

Internet access

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ware is theft and will not be tolerated on campus. Illegally copied software subjects the University to risk of litigation and denies software authors the compensation they deserve."

Smith said he has seen a marked increase in violations of federal copyright infringement law in the past school year.

The University has measures for locating and punishing students for violating copyright infringement law, Smith said. Network Services can check its database and find the top 50 bandwidth users. Those users' files are then reviewed for

file-sharing software as well as movie and music files. If illegal files are found, Smith said, the student's computer port is disconnected.

Each student found violating copyright laws is then instructed to make an appointment with the Office of Student Conduct, where students are informed they have broken a federal law.

"We have 70-80 cases so far with this violation," Judicial Affairs Program secretary Brenda Tuomi said. "Our goal is to educate students on the acceptable use policy — not to punish them."

Each case is handled individually. As a consequence of this violation, students can be given a warn-

ing or be given community service, Tuomi said.

After meeting with the Office of Student Conduct, students can have their computer ports turned on again. However, students are warned that if another violation occurs, computer ports will be turned off for the rest of the year, said Norm Myers, Computing Services coordinator for the residence halls.

Myers said problems can arise in residence halls because if one occupant of a room violates copyright law, both of the room's computer ports are turned off, regardless of who is at fault. Once the guilty party is informed, the other port in the room is reconnected as soon as possible, said Myers.

Courtney Warner, a freshman in Bean Hall, is angry about having her computer port turned off.

"It would have been better if someone would have told us that what we were doing was wrong. A whole week without the Internet is not easy to deal with," she said.

She said she learned about Kazaa and Morpheus in Stall Talk, a publication posted in residence hall bathrooms that is published by Learning Communities.

Both Warner and her roommate had their ports turned off last Friday and are awaiting appointments with the Office of Student Conduct.

Myers said because of the high number of student violators, Internet

reconnection may take nearly a week.

Last Thursday, posters were put up in residence halls warning students that their ports could be turned off if they use software such as Kazaa and Morpheus and allow users to upload copyright files from their computer.

"The safest way to take care of this problem for students affected is to delete the programs," Myers said. "Students can also disable file sharing on the application. We are available to assist anyone who needs help."

Network Services has said this is a copyright issue and not a bandwidth issue, but Computing Center personnel have acknowledged that downloading music and movies slows the system because the Internet is a shared resource.

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Day of the Dead

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The deceased's favorite items, such as their favorite food, music and clothing are also placed on the altar, along with a glass of water, Morales said.

"You put one glass of water on the altar because they are coming very tired from the other world," he said.

MEChA is also selling "calaveras," which are papier mâché skull masks, at the event, Villasenor said. The masks are decorations that symbolize death but are not necessarily painted with negative images, she said.

Hernandez added the event is not a sad event, but rather a celebration, so that people won't fear death.

"(Death) is going to happen to everyone," she said. "It's normal, and people shouldn't be afraid."

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