Meet Beat

Seventh Meeting: WoW

The seventh meeting of the summer virtual computer science camp will be held at 5pm MDT (4pm PDT). The session will be held starting in Orgrimmar, on the Dath'Remar realm, an oceanic server of the World of Warcraft. If you can get your character to level 10 first, it will help us. We will tour Orgrimmar, including a cave outside and a cavern underneath it. Death awaits.

What to Learn from WoW

World of Warcraft has a lot to teach us about multi-user online environments. Learning about the 3D world needs to be delivered in-game. The World of Warcraft (and other Blizzard titles) have generally been multi-platform from the beginning. The range of peaceful activities (fishing, crafting, etc.) is a welcome relief from the boredom of killing. The fact that anything you kill will be back in a few minutes completely ruins the illusion.

Sixth Meeting: Alice Comes Alive

Our sixth session was an interesting one. Ariana taught us that Alice can make recorded movies...but the feature appeared absent from Macintosh Alice 2.2. Alice 3.0 beta is now being trumpeted...but for me at least, it crashed shortly after takeoff.

We spent some quality time thinking about how to achieve certain effects in Alice, such as the bone-strewn cave setting needed for the killer jackalope play. The best cave ideas so far start with some Islands (type 2) stacked with boulders on top. Its been asked whether a set we build in Alice can be imported into Second Life (not that I am aware). We have noted that Alice has cowboys, and that they can play audio recordings, so we should be able to make a movie of our play in Alice and in Second Life and compare them head to head. But in Alice you program all the action of the figures, in Second Life there is the potential for the human actors to determine some of the action.

CVE Update

The elves have been hard at work on restoring XP functionality to CVE; the goal would be to get our batting average higher than last session. Odds are good that there will be a new binary download needed tomorrow.

Quest Suggestions

Here is a list of WoW quests you can try out.

- Ride on a Bat or Wyvern. Report by e-mail the source and destination where you took your ride. (15)
- Enter an “instance” in WoW (15). What are instances like? Where is the easiest one to get to?
- Attend the meet (60).
- “Share a quest” (5).
- Visit the bank. Make a deposit (5).
- Buy something at the auction house (5).
- Visit the UnderCity, and give a description of the Apothecarium, and the Royal Quarter. (15) If you are really lucky, Queen Sylvanas will sing while you are there.