# Ruling could break Web site linking



Webmasters throughout the world, amateurs and professionals alike, have to date enjoyed the free-dom to place on their Web site a link to anoth-

who site a link to another who site a link to another site.

More often than not the link is placed without asking permission of the other site. When permission is asked, it's just a matter of being courtesy.

The cultural of the make material freely available to others. Early Net citizens felt it was more important to share discoveries with others than to claim a proprietary interest for the sake of profit.

So when the Mosaic and Netscape arrived, the cultural of the Internet automatically extended to the Web. The Web was part of the greater public arean of the Internet and the idea of one Web site having legal rights which prevented others from linking to it was not seriously considered.

And now a lawauit has been filed between two mujor parties on the Web — Microsoft and TicketMaster — challenging this notion of 'free linking.'

The ticket distribution giant, Ticketmaster, field the lawauit claiming that Microsoft engaged in online robbery by providing a link to Ticketmaster's Web site from Microsoft's Seattle Sidewalk site from Microsoft's Seattle Sidewalk site without permission.

If TicketMaster wins, and a precedent

Microsoit engaged in online robbery by providing a link to Ticketmaster's Web site from Microsoft's Scattle Sidewalk site without permission.

If TicketMaster wins, and a precedent its set, online transactions could lose their value to prospective Internet vendors. "The World Wide Web has fast become an invaluable resource for business owners, and their businesses have prospered based on their ability to connect with customers they otherwise could not have tapped," says Josh Linkner, president of Bloomfield Hillshased Globalliak New Media.

Linkner explains a decision favoring Ticketmaster would have an extremely detrimental effect on the Internet industry, and that an Internet "patrol" would be needed to enforce the ruling.

"Even if the industry devised a code of ethics, how would it be enforced? Would someone — such as a government agency — have to physically 'watchdog' the Internet?' asks Linkner. This is, after all, the World Wide Web. The First Amendment holds for all forms of communication; the Internet is a medium where information is disseminated and as such, deserves equal protection to traditional forms of media."

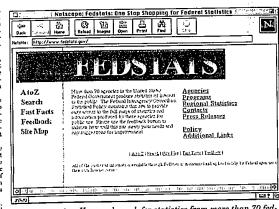
The lawsuit has nows groups and list-serv discussions and businessions abuze with speculation on the merits of the case and implications if TicketMaster prevails. Before worrying too much about implications, let's wait first to see if the lawsuit proceeds very far in court.

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Federal statistics: You can Isearch for statistics from more than 70 federal agencies in one place at http://www.fedstats.gov. This site was developed as a multi-agency effort and features an A-Z index with 275

developed as a multi-agency effort and features an A-Z index with 275 categories.

Speaking of links, here's some sites you can visit if you need to beef up your home page with links. As of now, it's still legal.

Librarian Donna Waire points to a new web site to locate federal statistics, FEDSTATS at http:// www. fedstats. gov. The site makes available statistics, FEDSTATS at http:// www. fedstats. from more than 70 federal agencies. Now. Internet users can find the authoritative information they need without having to know in advance which agency, or agencies, produce the data. The site is was developed as a multi-agency effort led by the Federal Interagency Council on Statistical Policy Information can be searched through: an A to Z index with 275 cateragories; a keyword search capability that see has a gency Web site links to to the Web at http:// www. medhelp. org. The Neurology Forum, sponsored by the Cleveland Clinic, opened March 1 on the Web at http:// www. medhelp. org. The Neurology Forum was made available to the public via the Med Help Network as the statistics of the control of the Web at the statistics of the control of the Web at http:// www. medhelp. org. The Neurology Forum was made available to the public via the Med Help Network as the statistics of the control of the Web at the statistics of the control of the Web at http:// www. medhelp. org. The Neurology Forum, sponsored by the Cleveland Clinic, opened March 100 the Web at http:// www. medhelp. org. Fatients and consumers can ask questions or make comments about neurology. Professionals from the Cleveland Clinic vill regularly monitor the forum and answer to medical questions in law and the statistics of the control of the web at the statistics of the professionals from the Cleveland clinic statistics of the control of the web at the statistics of the control of the control of the web at the statistics of the control of the web at the statistics of the control of the control of the web at the statistics of the statistics of the control o

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## Milestones from page F5



Julie Van Dalo of Royal Oak was named account assistant at Farmington Hillsbased Marx Layne & Co. Van Dale is responsible for clients in the real estate Van Dale the real estate development, retail, legal, finan-cial and food industries.

Nicole Young of Detroit was named account executive for Southfield-based Perry Market-ing Group, Inc. Young is respon-sible for developing and formal-izing value-added events and public relations for PMG clients. 📝

Mary Johnson of Walled Lake, Ralph Reeves of Plymouth and Deborah Yunck of Farmington Hills were promoted to vice pres-idents at Southfield-based Willis Corroon Corp. of Michigan. John Brockschmidt of Canton was named senior vice president

The Troy-based Budd Co.'s board of directors approved the following financial management appointments: Thomas Bardsley of Rochester, controller; Denny Bonson of St. Chair Shores, chief financial officer; Bruce Dingwalt of Northville, assistant controller; and Donald Kniffen of Milford, treasurer.

### **Leadership** from page F5

gathering, which focus on leader-ship and team building, is an opportunity for participants to meet and helps them feel more comfortable during the monthly sessions held during the year, Sulewski said.

sessions held during the year, Sulewak said.
A specific subject is attached to each session and this year's list includes economics, arts, health care and the judicial system. The meetings are held on one Wednesday each month from 7:30 a.m. to 4 or 6 p.m. The site chosen for each monthly gathering is selected so that it is appropriate to the subject matter.
For example, when the group session centers on the county judicial system, the participants will spend a half day listening to cases in the criminal court. Other possible law enforcement angles offered are the opportunity to ride in a police car for one shift or take a tour of the county juil, Sulewski said. She plays a major role in running each session and enjoys every minute of it.

"I learn something new at

it.

"I learn something new at every single session, even if the subjects are the same because it's all new people with all different perspectives," she said. Visits to an orea landfill, the Detroit

ent perspectives, 'she said. Visits to an area landfill, the Detroit Edison office, a local soup kitchen and even a county shelter have all been part of the educational program. One recent group went to Children's Village in Oakland County.

"Seeing Children's Village was so emetional that some participants were taking out their checkbooks right there,' Sulewski said. "When they saw that the rooms the children stayed in had nothing on the walls, they started an art program to change

----http://www.nks3d.com

that. So, we are making a difference in the community.

Beyond taking their program on the road students in the lead-reship sessions also take part in some very eye opening homework assignments. Participants will be asked to take on different roles such as a battered spouse, or perhaps the role of the abuser. In the case of the battered victim, she must make contact with a local shelter and find out all about how she can get help for her problem. The abuser would have to make inquiries about counseling and even sit in on a support group meeting. A report of their experience is then presented to the class during the next session, Sulewski said.

A variety of local fund-raisers and an annual project that has the group, plus numerous volunteers, building a ramp for the home of a disabled child or teenager are other outreaches part.

"When I see the look on the

part.
"When I see the look on the

when I see the look on the faces of these people as they roll down to cut that ribbon on that ramp, well, that's a feeling I wouldn't trade for anything. Sulewski said.

The opportunity to get in touch with their community isn't all the leadership program participants take away from the experience. Networking is another huge benefit for attenders who develop a strong pool of connections in the classroom and from alumni who return to share their experiences.

"When you are done with this, you are no more than two phone calls away from every source you will ever need in Oakland County," Sulewski said.

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