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Theft

Continued from page 1

mail, "shoulder surfing" at ATM machines to capture PIN numbers and by fraudulently accessing your credit report by posing as an employer or landlord. The majority of victims never know how their identifying information was compromised, according to Michel J. Arata's book, "Preventing Identity Theft for Dummies."

"Today's fastest growing means of harvesting personal information is phishing e-mail," David Sustaita, A&M senior information technology associate said. "Phishing is a high-tech scam that uses spam to deceive consumers into disclosing credit card numbers, bank account information, Social Security numbers, passwords and other sensitive personal information."

Once the information has been stolen, the thief can buy cars, obtain loans, open charge accounts and get traffic citations in the unknown victim's name. The worst part is the victim never knows this is occurring until he is contacted by a creditor demanding payment on an account that has never been heard of until then, Colonel John T. Stevens, a victim of identity theft, said. Stevens has testified before the U.S. Senate about identity theft and is considered an expert on the subject.

"This is a crime that can completely disrupt your life," Stevens said. "It is degrading and demeaning to be accused to being an irresponsible deadbeat and to be forced to correct something you did not do."

The criminal who stole Stevens' information purchased a Jeep Grand Cherokee and over \$113,000 worth of merchandise on 33 fraudulent accounts. It took Stevens over four years to clear his name.

"My wife and I would spend six to eight hours a day locating creditors, writing letters and making phone calls," Stevens said. "We thought our nightmare was over and then it would start all over again."

People whose identities have been stolen can potentially spend months or years cleaning up the mess. In the meantime, victims may lose job opportunities, be refused loans, education, housing or cars and even get arrested for crimes they didn't commit, according to "Preventing Identity Theft for Dummies."

Purchasing a paper shredder and shredding all pre-approved credit applications and credit card receipts is one way to prevent victimization, according to identitytheft.org. The Web site also suggests making up difficult passwords for all accounts, ordering a credit report at least twice a year, monitoring bank statements and canceling all credit cards that haven't been used in more than six months. Also, it advises people to never carry their Social Security card or more than two credit cards at a time.

If you suspect your identity has been stolen, the FTC advises closing all accounts you suspect may have been tampered with, contacting the fraud department at a credit bureau to place a fraud alert on your credit file and contacting the police immediately. Stevens also said demanding a copy of the credit application on fraudulent accounts is the best way to prove the account was opened by someone else.

"Like anything else, people think it won't happen to them," Zantop said. "I got lucky, but I am a prime example that it does happen. It happens to college kids, it happens to Aggies and it happens to me."

Folger

Continued from page 1

"We look for people who are actively at work on different projects with interesting intersections," Lynch said.

A&M is one of 40 universities affiliated with the Folger Institute, including one in Canada and two in Britain, and is the first affiliated university west of the Mississippi River.

"We started locally in 1970 with two universities in Washington, D.C., and our sense of what is possible has steadily expanded," Lynch said.

The affiliation process is a long series of conversations and negotiations, Lynch said.

"We look for universities that have strengths in the humanities," Lynch said. "The faculty at Texas A&M is great; we already have a good relationship with several of them and the administration is very supportive."

James Harner, professor of English and the Samuel Rhea Gammon Professor of Liberal Arts, was instrumental in the affiliation process and will serve as A&M's representative on the institute's planning board, Smith said.

"Jim (Harner) and other faculty have created an excellent program here for early modernism and Shakespeare in particular, especially through the World Shakespeare Bibliography," Smith said.

The World Shakespeare Bibliography, published by

Saddam

Continued from page 1

He reported that Saddam, 67, was being treated for high blood pressure and a chronic prostate infection, has a hernia and was gaining weight after losing 11 pounds during a time when he resisted all fatty foods.

Saddam is not allowed newspapers, TV or radio, but has access to 145 books — mostly travel books and novels — donated by the Red Cross.

Amin said Saddam tends a garden during his daily three-hour exercise period.

"He is looking after a few bushes and shrubs and has even placed a circle of white stones around a small palm tree," Amin was quoted as saying. "His apparent care for his surroundings is ironic when you think he was responsible for one of the biggest ecocides when he drained the southern marshes."

Google

Continued from page 1

many hot new Internet stocks saw their prices multiply many times over in a matter of hours, even though the companies had yet to make a profit.

"There are no virgins anymore when it comes to Internet investing," Randall said. "All investors — whether institutional or individuals — are far more savvy about what's possible as an Internet company."

Google shares will be distributed in an unusual auction designed to give the general public a better chance to buy stock before shares begin trading. In the past, companies' IPO shares have been restricted to an elite group picked by the investment bankers handling the deal.

Google founders Larry Page and Sergey Brin, who dreamed up the idea in a Stanford University dorm room and formed the company in 1998, also stand to profit handsomely along with its stock-holding employees and venture capital investors.

Harner, is an annotated list of resources related to Shakespeare.

Affiliation with the institute will give A&M a greater opportunity to participate in seminars that will increase visibility at the national and international level, said Margaret Ezell, an English professor who has participated in two Folger Library programs.

Affiliation with the Folger Institute will also give A&M access to other similar resources, such as the Newberry Library in Chicago, Lynch said.

The affiliation was initiated by the Department of English and is supported by the English department, the Office of the Dean of Liberal Arts and the Melburn G. Glasscock Center for Humanities Research.

NEWS IN BRIEF

San Antonio's first Spanish-language newspaper debuts

SAN ANTONIO — Rumbo, the city's first Spanish-language daily newspaper, will hit the streets on Monday.

Published by the San Antonio-based Meximerica Media Group, the paper will sell for 25 cents on newsstands and in supermarkets, corner stores and restaurants. Rumbo's business delivery is planned for selected areas of the city.

The paper planned to print 35,000 copies for its first issue. Rumbo is aimed primarily at Hispanics, ages 21 to 34, who come from first-generation and early second-generation immigrant families, said Robert R. Harner, the company's managing director. The paper will include local, national, sports and entertainment news.

Rumbo has a staff of about 10 and plans to expand its coverage by launching papers in Houston, Austin and the Rio Grande Valley by September.

Firefighters say

bitten on arm, leg

FREEMONT — An 11-year-old boy who was attacked by a shark remained hospitalized Monday.

The unidentified boy was ten on the arm and leg when he was bitten Sunday night at Beach on the Gulf of Mexico.

The boy's parents took him to the Freemont fire station where emergency officials determined the injuries probably would require surgery in Houston, Deputy Fire Chief Chris Motley said. He was flown by helicopter to Memorial Hermann Children's Hospital.

Motley, who is chief of emergency medical services, said the boy had been wading fishing for with his family. He was carrying a bag of the day's catch when he was bitten three times — once on the right arm and above and on his right knee.

Women arrested

9-year-old's death

ARLINGTON — The lifeless body of an emaciated and bruised 9-year-old boy was found Monday and his mother and her partner were arrested in connection with the death, police said.

Marcella Lorrian Williams, 28, and her partner, Lisa Ann Cole, 28, were jailed in Arlington Monday. Each faced a charge of neglecting a child. The first-degree felony carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Williams called police Monday morning saying her son, David Williams, was not breathing. Arlington police spokesman Christy Gilfour, Medical Examiner then arrived at the apartment, found the boy and called police.

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Editor in Chief

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