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Corruption Challenge 1 - An alternative solution

After posting the winning solution for Corruption Challenge 1 from Brent Ozar, I realized that he and I both solved the corruption by using the REPAIR_ALLOW_DATA_LOSS option on CheckDb. A very nasty move, however it did repair the corruption.

After reading some feedback, one of the winners stated:

> As soon as he ran REPAIR_ALLOW_DATA_LOSS, I knew we weren't on the same page. I just never do that unless I've exhausted all the other options.

Which is a good point, in this solution I was fairly certain as to what REPAIR_ALLOW_DATA_LOSS was going to do, however in a real world scenario, who knows what might be effected beyond the initial table that we know about.

There are several other options to clean up the corrupt table besides the REPAIR_ALLOW_DATA_LOSS option. These options still involve copying the data off to another table and finding the missing data from row 31, however how the corruption gets cleaned up varies widely with the following options:

- Drop the table and indexes, rename the table that is holding the temporary data to be called Revenue, then recreate the indexes.
- Drop the clustered index, and put it back, then fix up row 31 with the missing data.
- Truncate the able, then insert all of the rows from the temporary location into the original table.
- Restore a second copy of the corrupt database, rebuild the original table, then just copy the data in from the other database.

Let's take a look at a solution provided by Andre Kamman.

At this point he used a very similar solution to saving off the good data from the nonclustered indexes.

At this point the corruption has been cleaned up, and all of the data is there, no data loss at all. Another winning solution, perhaps something different to try depending on your corruption issues.

(I mean your database corruption issues.)

If you want to find out about the next corruption challenge, stick around, or register for my newsletter to be informed of when the challenge will begin.

Related Links:

- Newsletter sign up
- Database Corruption Challenge 1
- Corruption Challenge 1: How I corrupted the database
- Corruption Challenge 1: The winning solution