**The TEX Showcase.**
Let us quote from **Gerben Wierda's**
web page (`http://www.rna.nl/tex.html`) titled
**TeX on Mac OS X**. To use TeX you need basically 4
things: 1. An editor to edit ASCII text. 2. The TeX Programs
for your platform (binaries and scripts). 3. A TeX foundation collection
(macro's, formats, fonts, etc.). 4. A way to view the result. TeX normally
produces device independent DVI from the ASCII TeX source. To view or print
DVI, the device independent data needs to be translated to a device. For instance
an X11 or Windows user interface, or a PostScript or Laserjet printer. Sometimes, the
users have to produce a printer format first (like PostScript), which then again is rendered
on the screen by a PostScript viewer (like GhostView). Recently, however, there has been
a new TeX development: direct production of (possibly partly device-dependent) PDF from
TeX sources. This is called pdfTeX. Mac OS X has a Unix core and it is therefore possible to
use a Unix TeX distribution on Mac OS X. The source for TeX is TeX Live, the central TeX
development system for Unix and other platforms (like Windows), which is published on CD
once in a while. TeX Live is huge, programs (for a few platforms) and the foundation (macro's,
fonts, etc.) together add up to 1 full CD (and maybe in the future even 2). The chief coordi-
nator (there are quite a few maintainers of the various parts) of TeX Live is Sebastian Rahtz.
A second very popular TeX (for Unix only) is teTeX, which has been created and is main-
tained by Thomas Esser. A big advantage of teTeX is that it comes with a well chosen
foundation: teTeX-texmf. Apart from TeX (and GhostScript), the engine, you need a way
to create the TeX source and view the output. If you are into basics and lack of com-
fort, you can use the existing TextEdit.app to edit your files, use the command line
to run pdfTeX, and view the result with Preview.app or Acrobat. If you are less
masochistically inclined, there are several frontends available that handle the
edit-typeset-view phases for you. Some of them rely on the availabil-
ity of a distribution like mine to do the work behind the scenes,
other may be richer and pack their own TeX distribution.
Here are a few frontends: 1. TeXShop, 2. iTeX-
Mac, 3. OzTeX, 4. TeX Tools, 5. Mac-
Emacs, 6. BibDesk.