



Information & Technology Services

ITS
news

The official source of news from ITS Information & Technology Services

March 2005

From Tunes to Jewelry

How one student's downloading of copyrighted MP3s has him wearing an ankle bracelet.

By Donna Cullen, ITS Customer Support Services, donna.cullen@rit.edu

Jerry* attended high school in the late 90's. For Jerry and many of his friends, their sleepy, northeast town provided little in the way of entertainment. They each had a home computer that the family used. Their early interest in computers as an outlet for their energy and curiosity was natural.

Jerry's interest soon moved beyond email and the instant messaging he had been using. Jerry had managed to acquire a computer game or two. Through newsgroups and exploring the "net", they became aware of sites and individuals that offered all sorts of free "stuff." Soon Jerry's meager software collection had grown to include all sorts of utilities. What excited him most was the number of computer games he and his friends had acquired. Some of the games, they knew, were sold in the mall. Still they didn't think much about the fact the games they had cost them nothing but the time it took to find and download them. They also discovered some of their favorite movies and songs were available for free. They put songs from their collections on their computers and shared them.

continued on page 15

Web Applications Week Opens March 14

The March ITS Technology Seminar Series continues with featured speakers John Marrazzo, principal with JM Associates and Omar Wasow, MSNBC Internet Analyst. See pages 7-10 for the workshop lineup that will include programs about new student systems applications proposed for RIT, e-commerce, marketing on the Web, blogging, the new online course management system – Desire2Learn, web usability studies and overcoming the Digital Divide.

R·I·T

RIT Live! Web Cams Provide Real-time View of Campus

Want to show off the new love in your life to the folks at home? Wonder if the flakes are falling or the sun is shining when you are busy in the lab? Is Ben & Jerry's open yet? What does my high school art teacher think about the Sentinel?

ITS purchased three web cams so you, mom, dad, sis, Uncle Jim or Grandma Sue can see campus from three locations. Prospective students and employees can catch a remote glimpse of campus. The RIT community can use the web cams to share information. Facilities Management installed the three cameras. The cameras mounted outside offer viewing control – pan, tilt or zoom in all directions - for a minute at a time. All other viewers see what the controller is seeing for that minute.

Kodak Quad/Quartermile/Gannett Webcam – this camera offers the control features as well as 9 preset locations that demonstrate the range of the camera.

Admin Circle/Paley Sculpture/SAU Webcam – from this camera you can control views of the area around the Sentinel and the main entrance to the SAU.

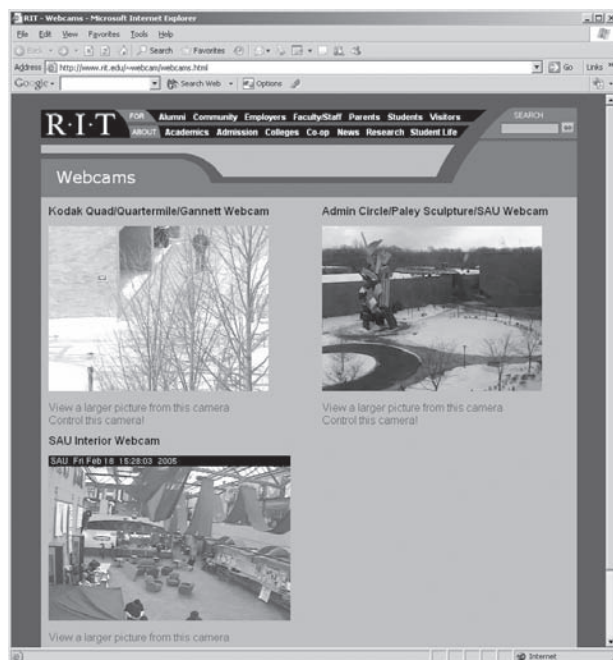
SAU Interior Webcam – pointing from the front entrance of the SAU toward Ben & Jerry's, this stationary camera is an excellent view of one of the busiest spots on campus.

Point your browser to the myRIT portal (my.rit.edu) or select look for web cams under “About RIT” on RIT's main web site (www.rit.edu) to check out these new views of campus.

ITS is planning to add several more cameras to give a broader view of campus. For now, call the favorite someone and ask him or her to point a web cam to the spot you are standing and waving! You'll make their day.

In This Issue

- ◆ From Tunes to Jewelry (p. 1)
- ◆ Live from RIT! New Web Cams Installed (p. 2)
- ◆ RIT Signs Student Licensing Agreement with Microsoft (p. 3)
- ◆ Digital Self Defense 101 (p. 4)
- ◆ Digital Self Defense Workshop (p. 5)
- ◆ Profiles in Co-Op (p. 6)
- ◆ Web Applications Week (p. 7)
- ◆ About the Web Applications Week Presenters (p. 10)
- ◆ RIT Signs Microsoft Campus Licensing Agreement (p. 11)



Three views of campus from the new RIT web cams.

RIT Signs Student Licensing Agreement with Microsoft

By Dave Pecora, Operations Manager, ITS, Dave.Pecora@rit.edu

ITS has signed an agreement with Microsoft and Dell Corporation to provide Windows Operating System upgrades for very low prices at the Campus Connections bookstore. The licensing agreement extends the already popular MS-Campus licensing program to students, and applies to all Microsoft Windows upgrades. Under the program, students can upgrade from any existing version of Windows to the latest version – Windows XP.

Student CDs for Windows XP are sold at the RIT Campus Connections bookstore. Please check with the bookstore for availability.

The Microsoft Campus Agreement also applies to RIT institute owned machines, and allows faculty and staff to purchase Windows and Office for work at home use. To schedule an upgrade of your institute owned computer, please contact your systems administrator, or the ITS HelpDesk at 475-4357 (TTY at 475-2810, online at: www.rit.edu/its/help). To purchase a CD for work at home use, please visit the Campus Connections bookstore.

[For more information about the faculty/staff agreement, see page 11 in this issue.]

Lab Offers Information about the Emerging Field of Social Computing

Social computing, or social software, is a term that has emerged over the past few years to describe how computing tools from email and IM to web logs and “wikis”, are being used “to build collaboration and interaction among, people, data, information and tools.”* The Lab for Social Computing has emerged on the RIT campus as a collection of faculty, staff and students interested in the growing field of computer-mediated communications. Their web site includes information about this growing field, current research by the lab group and resources available about the varied topics associated with social computing. Check out the Lab’s web site at <http://social.it.rit.edu> or subscribe to the listserv to get news about events and announcements <http://listserve.it.rit.edu/mailman/listinfo/lsc-announcements>

** Information from the Lab of Social Computing, About the Lab, Background*

Digital Self Defense 101

Protecting Your Computer from Internet and Other Threats

By Ben Woelk, Information Security Office, fbwis@rit.edu

Why do I have to protect myself?

You are a target.

You may have seen hacking as activity done by socially-challenged individuals with too much time on their hands. That's not the case anymore. Organized crime now funds most of the attacks that come at you through the Internet. Criminals are trying to trick you into divulging your online banking account numbers and PINs, your social security number, and other personal information. They also want to use **your computer** to send out spam, host pornography, and launch attacks on other computers.

Here's how effective criminals have become at using the Internet:

- An unpatched computer **will** be infected within minutes after connecting to the Internet (estimates go as low as 6 seconds, but conservative estimates are in the 5-10 minute range)
- Six of 10 emails are spam, phishing attempts, or contain viruses or worms.
- After a vulnerability is discovered, it takes less than 5 days for criminals to "exploit" computers that do not get the most recent patches.
- The number one means of taking control of a computer is to write an attacking program into unprotected memory that is used by system or administrator processes.

Doing the essentials listed below will provide protection from a broad spectrum of Internet threats including viruses, worms, trojans, spyware, and adware. They will also help protect you from direct attacks on your computer.

How can I protect myself?

Here is a list of the essential things you should do to make your computing secure. There are things you should do whether you're using Windows, Macintosh, or Linux. Mac and Linux users are not targeted as much as Microsoft Windows, but there are still some threats out there. What you can and need to do yourself depends on whether your computer is supported by a systems administrator or whether you do your own support. You should try to do these essential things on your computers at home as well.

If you're running **Microsoft Windows** (including virtual windows on a Mac or Linux computer):

1. Install antivirus software, keep it up to date, and scan your system at least weekly. RIT provides McAfee antivirus software free for both home and campus use at www.rit.edu/its/services/security/. Be sure you turn on its auto-update feature. FAST-supported computers are already running McAfee 8.0i with auto-update.
2. Make sure the Windows Operating System is up-to-date with its patches and, unless you're supported by an RIT systems administrator, has auto-update turned on.
3. If it's available, install software that provides Buffer Overflow Protection. (This is protection for the computer's memory.) For Windows NT, 2000, and XP, McAfee 8.0i antivirus software has this protection built-in.

continued on page 13

Digital Self Defense Workshops Offered in March and April



By Ben Woelk, Information Security Office, fbwis@rit.edu

Is the Internet becoming more and more of a jungle?

Are you tired of dealing with Spyware? Viruses? Phishing?

Do you still feel safe driving the Information Superhighway?

How do you know if your computer is really protected?

In this day of rapidly increasing Internet threats, you need a leg up, a way to protect yourself and your loved ones (and your computer) against all of those people on the Internet who are out to get you.

The Information Security Office feels your pain and has the answer!

Come to a Digital Self Defense 101 Workshop. You'll receive a quick 90-minute digital self defense lesson where you'll learn how to face Internet attackers with confidence and defeat them.

Day	Date	Time	Location
Thursday	3/17/2005	1:00 p.m.-2:45 p.m.	SAU Alumni Room (1500)
Wednesday	3/30/2005	1:00 p.m.-2:45 p.m.	SAU Alumni Room (1500)
Tuesday	4/12/2005	10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	SAU Alumni Room (1500)
Wednesday	5/11/2005	10:00 a.m.-11:45 a.m.	SAU Clark C

All are welcome, but space is limited!

For more information and to let us know if you'll be attending, drop a note to infosec@rit.edu and visit the Information Security Web site at <http://security.rit.edu>.

Interpreter provided on request.



Profiles in CO-OP

*By Dianne Parker, Distributed Support Services,
dlpdss@rit.edu*

*Each month ITS News features profiles of the co-op students who work within our division. This month our featured co-ops are **Joel Turner and Daren Richardson.***

Joel Turner has lived in Rochester since the age of 2. He lives here with his parents, an older brother and a twin brother.

Joel selected the Computer Science program because he likes working with computers and he enjoys programming. Joel is currently a 5th year Computer Science major. Joel received a scholarship that funds a portion of his tuition and he works to earn the remainder.

Joel's current position with ITS is Assistant PC Applications Administrator. He chose to work for ITS for several reasons. He was looking for a Computer Science co-op and ITS was looking for a programmer. It worked out for the best for all involved. So far in his job, Joel has enjoyed seeing how his work is used and how his solutions are implemented, as opposed to, "...just coding some small section of code and never actually seeing the fruits of my labor." The most interesting or fun thing about his co-op is that, "I have enjoyed working with customers and other co-ops when designing a solution to a problem." He says that, "I have been able to apply many of the programming techniques that I have learned in my classes to real world situations."

In his free time, Joel collects comic books and likes to read novels.

When asked about his most significant accomplishment to date, Joel notes, "Being on the Deans List all of last year."

Joel would recommend a co-op with ITS to others because, "You get to meet more of the staff and faculty of RIT and learn more about the inner workings of the Institute. Plus, it is easy to get here."

ITS enjoys having Joel on our staff and looks forward to working with him for the rest of winter quarter.

Daren Richardson hails from Brooklyn, New York where he is the youngest of three boys. He is currently a 4th year Management Information Systems (MIS) major at the College of Business (COB). He selected MIS because he liked the interesting mix of business and technology. "I am not a big fan of programming, but I did still want to be in-

continued on page 14

Web Applications Week: March 14-18, 2005

Technology Workshops about Integrating Online Applications for Education, Business and Communications

ITS Technology Seminars are a series of professional programs sponsored by Information & Technology Services as part of an effort to keep the RIT campus community and other local higher education institutions up-to-date about technology issues, solutions, practices and emerging technologies. Often the series' topics are of interest to the larger community and are opened up to alumnae of the Institute, our Board of Trustees, in addition to local college and university staff members.

The Web has become a place to do business, communicate with friends and an online community for education and research. How do people make this information network work for them as individuals and as educators, as learners and as a social outlet? Learn some of the ways people have used the Web as a business tool, as an educational forum and as a place to meet others on the information highway during Web Applications Week.

Our featured presenters for the weeklong series of workshops are John Marrazzo, principal with JM Associates, a national consulting firm working primarily with educational institutions, and Omar Wasow, Internet Analyst for MSNBC.

Marrazzo brings a wealth of information about the information technology and higher education arenas to his session. He will discuss ways these two distinct and unique areas work effectively together to balance and support customer needs.

Wasow, a familiar face on the cable network, MSNBC, is an entrepreneur, online correspondent, and advocate for building communities without barriers on the Internet. In addition, he has served as co-chair of the Coalition for Independent Public Charter Schools. His topic for Web Week will be about overcoming The Digital Divide and how to advocate for students who may not be as technologically savvy as their peers, but aspire to successful college and business careers.

All workshops are free and open to the RIT community. Off campus guests have been invited. Participants can register online at: <http://www.rit.edu/its>

For more on Web Applications Week, see:

Web Applications Week Schedule of Events
About the Web Applications Week Presenters

page 8-9
page 10

Web Applications Week Begins March 14

By Michelle Cometa, Office of the CIO, macits@rit.edu

ITS closes the technology seminar season with Web Applications Week March 14-19. The featured presenters are higher education consultant, John Marrazzo and MSNBC Internet Analyst Omar Wasow. This week, similar to Security Week, consists of a series of workshops on several important facets of online applications. Some highlights:

Web Usability Studies – Monday, March 14 10 am – Noon CIS Auditorium 76-1125

Golisano College **Professor Evelyn Rozanski** and several GCCIS graduate students discuss how customers assess website usability and share past research and usability studies.

E-Business Applications – Tuesday, March 15 10 am – Noon CIS Auditorium 76-1125

Local consultant, **Duane Cook**, president of Strategic EBusiness presents information about how organizations can integrate successful e-business applications on their websites.

Marketing on the Internet – Tuesday, March 15 9 - 11 am B & L Conference Room, A190

Learn specific techniques to successfully market programs and departments on the Internet with members of RIT's Part Time Enrollment team.

Smarter Search Engines: A Conversation with CoFu, Inc. founder (and RIT student) Kyle Scholz – Tuesday, March 15 1 - 3 pm CIS Auditorium 76-1125

Learn about "next generation" search engines and student business entrepreneurship.

continued on page 9

Web Applications Week Begins March 14

continued from page 8

Desire2Learn Presentation – Wednesday, March 16 10 am – Noon CIS Auditorium 76-1125

Join the **Online Learning** team for a first look at the new course management system for RIT. Karen Vignare, Richard Fasse and Ken Kindler will be on hand to demonstrate the system capabilities and discuss the timetable to transition from Prometheus to Desire2Learn.

KEYNOTE: Integrating Student Applications Wednesday, March 16 12:30 - 3 pm CIS Auditorium 76-1125

Join **John Marrazzo** president for the higher education consulting firm, JM Associates, as he gives an overview of the best practices and technologies necessary to successfully integrate student systems

FEATURED PRESENTATION: The Digital Divide: Myth or Reality Thursday, March 17 2 – 4 pm CIS Auditorium, 76-1125

Join MSNBC Internet Analyst and BlackPlanet.com founder, **Omar Wasow** as he discusses how institutes of higher education can prepare for students who may not be as tech-savvy as their peers and how to put them on the path to success in college.

This presentation is co-sponsored by the Commission for Promoting Pluralism, the Office of the Assistant Provost for Diversity and the North Star Center.

RIT/ITS Panel of Student Services: Creating Integrated Technology Solutions Friday, March 18 10 am – Noon College of Liberal Arts Auditorium, 6-A205

Follow up keynote presenter John Marrazzo's session about integrating systems with a panel of RIT systems representatives from ITS, the Registrar, Bursar, Admissions etc. lead by **Dave Hostetter**, Director of ITS Customer Support Services. This is a chance to learn about the current initiatives taking place within RIT to fully integrate current, important student systems.

Web Applications Week is a great way to close the season, especially as we move into implementing different initiatives from the strategic plan related to web services. Please join ITS for any and all the events listed. To register online, go to the ITS website at http://www.rit.edu/its/news/tech_seminars, email Michelle.Cometa@rit.edu or call 5-2246.

About the Web Applications Week Presenters



John Marrazzo

John Marrazzo is a principal in JM Associates, an established higher education consulting firm. He brings experience as a long time MIS director and advisor to information technology leadership to this presentation. Marrazzo speaks to universities across the country on how IT can be used strategically within the higher education arena, balancing day-to-day operations with integrated applications across the enterprise. His session is timely as many RIT Strategic Planning efforts to integrate technology to meet retention goals and become a Category-of-One institution are underway. He will touch on how colleges and universities leverage their IT investments to meet strategic goals.

Omar Wasow has been called a cyberspace pioneer and Silicon Valleys' "Philosopher Prince." He is NBC's Internet Analyst, director of BlackPlanet.com and was named one of the "Fifty Most Influential People to Watch in Cyberspace" by *Newsweek*. Wasow has been a spokesman for how the Internet is changing people's social, political and economic futures. He brings vast experience as an online entrepreneur, web designer, in the field of new media and as an advocate in overcoming technophobia. Wasow will discuss the digital divide and how we can bridge the distance between online accessibility and barriers to communicating and using this medium effectively across all cultures.



Omar Wasow

Professor Evelyn Rozanski and a group of graduate students of the Golisano College of Computing and Information Science conducted research on how effective web sites are for readability, navigation and communication. This session on Web Usability Studies will showcase past studies the group has done and some results of their research. Rozanski first joined the RIT computing program in 1970 and has since become a spokesperson for studies in Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), interface design, database development and usability studies/eye-tracking on web sites, all part of the growing HCI field in the computer science arena.

Duane Cook, CEO of Strategic e-Business – Cook Consulting, has established himself in the growing market of e-business applications, developing business strategies for companies that want to move into this lucrative arena. Cook was Eastman Kodak Company's e-Business Process Manager before leaving to start his own e-business firm. He's led business-to-business (B2B) trade projects for local, national and global information systems based at Kodak. He led Kodak's Enterprise Resource Planning Electronic Data Interchange development project that won a GE Excellence Award for "creative, innovative, courageous and heroic problem solving."

Professors Elizabeth Lawley and Susan Barnes have become spokeswomen for Social Computing, a term that has come to describe the emerging field of networked computing tools to facilitate interpersonal and organizational communications. Director and co-director respectively of the newly established Lab for Social Computing, the two have become advocates for "the growing need for social components in a wider range of computer tools (particularly information search and management.) Social computing draws as much in the fields of communication, sociology, psychology and even political science as it does on technology and computing."* **Lawley** joined the RIT faculty in 1997. She teaches web design and development technologies. She has researched areas from web logs and wikis to gender issues within the technology fields and education. **Barnes** is an associate professor in the Department of Communication (College of Liberal Arts). She is the author of "Online Connections: Internet Interpersonal Relationships (2001) and Computer-Mediated Communication: Human-to-Human Communication Across the Internet (2003). She is also the Visual Communication Series editor for Hampton Press and has served as chairperson for the Visual Ecology Conference, presented at RIT in 2004.

*[*Information retrieved from the Lab for Social Computing site: http://social.it.rit.edu/about_the_lab/background. For more information about this organization, the team of faculty and students involved in the organization and their current research projects, contact Professor Lawley.]*

RIT Signs Microsoft Campus Licensing Agreement

By Dave Pecora, ITS Operations Manager, dave.pecora@rit.edu

RIT has secured a three year licensing agreement with Microsoft to provide faculty and staff the ability to keep both their work and home computers up to date with the most commonly used Microsoft software and operating systems. This agreement applies to desktop computers only, and does not include server software.

The agreement, called Microsoft Campus, includes the following software titles:

- Microsoft operating system upgrades (e.g., Windows XP Professional) for desktop computers
- Microsoft Office Professional software and upgrades for Windows computers. MS-Office includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access, and Outlook, as well as FrontPage 2000, Publisher 2000, and Visual Studio Pro 2000
- Microsoft Office software and upgrades for Macintosh computers, which also includes Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook
- Client Access Licenses (CALs) for MS-Exchange, SMS, and SharePoint Portal Server. CALs will be required for each machine migrated to the new Exchange email and calendaring systems

Products not covered by the agreement include:

- Microsoft Server operating system software
- MS Visio, Project, or any Microsoft software not explicitly listed above

The three-year agreement allows for the software and upgrades to be applied to any RIT owned computer covered by the program. This means that any RIT owned desktop computer (including lab machines) may be upgraded to the latest Microsoft operating system or Office release without the purchase of a separate license or upgrade license. As always, to arrange for a software upgrade, please contact your system administrator or the ITS HelpDesk at 5-4357, TTY at 5-2810, or send an email to helpdesk@rit.edu.

The agreement also allows for easier home use for RIT employees for the products covered in the agreement. Home use CD's are available for a nominal fee to faculty and staff at the Campus Connections bookstore. Purchase of these CD's provide faculty and staff the ability to keep their home machines up to date with the latest Microsoft software through the Microsoft Campus Licensing Agreement.

[Note: This article was first published in ITS News September 2003. For more information, contact the ITS HelpDesk at 5-HELP (4357), 5-2810 (TTY) or online at helpdesk@rit.edu.]

ITS Staff Information:

Levee Promoted to ERP Programmer/Analyst

By Dave Hostetter, Director, Customer Support Services, dwhits@rit.edu

ITS congratulates Brett Levee on his promotion to ERP Programmer/Analyst in ITS Customer Support Services. Brett's promotion is in recognition of his successful commitment to learning the new skills required to meet the changing needs of his customers. Brett joined RIT in 2003 as an ERP Programmer working on the Financials System Development team supporting the Oracle Applications. Brett has been a key contributor on the Financials System Development team, supporting initiatives like the Oracle Applications to food services gateway, 2004 Benefits Open Enrollment, assisting the Controller's Office extend their use of the Fixed Assets module, developing a new workload distribution application as well as providing production support to our customers.

Mike Yonko Celebrates Fifteen Years at RIT

By Beth Nolan Beal, Director, ITS Administrative Services, eanppt@rit.edu

Mike Yonko is the Business Manager for Information and Technology Services. He provides financial analysis and budget management services to the CIO, directors and managers. In addition to managing all aspects of the divisions' operating and capital budgets, he develops chargeback/recovery models and rates and manages contracts.

Mike Yonko began his career at RIT in March 1990 as a member of the Telecommunications Services department. In addition to budget and financial management services, Mike navigated the changing seas of regulatory and legislative reforms in the local and long distance industry and made significant contributions in evaluating and acquiring these services resulting in considerable savings to the university.

With constant changes in the technology landscape and services at the university, Mike continues to be a key team player and contributor to enable and support the strategic initiatives of the division and RIT. He is a graduate of RIT's MBA program. He holds memberships in the IT Financial Management Association, The Association for Communications Technology Professionals in Higher Education and has held leadership roles in Toastmasters.

Congratulations to Mike in this milestone year for his achievements and our thanks for being a dedicated and supportive member of the RIT family!



ITS Administrative Services, from left: Fran Versace, Karen Wilson, Katie Lundquist, Tonya Brooks, Mike Yonko, Joanne Redmore. The Administrative Services team recently moved from their offices in 7B-Gannett to Building 99 (FMS). All telephone contact information for the group remains the same. Their new fax number is 5-5606.

Digital Self Defense 101

continued from page 4

4. Use a personal firewall. Firewalls protect you from outside intruders and can prevent programs on your computer from inappropriately connecting to the Internet. This can be either hardware or software.
 - a. For RIT-owned or leased computers, contact ITS to get McAfee software firewall. FAST-supported computers run McAfee Firewall.
 - b. For personally-owned or leased Windows computers, a good choice is ZoneAlarm (www.zonealarm.com).
5. Use anti-spyware. Spyware sends personal information to other people without your knowledge. For Windows, Spybot Search & Destroy (www.safer-networking.org) and Ad-Aware (www.lavasoft.de) have free versions for home use and are good choices. You can also use products from reputable vendors such as Microsoft, McAfee, Symantec, and Javacool Software. (Be careful of downloading other anti spyware products. Some of them actually install spyware on your computer.)

You may find that it is best to use more than one product. One program may find something another program missed.

If you are using a RIT-owned or leased computer, talk to your system administrator about what they would recommend. At this date, RIT has not chosen an Institute-wide anti-spyware product.

If you're running a **Macintosh** or **Linux** OS:

1. Install antivirus software, keep it up to date, and scan your system at least weekly. For Mac users, RIT provides McAfee Virex antivirus software free for both home and campus use at (www.rit.edu/its/services/security/). For Linux, a good choice is ClamAV (www.clamav.net). Be sure you turn on their auto-update features.
2. Make sure the Operating System (Mac, Linux, etc.) is up-to-date with its patches and unless supported by an RIT systems administrator, has auto-update turned on.
3. Macintosh users can use the built-in firewall in OSX. If this is your first time running Linux, the Debian version is a user-friendly choice (www.debian.org)

This seems like a lot to do. How can I do all these things?

Yes, it's a lot to do. But it's the minimum we need to do. And you don't have to do it all at once. Run a virus scan one day, run anti-spyware another day. Check for detection updates before running the programs.

Fixing or recovering from attacks is hard work and a lot more difficult than preventing them. There is truth in the old saying, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

Our goal is to help all users safeguard both personal and RIT information. The Information Security Office is not trying to make using your computer more difficult; we are trying to make it safer. In the long run, you will be more productive.

Where do I go for more information?

Visit the RIT Information Security website at security.rit.edu to get the schedule for our Digital Self Defense 101 workshops and find out more ways to protect yourself. Go to the ITS website at www.rit.edu/its/services/security/ to obtain software and installation instructions. For more information, contact RIT Information Security at infosec@rit.edu.

Profiles in CO-OP

continued from page 6

volved with technology in some way,” he says.

Daren considers himself quite the workaholic. Before getting his co-op position with ITS, Daren worked at Ritter Ice Arena, Campus Connections, and did some freelance work with a few local Rochester companies.

Daren’s current position is ITS DSS Daytime Operations Assistant. He oversees daily operation of 17 computer labs across campus and deals with everything from computer technical problems, including software, hardware and network issues, to “people” concerns including staffing, training, reporting and discipline. Daren makes sure that all of the ITS labs are open per schedule and that students using those labs enjoy a pleasant working environment. He selected this position after turning down 5-6 other co-op opportunities elsewhere. He liked the position description and the working environment. “Most jobs that I turned down were either programming 40 hours a week or doing something I didn’t enjoy in an environment that I wasn’t comfortable in. ITS offered me a position doing something I’d like to do for a career later in life and at a place I was comfortable in.”

When Daren is not working at ITS, he enjoys being a hockey fan and player. He considers himself an avid hockey enthusiast. He has been a member of the RIT hockey community at both the varsity and intramural levels and would like to some day try his hand at coaching.

Daren enjoys working for ITS. “I get to work amongst my peers and with a solid management team. I get to provide a service that helps students at RIT in their progress. I remember my days as a student in the COB and how helpful it was,” he says. He would recommend the position to others as, “It’s a good chance to learn leadership and management skills. Managing day-to-day operations of 17 labs and 200+ employees over the campus is a great learning experience in responsibility, problem solving and management. Building of these skills and having experience in these different areas will help me down the road when preparing for a career and future in most any field.”

ITS enjoys having Daren on our team and looks forward to working with him for the rest of the quarter.

Educational Technology Day Set For March 24 at Ithaca College

The 15th annual Educational Technology Day takes place again at Ithaca College on **Thursday, March 24 from 9 am to 4 pm** at the college’s Campus Center. The event is free and open to the public. It features a Vendor Technology Showcase with more than 45 local and national computer and communications vendors, a college showcase and a series of technology seminars. The sponsors focus on higher education and offer a multi-platform, multi-vendor range of technology for use within college campuses. Registration is requested by logging on to the web site: <http://www.ithaca.edu/edtechday> or by sending your name, company, and address to edtechday@ithaca.edu. Participants who register will be entered in a drawing for an Apple iPod courtesy of Apple Computer.

From Tunes to Jewelry

continued from page 1

Throughout high school, Jerry's friends sought him out for computer help and his collection of games and songs was the source of his popularity. Some of the parents sought him out for music collections to play at the graduation or birthday parties for their sons and daughters. No one questioned how he got all the music.

The only hindrances Jerry saw to growing his game and music collections was the size of the hard disk on his machine and the speed of the modem he had to use to access the net. He and all his friends coveted the fast connections that were not yet available in his town.

In the fall of 1999, one of Jerry's dreams came true. He arrived at RIT. The network was one of the fastest in the country. His music collection grew to over 400 titles before his interests and time were used elsewhere. Except for a few favorites, Jerry forgot about the music collection sitting on the hard disk of one of his older computers.

Jerry forgot about the music until, based on an investigation into an unrelated matter, the FBI found the music. Innocent of the original charge that allowed the FBI to confiscate his machine, Jerry was surprised to be charged with a felony. He had violated United States copyright law. Jerry was subject to fines and jail time for the hundreds of MP3 tracks he stored illegally on his computer.

When I met Jerry, in December 2004, he was happy to have been able to come to my office on short notice. Jerry had been required to ask permission from his probation officer to come to campus. He was wearing an ankle "bracelet" of the type affixed to the legs of a felon on house arrest. The entire time we were talking, Jerry checked his watch about every 30 seconds. His probation officer had set a time when Jerry needed to be back at his apartment. Jerry had to leave in time to avoid a probation violation. He related a few of the times his house arrest had gotten him in trouble. Jerry talked about the time his boss asked him to deliver a package to a colleague in a building about ¼ mile away. That resulted in a contact from his probation officer that required him to gather signatures verifying that he was working and how long the delivery trip took.

The moral of the story is Jerry would do things differently if he had had any idea what those MP3s meant to his future. Jerry wants to share the lessons he learned from the experience.

1. Having a felony conviction on your record limits your future. It limits the kind of work you can do and who will hire you. The type of financial aid that is available is restricted.
2. The cost of a court case and any fines imposed by the court far exceeds the cost of purchasing your favorite music.
3. House arrest is better than a prison term but having to ask permission of a seldom-available probation officer each time you leave the house for something other than approved work or school is dehumanizing. Social activities are not approved so you have no social life.
4. Copying music is immature and short sighted. You probably would not consider putting your job in jeopardy by downloading music at work. Why put your schooling and career at stake?

"It's just not worth it," Jerry concluded.

**Jerry is a real RIT student. His name and some of the details of his experience have been modified to protect his privacy. Donna Cullen coordinates and manages RIT's response to computer abuse and works to better educate the RIT community about what constitutes the actions that might be a violation of the RIT Code of Conduct for Computer and Network Abuse. Learn more about her role, educational outreach and essentials for investigating Computer Code of Conduct issues by contacting Donna or reviewing information in the September issue of ITS News. (Online at <http://www.rit.edu/its/news>)*

ITS Contact Information

DSS Computing Labs

Hours, locations, hardware, software, and reservations information available at:
http://www.rit.edu/its/services/computer_labs

Telecommunications Services

To contact the Telecommunications Services call 475-5800.

ITS HelpDesk

Located in the Gannett building, rm. 7B-1113

To contact the ITS HelpDesk

- Call 475-HELP or 475-2810 (TTY)
- Send e-mail to helpdesk@rit.edu

Regular hours

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