

# THE MORNING BRIEF

Saturday, October 10, 2026 · SATURDAY EDITION

Decision models went open-weight, somebody bought 54GB of VRAM for \$35, and your GitHub install gained 7.7k stars in a day. A proper Saturday morning. — 17 stories, zero filler.

## 01 NEW AI TOOLS

*models, agents, and the business of intelligence*

- **Liquid AI open-sources d1-3B + d1-omni-600M decision models**

*This one lands squarely on your Kev-4B decision stack: d1-3B scores 48.57 on the Decision Index, answers in 16 ms on a Jetson Thor and 8 ms on an RTX 4090, ships day-one in llama.cpp. Decision models don't generate tokens — they answer structured questions in a single forward pass. License flag: LFM Open License, free commercial use only under \$10M revenue. Worth a bake-off against your 421M gate model.*

- **Microsoft Research ships Agent Lightning v1.0 — RL for agents on real software**

*A 3,500-line framework that trains agents with reinforcement learning on actual OS and browser environments instead of toy sims, aimed at killing the train/deploy performance cliff. The 'real harness' angle is the part to watch — every agent eval suite should have been doing this for a year.*

- **The small-decision-model pile keeps growing: Musubi PolicyLM-1.7B, Strands Decider 2B**

*d1-3B didn't drop into a vacuum — it's part of a whole wave of sub-4B decision/classification models. The field is converging on your architecture from last year: don't ask a chat model to classify, ask a model built for decisions. Your calibration work is looking better-timed by the week.*

## 02 COMPUTER HARDWARE

*silicon, memory, and the local-inference economy*

- **Surface Laptop Ultra with NVIDIA RTX Spark ships mid-October — 120B models on Windows**

*Grace Blackwell SoC with up to 128 GB unified memory, 1 petaflop of AI compute, pre-orders open at \$2,599+. The unified-memory laptop is real now — no VRAM ceiling because there's no separate VRAM. Your dual-A770 setup is still the price-performance champ, but the envelope this legitimizes is exactly your spillover problem being solved by architecture.*

- **Retired 9-GPU mining rig bought for \$35 yields 54GB of LLM VRAM**

*Nine display-less P106 mining cards on a Russian classifieds site, all working, booted from USB — 30+ tok/s on a Qwen3.6-35B-A3B-class model. No Tensor Cores and PCIe x1 risers mean it's a hilarious bottleneck story, but as a thought experiment on the memory side of your VRAM math it's gold: capacity is cheap, bandwidth is the tax.*

- **NVIDIA DGX Spark 64GB hits shelves Oct 23 — 1 petaFLOP, clustering for 128GB**

*The GB10 mini-desktop ships this month with 64 GB of unified memory, and two cluster to 128 GB for ~100B-class models. DGX OS comes with Ollama preinstalled. Still NVIDIA-taxed pricing, but the 'agent box on your desk' category is now a real product segment, not a side quest.*

## 03 SOFTWARE

*releases, open source, and Linux-adjacent drops*

- **Linux 7.3-rc6: back to normality, 524 commits of driver fixes**

*Torvalds calls it a return to normality after the unusual rc5 diffstat — and casually coins the 'AI normal' for commit counts swollen with swarms of small LLM-assisted error-path fixes. Roughly one in five stable commits now carries an Assisted-by line. The kernel is an AI pair-programming shop and nobody announced it.*

- **yt-dlp lands on the EU piracy watchlist; Siemens deletes OpenRadioSS, AGPL saves it**

*Music-group IFPI named four yt-dlp maintainers on a piracy watchlist, while Siemens silently deleting the OpenRadioSS repo taught a lesson about license choice: AGPL saved the project — Rocky Linux's co-founder*

forked it as OpenCourant and was shipping binaries within days. License-first thinking, vindicated.

- **Arch 2026.10.01 ISO: kernel 7.2.7, archinstall 4.5 with AArch64 + RT kernels**

October's snapshot of your distro: kernel 7.2.7 with a stack of SMB and IPv6 security fixes, and the installer gets better declarative config and EFI handling. Your existing box needs nothing but pacman -Syu, as the Arch gods intended.

## 04 VIDEO GAMES

out today and on the radar

- **Triple-i October showcase: Machinarium 2, Pony Island 2: Panda Circus, Talos Principle 3**

The indie showcase delivered a stacked lineup — sequels to Machinarium and Pony Island, a third Talos Principle, and Dave the Diver's final DLC crossing over with Subnautica 2 in early 2027. Demos are up now for several of them. Saturday backlog material, sorted.

- **24 Game Pass titles patched this week, incl. Gears of War: E-Day day-one update**

Gears of War: E-Day got a day-one update ahead of its launch window, Forza Horizon 6 picked up a treasure car plus a month of content, and Darktide added a Terrors of the Deep mini-campaign. Patch Tuesday energy, but make it a week long.

- **PC patches: Control Resonant 1.4.0, Witcher 3 Remastered 5.01**

Remedy's Control Resonant got its 1.4.0 title update and CDPR pushed another Remastered patch for The Witcher 3. Steady maintenance cadence on both — unglamorous, and exactly how live games should behave.

## 05 GITHUB TRENDING

agent tooling is eating the charts

Today's trending roundup is wall-to-wall agentic AI. The four that matter for your stack:

- **REA — reverse-engineer-anything, +7.7k stars in a day, ~30k total**

Your install just became GitHub's daily star-velocity monster. Evidence-based RE for agents — investigating native binaries and Electron apps instead of guessing. You're ahead of the crowd again; the crowd will now ask you how it works.

- **hindsight — today's #1 trending AI repo, agent memory that learns**

Topped the Oct 10 AI repo rankings. Persistent agent memory is the gap your trajectory logging keeps circling — whatever this is doing to take #1 is worth an hour before the commentariat mangles the summary.

- **homelab-ai-stack — self-hosted LLM stack with live GPU/VRAM dashboards**

Ollama + Open WebUI + ComfyUI on a mini-PC with eGPU, plus terminal dashboards and load-testing loops for VRAM/token-throughput monitoring. Half your homelab, documented in someone else's repo — compare notes on the VRAM dashboards.

- **llama.cpp — still climbing, the inference substrate under everything**

Back on the daily trending list (it never really leaves). The SYCL backend work matters for Intel Arc owners specifically — upstream improvements there are your improvements.

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Researched fresh on Oct 10, 2026 and date-verified story by story. Sources: Runtime Wire, AI Weekly, AI Daily Post, McGauley Labs, Intelligibberish, Bytelota, Guru3D, MarkTechPost, LinuxCompatible, It's FOSS, Escapist Magazine, TrueAchievements, DSOGaming, LevelUp. Every item dated Oct 7–10 unless noted. Nothing stale, nothing invented.