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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here  
Posted by [Paolo Grigis](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 16:49:27 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

- > Folks,
- >
- > It's pretty slow around here the past couple of days.
- > Maybe I should ask another LINUX question. :-)

I think the IEPA test question 2004 is still missing, isn't it? Maybe it's not too late yet...

Cheers,  
Paolo

- >
- > Cheers,
- >
- > David
- >
- > P.S. Maybe we could make it into a book club.
- > Anyone hear read Words and Rules by Steven
- > Pinker? Hard to say why something like this gets
- > me excited, but it does. I think I'm going to be
- > a linguist in my next life. :-)
- >

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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 17:03:05 GMT  
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Paolo Grigis writes:

- > I think the IEPA test question 2004 is still missing,
- > isn't it? Maybe it's not too late yet...

The 2004 question was "Where is the silent and pernicious error handler in the iTool code?" But there were so many correct answers (of which the judges were unaware) that we are still sorting out the winners of the contest. :-(

Cheers,

David

P.S. \*All\* of these problems have been fixed now (probably),  
so don't even bother looking. :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here  
Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 20:54:47 GMT  
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David Fanning wrote:

- > P.S. Maybe we could make it into a book club.
- > Anyone hear read Words and Rules by Steven
- > Pinker?

No. I have a few (well at least 2) of his recent books: "The Blank  
Slate" and "How the Mind Works". "Words and Rules" sounds like SP in his  
specialist area, linguistics. When was it published?

- > Hard to say why something like this gets
- > me excited, but it does. I think I'm going to be
- > a linguist in my next life. :-)

From your recent posts and ramblings-disguised-as-posts, I deduce you  
are suffering from a severe case of cabin fever. When does the tennis  
season start?

--

Mark Hadfield            "Ka puwaha te tai nei, Hoesa tatou"  
[m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz](mailto:m.hadfield@niwa.co.nz)  
National Institute for Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)

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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 21:24:24 GMT  
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Mark Hadfield writes:

- > No. I have a few (well at least 2) of his recent books: "The Blank
- > Slate" and "How the Mind Works". "Words and Rules" sounds like SP in his
- > specialist area, linguistics. When was it published?

Published in 1999, so it is an earlier work. Those other two are on my "Best Books Ever Read" list, for sure. In fact, I tucked my copy of "The Blank Slate" into my oldest son's suitcase on his way to Munich and told him he \*had\* to read it. He made the mistake of doing so just before his girlfriend came for a visit and I guess got into a bit of trouble with his constant quoting of "Steven Pinker said this" and "Steven Pinker said that." Apparently Laura could care less if she \*ever\* hears of Steven Pinker again! But I know how it is, I do the same thing for weeks after reading one of his books. :-)

> From your recent posts and ramblings-disguised-as-posts, I deduce you  
> are suffering from a severe case of cabin fever. When does the tennis  
> season start?

I don't know what you are talking about ("ramblings-disguised-as-posts, indeed!). Thanks to our esteemed leader and his policy of go-it-alone diplomacy, we can waste as much energy as we like, and the only result (apparently) is balmy temperatures year-round in Colorado. It's been pretty much mid-50s (Fahrenheit) here all winter, and I've been playing tennis nearly every day. (Certainly more than I wish my lovely wife to know about.) I've become a great believer in global warming and all its attendant benefits. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 21:26:35 GMT

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> From your recent posts and ramblings-disguised-as-posts, I deduce you  
> are suffering from a severe case of cabin fever. When does the tennis  
> season start?

For the winter months, I suggest concentrating on a nice indoor game like snooker. It's the most frustrating game on the planet, but you do

get to keep your math skills tuned by calculating all the angles and speeds in your head.

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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 21:37:45 GMT

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Michael Wallace writes:

> It's the most frustrating game on the planet, but you do  
> get to keep your math skills tuned by calculating all the angles and  
> speeds in your head.

Not unlike tennis in that aspect. :-)

Cheers,

David

P.S. My latest pursuit is yoga. We have two kinds here in town. The normal kind and the heated kind (I don't know the official names as I've only begun my Hindu studies). I opted for the normal kind, because it is in Old Town, which I like, and because I get heated enough watching the young, lithe women in their tight little yoga costumes do their poses.

I used to think yoga was about flexibility (which is why I am there), but I have been astounded to learn how much it is also about strength. It is darn good exercise. But the best part is the end, where you go into the Corpse pose and lay there with these little bags of seeds over your eyes. Heaven! (Or, I guess Nirvana!) :-)

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

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Subject: Re: Slow Around Here

Posted by [Michael Wallace](#) on Wed, 02 Mar 2005 21:55:58 GMT

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> P.S. My latest pursuit is yoga. We have two kinds

- > here in town. The normal kind and the heated kind
- > (I don't know the official names as I've only begun
- > my Hindu studies). I opted for the normal kind, because
- > it is in Old Town, which I like, and because I get
- > heated enough watching the young, lithe women in their
- > tight little yoga costumes do their poses.
- >
- > I used to think yoga was about flexibility (which is
- > why I am there), but I have been astounded to learn
- > how much it is also about strength. It is darn good
- > exercise. But the best part is the end, where you
- > go into the Corpse pose and lay there with these
- > little bags of seeds over your eyes. Heaven! (Or,
- > I guess Nirvana!) :-)

On a similar note, my latest pursuit is Tai Chi, specifically Yang style. It's slow, but very good exercise. I've been taking classes for several months now and we're maybe about 1/3 of the way through learning the form. Once we get the form learned, then it's on to the breathing and meditative aspects of the art.

-Mike

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