Video Script

  In my opinion, the most interesting thing that I did in CS 312 this semester was the jQuery LOAD fake advertisement project. This is because it involved many pieces of software, including Logisim, Python, and others. I based this on a previous project that I built mostly in high school, but I finished it while taking an assembly course in college. The project is a very simple, but Turing-complete, computer in Logisim. Here, it is running a game called single-pile Nim. One day, while I was waiting for a software update, I passed the time by writing a joke advertisement for the computer because I thought it would be funny.

  Two years later, I remembered the ad and realized that it would be a great basis for the jQuery LOAD project. I started by taking a screenshot of the computer while it was playing single-pile Nim to use as the main image. For the customizations, I decided to stick with my theme of silliness and just removed features. As such, I used GIMP to edit the screenshot in order to "customize" the computer. In particular, I used GIMP to remove the CPU, blinkenlights, and memory for the customizations. Next was the actual code. The index page, customization pages, and CSS were easy to do. The HTML product page was a bit more work. After blatantly borrowing the ad from myself, I had to be careful with the HTML attributes in order to make sure that the script could work. Speaking of the scripting, jQuery made this fairly simple to do. The most annoying part was actually making sure that `load()` would work both if the page was being viewed locally and if it was on a Web server. For a Web server, I just used Python's http.server module. With this, the jQuery LOAD project was complete.

  While there was a lot of software involved, I ultimately enjoyed making this project. I was pleasantly surprised at how easy it was, and it shows how different pieces of software can work together flawlessly. Last but not least, I got a chance to do something as ridiculous as make a fake ad for a computer that you can't buy as an assignment for a college course.