

TECHNO.
TUESDAY

Windows '95 troubles last a year later

The wonderful world of Windows '95. The real question is, can you survive without it?

To be honest, probably not.

Does it crash? Yep. Does it have bugs? You know it. Can it, at times, seem like it was designed to give anyone with a computer an aneurysm? Unfortunately. Is every game and software designer using it for everything? ... You know the answer.

I really wish I could tell you that you could make it without Windows '95, but the sad state of life is that you can't. Computers are being sold with the program built in. Games are being made exclusively for Windows '95.

I installed the program myself a few weeks ago and I did have problems. If you do too, here's a few things that might help you cope.

Computers that come with it pre-installed probably will have few problems because the computer companies work out all the mishaps before someone even purchases the computer. That service just leaves the rest of us who are updating their older systems in the dark. (Yes, even systems bought about a year ago—like mine—are indeed older).

Also, some computer companies have released updated drivers for their computers, which you just need to get from the company before you install it.

Some people are resisting the switch to Windows '95, and rightfully so. Take my parents, for example. Their computer is a 486 PC without a lot of hard drive space. They have what they need, for the most part: word processor, card designer, Internet access.

On the other hand, I like to buy the newer games because I work with computers on a regular basis with all sorts of things from occasional design work to intense Internet work.

So if something new comes out, there is a possibility that I may want to use it. Thus, I'm stuck with Windows '95.

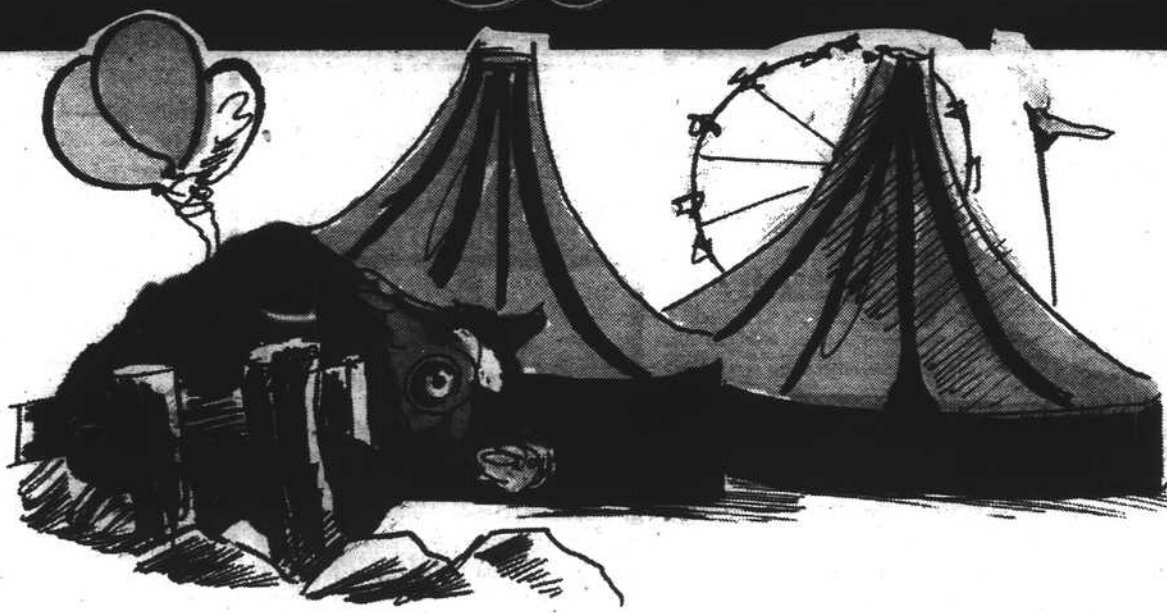
The other thing that will ease your suffering is '95 Plus!, which is all stuff that SHOULD'VE been packaged with Windows '95, but wasn't. (Bad Microsoft! Bad, bad Microsoft!)

Plus! will make your computer run more smoothly—and it will look cooler. It's just the frills, really, but it's still nice to have, like the name implies.

And as a final comment, every new operating system has bugs. Monday marked the anniversary of Windows '95's release and most of the bugs with the original program seem to be worked out.

So join the rest of us and crash with pride—you're part of the future.

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Fair vendor specializes in nostalgia

BY ANN STACK
Senior Reporter

Tom Minugh packs a year of work into 90 days. And he wouldn't have it any other way.

The 45-year-old Oklahoma native can be found this week at the Nebraska State Fair operating Old Time Tin Signs. This booth at the Expo Building sells vintage signs from the early 20th century through the 1960s.

Minugh sells classic signs with era icons that would add some style to a boring dorm room wall or a new apartment needing a touch of funkiness. Signs include Coca-Cola, James Dean, Elvis, Mae West, Marilyn Monroe, Jack Daniels whiskey and U.S. Route 66.

As he travels from state to state in a mobile home, Minugh sticks mainly to the upper Midwest.

Minugh said he loved his job, although he worked 16-hour days for three months straight.

"It's hard work, but I'm my own boss and I get nine months of the year off. I spend the winters in California and the springs in Europe," he said. "I couldn't see myself doing anything else."

His booth seems to be geared to the classic broke college student—he charges the lowest prices of any sign dealer around. One sign goes for \$7.50, two for \$6.50 each and three for \$5.50 each.

Surprisingly, his best-selling sign is not a Marilyn Monroe or an Elvis. It's a N.T. Swezey's Son & Co. Perfect Flour sign. He sells 15,000 to 20,000 signs a year with the motto, "Only perfect flour makes perfect bread."

"People are drawn to nostalgia," he said of his retro collection. "I think people have a desire to go back to better times."

Minugh said he has a college degree and before he took to life on the road he had a regular nine-to-five business job. "The corporate world is a

joke," he said. "This is a different kind of life, but it has a lot of rewards. You're free...no boss, no stress. It's a feeling most people never have."

Other events worth checking out at the fair this week include:

— Today, czech out the Capital City Czech Choralists at the Heritage stage at 11:15 a.m. The Shim-Sham Dance Troupe will perform at 3 p.m. at the Heritage stage. At 9 p.m., Jill Mane will be at the Main Street stage.

— Wednesday, Garcia's Mexican Circus will be at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the East Exhibit area, as well as the bands City Limits and Lost and Found. City Limits will perform at 5:30 p.m., 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. at the West Beer Garden, and Lost and Found will play at 7 p.m. in the East Beer Garden.

— Thursday, the band Blackwater will perform at 5:30, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. at the West Beer Garden and the band Prairie Rose will perform at 7 p.m. at the East Beer Garden. The Omaha Dancing Grannies will perform at 1:30 p.m. on the Main Street

Stage.

— Trisha Yearwood will perform Friday at 8 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

— Saturday, Just 4 Kicks will perform at noon on the Main Street Stage. The Old Time Fiddlers will be at the Expo Stage at 1 p.m., and the Prairieland Cloggers will also perform at the Heritage stage at 1 p.m. Blessid Union of Souls performs at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. at the Devaney Center.

The band Flatwater will perform at 5:30, 8 and 10 p.m. at the West Beer Garden and Alibi will perform at 7 p.m. in the East Beer Garden.

Throughout the fair, Jeff Wargo will do a health craft cooking show and the Equador Inkes will perform their brand of Andean music. An exotic petting zoo and antique machinery demonstrations are throughout the week.

Admission to the fair is \$7 per person for a Superpass, which covers gate admission to the fair, entrance to the Devaney concert shows and admission to grandstand events.

Bands delight crowd despite pouring rain

BY MICHELLE DELKA
Music Critic

Concert
REVIEW

About twenty minutes into the Charlie Daniels show at the Bob Devaney Sports Center last night, the older couple next to me got up and headed for the door. Before leaving, the older gentleman leaned over and asked, "Do they think this is music?"

Now I'll admit Charlie Daniels isn't exactly my favorite, but I was actually enjoying the show. For more than an hour, the Charlie Daniels Band entertained the Devaney Center audience. The crowd was smaller than anticipated because of the heavy rains that poured on Lincoln last night. But the die-hard, drenched fans made it to hear their fiddle-playing star.

Walking into the concert I knew only one song, the famous "Devil Went Down to Georgia." You might expect that would make for a dull concert experience—but that's where we both would be wrong. Charlie Daniels knows how to entertain a crowd with a variety of different styles.

Obviously this band knows country. Charlie Daniels is famous for his fiddle playing and I can certainly see why. But this band also knows the blues. They played several of their newest blues songs, including the soulful "Birmingham Blues."

They also played a contemporary Christian song, something quite un-

expected. But the crowd pleaser, of course, was the show's ending, "Devil Went Down To Georgia." It was even better in concert and left the crowd dancing out of their seats all the way to their cars.

Even the torrential rain didn't stop Lincoln's popular party band Lie Awake from performing outside after the Charlie Daniels band was through. After the rain ended, Lie Awake took over the State Fair Grandstand and helped welcome UNL students back to school.

Although Lie Awake said they were slightly disappointed with the smaller-than-usual crowd, they put on one of their usual high-energy shows that fans have come to expect, complete with their crowd pleasing brand of classic cover songs.

Lie Awake successfully covers such classics as "Just Can't Get Enough" by Depeche Mode and "Brown Eyed Girl" by Van Morrison. However, it was their cover of "Head Like A Hole" from Nine Inch Nails that really got the crowd going. This band has never sounded better and it was the perfect way to forget the stresses from the first day of school.



LIEAWAKE lead singer Roger Benes sings during the concert last night at the Nebraska State Fair.

MATTHEW WAITE/DN