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Subject: New Hope Leaves NOVA

Posted by [htmlgod](#) on Tue, 20 Apr 2004 02:41:41 GMT

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Here's a little story for those of you still at NOVA and others who still have any degree of respect for it or Bryan. Bryan is always trying to pin things on AAK625. When NOVA's forums were deleted the first time, on Bryan's account, allegedly from another IP, Bryan tried to convince everyone that it was not only AAK625's IP, but also that AAK625 had somehow accessed Bryan's administrative account, without changing Bryan's password or ever having used it before (or ever again afterwards). So that was strange incident number 1. Now it is true that AAK625 has lied before, he deceived me once, tricked me into giving him access to NOVA's FTP.

But this one is taking it a little bit too far. So here's my story.

This morning, I wake up, and am unable to log into CuteNews at our new location, Conquergaming.com. Cutenews is SWMOD's news management system that allows our staff members to post news, even if they don't know HTML. Originally the only people with accounts were my crew members, and Bryan. Bryan only had an account because he was testing things when he set up the cutenews and configured it to our NOVA location. You see, when I transferred our files to Conquergaming.com, I had simply copied everything, which left all the old accounts in place.

Anyway, I wake up this morning and my account has been removed. The first thing I did was download the current cutenews users file, which would give me the usernames of any remaining users. Interestingly enough, there was only one user left, with administrative power - under the name of AAK625. The only people with the capability to add or remove accounts were myself, DesolatorDan, IceDog90, LegoAlert, Stryker, and Bryan. All of my crew members (at least the ones who had admin privelidge) were as loyal as they come, but bryan has gone AWOL. No account ever existed under the name of AAK625, and the only person with a grudge against him was Bryan.

So here's what I've pieced together of events late last night: Sometime around 1:00 AM my time bryan finds out that we've moved. He IM's me (away message is up) a dozen angry messages about how I'm going to lose tons of publicity, and that everyone will think I'm selfish (definitely true, btw), and that my posting an appology to Bryan in our news was "unprofessional." About 10 minutes later the redirect pages that I set up at NOVA, designed to send any visitors to our old location to the new one, were all deleted, along with all of the rest of our files, presumably by Bryan. Now this next part is all theoretical, but I've run through it a dozen times and can't figure any other way this could've happened. Next, Bryan, eager for more vengeance, comes to our new site. He finds it to be exactly the same as the old site, meaning I probably just copied all the files. CuteNews is still in place, so he attempts the account which he set up several months ago, while he was installing and configuring CuteNews. It works. He immediately deletes all the other accounts, so that no one can stop his next move. He then changes his account name, formerly in the name of Bryan, to AAK625, presumably this was some primitive attempt at concealing his identity. As AAK625 he deletes all of our uploaded files, and does who knows what else to everything he got access to.

By changing the users file in our FTP directory I was able to remove "AAK625's " account, and undo most of the damage. I am thankful that the invader got no further than our cutenews. Not

only is this convenient for me, but it also indicates that the person who did this had no knowledge of hacking.

You see, if the invader did know how to hack, he would have accessed the users file for CuteNews, used a decoder to remove the encryption on my password for my CuteNews account, and used that to access the Conquergaming FTP, and wreck who knows how much havoc on everything he could access on my account.

But the invader didn't do that. This is a probable indication that the person who did this only had knowledge of CuteNews, and must have had a pre-existing administrative account. None of my crew members would feel any particular need to deprive me of my news-posting capability, or to delete our recent news posts.

So there you have it. Sorry it was so long. But I hope you understand what I'm saying here - Bryan is insane, and about as mature as an 8th grader.

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