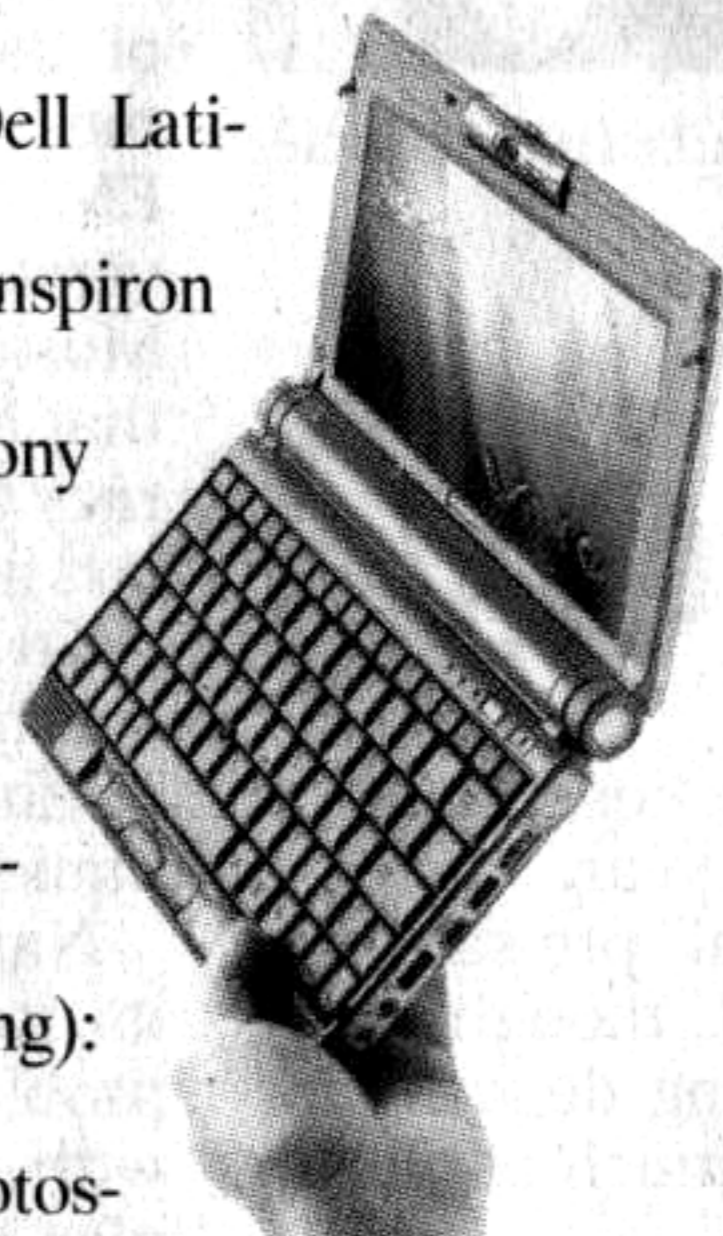# Fast Forward Technical Achievement Awards, v. 7.0

**PERSONALITY OF THE YEAR:**
Shawn Fanning
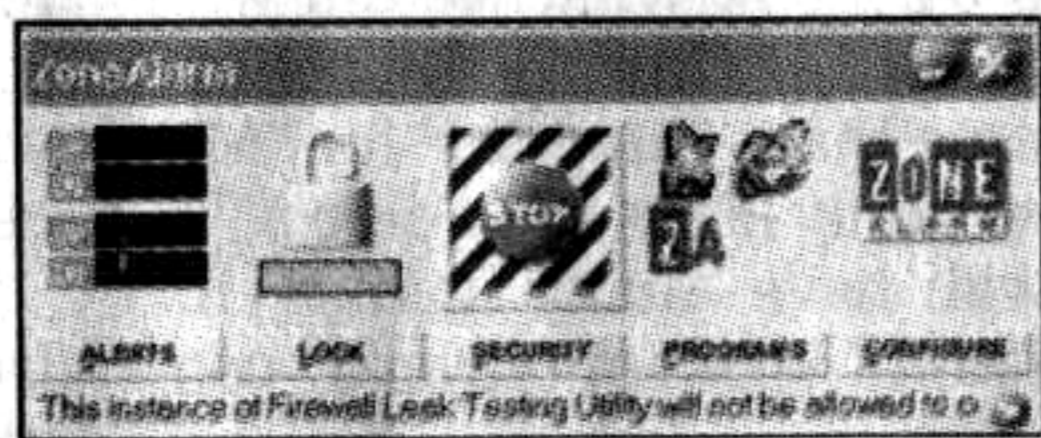
**COMPUTER HARDWARE:**

Best new hardware (post May 2000): Home wireless (802.11b) networking

Most promising new technology: Home wireless (802.11b) networking

Honourable mention: AMD's mobile Duron processor; USB 2.0; Digital Wallet (portable storage)

Best multimedia home computer: Hewlett-Packard Pavilion 9880

Honourable mention: Compaq Presario 7000 series

Notebook (over $5,000): IBM TransNote Thinkpad

Notebook (under $5,000): Dell Latitude C800

Honourable mention: Dell Inspiron 8000, IBM X20

Subnotebook (all varieties): Sony Vaio Picturebook

Home printer (general purpose): HP Deskjet 990Cse

Honourable mention: Epson Stylus Color 670; Lexmark Optra 312

Home printer (photo printing): Epson Stylus Photo 2000P

Honourable mention: HP Photosmart 1218

Digital camera (under $1,000): Canon S100 Elph

Digital camera (over $1,000): Nikon CoolPix 995

Honourable mention: HP PhotoSmart 912

Multifunction device: HP OfficeJet G95

Sound card: Creative Labs Live! Platinum

Video card (general): ATI All In Wonder Radeon

Video card (gaming): nVidia GeForce 3

Miscellaneous peripheral: D-Link DL-713 wireless transmitter/gateway/router

Honourable mention: ATI TV Wonder; Microsoft Intellimouse Explorer; Audiotron network MP3 player

**SONY VAIO PICTUREBOOK**

**COMPUTER SOFTWARE:**

Best new software: Star Office 5.2

Honourable mention: MS Office XP

Most promising technology: MS Windows XP

Kids education: Digital Field Trip to the Desert, Digital Frog International

Kids entertainment: Disney's The Lion King Activity Centre

Home reference: McClelland & Stewart's The Canadian Encyclopedia

Home productivity: MS Works

Home graphics: JASC Paint-Shop Pro

Productivity application (graphics/multimedia): Adobe Photoshop

Honourable mention: CorelDRAW 10 suite; Adobe Illustrator; Macromedia Director

Productivity application (office): MS Office XP

Best Freeware: Zone Alarm

Honourable mention: Irfan View image viewer
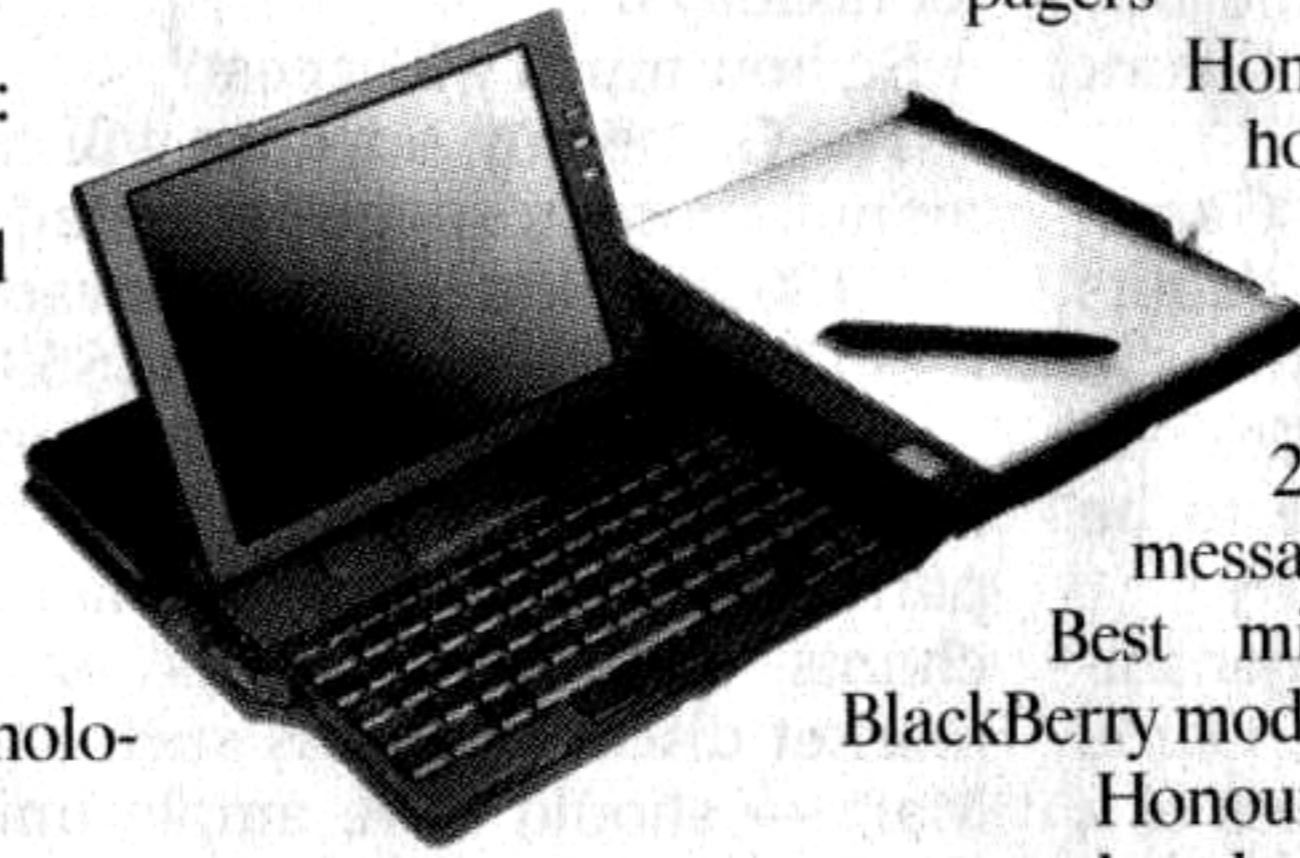
**ZONE ALARM**

**HALL OF FAME:**
Dell Computers

**INTERNET:**

Best new Internet technology: Zone Alarm software firewall

Honourable mention: GoToMyPc.com

Most promising Internet technology: Instant messaging.

Honourable mention: Wireless Internet; Pocket Video Player from PacketVideo Corp.

Best plugin: Flash

Honourable mention: GoZilla download manager; Microsoft Windows Media Player

Best Web editor: Macromedia Dreamweaver 4

Best Web site: The Wall Street Journal

Honourable mention: www.zing.com; www.grocerygateway.com; www.straightgoods.com; NHL.com

Worst Web site: www.my-vasectomy.com

Honourable mention: Any government of Canada site

Best Kids Web site: YTV.com

Honourable mention: www.neopet.com

Best Search engine: Google

Honourable mention: www.askjeeves.com

Best miscellaneous Internet software: Zone Alarm

Honourable mention: EditPlus

Best thing about the Net: Instant messaging

Honourable mention: E-mail

Worst thing about the Net: Threat to privacy and security

Others: Spam; viruses; child porn; sexual predators

**AUDIO/VIDEO:**

Best new A/V technology: Recordable DVD

Most promising new A/V technology: HDTV

Best audio recording technology: MiniDisc, thanks to its editing capabilities and portability

Best audio Web site: www.soundandvisionmag.com

Honourable mention: Shoutcast

Worst new A/V technology: SACD (super-audio compact disc)

Least necessary A/V technology: hard-disk video recorders (TiVo and RePlay)

Best camcorder (under $1,000): Sony CCD-TRV87

Best camcorder (over $1,000): Canon XL1

Best Portable Audio player: Creative Labs Nomad Jukebox

**ELECTRONIC GAMES (PLATFORM):**

Best new technology: Microsoft Xbox

Most promising technology: Nintendo GameCube

Best platform (hardware): Sony PlayStation 2

Best action game: Conker's Bad Fur Day (Nintendo)

Best sports game: (tie): SSX (EA) and Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 2 (Activision)

Best arcade shooter: Red Faction (THQ)

Best Role Playing Game: Phantasy Star Online (Sega)

Best Adventure Game: Legend of Zelda: Majora's

**IBM TRANSNOTE THINKPAD**

**TECHNOLOGY OF THE YEAR:**
Peer-to-peer networking

Mask (Nintendo)

Best racing: Gran Turismo 3 A-spec (Sony)

Best gadget: Sega Dreamcast Maracas (Sega)

Best video game company (software): Nintendo

**ELECTRONIC GAMES (PC GAMES):**

Best new technology: GeForce 3 chipset (nVidia)

Most promising tech: Black & White engine (Electronic Arts)

Best action: No One Lives Forever (Fox Interactive)

Best strategy: Black & White (Electronic Arts)

Best Role Playing Game: (tie): Baldur's Gate II (BioWare) and Deus Ex (Eidos)

Best sports: NHL 2001 (EA Sports)

Best adventure: The Longest Journey (Funcom)

Best simulation: The Sims (Electronic Arts)

Best puzzle/classic game: Return Of The Incredible Machine: Contraptions (Sierra)

Best racing: NASCAR Racing 4 (Sierra Studios)

Best gadget: Logitech iFeel Mouseman (force feedback mouse)

Best video game company: Electronic Arts

**COMMUNICATIONS/MISCELLANEOUS:**

Best new technology: RIM BlackBerry handheld pagers

Honourable mention: 802.11b home wireless networks

Most promising technology: USB 2.0

Honourable mention: 2.5G wireless data; unified messaging

Best miscellaneous gadget: RIM BlackBerry model 957 wireless handheld

Honourable mention: Palm M505 colour handheld

Best computer magazine: PC World

Worst new technology (all categories): Software rental

Worst business move: All tech companies (but especially Nortel and Cisco) for not anticipating the dot-com meltdown (Nortel and Cisco)

Other: Failure by the Canadian mobile telcos to build SMS gateways between themselves to capitalize on the European messaging success

Best business move: Telus' acquisition of Clearnet

Most exploitative use of technology: Cookies and other invasive technologies used to track users' online habits, store them in vast databases, match them with real people, and sell the profiles to the highest bidder

Others: HTML graphic "bugs" in spam that track who reads the unwanted e-mail advertisements; RealNetworks' use of hidden software code to keep track of users' listening habits

Biggest scam: Microsoft's .NET strategy

Biggest time waster: Waiting for Windows to boot up

Others: E-mail discussion groups; any WAP device

Most fun: Napster

Neatest gadget: Tanita Breath Alert Checker

Most improved technology: Microsoft's Pocket PC