

# Search engine violates online privacy

Google, a popular Internet search engine, provides information for any given phone number, concerning some about their safety

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Environment/Science/Technology Reporter

Looking for a name and address to go with that phone number that keeps showing up on Caller ID? Google, a popular Internet search engine, can help.

Two years ago, Google introduced "Google Phonebook," a

search engine that will produce a name, number and street directions to a corresponding phone number. However, the phone number must already be listed in a separate phone book, such as Whitepages.com or the Reverse Phone Directory, for Google to produce it.

Although the information Google posts is already accessible online, students at the University said they are unhappy with the thought of strangers being able to enter in their phone number, especially to get direc-

tions to their houses.

"Is that legal?" sophomore Andrew Williams asked. He added that even though the service was legal, it made him question whether or not he wanted to use Google.

"It makes me mad Google just disregards my privacy," he said.

On the Google phone book removal page, Google states, "Google's phone and address listings are gathered by a third-party provider, which collects telephone directories and other public records available elsewhere on

the Web."

Google spokeswoman Eileen Rodriguez said the company takes information that is already publicly available on the Web, adding that the feature has positive benefits.

"If you want directions to a retail store, and you only have the phone number, you can get explicit directions from Google," she said.

Rodriguez said that it is possible to opt out of the phone book feature by clicking on the blue telephone icon next to the name that appears

and following the directions. She pointed out that removing a name from the Google database, however, would not remove it from other online directories.

Freshman John Logue said that while he understood the positive benefits of getting directions based on a phone number, it still made him uncomfortable.

"It's scary that someone can track me down by using only my phone number," he said.

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## Performance

continued from page 1

Korea in Eugene" program, featured entertainment ranging from a traditional fan dance performed by local Korean elementary school students to modern Korean hip-hop, performed by University group Main-Flow.

Korea Night at the University this year is unique in that it kicks off the month-long cultural program, "Meet Korea in Eugene," which includes a Korean photography exhibit, a lecture series and a film festival. Community groups such as the Eugene Korean Association have been working in conjunction with student groups to make all the events possible.

Sunday evening opened with a dinner composed of "really typical, traditional Korean food," said freshman Sojin Kim, member of the KSA as well as

the event's food coordinator. Appetizers included mandu and japachae, a traditional glass noodle vegetable stir-fry. The main course consisted of light teriyaki chicken or bulldog, a Korean beef dish. The dessert offerings included three different kinds of ttuk, a traditional rice cake filled with sweet syrups.

The evening's entertainment began with a traditional Nanta performance, a comedic stage show set to traditional Korean rhythms. Nine performances followed and were intended to showcase the diversity of Korean cultural forms. The University Tae Kwon Do Club exhibited the now-famous martial art originally developed more than 20 centuries ago in Korea. Students also gave a Samulnori performance, a more modern form of music first performed in 1978 and

conceptualized as a rhythm for promoting efficient work on Korean farms.

Another unique twist on the evening's traditional feel was provided by Main-Flow, a Korean hip-hop group made up of three University students. Soebin Jang, John Lee and Peter Min have "shared an interest in hip-hop and rap for a long time," according to Min. The three decided to form the group in order to perform at the 2000 Korean Karaoke Night, organized by the KSA three years ago.

Although for many, Korea Night is an opportunity for inclusion and education, the event did not transpire in a political vacuum.

"I have always been interested in different cultures," said University senior Jessica Geller, who has a friend living in Korea. "Events like this help to understand other people's experience."

"Every Korean student is worrying," KSA president Wankyu Lee said. "If there is a war, we may not stay here and study."

Hee-jong Sohn, director of the "Meet Korea" program, also recognized the impact of the political situation in Korea.

"This is a special time for Koreans because there is great international interest in Korea right now," she said. "It is important to make Korean culture and art open to the community, to understand on a civilian level, not just a political level."

Organizers hope this month's celebration of Korean culture will do just that. For more information on scheduled events, visit the program's Web site at [www.meetkorea.org](http://www.meetkorea.org).

Andrew Shipley is a freelance writer for the Emerald.

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