Quote:but I have yet to hear or read another program go one on one against Zone Alarm (as far as firewall tests) and beat it...and that's the free version mind you.
Can ZoneAlarm:

Detect when one program attempts to use another program to access the internet
Detect that a program has changed since it was allowed access (i.e. been patched)

The last version I used couldn't. TBH ZA is fine for someone who doesn't want all the technical details thrown in their face, but it's not for me.

Quote:Virus protection...it truely does NOT matter which...each one on a different day does better as they release the defintions first...Trend Micro, McAfee, Symantec, Panda, etc etc etc...just have one...the more free the better generally...which ever one meets your needs for updates...the better...
I call Bullshit. Personally I prefer F-Secure, but I run AVG (and BitDefender) because F-Secure costs.

F-Secure Awards: http://www.f-secure.co.uk/f-secure/awards/
Anti=Spyware roundup: http://www.infoworld.com/article/05/09/19/38FEspy_1.html