Calendar

Wednesday, March 4
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
Fermilab Colloquium - One West
Speakers: Simon Swordy and Heinrich Jaeger, University of Chicago
Title: Current Research at the University of Chicago Enrico Fermi Institute and James Franck Institute

Thursday, March 5
11 a.m.
Presentations to the Physics Advisory Committee - Curia II
11 a.m.
Theoretical Physics Seminar - One West (NOTE TIME and LOCATION)
Speaker: Spencer Chang, University of California, Davis
Title: Discovering Nonstandard Dark Matter
THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICS AND DETECTOR SEMINAR THIS WEEK
3:30 p.m.
DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK - 2nd Flr X-Over
4 p.m.
Accelerator Physics and Technology Seminar - One West
Speaker: Aida Todri, University of California, Santa Barbara
Title: Power Network Distribution for IC Designs and Its Challenges in Deep Submicron Technologies

Click here for NALCAL,
a weekly calendar with links to additional information.

Weather

Feature

Enjoy hands-on activities at Wonders of Science event

Presenters use Bernoulli's Principle to inflate plastic bags at last year's Wonders of Science event.

High school teachers will take science out of the textbook and put it into children's hands at Fermilab's annual Wonders of Science event.

"The Wonders of Science show is a wonderful opportunity for children and their parents to come learn science from expert teachers and have fun at the same time," said event coordinator Mary Jo Murphy.

On Sunday, March 29, from 1-2 p.m. award-winning high school teachers will perform fast-paced demonstrations on chemical and physical phenomena. Portions of the event have appeared on TV shows such as the "Late Show with David Letterman" and "CBS News."

"This is a great event for younger kids," said Spencer Pasero, an education program leader at Fermilab. "The Weird Science guys always manage to bring out some surprises."

This year's event will have an astronomy theme in honor of the International Year of Astronomy, and particularly to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Galileo's use of the telescope as a scientific instrument. A group of current and retired high school teachers who have been recognized locally and nationally for their ability to engage young minds will give the presentations. That group includes Lee Marek, of the University of Illinois at Chicago (formerly of Naperville North High school); Tom Redig, of Downers Grove North High School; and Karl Craddock, of William Fremd High School in Palatine.

The program is designed for ages 7-12, and

From the Computing Division

Best practices

Mark Kaletka, who leads Lab and Scientific Core Services in the Computing Division, wrote this week's column.

In her Division Head column a few months ago, Vicky White discussed the Computing Division's plans to adopt the Information Technology Infrastructure Library and achieve ISO20000 certification for the core IT services by 2011. Since we're nearing the end of the first of five

Mark Kaletka

phases of the plan implementation, now is a good time to update everyone on what we've been working on.

The Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) is a widely adopted framework that defines best-practice processes for managing delivery of IT services. ISO20000 is a standard used to measure ITIL adoption. There are many similarities to the processes and certifications in ES&H and quality assurance – document your process, document that you're following your process and continuously improve your process.

In the first phase, begun in October, Computing Division defined processes for three areas: incident management, which is how a user's trouble ticket is handled by the service desk from initial report to final resolution; service catalog, which is how a user finds out what services there are and how to get them; and asset management, which identifies and tracks important IT assets. CD also installed a completely updated set of Remedy service desk tools, which are configured to implement the ITIL processes.

How do you benefit from any of this? Better incident management means your questions will be answered more quickly, with more questions answered by the service desk on the first contact, and harder questions routed more quickly and effectively to the support group experts. Our service catalog will allow you to quickly and easily discover what we can

Scout troops are welcome. Students will receive an activity packet including a mini-telescope, and instructions for how to make a sundial, a star clock and other activities. Tickets are $4 and can be ordered using a form from the Fermilab Education Office Web site. For additional information, contact Nancy Lanning at lanning@fnal.gov or (630) 840-5588.

Video of the Day

Hackers in action
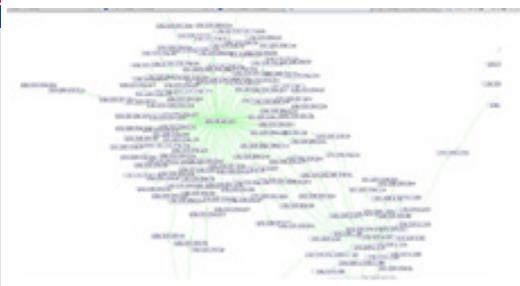
This video shows hackers probing areas of Fermilab's computing network in search of vulnerabilities.

Most of us operate a computer daily without thinking about its vulnerabilities or the hackers waiting to exploit them.

For computer security experts such as Joe Klemencic, vulnerabilities and hackers are often all they focus on.

The above linked video, sent in by Klemencic, computer security coordinator, shows a recorded snippet of a two-minute capture of hacker activity.

In the looped video, each bubble represents a hacker probing the network for potential vulnerabilities.

"This goes on all day and all night," Klemencic said. "Traffic similar to this hits our networks all the time."

Thankfully, the traffic visible in this video is of probes to darknets, areas of the network with no machines "living" on them. Computer security experts use darknets to watch the hacker activity to detect trends or unusual activity.

The upper left portion of the video shows a standard scan. The activity on the lower left of the screen shows an outside node that is fiercely probing the network. The video also shows the probes in color. Those showing up

provide and what we support. As we approach our go-live dates in March, expect to see more communication about our re-vamped service desk, the new Remedy tools, our service catalog and our plans as we move into the second phase of the implementation.

Safety Update

ES&H weekly report, March 3

This week's safety report, compiled by the Fermilab ES&H section, lists no injuries reported. We have now worked 30 days since the last recordable injury. Find the full report [here](#).

[Safety report archive](#)

Announcements

Latest Announcements

[New deadline for The University of Chicago Tuition Remission Program - March 5](#)

[English Country Dancing, April 5](#)

[Have a safe day!](#)

[Phillips Park Golf League](#)

[New electronic org chart](#)

[Muscle Toning classes](#)

[Kyuki Do classes - March 30](#)

[Arianna String Quartet performs in Gallery Chamber Series - March 8](#)

[On-Site Housing for Summer 2009 - deadline March 9](#)

[Fermilab Arts Series presents Solas - March 14](#)

[Altium Designer Lunch and Learn Seminar - March 17](#)

[Excel 2007 Pivot Tables class March 18](#)

[PowerPoint 2007: Intro class March 19](#)

[Bulgarian Dance workshop, March 19](#)

[URA visiting Scholars applications due March 20](#)

in red and black are new hackers starting to scan the networks.

The frightening thing, Klemencic said, is that the same sort of activity happens anywhere, including when you connect to the Internet from home.

"You connect and you get swarmed," he said. "Each one of these is an opportunity for exploitation."

-- Rhianna Wisniewski