

HUMOR

The people who count will get it

Al Queda suspected of Adobe involvement

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The American people are not safe! Danger threatens all Americans in America, even as you read this. The most un-American thing about this is that it's Americans, right here in America, who are putting every American in America at risk.

Americans born in America too often take their American liberty for granted. These Americans forget that our American freedom can only exist in America if all Americans are constantly vigilant for America. To survive, America must wake up and Americans must protect their American heritage for the sake of the future of America, and of all Americans.

America today is more dependant than ever on computers, and this is where the greatest menace to American security lies. A terrible computer virus is infecting systems across America. Statistically even your computer is probably already infected.

The deadly virus hiding unseen on your hard drive is, of course, the dreaded PDF file. PDF is a file extension notation that indicates a given file is the virus. This file is not just carrying the virus as you might assume; it is the virus.

Your computer may have a program known as Adobe Acrobat Reader. This program makes your computer more susceptible to the virus; it even worsens the effects to your computer with pop-ups and prompts that can wreak havoc on your system.

It's all too easy for your computer to contract the PDF virus. Many internet links on various sites including Google and the Penn State Erie site instantly open PDF virus files on your browser. That's right; the webpages of this very college are strewn with links connecting directly to the PDF virus.

In a lucky few cases, the virus merely

freezes your network or internet browser. When this occurs you must use ctrl-alt-del to access the system manager and close the program the PDF virus file is originating from.

In cases involving the Adobe Acrobat Reader, you will most likely have to click a pop-up prompt window to escape the virus's effects as well. Under no circumstance should you select that the prompt open the file or update itself. You should close the file without updating and then remove the Adobe software from your computer.

If this happens to you, be wise and learn to recognize links to the PDF virus so you can avoid them in the future. If you hover your cursor over the link, the bottom left of the browser window should display the destination. If the destination display ends in dot PDF do not click the link, and report it to the computer center immediately.

Links that lead to PDF files should be properly labeled with warnings so that fewer students unwittingly click links to the virus. In addition, clicking the link should cause a window to appear warning of the impending danger before the virus activates. To further the protection, a password should have to be typed in, and the user should have to be in safe mode.

In many cases, the PDF virus will completely freeze your computer. When this happens, it is unlikely you will be able to access any window or the start menu. Even ctrl-alt-del may not work in this scenario. In some cases involving notebook computers, even pressing the power button or unplugging the computer will not do the job. When this occurs the battery must be removed from the computer to shut it down.

Strange as it may seem, there are people who are actually in support of PDF. These obviously computer illiterate fools have fallen for the cult-like myth that PDF is a document format used often for text. They say PDF files are

better for printing and other such nonsense.

Anyone with a computer knows that text documents have the extension dot doc and open with Microsoft Word, a software program compatible with all versions of Windows that comes free with any computer. Someone needs to do something about these PDF fanatics and show them the way of Word.

Some people have even managed to open PDF files as though they were text documents. This is where the intricacy of the virus can be seen. At a glance it might appear to the untrained eye to be a text document; however, upon trying to do anything with the document, it becomes clear that this is just a distraction put on your screen while the virus infiltrates your system.

If what could be seen on the screen were in fact a text document, it would be possible to scroll through it and copy/paste some of the text. This is not possible; it is not even possible to highlight text within the faux document face of the virus.

Some links may try to fool you by telling you to click on the link and fill out the document it connects to. One cannot fill out a PDF file; it's a solid wall of impenetrable, unmanageable text. Its only purpose is to disguise the virus. Using a PDF file is like trying to drink ice that never melts. Word documents are like champagne; they are liquid and drinkable and much better than PDF files.

The virus's main weakness is the lethargy with which it infects your computer. The virus rarely completes its own installation on your system. This is why most of the problems caused by the PDF virus are only temporary; the virus damages your computer so much that it can't fully install itself and cause further harm to you hard drive.

In the worst of cases, the virus can

Kills PDFs Dead

Horton AntiVirus 2005
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Sure, they may seem like a convenient way to share documents, but they're really ticking time bombs on your hard drive.

Get rid of PDFs before they get rid of you with Horton AntiVirus 2005: Now with PDF Blocker

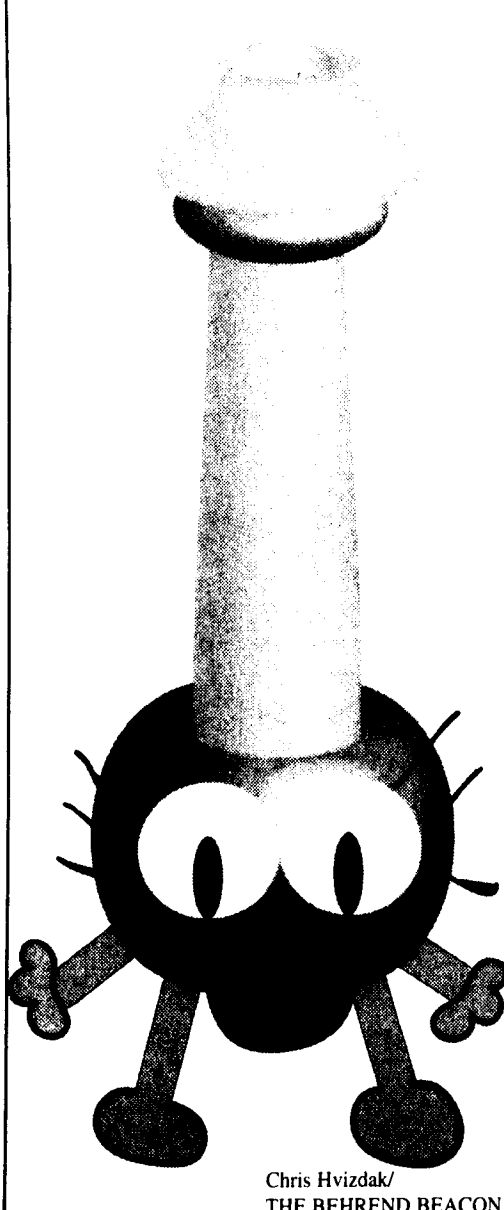
Daniel James Dombrowski/THE BEHREND BEACON

crash your computer, causing you to lose data and have to wait for your computer to start up again. Avoiding the PDF virus is something we can easily do if we all work together and shun those foolish enough to willingly allow the virus to infiltrate their system.

The worst criminals of all, are those who create PDF virus files and publish them on the internet or local network. These are the people who must be stopped. It goes without saying that if you use PDF files, you're kind of a terrorist.

Happy birthday Deacon

Today marks the first birthday of Deacon the Beacon, the Beacon's ill-fated winner of the Spring 2005 mascot contest. Deacon's unique charm won over all of Behrend but would ultimately prove too much for the campus. All students were consumed by the rhythm of the "Deacon Dance" and largely ignored authority and academia alike. Remember always; Deacon love you!



Chris Hvizdak/
THE BEHREND BEACON

Website:of/the. Week <http://grouphug.us/>

The Life of a Comic, as told by Herbert Filby

Mike Sharkey
Feb. 27, 2006

Eric Bell's favorite articles

1. A
2. An
3. The

Roommate Troubles?

Write for the Beacon!!

Beacon staff joke of the week

"At least I have something you'll never have! A soul! And freckles!"
- Conan O'Brien