NAME

README.beos - Perl version 5.8+ on BeOS

DESCRIPTION

This file contains instructions how to build Perl under BeOS and lists known problems.

BUILD AND INSTALL

Requirements

I have built and tested Perl 5.8.6 and 5.9.1 under BeOS R5 x86 net server. I can't say anything with regard to PPC. Since Perl 5.8.0 had been released for BeOS BONE, I suspect, there is a good chance, that it still compiles on a BONE system. The only change I've made, that affects BONE systems is the recognition of whether it is a BONE system or not in `hints/beos.sh`. Now network socket support should remain enabled on BONE systems. This might as well break the build, though.

As more recent versions of autoconf require flock() support, I wrote a flock() emulation (flock_server) and released it on BeBits:

```
http://www.bebits.com/app/4030
```

If you want to build a Perl with flock() support, you have to install this package first.

Configure

With flock() support:

```
CFLAGS=-I/path/to/flock/server/headers ./configure.gnu \
 --prefix=/boot/home/config
```

Replace `/path/to/flock/server/headers` with the path to the directory containing the `flock.h` header.

Without flock() support:

```
 ./configure.gnu --prefix=/boot/home/config
```

Build

With flock() support:

```
 make LDLOADLIBS="-lnet -lflock"
```

Without flock() support:

```
 make LDLOADLIBS="-lnet"
```

`-lnet` is needed on net server systems only and if the compiler doesn't add it automatically (Be's R5 gcc does, Oliver Tappe's gcc 2.95.3 does not).

Install

Install all perl files:

```
 make install
```

Create a symlink for libperl:

```
 cd ~/config/lib; ln -s perl5/5.8.6/BePC-beos/CORE/libperl.so .
```

Replace `5.8.6` with your respective version of Perl.

KNOWN PROBLEMS

- Network socket support is disabled for BeOS R5 net server. I didn't dare yet to try enabling it and see what problems occur.

- The LFS (large file support) tests (`t/op/lfs` and `xt/Fcntl/t/syslfs`) are disabled as seeking beyond 2 GB is broken according to jhi@iki.fi who was the last one checking the BeOS port and updating this file before me. Haven't checked this myself.

- The `t/io/fflush` test fails at #6. As far as I can tell, this is caused by a bug in the BeOS pipes implementation that occurs when starting other child processes. In the particular test case a `system("perl -e 0")` flushes the stdout pipe of another child process.

- The `ext/POSIX/t/waitpid` test fails at #1. After all child processes are gone BeOS' waitpid(-1,...) returns 0 instead of -1 (as it should). No idea how to fix this.

CONTACT

For BeOS specifics problems feel free to mail to: Ingo Weinhold <bonefish@cs.tu-berlin.de>

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