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## Ban Shoesnew

Posted by vancouvercougar - 2008/03/11 06:05

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Keep this clown off our board

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by buzzard - 2008/03/11 07:54

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No one disagrees. However, if you have not noticed, his username keeps changing, I'm guessing when the spam program he is using finds a name blocked, it just makes up a new one. It's probably not legal, but what we need to get this sleazballs attention is a DOS attack on his server. Any Cougarblue hackers up to the challenge?

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by stjohnsmythe - 2008/03/11 10:00

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buzzard wrote:

No one disagrees. However, if you have not noticed, his username keeps changing, I'm guessing when the spam program he is using finds a name blocked, it just makes up a new one. It's probably not legal, but what we need to get this sleazballs attention is a DOS attack on his server. Any Cougarblue hackers up to the challenge?

I realize that he is changing his username, but why are all of these threads staying up for so long and pushing the real content to the back of the line? It seems that the moderators who care can't do anything about it, and the people who can fix it don't want to bother with it. I hate the format at Cougarboard so I'll be sticking around here, but it's sad that this site has been so poorly moderated lately.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Sammich - 2008/03/11 11:07

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I've moderated boards before and deleting threads (on most types of forum) as an admin or moderator is INCREDIBLY SIMPLE. Not time consuming. Simple.

So either the format of this board is completely antagonistic to moderators who want to delete threads (unlikely), or our moderators are too busy/uncaring to fix the problem. I suggested a while back that some of the regulars should be given moderator/admin status, but someone said the Daily Herald doesn't want non-employees as mods/admins. Personally, I think it's time for the Daily Herald to release its grip before this place becomes even more of a ghost town filled with shoe threads.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by stjohnsmythe - 2008/03/11 11:28

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This is a quote from another thread, but I think it explains a lot of our problems lately. We're being held hostage by one of those condescending, arrogant yet nerdy I.T. guys.

A\_King:

The internet administration is done by a guy, who absolutely hates me for being so adamant about getting things done on Cougarblue. when I first started here at Daily Herald last summer, and came to him with my suggestions he didn't have the time to receive me well and ever since that first day he avoids me at work, skips around corners HOPING and PRAYING I won't see him and talk to him about Cougarblue.

I need to say that his recent update to the site has been fantastic...but it took so long and took too many awkward "discussions" about with him and the leadership here...that I feel that he won't receive any new input well.

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Any ideas I have for bettering the site from user suggestions or myself just are NOT on his agenda and since he hates me...he won't put them on his agenda unless he absolutely has to or waits long enough.

[http://shockingbird.com/glomer2/members/image\\_edit/resizer/downloads/Nick\\_Burns.jpg](http://shockingbird.com/glomer2/members/image_edit/resizer/downloads/Nick_Burns.jpg)

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Phillip\_Morgan - 2008/03/11 11:44

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Sammich wrote:

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So either the format of this board is completely antagonistic to moderators who want to delete threads (unlikely), or our moderators are too busy/uncaring to fix the problem. I suggested a while back that some of the regulars should be given moderator/admin status, but someone said the Daily Herald doesn't want non-employees as mods/admins. Personally, I think it's time for the Daily Herald to release its grip before this place becomes even more of a ghost town filled with shoe threads.

Sammich-

How is moderating a forum simple? It might be more simple if you guys wouldn't bring up 3 year old threads just to get the shoes threads off the front page.

As an employee of the Herald, I can personally attest to the difficulty that we are having convincing the admin to give A\_King or I admin status. That doesn't mean that we have stopped trying, there have been advances in the process such as the admin deleting 5 known spammers and fixing the "link" "player" problem. Also, they (the admins) have told us they that they are considering teaching us the admin program and giving us status soon.

My suggestion to the users of cougarblue is to send us private messages letting us know about spammers and spamming threads, instead of just hiding them on the second page. It is ridiculous that you expect us to have cougarblue on our computers 24/7 and catch these spammers the second that they post their spam. I've deleted all the spam threads I could find FIVE HOURS AFTER THEY WERE POSTED! I'M SO SORRY THAT I WORK TILL 12:30 AND SLEEP TILL 10:30 A.M. OR 11 AND DON'T HAVE COUGARBLUE AS MY NIGHT LIGHT!

Feel free to send my a private message with any questions you have as to how YOU can become a moderator. I'll give you email addresses and anything I can do. But trust me IF you get a response to your emails it won't be a -- "Congrats! you've just convinced us to make you, a complete stranger to our company, a moderator on Cougarblue, when we don't even trust our own employees that have work for us for at least three years!" -- email.

Thanks for letting me rant. I want Cougarblue to flourish, just like all of you do.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by MajorCougar - 2008/03/11 12:13

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Wow... "Back us off, Ensign... Nice and slow". :)

Pretty insightful, to say the least, Phillip

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by stjohnsmythe - 2008/03/11 12:15

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Phillip\_Morgan wrote:

How is moderating a forum simple? It might be more simple if idiots like you guys wouldn't bring up 3 year old threads just to get the shoes threads off the front page.

Wow, that's harsh.....I know the mods that still truly care about CB are just as frustrated as the rest of us, but geez...I kind

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of appreciated akcougar pushing yesterday's shoe threads to the second page (where they still were this morning) and bringing the relevant discussions back to the front. The three year old threads though, are just pushing the current information back even more.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Sage - 2008/03/11 12:19

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Phillip\_Morgan wrote:  
Sammich wrote:

Sammich-

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As an employee of the Herald, I can personally attest to the difficulty that we are having convincing the admin to give A\_King or me admin status. That doesn't mean that we have stopped trying, there have been advances in the process such as the admin deleting 5 known spammers and fixing the "link" "player" problem. Also, they (the admins) have told us they that they are considering teaching us the admin program and giving us status soon.....Thanks for letting me rant. I want Cougarblue to flourish, just like all of you do.

I for one really appreciate that there are people spending their time for me so I can enjoy my world of BYU sports. No matter how diligent humans are, a computer is faster. Not smarter, so some tools help humans act smarter. Thanks moderators for your diligence. I would love to see the spammers gone, but they are just as diligent getting their spam thru as we users are getting our messages in.

Thanks again. Life is better with your efforts.:)

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Sammich - 2008/03/11 12:20

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Phillip\_Morgan: First, I said on most forums deleting a thread is simple work, and I gave you guys plenty of room for excuses because of the unique format of this board.

Second, I have never brought up 3-year-old threads, but I'm sure that even those who have done wouldn't appreciate being called idiots just because they're trying to avoid the deluge of shoes threads.

Third, I'm not interested in becoming a moderator, but there are plenty of people here who have shown both the interest AND the track record to deserve such status.

Finally, I know it's frustrating to hear people complain, but that's what happens to the people in charge when things aren't getting done. Venting back at the users really doesn't do any good.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Phillip\_Morgan - 2008/03/11 12:21

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stjohnsmythe wrote:

Phillip\_Morgan wrote:

How is moderating a forum simple? It might be more simple if idiots like you guys wouldn't bring up 3 year old threads just to get the shoes threads off the front page.

Wow, that's harsh.....I know the mods that still truly care about CB are just as frustrated as the rest of us, but geez...I kind of appreciated akcougar pushing yesterday's shoe threads to the second page (where they still were this morning) and bringing the relevant discussions back to the front. The three year old threads though, are just pushing the current information back even more.

Ok, lumping every cougarblue users together isn't fair. I'm just so frustrated (not only with shoesnew, but with the users that just push things back). I appreciate (sp) the fact that you guys care. I'm just sick of people thinking that the moderators don't care because we do.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Florwood - 2008/03/11 12:28

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Sammich, I appreciate your taking the high road in your response--no wonder you have so much karma built up!

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by BreedDud - 2008/03/11 14:20

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This gets discussed too often lately. The mods do what they can but more wood needs to be laid down on those that can make the changes...not the moderators.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by vancouvercougar - 2008/03/11 15:32

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I am sorry I started this thread. I appreciate the efforts the moderators put into cougarblue. I happened to be on the board at 5:00 am Pacific time because I worked all night and finally had a work break.

I was merely reacting because (as I was reading through the posts of my fellow fans) I watched several shoe posts appear on the board.

The post was simply an indication of my frustration at the time.

I don't have any suggestions about this problem, but I do hope a workable solution will be created.

I am grateful for Aaron & Phillip and the other moderators. This is my favorite board for cougar news and discussion.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by A\_King - 2008/03/11 20:48

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Thanks for the understanding and frustration.

I am always optimistic and can be infamous for my optimistic spin on Cougar sports. So, let me be optimistic about the frustrations:

You guys must love Cougarblue like I do and get so frustrated because you want the site to be better.

I also appreciate those of you that quoted previous posts where I at length tried to explain the situation our moderators are in. It's better for my older posts to be quoted than for me to have to try and explain myself again, for thanks for that.

I am going to put a sticky on the front about this hoping to prevent the repeat of these threads that only serve to bring frustration about the same thing get directed at each other.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by bluesista - 2008/03/11 21:47

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Sorry to everyone for pushing threads back. I won't do it again.

Thanks to all the moderators for trying their best and not getting too frustrated when us as readers are frustrated. It's easy to anger quickly when we're mostly anonymous.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Yzzazz - 2008/03/11 21:53

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So here's what I DON'T get about the whole shoesnew crapola:

1. The IT guys surely have a way of tracking the IP address these posts come from and could block it. Why hasn't that been done?

Theory: your IT dude is not a cougar fan and if he were actually good enough to get all his IT work done AND play halo, then he wouldn't work for the Daily Herald or its parent company.

2. Shoesnew cannot simply be bot but even if it is can its perps logically think that spamming like this will actually sell shoes!!?? I'm actually avoiding all things NIKE now days just in case one of the salesman happens to be this spaz!

Theory: It's a Ute fan. A very bored, IT-talented Ute fan.

Solution: Fire your current IT guy and hire the Ute. If he's got enough time to so effectively spam this board, he probably has little enough of a life that he couldn't fit upgrading cougarblue into his meaningless schedule.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by mjo - 2008/03/11 22:08

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1. Most IP addresses nowadays are dynamic, meaning that they are assigned to you by your ISP and they change periodically.

2. Shoesnew is actually a bot. If you happen to google one of his posts (use quotation marks to find the exact same phrase) you'll find a bunch of them in random sports forum across the web.

So while I'm sure something can be done, it's not as simple as it may seem. Big thanks to the mods for caring about the site and helping us get our fix of cougar sports!!!

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Conosticator - 2008/03/11 22:37

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mjo wrote:

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A simple text filter that deleted any post using "shoesnew" or slight permutation thereof would fix the problem.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by mjo - 2008/03/11 23:04

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Conosticator wrote:

mjo wrote:

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A simple text filter that deleted any post using "shoesnew" or slight permutation thereof would fix the problem.

But that would effectively erase that word from the vocab on cougarblue... I don't know if I could live with that...

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by A\_King - 2008/03/11 23:38

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Yzzazz,

Phill is very VERY close to getting the admin permissions granted to his user account. In fact, it was promised to him last week but surprise surprise our IT guy hasn't gotten around to it, and does so without any communication.

Tomorrow Phill has promised me that he is going to take it up with Randy himself. He made that promise to keep me from going into Randy's office tonight about it. Had I done so, it would mark the 4th time I had come to him the past 7 days about the exact same thing: "Randy, Phill still doesn't have admin status." His answer, "Ok I will send another email about it. This shouldn't be taking so long."

So, my whole point is:

As soon as Phill has admin permissions banning by IP address is something we will gladly do.

I don't know if you guys remember the realist, dane, and pac-ten days of Cougarblue where those users received IP bans and username bans from me many many times.

Those days the bans happened quicker because I had admin status and it was rarely an issue.

Please, give us credit for doing what we can. Unfortunately taking away my admin permissions has caused HUGE delays where for years we had none.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by A\_King - 2008/03/11 23:44

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Also, this is our first bot-spammer and thanks to higher traffic to Cougarblue we became a target of such a spammer.

You want to help us stop getting new spams?

Do the following:

Do NOT post the name of the "shoes" "new" user.

Do NOT post to the spam threads.

Do NOT click on ANY links provided by the spam threads.

Do NOT create threads discussing the spammer.

Why??

Because bot or human, the realization that our users are noticing the spams is a HUGE REWARD to their agenda. Basically, by hating them so vocally and talking about it, they are getting obvious feedback about whether their spams are getting attention or not.

Commercials love attention. Love the commercial or hate them they win. Only if they get ignored, do they lose

My personal guess is that the program can search the site for mentions of its name to gauge the success rate of its spams. If it notices that we are noticing the spam messages, it has reason to continue spending resources of time here at the domain name cougarblue.com.

So, along with us banning and banning all new users and IPs...please as users help us IGNORE the spam.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/03/12 06:57

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I think the most egregious thing is the name. C'mon it's newshoes buddy not shoesnew. Just because you put your noun first doesn't mean everybody else does too!

Sorry A-King for using the "name" in the post. I didn't read any of the other posts since it was about the aforementioned offender. But like the five dollars I meant to send to a friend I already sealed the envelope. :lol:

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by MajorCougar - 2008/03/12 09:12

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A\_King wrote:

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So, along with us banning and banning all new users and IPs...please as users help us IGNORE the spam.

It seems that we could follow this advice for other "certain" users... "I will do my best..."

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by A\_King - 2008/03/12 16:28

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good point. :)

Imua, no worries.

Also wanted to say that although we need to ignore the spam posters in the way I mentioned before, please PLEASE private message either Phill or myself linking to the spam so we can delete the threads and see the user that posted the spam.

Report to moderator feature does work and I have received a few of them and that has helped greatly.

We may not visit the site or our email boxes late at night or early morning...but within 48 hours we DO find them and will take care of it. Just be patient with us.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Florwood - 2008/03/12 17:13

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A\_King wrote:

...thanks to higher traffic to Cougarblue we became a target of such a spammer.

You want to help us stop getting new spams?

So if we each come to CB one less time each day, maybe the site won't be an attractive spam target. And we'll reduce carbon emissions by 10%.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by A\_King - 2008/03/12 19:50

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No...lol...no.

Higher traffic is the reason we became a target, but I am prepared to take the bad with the good before I say everyone get lost making this a ghost forum again. :)

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by Yzzazz - 2008/03/12 20:27

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A\_King wrote:

Yzzazz,

Phill is very VERY close to getting the admin permissions granted to his user account. In fact,...\*halo scores are on the rise\* ...as soon as Phill has admin permissions banning by IP address is something we will gladly do.

I don't know if you guys remember the realist, dane, and pac-ten days of Cougarblue where those users received IP bans and username bans from me many many times.

...

Dane? You IP-banned the real Dane or a later poser? I believe the first one was totally legit by the way, you didn't ban HIM did you?

But if the other posters are correct, that it is a well-orchestrated bot hitting all sports sites where possible, IP-banning may not get it done.

On the other hand, if you can track the IP, perhaps the public dissemination of that info could inspire a COS attack on the provider if they don't boot him from their service.

Hacker fantasies aside, I TOTALLY appreciate the job you guys do and don't take its difficulties for granted.

Apologies if my taking advantage of a topic, where I saw the opportunity for a funny post, was interpreted to mean I was down on CB about anything to do with this issue. You guys are great!

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by A\_King - 2008/03/12 20:38

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No worries, thanks for the props. And yeah, there may be some ongoing banning fun with the spams, hopefully it will

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someday subside.

About the real Dane, no the legit guy I had conversations with in private message. It was the other ones that never responded to private messages that I had to ban when it became necessary.

I never did any banning - and most deletions back then - that were not accompanied with private messages discussing the reasons and such.

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## Re:Ban Shoesnew

Posted by kiwibacon - 2008/03/12 22:46

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For those that want to know I believe that things are about to change for the better around here...there is whisperings that someone may have Admin status and that is good.

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