Ruling does not affect students' downloads

Although a judge ruled in favor of Morpheus and Grokster, University students' file sharing has not increased

Ali Shaughnessy

File-sharing services have come

a long way since the start of Napster in 1999. Since then, both the recording and movie industry have been looking for ways to stop it, and students have been looking for ways to expand it.

The latest battle resulted in a victory for file sharing when a Los Angeles judge ruled file-sharing services Morpheus and Grokster could not control what is traded using their respective programs and therefore cannot be held liable. The Motion Picture Association of America and the Recording Industry of America filed the lawsuit and have vowed to appeal the court's decision.

Student use of file sharing programs has not increased at the University, however, despite the ruling in favor of Morpheus and Grokster.

Residence Hall Computing Ser-

the recent rulings have not affected the uploading and downloading traffic on campus, adding that because it is close to the end of the school year, fewer and fewer students are uploading.

'We're seeing less because we've talked to so many students already, and they are educated by now," he said. "It's pretty peaceful.

Some say file sharing has become a way of life in the residence halls on campus. University student Erica Reid said she has been using the file-sharing program Kazaa for the past year.

"It's nice, because I don't have to pay money for a whole CD when I just want one song," she said. Reid added that since the launch of Apple's iTunes Music Store, a service that allows users to download individual songs for 99 cents per track, she would be willing to switch from file sharing to iTunes.

File sharing first took off in May 1999 when Northeastern University freshman Shawn Fanning founded Napster, an easy peer-to-peer service that allowed users to trade music and movies online. After the creation of Napster, other similar programs emerged, such as Kazaa and Grokster.

In February 2001, after a flurry of lawsuits were brought against Napster by multiple record labels and Metallica, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found Napster knew its users were violating copyright law, and Napster agreed to remove a list of songs from its server.

Myers said the University started monitoring file sharing within the residence halls three to four years ago, and while students are allowed to download files, uploading is forbidden.

Myers said that when computing services finds students who have been uploading files, they call the students and ask them to turn it off. However, if the University gets a formal complaint from the music or record industry, the students will get their Internet jack turned off until they can prove they are no longer uploading, and they will be sent to student conduct.

Contact the reporter at alishaughnessy@dailyemerald.com.



Mark McCambridge Emerald

Some people believe file sharing has become a way of life in the residence halls on campus, although fewer students are participating toward the end of the school year.

Crime watch

Theft and recoveries

The Department of Public Safety received six bike theft reports from Lawrence Hall, Chapman Hall, Hamilton Complex, PLC and off campus. DPS also received

five found property reports.

Wednesday, May 21,
10:37 p.m.: DPS received a
report of a stolen laptop
from Walton Complex.

Disorderly conduct

DPS received three re-ports of car vandalism, three reports of can rummaging and two trespassed subject reports.

Wednesday, May 21, 6:04 a.m.: DPS received a report of a subject exposing himself at Condon Hall.

Alcohol

and drugs

DPS received four reports
of drug law violations, three reports of liquor law viola-

tions and one MIP report.

Friday, May 23, 1:56
a.m.: DPS received a report of several subjects drinking in the volleyball pits at Car-

Miscellaneous

received seven towed vehicle reports, three of which occurred on East 15th Avenue during the Prefontaine Classic. Saturday, May 24, 8:41

m.: DPS received a report of a subject bleeding as a result of injury at the Student Recreation Center.

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