

EMULATOR • CONTINUED FROM 5

find a copy of "Super Mario Bros." on the Internet as a ROM image, load up the emulator and then open the ROM image of "Super Mario Bros." The game will work just like it did when the NES was hooked up to the television years ago.

The emulation community has been around for a very long time. The first emulators were weak and often riddled with bugs and incompatibilities. The community got better at programming over time, and the NES emulation community was the catalyst for the explosion in popularity.

The explosion in the NES community was partly because of the NES' faulty hardware. Who doesn't remember having to blow the dust out of the NES cartridge to get a game to work properly? With emulation, the problem of asphyxiation was alleviated. SNES and Genesis emulators soon arrived as well. Today, this community of dedicated gamers has created emulators for video game consoles all the way up to the Sony PlayStation,

N64 and even the Game Boy Advance.

Arcade emulation has also become a big community, as gamers want to relive the fun of those games. The most popular arcade emulator is

**The first emulators were weak and often riddled with bugs and incompatibilities.**

MAME, or Multiple Arcade Machine Emulator. MAME can currently emulate 1000+ arcade games spanning from the humble beginners such as "Pong" and "Space Invaders," to late '90s games such as "Mortal Kombat" and "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Turtles in Time." Some dedicated gamers even go to the length of creating their own arcade cabinets to store dedicated computers that only emulate arcade games. These cabinets vary in size and design.

Emulation has also helped to bring several Japan-only releases to the United States. Such most wanted games as the original "Mother,"

known as "Earthbound" in America, and "Final Fantasy" III and V, have been dumped onto ROM images and distributed online. These ROM images were even translated by many fans and recoded into English.

The arguments for and against emulation have been heated and lengthy. Many gamers believe that emulation helps to preserve the games of the past as well as the memories that are associated with those games. Other gamers point out the legal ramifications of emulation.

Legally speaking, the problem with ROM images is that without the permission of the original copyright holder, a ROM image is illegal. Copyright holders have often gone to the length of getting several prominent ROM sites shut down. The legal difficulties of emulation are quite like the MP3 problem of today.

Video game companies have found their own ways to combat the problem of emulation. While many companies use legal means to put an end to the problem, others use the business end of things to

appeal to gamers craving nostalgia.

In the past few years, video game companies have begun to compile some of their classic games into compilations and releasing them at lower prices. Sega has brought together many of its "Sonic" games into one disc called the "Sonic Mega Collection." Capcom has released the "Mega Man Anniversary Collection," as well as the just-released "Mega Man X Collection." SquareSoft has re-released many of their games from the popular "Final Fantasy" series on the Sony PlayStation and the Nintendo Game Boy Advance. Gaming companies are coming to realize that there is a market for nostalgia.

Wikipedia.com defines emulation as "a program for a computer, or other computing device, that can emulate a video game console or handheld, so a computer can be used to play games that were created for that console or to develop games for that console."

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu)

NUDISTS • CONTINUED FROM 5

dictates. They don't go nude in inclement weather or in a setting where nudism is not appropriate, such as work.

"One of the people, years ago, here made the mistake of trying to fry bacon naked," Shaw said. "You don't do that."

Shaw mentioned two national nudist organizations, the American Association for Nude Recreation and The Nudist Society, which he called primarily "political lobbying groups."

"You have to be constantly

on the alert for local and state governments wanting to pass anti-nudity or anti-adult entertainment ordinances that could impact family-oriented nudist facilities," he said.

While the original owner was in charge of Cedar Creek, Lexington County was passing anti-sex-oriented ordinances. The original owner sent people to the hearings and county supervisors eventually amended the ordinances to say that facilities such as Cedar Creek are exempt.

One of Cedar Creek's

more widely known accomplishments is Nudestock, a three-day concert that attracts nudists from all over the Southeast, and even from as far away as Hawaii.

The event usually features seven or eight bands. While the bands' members are not nudists, they are certainly welcome to perform nude, said Shaw.

He's never been able to find any nudist bands, he said, although he added that he's sure they exist somewhere.

Another well-known event that Cedar Creek sponsors is the 5K run-walk. All

proceeds from this event go towards the Pelion Branch Library in Pelion, S.C.

"This past year they were able to buy outside benches that people can sit on with the proceeds they got from us," Shaw said. "They're very grateful that we took them on as a charity."

Anyone interested in attending a Cedar Creek function can contact the park at (803) 894-5159, or through the American Association for Nude Recreation at 1-800-TRY-NUDE.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu](mailto:gamecockfeatures@gwm.sc.edu)

RECIPE OF THE DAY

Country Breakfast Casserole

Provided by: [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)

What you need:

- 1 (16-ounce) package breakfast sausage
- 1 chopped green onion
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 6 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 (2.64-ounce) package country gravy mix
- 6 slices bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 tablespoons melted butter (optional)
- paprika to taste (optional)

What to do:

Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Grease an 11x8-inch baking dish.

Brown sausage in a large skillet; drain fat.

Combine sausage with green onion and spread evenly across the bottom of the baking dish. Top with shredded cheese. Whisk together eggs, water, milk and gravy mix; add mixture to baking dish. Arrange bread squares evenly on top. If desired, drizzle melted butter over bread and sprinkle with paprika.

Bake 40 minutes in the preheated oven, or until a knife inserted into the center comes out clean. Set aside 10 minutes before serving.

Solutions

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