

# Software News

## ■ In the Footsteps of Knoppix

Not only for testing new hardware or demonstrating Linux without the need to install a complete Linux system first, but also a nice way to carry your favorite OS in your pocket – Knoppix has always

Version 0.5-3 was released in August and uses Gnome 2.2 as its desktop environment. You can download ISO images from the project's website. As in Knoppix, it's based on Debian GNU/Linux 3.0 (woody). The GNOPPIX team has added some unofficial packages including a more recent XFree version. For future releases it is planned to switch to Gnome 2.4 and create a new GNOPPIX look.

The developers have announced a "design contest" on their site – if you have ideas for a *gdm* greeting theme, a

Gnome splash screen or icons and background pictures, get in touch. ■

<http://www.gnoppix.org/>  
<http://savannah.nongnu.org/projects/gnoppix>



GNOPPIX takes another step towards a stable release

been a reliable choice, assuming you like KDE. GNOPPIX works on the same basis: It is a Linux live CD, but includes a complete GNOME desktop environment instead of KDE.

## ■ Opie Version 1.0 Released

Initially a fork of Trolltech's Qtopia, the Open Palmtop Integrated Environment announced its first stable release (1.0) in August. The free and open graphical user interface for Linux based embedded devices and PDAs features a personal information framework and several applications, such as extended multimedia capabilities, and document model, networking and communication tools – it's everything you need to run a PDA.



While it should run on any Linux based platform, pre-compiled packages and installable images are available for iPAQ, Sharp Zaurus, and SimPad. It has also been tested on Psion5, Ramses, Tuxphone and Simputer.

Opie provides a comprehensive suite of functions and programs, including: Xine based opieplayer2 (with streaming audio and video) and an image viewer, Palmdoc compatible ebook reader, shell access to the operating system, network based installation and setup management, a PDF reader based on xpdf, an IRC client, Konqueror web browser and full network setup support through plugins (WLAN, Ethernet, PPP, IrDA). ■

<http://opie.handhelds.org/>  
<http://www.kde.de/news/news.php#450>

## ■ Perfectly Labelled – KBarcode

Printing business cards, complex labels with several barcodes and article descriptions has now become a lot easier with KDE's KBarcode. There is an easy to use WYSIWYG ("what you see is what you get") editor, predesigned labels and tools to work with databases. There are also functions that allow you to integrate KBarcode with your accounting system so, for example, labels could be produced directly from delivery notes. The program supports common barcode formats such as EAN, UPC, CODE39 and ISBN.

The latest release (1.5.0) is the first in the development series 1.5.x – the next stable version

will be 1.6. It requires KDE 3.x, an installation of GNU Barcode and, if you want

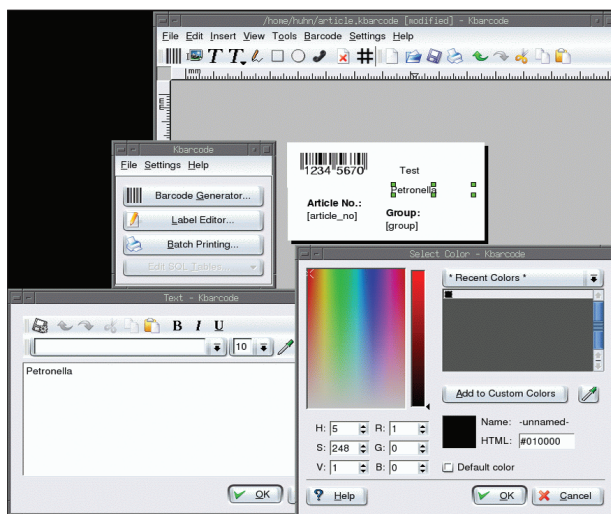
the program to work with databases, the Qt SQL tools and a database such as MySQL or PostgreSQL. This development version includes many new features, such as support for TBarcode, which renders barcodes in the background.

TBarcode also provides support for almost every important 1D and 2D barcode format.

KBarcode uses an on-disk-cache to optimize the generation of barcodes, resulting in much better performance.

KBarcode is published under the GNU/GPL and can be downloaded from the project's website. ■

<http://www.kbarcode.net>



Designer Labels

