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## Spyware and your Home Computer

By Amy Armstrong

Spyware and malware is an increasing problem on home computers. Many times an innocent looking "helper" application or download from the internet will also contain spyware or malware that will be installed on the computer without the user even noticing. Spyware can do a variety of bad things, from keeping track of your browsing habits and sites to installing a backdoor on your computer for a malicious user to control your computer.

The University has always provided McAfee VirusScan at no charge for faculty, staff and students. They have now improved this product and integrated Anti-Spyware with it. It is now available for download at [http://  
virusbusters.itcs.umich.edu](http://virusbusters.itcs.umich.edu).

It is extremely important to remove any Virus Software (including McAfee VirusScan) prior to installing the new version. Go to Control Panel/Add Remove Programs and then remove the Virus Software. Also you MUST reboot after uninstalling prior to installing the new version.



HOME OF THE WORLD FAMOUS  
**VIRUS BUSTERS**

<http://virusbusters.itcs.umich.edu>



## Desk Coverage During Breaks

By Jen McGowan

The Campus Information Centers desks are staffed by students 19 hours each day. While our hours are reduced during school breaks and the regular work schedule is suspended, we still rely on our students for desk coverage. Rather than try to scramble and beg students at the last minute to work over break, we set clear "break coverage" rules at the beginning of the year. We add up the total number of hours that will need to be covered during the four breaks - Fall, Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring - and divide that total by the number of students on staff. Each student must then commit to being responsible for that number of hours (generally it's around 20 hours per student). At the staff meeting before each break, we have a sign-up process to cover that break's hours. It is possible to work all of your required hours over one break, but most student work a few hours over each break until their commitment is fulfilled.

**"...four breaks - Fall, Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring"**

### FEBRUARY 2ND WAS:



Hooray!!! No shadow, according to folklore that means an early spring! That's something to smile about!

### Phil Says Spring is Right Around the Corner!

*Phil's official forecast as read 2/2/07 at 7:28 a.m. at Gobbler's Knob:*

El Nino has caused high winds, heavy snow, ice and freezing temperatures in the west.

Here in the East with much mild winter weather we have been blessed.

Global warming has caused a great debate. This mild winter makes it seem just great.

On this Groundhog Day we think of one thing. Will we have winter or will we have spring?

On Gobbler's Knob I see no shadow today. I predict that early spring is on the way.



Here's Phil in Pennsylvania

Taken from: <http://groundhog.org/prediction/>

# Keeping Website Information Accurate

By Maria Laitan

As a new semester and year get underway, take a moment to browse your department's website. Returning students, faculty and staff depend on the information that your website provides. This is why it's important that the information is current. Past events and old information are a couple of the most frustrating things visitors encounter on websites.

Some things to think about are: Have there been staffing changes in your department that need to be changed on your website? Is your department offering a new program or activity? This is the type of information that visitors want to see on your website.

If there is a busier time of year in your office then your website probably has a higher traffic volume as well. It is also a good idea to do a monthly check of the information on your website.

If you have questions on how to update your website please email Technology Services at [techservices@umich.edu](mailto:techservices@umich.edu).

**"Have there been staffing changes in your department that need to be changed on your website"**

## MEET THE STAFF

<p>Name: Matt Aldridge</p> <p>Job Title: Web Designer</p> <p>What you do: I design and develop web pages for the Division of Student Affairs</p> <p>How long have you been at UM? I started as a student in the fall of 2002</p> <p>What do you like best about your job? I work with a really great group of people. They are fun to be around and a fabulous resource. I definitely look forward to coming in everyday.</p> <p>What do you like to do in your free time? I</p>	<p>like to stay active so I'm always trying to squeeze in a game of volleyball, tennis, or golf. I also love playing and listening to music, hanging out with friends, and of course messing around with computers.</p> <p>What's your favorite computer tip or trick? Setting bookmark shortcuts in Firefox. No more long URLs!</p> <p>List a few of your favorite web sites: Arstechnica, Gizmodo, Amazon.co.uk</p> <p>Where were you born? Lansing, MI</p> <p>What is your college degree? BA Economics</p>	<p>If you won the lotto what would you do? Buy a cottage on Lake Michigan</p> <p>Favorite movie? Labyrinth</p> <p>Favorite Book? Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger or Freakonomics by Steven Levitt</p> <p>Do you have any special talents? Um...nothing to entertain a crowd with... though I do play four instruments</p> <p>Do you speak any foreign languages? I can meander my way through Spanish</p> <p>Favorite quote: "I was put on this earth to accomplish a certain number of things. Right now I'm so far behind I will never die."</p>
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**WEBSITE OF THE  
MONTH**

## MUTO-MICHIGAN UNION TICKET

By Maria Laitan

<http://www.umich.edu/~muto>

The MUTO website was recently redesigned to give it a more up-to-date appearance as well as becoming more user friendly.

The new site offers an at-a-glance view of upcoming events on its homepage. The UM\*Events calendar was integrated with the site so campus events are posted from the calendar. Some of the other features include simplified navigation and slide out information.

Besides campus events, MUTO is also an authorized Ticketmaster outlet and sells discounted tickets to Cedar Point in the spring and summer months.

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# February Fast Facts

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

- ◆ February begins on the same day of the week as March and November in a common year, and on the same day of the week as August in a leap year.
- ◆ On a few occasions in history, February has had 30 days.
- ◆ February in the Northern Hemisphere is the seasonal equivalent to August in the Southern Hemisphere and vice versa.
- ◆ February's birthstone is amethyst.
- ◆ February's birth flower is the violet or primrose.
- ◆ The Chinese floral emblem of February is the peach blossom.