Flaw may hurt UA computers

By Tim Lake
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Some campus computers, including those belonging to students in residence halls, may be kicked offline this evening.

The discovery of a new vulnerability in the Microsoft Windows operating system has the Center for Computing and Information Technology taking steps to secure the campus network.

The vulnerability is not a virus but a flaw in Windows that could be used by a virus or hacker to break into and infect computers.

The vulnerability is similar to the one used by the Blaster Worm that hit the university network on Aug. 11, said Edward Frohling, head of CCIT’s Security Incident Response Team.

The Blaster Worm was a virus that compromised many computers on campus and around the world last month. It was the fastest spreading virus ever recorded.

The latest discovery of a flaw in Windows had not caused a virus problem for the university as of yesterday.

COUNTRIES COME TOGETHER

By Erin Schmidt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

International students have the opportunity to sharpen their English skills and teach Americans about their culture at the same time.

Thanks to an $15,000 grant from the Arizona Board of Regents, 27 students from all over the world are coming together as part of the Perspectives Project.

The project, which began last week and is sponsored by the Center for English as a Second Language, is designed to help international students improve their English-speaking skills by pairing them with American students. The paired students discuss a wide range of topics including politics, linguistics and other concepts that have helped shape their cultures.

Jerrold Hogle, a UA professor of English who helped find American students to participate in the program, said the project not only helps improve international students’ speaking skills but encourages a cultural dialogue.

“This project allows both groups of students to come together as part of the Perspectives Project. It’s an opportunity to get involved in the Perspectives Project, and we have no international contact with other students,” said Sarah Kim, assistant director for CESL.

The UA students participating in the project will be paid twice a week for 50-minute sessions with either one or more CESL students, Hogle said.

Participating UA students meet twice a week for 50-minute sessions with either one or more CESL students, Hogle said.

We wanted to attract UA students who have had no international contact with other students.

— Sarah Kim, assistant director for CESL

Parking cheats face new obstacles

By Greg Holt
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Parking and Transportation Services has a message for UA students: Friends don’t let friends park for free.

PTS instituted a new system yesterday in all campus garages, which aims to stop students from handing off their permits to friends who are still parked in the garages. By doing that, students were able to exit the garage without paying.

However, the computer system will now track permits not only when they are used to enter the garages, but when they exit, too.

“If a permit is used to exit the garage twice without first registering, the system will mark it as a ‘pass back’ and the garage gates will not open,” said Michael Delahanty, operations manager for PTS.

The permit owner must then go to PTS to get the permit reset, and should expect a lemon as well.

“We’ll let them know that’s the cause, and if it happens again their parking privilege could be revoked,” Delahanty said.

Parking permits are a luxury item for some students. They range in an annual price of $225 for a Zone 1 permit to $450 for a garage permit, and many of those willing to pay are turned down because of shortages.

Paul Penek is a marketing sophomore who is still on the waiting list for a parking permit despite having applied for one last semester. He now pays $6 per day to park in campus garages.

“I think they should build another garage or at least lower the fees,” said Penek. “I guess they have to make it next semester and next year.”

The CESL students are not getting paid for their participation, she said.

“The purpose of the grant was to encourage students to participate and in next semester and next year. We are hoping next year we can get more CESL students,” Hogle said.

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