

Internet Addiction Evolving As a Serious Social Problem

By Ed Blackburn
Assistant Editor

To those who have discovered the Internet, its perks are obvious: live chat rooms, fast email, the ability to "go" anywhere at the speed of light, access to more information than you could ever possibly read, and the ability to interact with multitudes of others under the protective guise of a fictional name.

On the other hand, as most people are aware, many dangers exist on the Net. One hears stories on the news about stalkers finding their victims online, and the availability of porn and illegal, sensitive information (such as how to make a bomb). A new danger being recognized is the possibility of getting "addicted" to this fairly new technological phenomenon.

Internet addiction is described as "a broad term covering a wide variety of behaviors and impulse-control problems," according to the first Cyberpsychologist, Dr. Kimberly S. Young.

Like with alcohol or drug users, Internet users can easily become addicted. It's roughly estimated that around 35% indeed are.

The problem is more real than you may think: Ever notice the number of students on this very cam-

pus frantically typing away in Internet chat rooms and answering e-mail before, after, and even during class? That's not to say they are addicted, but a few of them no doubt match the symptoms.

Some of these symptoms, according to Dr. Young, include: Compulsively checking your email, always anticipating your next online session, loss of time management (others complaining that you spend too much time online), and others complaining that you spend too much money online.

Even business people whose workplaces rely heavily on the Internet often pass time in the office by "surfing".

As this technology grows and Internet access becomes more available, look for this to be a major social problem in the next century.

Already there exists a Center for On-line Addiction, founded by Dr. Young, which acts as a "consultation firm and virtual clinic for cyber-related issues" such as addiction. This is located at netaddiction.com. Resources and services are available there to help the online addict. It also lists warning signs to look for if you think you may be becoming an addict.

Speaker Series Continues: "The Changing Face of Asia"

Kieu Chinh, a native of war-torn Vietnam who has gone from refugee to film star, will speak on "The Changing Face of Asia" as part of the campus Cultural Speaker Series on Thursday, April 8, at 11:30 a.m., in the student lounge of the Main Building.

With the events in Vietnam once again gaining the world's attention, Kieu Chinh's story has never been more timely, or inspiring. After overcoming the loss of most of her family in Vietnam, Chinh became the biggest female star in Indochina, only to lose everything again with the fall of Saigon. Chinh came to America to once again rebuild her life, and has had featured roles ranging from TV's M*A*S*H, where

she played the Korean woman Hawkeye fell in love with, to her recent triumph in The Joy Luck Club, where she starred as one of four Chinese mothers with American-born daughters and harrowing pasts.

In addition to her film success, Chinh is co-chairperson, with Terry Anderson, of the Vietnam Memorial Association, a non-profit agency dedicated to building schools in the most damaged areas of Vietnam. She was named "Refugee of the Year" by the U.S. Congress in 1990, received the "Warrior Woman Award" from the Asian Pacific Woman Network, and was the only Vietnamese invited to speak at the 10th anniversary ceremonies for the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial in Washington.

Bringing her story to the lecture podium, Chinh offers a tale of survival, women's empowerment, and Asian American Awareness.

Admission is free. For more information, contact (610) 892-1258.

Annual Honors Convocation Set for April 14

Full-time, degree students with a 3.5 cum GPA have been invited to attend the Campus Honors Convocation on Wednesday, April 14, 1999, at 7:30 p.m. in the Vairo Library. Any student who did not receive such an invitation and has taken at least 12 credits a semester and believes they are qualified to attend the Convocation should contact Dr. Priscilla Clement, Associate Professor of History, in Room 124 Vairo (892-1464) immediately.

**Say You Saw
It in the
Lion's Eye!**



DeNiro stresses over a mobster's life.

Shrink & Mobster = Laughter

By Rob Coyle
Editor-in-Chief

What do you do when your newest patient just happens to be one of New York's top mob bosses? Anything he wants, as Billy Crystal finds out in his entertaining new movie, *Analyze This*.

Crystal plays Ben Sobel, a divorced psychiatrist who works out of his home in New York. Sobel's father (Bill Macy) is a world renowned psychiatrist whose popularity is something Ben can not stand.

Robert De Niro plays Paul

Vitti, one of New York's top mob bosses who suffers from panic attacks and cries during touching insurance commercials. Vitti's father was also a famous mob boss before his untimely death when Paul was just a boy.

Throughout the movie, both characters have to deal with the issues surrounding their fathers while trying to stay alive, not an easy thing when the other bosses want you dead.

This movie is truly great comedic therapy. 3.5 stars out of 4.

PSU to Host Karate Tournament

Penn State Delaware County will host the 19th annual Delaware County Invitational Karate Championships on Sunday, April 11 beginning at 11:00 a.m. in the gymnasium, located in the Commons/Athletic Center.

Hosted by AmKor Karate Institutes, the karate school run by campus karate instructor Fred Scott, the day-long tournament will feature approximately 250-300 competitors from over 100 karate schools ranging from Pittsburgh to Connecticut to Washington, D.C.

Levels of competition will range from beginner to black belt categories, as well as various age and weight classes.

The children's competition will begin the day's activities, followed by the adult black-belt competition, which will begin the afternoon portion of the program, approximately 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$3.00 for children and \$5.00 for adults, and will be available at the door the day of the event.

For more information, contact the Penn State Delaware County Office of University Relations at 610-892-1254.

Delco Head Start

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throughout a discussion between female faculty and student body as Ms. Shippen attempted to isolate the usage and urgency of the program.

Here at Penn State Delaware County upwards of fifty students, according to a poll done by S.W.A.P (Students Who Are Parents), are in need of daycare facilities here at this campus. The necessity being first priority leads to other questions such as how this would be done. According to the Department of Public Welfare requirements such as one bathroom per fifteen children is needed as well as forty square feet of play area per child. Basically what those requirements are saying is that you can not put children in an environment too isolated, which with the open space we have should not be a problem.

"Over the next five years money will not be an issue," Shippen explained which made few jaws drop, "...we provide the money if the University provides the space."

All of this came as a surprise

to those who have been fighting for some way to bring this service to our campus, especially to one Danielle Hardee who has been exploring options of childcare...being a mother herself. All Ms. Hardee has to do until around September is take surveys to find out what sort of people would use this facility, because it's not just for parents. Say you want to bring your little cousin to the campus for a tour, or your single parent needs someone to watch your sibling because the sitter can't make it.

"This service is for everybody...we need your support (student body) in order to make this happen. said Hardee.

So activism is not dead; we here at the Lion's Eye have been following this story for a while now and it seems to finally be unfolding, positively. As a favor we would ask that the student body as a whole support this because this is basically student committee in action, and there is no point in stopping here.