

Technically Speaking

Technically Speaking is a monthly PERT Newsletter for residents in Dieterich, Millikan, Franken, and Phillips Halls.

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Time to Update Spybot!

Bad news for the spyware and pop-up industry, a new version of Spybot has been released. The previous version currently installed on campus computers was no longer being updated and had become ineffective. The new version includes features like the permanently running bad download blocker and better protection from common and new threats not covered by the previous version. What does this mean to you? Faster load times and less pop-ups.

To update Spybot on your university machine, you must first uninstall the current version. Go

to **Start, All Programs, Spybot- Search & Destroy, Uninstall Spybot S&D.**

After you have removed Spybot from your computer, you can download the new version by right clicking on **My Network Places** and selecting **Search for Computers**. Type **Catbert** in the computer name box and click on **Search**. Double-click on **Catbert** and open the folder **Install**. Open the **Spybot** folder and double-click on **spybotsd13.exe** to automatically begin the download of Spybot.

If you would like to download

Spybot on your personal machine, search for it on download.com. But remember, Spybot is only compatible with Windows operating systems.

Having Spybot on your computer is not effective if you do not run the scans. Also, make sure every time you run Spybot that you check for updates and 'immunize' to make sure you have the most current protection. It is recommended that you run Spybot every week on the same day. If you have difficulty remembering to do so, post a reminder by your computer. 🐾

By Becky Rainford
Millikan Hall PERT

On the Web!

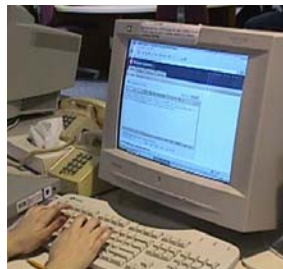


Fun Links

- www.hallmark.com
 - Has personalized online cards for a variety of occasions.
- www.riddler.com
 - Competitive online single, multi-player or tournament gaming.
- www.ofoto.com
 - Upload and save digital pictures to share with your family and friends.
- personals.yahoo.com
 - An online dating service to meet other singles. You can create a free profile and search photo ads.
- zone.msn.com
 - Free games that can be played online or downloaded.
- www.blogthings.com
 - Has fun, interesting, cool blogthings to add to your blog site.

To Blog or Not to Blog?

By Gulshan Lakhani
Dieterich Hall PERT



Do you remember when everyone used to keep diaries? Nowadays some of us still use the old technique of writing our thoughts down in a little book. But in today's world of technological achievement, many of us would like to share our thoughts and ideas with the rest of the world.

Now a new trend in sharing your thoughts with the world has emerged. The new trend is known as blogging. A blog is a web log consisting of notes or paragraphs you write. You can share all your little nic-naks with everyone, especially with your friends in school, friends at home, work, etc. You can also build a new community of friends

online and share your thoughts with them.

Some of the more popular websites that have blogs available are:

- www.xanga.com,
- www.blogger.com
- www.livejournal.com

When participating in any blogging activities, do not share any of your personal information such as phone numbers and addresses. Blogs are sometimes targeted by scam artists who only read them to obtain personal information about you or your family and friends. Also, keep your blog free from profanity and indecency because people from all age groups may view it. Conduct your own research about blogging and explore the available features of each blog website. You may find that blogging is just the thing for you! 🐾



Computer Tips

- Do not download software from companies that you do not trust. When in doubt, do a Google search for "[company/program name] + Spyware" and verify the validity of the software.

- Commonly used keyboard shortcuts:

Cut	Ctrl-X
Copy	Ctrl-C
Paste	Ctrl-V
Select All	Ctrl-A
Print	Ctrl-P

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	Fri 8 am—5 pm
	Sat 11 am—4:45 pm
	Sun 1 pm—10 pm

Important Computer Maintenance

- Never turn off your computer with the power switch unless your computer locks up and your hard drive is not responding. Correctly shutting down the computer will prevent permanent damage to the hard drive and will also prevent many Windows problems.
- Back up any files or information that is important to you and you do not want to lose. Flash drives are the most reliable form of backup.
- To keep your computer running smoothly and efficiently, run Spybot and virus checkers at least monthly.

Computer Lingo



Terms you should know

Hardware- The physical components that make up your computer: the nuts and bolts including the processor, monitor, mouse, disk drives, etc.

Software- Computer programs that enable you to complete tasks or applications on the computer such as word-processing, spreadsheets, image editing, web browsing, etc.

Operating System (OS)- Software that controls the operation of computer hardware in coordination with application software.

Blog- An interactive, online journal or web log where you can design a personalized web page for posting your thoughts.



Do You have Protection Against Online Fraud?

By Adam Clark
Franken Hall PERT

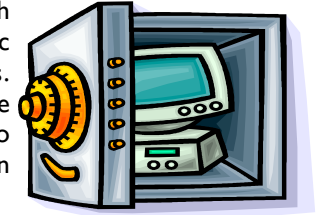
Are you protected against online fraud? Do you know what kind of protection you need? A common misconception many people have is that their personal information is safe unless a hacker breaks into their computer and steals it. This false sense of safety can prevent online users from taking the right steps to better protect themselves.

The number of online scams has increased over the past year. In fact, people are losing more money per incident. In 2004, the average loss to fraud victims was \$895 compared to \$527 in 2003. Scammers use a variety of methods to obtain your personal information such as websites and email messages.

One common method, called phishing, involves both email and websites. Phishing is used to trick users into providing their personal information freely. The scam usually starts with an email message that appears to be from a legitimate institution, such as a bank, asking them to provide personal information. The message may ask them to go to an online site via a link included in the message. Once at the site, the user is prompted to complete a form including information such as enter their account number, pin or password. The website may look real, but unless you verify the source of the web site, you will not know for sure if it is legitimate or a scam.

The best way to protect against online scams and phishing is to be more cautious when

dealing with electronic communications. Here are some basic tips to follow when online:



1. Do not trust the sender's e-mail address, which can be easily faked.
2. Avoid filling out forms accessed via an e-mail message. Verifying where the information will be sent is difficult to do. Even if the site is valid, the information may not be sent securely.
3. Think twice about clicking on links in an e-mail message from a company. Too many scammers are forging copies of company websites that look like the real thing. Open a new browser window and go directly to the company's web site by typing in the known URL for the company. Once at the site, determine if the company truly needs information from you. Also, use the company's web site to check for any known scams and to report a possible scam message.

Always be cautious when responding to email messages or forms on web sites. When in doubt, do not provide your personal information. 🐾

Preview for Next Month...

Don't miss next month's edition to learn about online classes and study abroad.

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