Oooo What a cool link!
Someone sent me a card!

Have you ever gotten a message from a friend with a link to some “cool” site? Or worse have you received a message from someone you didn’t even know had your screen name asking you to “view their new pics”? Most likely they had no idea they were sending you any IM and are far too embarrassed now to tell you. These are only two examples of the method that current viruses travel through AIM and other instant messaging programs. These programs force your friend’s computer to send out this “cool” link. Once you click on this link you are sent to a blank web page just waiting to download a virus, trojan, or bot. Once infected, hold on to your seats, AIM is going to take you for a ride. The instant messenger will send out a series of IMs to everyone on your buddy list about your new pics or a greeting card you are sending them. So that person you were secretly watching on your list knows who you are and thinks you made them a lovely little card. Within minutes of them opening the link to your “card” they now have the virus and are sending it out to their buddy list and so on...

The best defense is a good offense (don’t click on links through IM unless you verify with the sender that they did indeed send you a link). But, what should you do if you’ve already clicked that link and your computer is infected? The Help Desk uses two tools in addition to anti-virus and anti-spyware scans to remove viruses and other malware from your computer. One is called the “AIM fix” and the other is called “Blacklist”. These tools can be found at: http://helpdesk.oneonta.edu (click on Downloads and then Anti-Virus). You can run these programs yourself, but if you should need assistance please feel free to contact the Help Desk at 436-4567 and schedule an appointment.

Jessica Crescente

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Join our team at the Help Desk

Have you considered being a Help Desk Support Consultant at the Information Technology Help Desk? Working as an HDSC provides an opportunity to develop your computer and customer service skills; learn about new technology; work with students, faculty and staff; provide technical support to students in residence halls, and gain valuable experience to help develop a strong work ethic. We also provide paid training. This is a job that will help you develop technical skills that will look great on your resume. We’ll be hiring for the Fall 2006 semester.

JOIN OUR TEAM!
Apply now!
Please stop at the Help Desk, Schumacher B12, for an application.
End of Support-Windows 98 & ME

In order to continue to provide the most reliable and secure computing environment for students, faculty, and staff, the College can no longer support the following Microsoft operating systems, Windows 98, Windows 98 Second Edition, Windows ME and Windows NT. This change is necessary because of the security risks created because Microsoft is no longer providing updates for these systems, which leaves them open to attack from hacking, viruses, and other malware, creating risk for all users of the College network. Please note that if you are running one of these operating systems you will no longer be able to access the college’s network starting May 22, 2006. Student’s who are still running these operating systems should contact the Information Technology Help Desk at 607-436-4567 or email HELPME@ONEONTA.EDU with any questions you may have. See the article below for more information.

Article Courtesy of Microsoft taken from http://www.microsoft.com/windows/support/endofsupport.mspx

“July 11, 2006 will bring a close to Extended Support for Windows 98, Windows 98 Second Edition, and Windows Me as part of the Microsoft Lifecycle Policy. Microsoft will retire public and technical support, including security updates, by this date.

Existing support documents and content, however, will continue to be available at: http://support.microsoft.com/gp/hublist.
This Web site will continue to host a wealth of previous How-to,
Troubleshooting, and Configuration content for anyone who may need self-service. Microsoft is retiring support for these products because they are outdated and can expose customers to security risks. We recommend that customers who are still running Windows 98 or Windows Me upgrade to a newer, more secure Microsoft operating system, such as Windows XP, as soon as possible.

Customers who upgrade to Windows XP report improved security, richer functionality, and increased productivity.”

Need to upgrade your software?
Learn how to upgrade to Windows XP Professional http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/pro/upgrading/default.mspx

Save yourself $18 million!

Do you download music, movies, or cable television shows? 10 songs a month? 10 songs a week? A day? If you do, then you might find the following information interesting.

I recently did some research on how much online downloading sites charge per month, opposed to how much the fines are if you are sued by the RIAA (Recording Industry Association of America), and what I found was amazing. You can pay five dollars a month and get unlimited downloads from Yahoo! Music, or even ten dollars a month for unlimited downloads at Napster (with a wider selection of artists) and this would cost you all of $60-$120 a year for whatever music you may want to enjoy. Now lets look at the other side of it: if you illegally download music, the cost is $0 a month, free. This is a pretty good deal, and a lot better than paying, but how much is it if the RIAA catches you and fines you? The lawsuits allow courts to fine between $750.00 and $150,000.00 PER SONG!

What this means is, after a year of illegally downloading, at only 10 songs a month, you could end up paying between $90,000 and $18,000,000. Sit back and think about those numbers. Do you really want to work for the rest of your life to payoff a fine, just because you had to have the newest song? Ask yourself again— do you download music? 10 songs a month? 10 songs a week? A day? Think about what this could mean for you and your future, and then decide if you want to keep on downloading illegally.

Matthew Kurz
Sources:
http://music.yahoo.com/unlimited/?ovchn=GGL&ovcnp=YMU&ovcrn=music+download&ovtac=PPC
SUNY Oneonta policy on Digital Millennium Copyright:
http://www.oneonta.edu/general/policies/copyright.asp