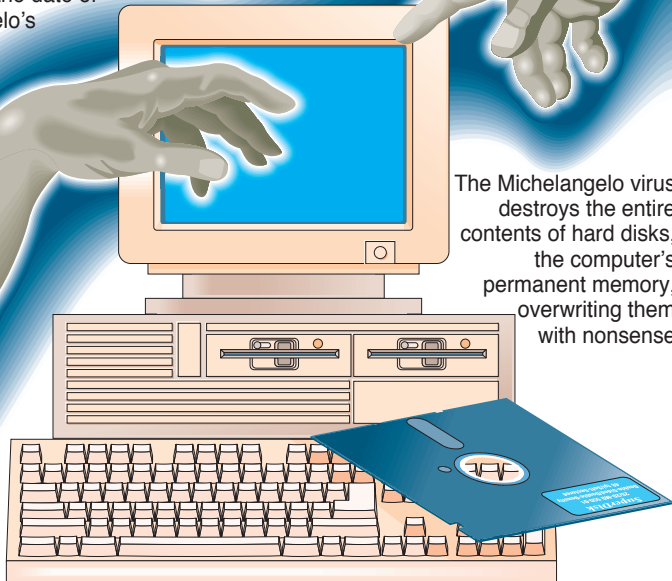


# Michelangelo virus threatens computers

**A potentially disastrous computer virus named Michelangelo, after the Italian Renaissance artist, is set to destroy data on an estimated five million IBM-compatible personal computers. The virus first appeared in Australia then spread to the U.S., Scandinavia and Britain**

Virus will be triggered when the computer's system clock reaches 6 March – the date of Michelangelo's birthday



The Michelangelo virus destroys the entire contents of hard disks, the computer's permanent memory, overwriting them with nonsense

The virus spreads when floppy disks are passed from computer to computer

The virus can be avoided by resetting the computer's clock to 7 March thus bypassing the trigger date

Special editions of anti-virus software can detect and eliminate the virus