

BRING YOUR
SPRING BREAK
PICTURES IN FOR
HIGH-QUALITY
1 HOUR PROCESSING
10% Student DISCOUNT



EUGENE'S QUALITY 1-HOUR PHOTOFINISHER!

18th & Willamette 484-6116

Community

Many viruses plague computers

Disinfectant programs for disks abound

By Bob Waite Emerald Contributor

Jeff Bolkan, a Eugene computer store employee, ran his virus-checker program recently and discovered a surprise — after four years of using a telephone modem to get files from computer bulletin boards he found he had a virus.

Fortunately he discovered it before it did any damage to his system and used his anti-virus program to destroy it.

Bolkan is one of an estimated 90,000 personal computer owners in the United States to contract one of about 100 viruses that affect IBM, IBM compatible and Macintosh computers, according to the Computer Virus Industry Association.

Actually, computer woes are more numerous and more complex than just the virus epidemic, but viruses are the most deceptive, according to a September 1989 Popular Science article. There are "bombs." "worms." "trojan horses" and true viruses.

A bomb is a program that is timed to "explode," or destroy data, at some future date. The creation of bombs has been attributed to disgruntled former company employees.

A worm is similar to a virus — it replicates itself — but it does no damage other than making so many copies of itself that it slows down and ulti-

mately "crashes" systems.

A trojan horse is a program, often released as shareware or freeware (non-commercial software) that purports to do something good but contains hidden instructions to do damage, such as re-format hard disks, causing all data to be erased.

A true virus makes copies of itself, like a worm, and contains instructions to do various types of damage, like trojan horses and bombs. who writes viruses) likes this type because it will infect a large computer population before it is discovered, thus doing more damage.

Viruses enter computers through telephone modems or shared disks. The virus will then copy itself into the host computer's hard disk and any floppy disks used in the computer, Bolkan said.

If the computer owner shares infected disks with others, or

'The worst thing about viruses is that they cause people to isolate their computers rather than communicate with them. They're crippling computer use with fear.'

Jeff Bolkan

Some do their damage immediately but some, like "Friday 13th" and "Columbus Day" viruses, are timed to go off at a specific date.

And then there are "key" viruses, one of which infected Bolkan's computer.

The programmer released the virus with instructions to copy itself, do damage, and wait for the "key" program, a second co-virus, to be released before it did any damage.

Bolkan said the "cyberpunk" (computerese for a programmer sends infected files to computer bulletin boards, the virus continues to spread itself until detected and destroyed, he said.

Virus programs are very small, often four bytes or less, making them nearly impossible to detect.

They have colorful names like "Falling Tears," "Friday 13th," "Stoned Marijuana" and "AIDS," said silicon valley programmer John McAffee, chairman of the CVIA, and

Turn to Viruses, Page 19

Preeeesenting...

SPRING RECREATION CLASSES



FITNESS	DAY	TIME
Aerobics	MW	4:35pm
Aerobics	UH	4:35pm
Aerobics	MW	6:35pm
Aerobics	UH	6:35pm
Aerobics	MW	7:35pm
Aerobics	UH	7:35pm
Aerobics	MW	8:35pm
Aerobics	UH	8:35pm
Women's Weight Workout	UH	6:30pm
Women's Weight Workout	UH	9:30pm
Spring Training	UH	5:30-6:30pm

AQUATIC FITNESS	DAY	TIME
Water Aerobics	UH	4:00pn
Water Aerobics	MW	6:30pn
Water Aerobics	UH	6:30pn
Water Aerobics	MW	7:30pn
Water Aerobics	UH	7:30pn

DANCE	DAY	TIME
Swing/Fox Trot	М	6:30-8pm
Beginning Latin	M	8-9:30pm
Clogging	Н	7-8:30pm
MARTIAL ARTS	DAY	TIME
Tae Kwon Do	UH	5:30-6:30pm

CLASS REGISTRATION - 103 Gerlinger

Registration: Mar. 28, 10am-noon; Mar. 29, 2-4pm; Mar. 30, 2:30-4:30 pm — \$15 Late Registration: Apr. 2-13, 8am-5pm — \$18

CLASSES RUN FOR 8 WEEKS FROM APR. 2-MAY 24, 1990.