Software Scene

Keeping an eye on the weather

This program from Arnold Wheaton Software will make the handling and retrieving of weather data easier. *Weather Station* provides the framework for recording climatic information day by day, so that a database of weather conditions can be built up. Observations about the weather that can be stored include maximum and minimum temperature, wind strength and direction, daily rainfall, cloud cover, air pressure and a written summary

Communications ROM for the BBC

There is now a rival to *Commstar*, the communication ROM for the BBC micro marketed by Pace. Miracle Technology, the manufacturer of the excellent WS 2000 multi-standard modem, has released its own ROM. Although ideally matched to its own modem, *Databeeb* can be used with other modems too.

Databeeb is a really comprehensive package with plenty of advanced features. It can handle baud rates 1200/1200, 1200/75, 75/1200, 300/300 and 600/600. It should be an ideal piece of firmware for linking your school computer and modem to Prestel, Micronet, other viewdata systems, Telecom Gold and bulletin boards as well as user to user communications.

There is a powerful carousel facility that allows the automatic saving of 15 frames which can then be re-cycled off-line. *Databeeb* has a find and display facility too that allows frames to be tagged and redisplayed.

Full telesoftware downloading is easy with *Databeeb* as is file transfer, including complex protocols. *Databeeb* is so user friendly and easy to tailor to your exact needs. For instance, with the Macro Command File and a fully expanded WS 2000, it is possible to dial up Prestel automatically, log on and go to previously filed page numbers. The package comes with a comprehensive user guide, fitting instructions and a key strip.

Databeeb from Miracle Technology (UK) Ltd, St Peters Street, Ipswich IP1 1XB. BBC micro: £25.