I lost my hdb night before last and with it went my installs of Sorcerer, Fedora, Vector, One Base, SUSE, a couple older PCLOS, a couple older gentoos, mdk cooker, and most hurtful my Slackware 10.0.

Having a spare coupla partitions on hda I thought I just had to replace my cooker and slack. So, I set off to download the latest of each.

Upon returning home from work last night I wanted to set up mandrake and take screenshots, thinking that'd make a good story for my fledgling site.

It took like no time to install and I noticed some new features in the installer, but nothing earth shattering. I was anxious to login to my new install and look around and take my screenshots.

First up, the nvidia drivers. They wouldn't build complaining about the output format something or other, then after reboot, it complained the sources weren't correct for my kernel version. Well, umm, yes it was - to the layperson's eyes. Turns out I had to change the extraversion in the Makefile to get them to build. Come on Mandrake, what's up with that!? Then they complained that rivafb support was blocking em, so off to the .config to take that out. How many people actually use rivafb? I think more folks use nvidia drivers! Sooo, got the nvidia drivers to build finally and onto the the much anticipated kde desktop.

But kde wouldn't start. Oh, I still have to put my ip address in /etc/hosts - geezus, this was a problem back two or three years ago. Still no work around or fix for that? It's a wonder I remembered it. But kde finally came up.

OMG!!! They are still using kde 3.2!!! Geez, so much for the reputation of bleeding edge! But that wasn't the worse of it. I found a very sparse menu with NO kontact! and most items listed wouldn't launch. This was after the terminals wouldn't work! The sound is non-existant tho it appears the correct drivers are loaded.

The problem with the terminals was no rights to /dev/null. I chmod 777 those and got a terminal. I tried to launch kontakt and was told it didn't exist. <rolls eyes> So off to the "install software" link. Well it did launch but said kontakt didn't exist, so I added a cooker repository. Now it couldn't install it cuz of libpim something. I tried to install that but that failed cuz libgpg something didn't exist. I looked on mirrors and sure enough not there. Lord love a duck.

At this point I decided it just wasn't worth it. I did get two screenshots. Here [2] and here [3].