

Early morning

I woke up a little before my alarm this morning. Wide awake at 4:00 am. I realize this is because I went to sleep much earlier than normal, but still that was an hour of sleep I could have used. ☐

Oh well.

Hard drive restore is going slowly, but is making progress. So far I've been able to restore 1 partition from the drive and I'm working on reading data off of the primary partition. It looks like all of my recent additions are completely corrupted. That just means more time spent doing what was just finished. So much for digitizing my CD collection.

I think, but I'm not positive yet, that I will be able to get most of the important stuff restored. The drive itself is on its last legs, so I'm not sure how long it will keep spinning. Most of the restore software I've been able to get my hands on are telling me the same thing. The drive is failing, and I should back it up. Unfortunately, the drive is failing and doesn't like being 'backed up'. Different software does allow me to restore different parts of the drive, so that is a plus.

For those interested, I'm now using some restore utilities on Ubuntu Linux to access the drive. After this is done, I'll mount the drive in an external bay and see if Windows will see it better. It may take some time before the Linux is finished, because it stops when it doesn't fix/copy a file. The more problems it runs up against, the more it stops. Unfortunately, when I am at work I can't hit the button to make it continue. It does try to do multiple reads before saying it can't copy it, so that is a plus. It also does a file compare after the check, to make sure it was a clean copy. That just takes forever when the drive being copied is failing.

Since I woke up early, I was able to continue the process 10

times, for files that could not be copied. Every one of those was something I can live without. I just have to wait until it is done before I can see what I got back.

I should know better...

Why didn't I back this drive up? I know it was the old machine. I didn't really do that much on it. Surf the web, write a blog, catch up on a ball game. No I didn't do much on this machine.

The hard drive crashed/failed. I think I will be able to get some of the pictures that were on this machine. I think I have duplicates of all of them, but I'm not sure yet. My daughters did their homework on this machine, and I think all the old reports are toast.

Some recent pictures that I took with the phone are gone. A new e-book list, vanished. Software updates poof. Some music became an electronic ghost.

Hmm... I do have another hard drive I can drop in this machine. I think I know where the windows install disk is. Maybe I can get the machine functioning again. I may drop in some other operating system. Who knows.

Then there is one other loss. I've never used it. It was there like a memorial for the past 6.5 years. Kept when I upgraded the computer. Disk imaged over when I got this drive. Gone are some web bookmarks. Little used since 2003, simply marked "Sarah's Favorites".