

Never Trust a Skinny Cook...

Over the years I've learned many important rules. Never trust a skinny cook. Never argue with an idiot, he'll only drag you down to his level and then beat you with experience. And lastly, never take your computer to a technician with a good tan. Good technicians have a Kool-Aid gut and legs white enough you'd think you'd seen a ghost.

I was at a 4th of July picnic in Saturday when I happened to see a friend of mine who works at a prominent internet company in Amarillo. The guy looked like his legs hadn't seen the light of day since the Reagan administration. Now there's a dedicated computer guy. This guy works all day in front of a computer and then goes home, grabs a quick bite and goes to playing computer games till o'dark-thirty.

Why do I mention this? To make this point. Should you really trust a part-time computer tech. I know a lot of guys that have regular jobs during the day and then moonlight doing computer work for their friends and co-workers. I also see a lot of computers built by the nerdy neighbor that "knows a lot about computers." Point is, just like a skinny cook can't possibly be tasting everything he makes, a part-time tech can't possible know as much as a guy who works at it all day long and is able to see and experience so many different problems day in and day out.

Over the years I've cleaned up a lot of messes created by the well-meaning brother-in-law, the grandson who works for HP (probably as a janitor) and the kid next door who took a computer class in high school. All of these guys mean well, but its kind of like letting the village idiot do open-heart surgery on your pet just because he stayed at a Holiday Inn Express last night. I know I've made this point before, but when it comes to a piece of equipment that has millions of transistors in it and can perform 3 billion binary calculations per second, shouldn't you take it to a professional?