

various rants about 7-currnet on AMD64

Source: <http://unix.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/FreeBSD/current/2007-10/msg00008.html>

- *From:* "Aryeh Friedman" <aryeh.friedman@xxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 1 Oct 2007 03:30:59 +0000
-

Sorry for the negative tone of this message but a little background may help.... about 1.5 months ago I bought a new machine for personal use [my only machine actually]... hw (upgraded from a p4-2.8):

intel e6850
intel p35 mobo (ihc9)
4 gb (ddr2-667 1GBx4)
500 gb sata
8600 GS nvidia (replaced for reasons below witha 5200 GT)
20" widescreen crt
direct cable connection to the net
hp deskjet 6980

Being a FreeBSD users since the mid 90's I obviously started with it... in the quest for a working well tuned config (still a few issues even with the current config):

6.2 (cvsup'ed to most recent PL) with i386 kernel
7-current (cvsup'ed upto last night) i386
7-current amd64

The last shows the most promise so far:

Issues (all of which have been posted on -questions or -x11):

6.2 --

- * Horrid non-SMP kernel performance (acceptable after SMP was added)
- * Xorg (7.2) not working at all (vesa 640x480 with no mouse was the best I managed)
- * Many TCP/IP stack issues
- * All native java builds fail with compile errors
- * hplip fails immediately after install
- * Doesn't recognize PATA drives if installed at the same time as SATA

various rants about 7-currnet on AMD64

7-CURRENT i386 --

- * Horrid performance under default kernel needed to switch to ULE/IPI_PREEMPTION/DEVICE_POLLING
- * Kernel sees card after install of nvidia driver but Xorg (7.3) doesn't recognize it (vesa 1024x768 only)... many address conflicts reported... nv driver is no better
- * All native java builds fail with compile errors
- * hplip fails immediately after install
- * Diablo-jdk15 completely broken for any GUI oriented code

7-CURRENT amd64

- * Diablo-jdk15 completely broken for any GUI oriented code (jdk16 works well though)
- * Many desktop ports fail with i386 vs. amd64 errors
- * Nvidia-driver does not support amd64 (but nv works now but only at 1024x768)

Misc Rants:

CPUTYPE naming --

For people who have been around for a while (read mid-90's) and have never used any AMD mobo's we are used to "historical" differences between early pentiums and amd equivs (for that reason I have never bought a AMD machine)... so calling the 64bit x86 architecture amd64 is confusing and misleading.

HARDWARE.TXT --

hardware.txt sheds absolutly no light on the above issue except to make it clear that ia64 is not the right choice.

Suggestions:

- * Figure out why xorg should care if your on a 32 or 64 bit addressing bus (has to do with placing pci's buffers at the high end of RAM I think)
- * AMD64 should be recommended (or at least better documented) for all dual-core machines
- * Both nvidia.ko and the nv driver need to be improved (I know this is nvidia's problem)

various rants about 7-currnet on AMD64

freebsd-current@xxxxxxxxxxx mailing list

<http://lists.freebsd.org/mailman/listinfo/freebsd-current>

To unsubscribe, send any mail to "freebsd-current-unsubscribe@xxxxxxxxxxx"