

RELIVING THOSE DAYS AT TECHTV ...



Still October 2001 ...



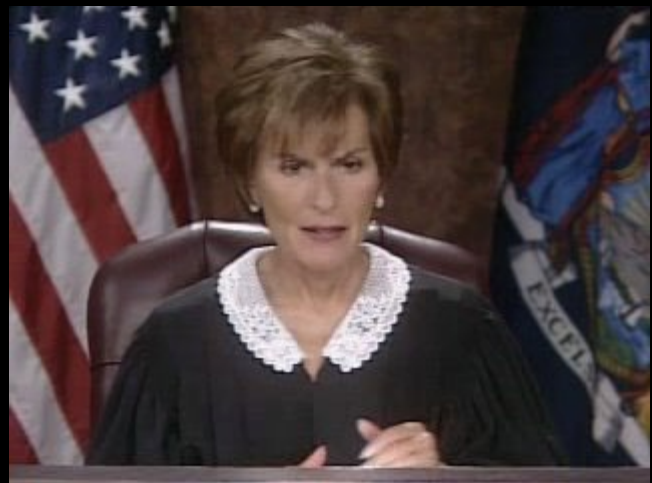
Blanche: This is Blanche Shaheen, reporting from the TechLive newsroom.



Blanche: The trial of ultra-Billionaire Bill Gates begins today. Gates is charged with the future crime of inflicting pain and suffering on hundreds of millions of computer users world-wide.



Blanche: This is the first trial conducted under the new "Protect Our Future" measure, inspired by valiant time traveler Leo Laporte, that was passed by Congress just days ago. Let's go live into the courtroom as the trial commences.



Judge Judy: Mr. Gates, you are charged with over five million counts of inflicting future pain and suffering on innocent computer users across the globe.



Judge Judy: This "Windows XP" doohickey that you were set to launch upon the world is a cockamamie piece of garbage. It's filled with security risks up the wazoo. In this time with terrorists on everyone's mind, how the heck do you get off releasing such a product? Do you have rocks in your head or something?



Judge Judy: Can the spewage, four eyes. You know damn well that you were set to sell the world a broken product. Any "enhancements" or "opportunity to interact with the tech support community" is just a cover for the fact that your product is hopelessly flawed and, in the future described by Leo Laporte, will cause pain and suffering upon anyone who uses it.



Bill Gates: My dear lady, those were not security flaws, per say, they were "security enhancements." You see, we at Microsoft are all about challenging the consumer to help themselves to safer living through our quality assurance process. When you say "holes" or "flaws," we say it's another chance to interact with our good technical support community!



Leo: Don't forget the robots! The killer robots that I valiantly fought against in the future all were based on the Microsoft XP operating system! If this thing gets out to the public, we're dooming our future! And there's nothing more important than the future of me, you and all the wonderful children of the world!



Judge Judy: Laporte's right, geek-on-a-leash, your product is putting our children at risk. PC makers are examining the code right now and I'll bet you that they'll find that in pre-release form it does more damage than good to computer networks used by schools across America!



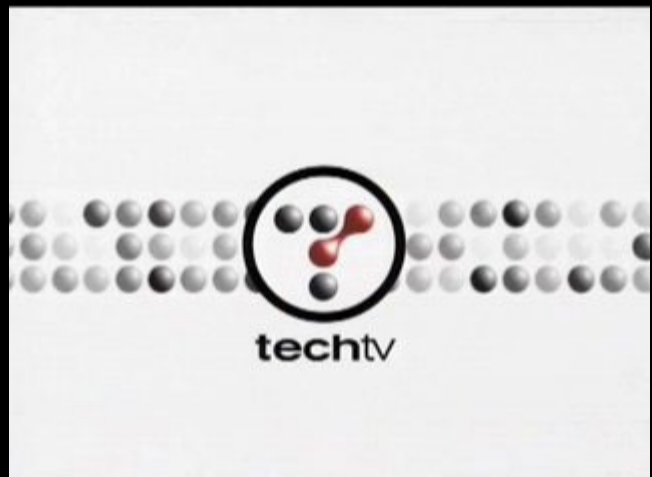
Judge Judy: So you admit that they're crimes?
 Bill Gates: Yes. If committed.
 Judge Judy: Fine, a guilty plea has been entered and a guilty pleas has been accepted. You will be hanged at dawn. Guard, take him away. And Mr. Laporte?
 Leo: Yes, your honor?
 Judge Judy: Keep up the good work. I feel this is the beginning of a beautiful friendship!



Bill Gates: But, dear woman, the code isn't complete! The product hasn't even been released yet! You're set to punish me for crimes not yet committed! Is this not America, 48 states set forth in freedom? Am I not entitled to commit the crimes before I am judged guilty?



Blanche: There you have it, ladies and



gentlemen, TechLive will feature full
gallows to grave coverage of the hanging
of Bill Gates starting tomorrow at dawn.
Until then, this is Blanche Shaheen for
TechTV news, signing out. Goodnight
everyone!

The Strange Daze Keeps a-Rollin'!

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