GROs may not fix GPA woes

By Natasha Bhuyan
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Aniruddha Chaudhary, a pre-business freshman, thought he had it all figured out: Fail math, retake it with the Grade Replacement Opportunity, and say hello to law school.

In theory, Chaudhary’s plan sounds secure; unfortunately, it’s completely misguided.

The UA is among a few schools across the country that offer the GRO, which allows students to retake up to 10 credits and replace the original grades if they were a “C,” “D” or “E.” That causes grade point averages to increase significantly, an attractive option for students applying to medical and law schools.

But most students who enroll in GRO classes aren’t aware of the long-term consequences.

“Terry Sue Hubert, assistant dean of admission at the James E. Rogers College of Law, said the law school admissions process is fraught with misunderstanding. When students apply to law school, their GPAs are calculated by the LSDAS,” she said. “Since not every school offers GRO, they standardize the grades to make them comparable.” That means the Law School Data Assembly Service will see a student’s transcript and recalculate the GPA using the original grade and the GRO. The new GPA is then submitted to the Law School Admissions Council.

“As a national council, we do not want to interpret a student’s transcript,” said Anne Brah, associate executive director for education and pre-law programs at LSDAC. “We simply want to make process comparable.”

Worm crashes WebMail server

E-mails delayed after infected mail clogs server

By Walt Staton
STAFF WRITER

Seventy computers on the university network have been infected by a vicious computer program that crashed the university’s e-mail server by flooding it with more than 100,000 e-mails.

Monday evening, staff members at the Center for Computing and Information Technology were working to block a barrage of infected e-mails sent by the Mydoom worm.

The worm, a virus-like computer program, has spread around the world over the past few days, crashing servers and flooding people’s inboxes.

Because of CCIT’s catch, most users of university e-mail accounts were not even aware of the new worm or its rapid spread around the Internet.

Joellen Windsor, a systems programmer at CCIT, said the staff started blocking all incoming e-mails with the worm at 5:40 p.m. Monday. From that time until midnight, 20,000 e-mails were blocked.

The e-mail system blocked another 82,000 e-mails Tuesday, when is when the server went down.

According to Windsor, the server’s disks filled up with e-mails as CCIT tried to check for the virus, causing the server to finally crash at 4:30 a.m. Tuesday.

About 70,000 e-mails were already backed up when they discovered the downsed server at 6:30 a.m. It took until 1 p.m. to get all the backlogged messages sent, Windsor said.

On a normal day, less than 1,000 e-mails are blocked. The Bagel worm, the most recent large-scale virus, only blocked about 2,000 e-mails on Jan. 19 and 20.

Windsor has only received a couple hundred inquiries regarding Mydoom. Most have been from students who received an automatic response from abuse@email.arizona.edu stating they had sent an

Senate questions election extensions

By Dana Crudo
STAFF WRITER

ASUA senators are questioning their election commissioner’s decision to extend the deadline to commit to running in this year’s ASUA elections, saying it might violate the ASUA constitution.

After only nine candidates signed up for the 10 ASUA Senate positions, and only one candidate for the executive vice president position, elections commissioner Dan Sub decided to allot more time for students to get into the race in order to create a more competitive election.

But Ben Weiss, ASUA senator, said it’s possible the senate will file a complaint against Sub’s actions.

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Actress warns against anorexia

By Jesse Lewis
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

From the age of 12, Tracy Gold suffered from anorexia nervosa, an eating disorder that almost killed her.

But since overcoming her disorder nine years ago, Gold, who used to star on TV’s “Growing Pains,” has taken her experience to the road to educate people about how destructive the disorder can be.

“Someone with an eating disorder is literally walking around as the living dead,” Gold said.

More than 200 women and a handful of men piled into the Integrated Learning Center lecture hall last night to hear about Gold’s bouts with anorexia nervosa.

Gold first faced the disorder when she was 12 in an attempt to reverse the changes her body was going through during puberty.

But that only lasted six months.

She didn’t struggle with anorexia again until she was 16, when the producers of “Growing Pains” noticed she had put on a few extra pounds and said she needed to start dieting.

She immediately engaged in a serious fight against calories.

“She said she was in the practice of not eating all week and then bingeing on the weekends.”

“I felt as though I was caught in an undertow, waging my arms, grasping for help,” Gold said.

“I knew that the only one that could save me was myself,” she said.

The disorder changed her personality and her relationship with family and friends.

At one point, she was admitted to a hospital that hurt her more than it helped her.

She checked herself out within three days.

The hospital closed six months later.

She tried to visit doctors, but they let her leave the office with the same deadly habits to which she had become accustomed.

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Up all night

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