



photo by Marybeth Zawistoski

Behrend's G.E. Computer Center remains untouched by virus problems

Viruses Remain a Problem

(CPS) -- Still another computer "virus" spread last week, this time disrupting Macintosh computers at California State University at Northridge.

Despite new precautions and debates provoked by the marauding virus -- supposedly created by a Cornell University grad student -- that clogged some 6,000 computers at campuses and research centers across the country in mid-November, copycat viruses also have appeared at the University of Houston, Connecticut College and Baylor and North Carolina State Universities.

Officials have cured the viruses quickly in most cases. At Northridge, for instance, bookstore employees now test students' disks before letting students rent computers.

To prevent future viruses, moreover, some observers predict students at other campuses may have to endure disk searches and scoldings to behave.

"We're going to send out a message loud and clear that this in not to be tolerated, this is not a matter to be taken lightly," said Eugene Mallove of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which had the Tech Talk, the student paper, republish the campus's computer policies.

Just after one of its grad students was identified as a virus author, Cornell held what amounted to a "safe computing" seminar to advise people to back up their disks, to avoid trading programs

"promiscuously" and to "wear protective software" that can detect viruses.

Still others see their job as teaching computer law to "techies."

"They spend an enormous amount of their lives in front of a screen. Some are somewhat inverted," noted James Ball, Stanford University's computing director. "Computer scientists, I don't believe, have the foggiest notions about laws on such things as copyright infringements."

"I would like to see students more sensitized to this," added Peter Yee of the University of California-Berkeley experimental computing center.

"Before this incident, students felt that security and privacy were somebody else's problems," Yee said. Now that one of our own has done this, I expect more in-depth discussion."

"I think there's a broad consensus among students and faculty at Harvard that tampering with major computer systems is a very bad thing to do, and it can cause disruption within the whole social structure," added John Shattuck, vice president for government, community and public affairs at Harvard.

Convincing people not to write viruses -- actually self-replicating programs that can destroy data automatically without the users' knowledge -- is the best cure, Shattuck said, because vaccines cannot be created fast enough.

"The technology is moving so rapidly here that it's somehow gotten ahead of the discussion and careful weighing of principles, as reflected in the slow evolution of law in this area," Shattuck said.

No one even knows if the creator of the nationwide virus broke any laws. The FBI is investigating, and on Nov. 18-word leaked that a federal grand jury in Syracuse, N.Y., was interviewing Cornell grad student Robert T. Morris, reportedly the virus's creator.

News accounts say Morris invented the virus, but did not mean to let it out on several nationwide networks, where it quickly began making copies of itself via electronic mail.

His frantic efforts to provide anonymous clues to halting the virus, which consumed

memory space but did not destroy any data, failed to stop its spread to an estimated 6,000 machines, including systems at the Massachusetts and California institutes of technology, the universities of Maryland, Texas, Illinois, and Washington, as well as Boston, Stanford, Harvard, Colorado State, and Drexel universities, too name just a few.

Unaffected schools attributed their escape from the virus to luck.

"We were protected because we use a different kind of network protocol and operating system," reported John Starner, director of the University of Texas-El Paso's computer center.

PSU Colleges in US Top Twenty

Penn State University's colleges generally rank in the top twenty in the nation, according to the most recent polls.

Availability of national comparisons with other colleges, departments, and individual programs varies according to how Penn State's academic units compare to survey criteria, both structurally and functionally.

The College of Business Administration ranked 22nd in a 1987 international survey of 228 schools' undergraduate programs, said Charles DuBois, assistant to the dean for communications.

Additionally, the college's full-time bachelor's degree program was eighth place in enrollment, he said, referring to a 1986 survey by the American Association of Collegiate Schools of Business. He attributed the program's rise from ninth place the previous year to increasing interest in business programs.

The School of Communications was included among the top seven undergraduate schools in the field by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's 1988 Journalism Career and Scholarship Guide. The survey referred to the school as "one of the journalism (Ivy Leagues)," indicating it is "one of the toughest schools to get into."

"I know we have good students and we wouldn't have good students if we didn't have high standards,"

noted William Dulaney, the school's associate dean for undergraduate education.

Penn State's graduate program in the College of Engineering was placed 18th in the nation by *U.S. News and World Report* in 1987, according to *Indices of Excellence*, an informational booklet compiled by the Office of University Relations.

The magazine polled 241 deans of engineering colleges.

John Brighton, dean of the College of Engineering, said he believes the 1987 survey "really reflects undergraduate programs as well."

Brighton also said the college issued the nation's second largest number of bachelor's degrees in engineering in 1986-87. He attributed the rankings to an increase in research, tripled enrollment in the college's graduate program in the last eight years, and projects such as a \$5 million grant from NASA to study space propulsion.

Penn State's college of Education ranks thirteenth among the more than 1,300 schools, colleges, and departments nationwide, said Dan Grow, coordinator of the Office of Certification and Education Services, referring to a 1979 survey.

Garry Burkle, director of the

advising center for the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences, said the college's structure--integrating engineering, science, and social science--is not conducive to national comparisons.

"Our programs have excellent rankings," Burkle said, citing the meteorology program, commonly considered "one of the top two undergraduate programs in the United States."

Likewise, Penn State's College of Health and Human Development is unranked because it has few peer programs in the nation, said Tina Hay, assistant to the dean for communications there.

Still, the doctoral program of the Department of Exercise and Sport Science was slated the nation's top program in a 1982 survey of faculty at fifty elite colleges and universities, Hay said. In 1984, the Department of Human Development and Family Studies--called Individual and Family Studies until this month--earned the third slot in a survey of family science programs, she said.

The National Athletic Training Association ranked the athletic training option in the Health Education Department in the top two, Hay said. Information taken from *The Weekly Collegian*.

Dorm Rules Eased After Sit-In

(CPS)--Much like a free-floating all-purpose student protest at Goddard College in Vermont in October, Tennessee State University students held a day-long sit-in November 18 to ask officials to fire a football coach, liberalize dorm rules and start a new Afro-American Studies degree program.

School officials did agree to relax the dorm rules.

But President Otis Floyd Jr. would not agree to fire TSU head football coach and athletic director Bill Thomas.

The demonstration began when

200 students congregated at Floyd's office. School officials allowed the students to remain overnight but locked the doors so others could not join the protest. One student was locked out on the roof in near-freezing weather for a short time.

The students demanded that dormitory residents be allowed to have in-room visits by people of the opposite sex. They also demanded that Thomas be fired and an Afro-American studies degree program be established.

The occupation ended when the

remaining 45 to 60 students met with Floyd, who tentatively agreed to the relaxed dorm rules at the school's three female and three male residence halls.

In October, a similarly wide range of "demands" were made during a protest by Goddard students, who asked administrators to moderate investments in firms that do business in South Africa, help insure campus safety, start a Black Studies program and, somehow, end homelessness in the United States.

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successful college that bears the family name.

Martin is a member of the music faculty of the State University of New York at Buffalo. He is also an organist/choirmaster at Trinity Episcopal Church in Hamburg, New York. He has performed in Europe, Canada and throughout the Eastern United States.

"Anniversary Psalm" was performed by Rebecca Felton Spear and accompanied by the Penn State-Behrend Concert Choir and the Fredonia Chamber Players. Spear is a soprano with the Chataqua Chamber Singers, and recently performed with the University of Pittsburgh/Bradford Chorus, with members of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and with the Erie Philharmonic Orchestra. She currently resides in Jamestown, New York, where she enjoys a career as a soloist and voice teacher.

Also featured was a seasonal medley by the Penn State-Behrend Concert Choir, led by David Stuntz. The medley contained several pieces from the 15th, 16th and 18th centuries. Included in the medley was a 15th century french song "Noel Novcelet," performed in french by the Behrend Concert Choir. The audience was also treated to "Miss Brevis St. Johannes de Deo" by Franz Joseph Haydn, written in 1775. The piece was performed in its original latin form by the concert choir and accompanied by the Fredonia Chamber Players. The Chamber Players include Margaret Cooper playing the violin, Elizabeth Gavney also on violin, Eugenia Rust playing the cello and Harry Jacobson performing on the bass.

Bazaar in the Garden

by Steve Decker
Collegian Staff Writer

The bazaar was well attended, but not nearly as many clubs were involved as in previous years.

The Winter Garden took on a special holiday look on Tuesday and Wednesday when Inter-Club Council sponsored their annual Christmas Bazaar.

The bazaar originated a number of years ago as an opportunity for clubs to raise money. The Association of Black Collegians, the Barbell Club, Inter Varsity Christian Fellowship, Beta Upsilon Nu, and WBCR were among the clubs participating in this year's event.

The items sold ranged from T-shirts and albums to holiday helium balloons and Cabbage Patch Poinsettias.

"I was disappointed with the turnout, because we sent out information and it was known about," said Scott Serapiglia, Inter-Club Council president. He felt that the poor attendance at ICC meetings and the busyness of the end of the semester could be reasons. Serapiglia added that there will be another bazaar next year.

"It went well, but we hoped there would be more clubs participating," said Ramunda Bazar, an IVCF member who helped sell poinsettias. Despite the low turnout, the clubs who did participate made out well.

PSU 3rd in NSF Ranking

Penn State University was recently ranked third in the nation for industry-supported research.

Penn State reported \$20.1 million in industry-sponsored research and development expenditures for the 1987 fiscal year, a \$3.2 million increase over the previous year. Penn State was fourth in the 1986 National Science Foundation's ranking.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology was ranked first with \$35 million and the Georgia Institute of Technology placed second with \$23.6 million in industrial research supports.

The rank recognizes the strides of University faculty and administrators, who are committed to establishing Penn State as one of the most dynamic research institutions in the country, said Charles Hosler, senior vice president for research and dean of the graduate school.

"This shows the outstanding reputation faculty members have and the high esteem in which they're held by industries," said Hosler.

Industries can be particularly discriminating when searching for an institution in which to place

their resources for research, Hosler said, adding that Penn State competes heavily with other renowned research universities.

"Industries go where the experience is," he said.

The high ranking reflects the University's reputation among industries, said William D. Moir, director of Penn State's sponsored programs and contracts office.

"The University has become nationally known in industrial circles," he said.

Carnegie Mellon University was the only other Pennsylvania institution in the top ten.

Industries contributing to the University's resources include Dupont, General Motors, Gas Research Institute, and various oil and telephone companies, Hosler said.

The increase in industry support contributed slightly to the thirteen percent hike in overall science and engineering research expenditures that gave Penn State first place for Pennsylvania and a seventeenth-place national ranking by the National Science Foundation.

Industrial funds represent twelve percent of the University's total research expenditures, with the

federal government providing most of the remaining funds, Hosler said.

Penn State was the only school in the state included in the top one hundred national institutions in the foundation's ranking of institutions' overall research expenditures.

The University's overall research and development expenditures for the 1987 fiscal year were \$165.8 million. Hosler noted that since September the University has increased this amount by \$5 million and expects to greatly increase it each year.

Johns Hopkins University ranked first with \$510.9 million in research and development expenditures and Massachusetts Institute of Technology second with \$264.4 million.

The University expects to increase its seventeenth-place ranking next year by several positions, Hosler said. Information taken from the *Daily Collegian*.

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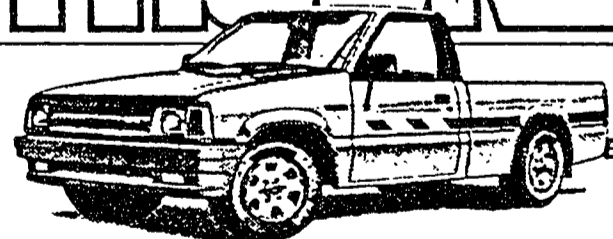
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