

Technically SPEAKING

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MyNorthwest... Coming Soon

by Chris Grandfield

MyNorthwest is a web portal that allows students an easy one-step login for services like CatPAWS and their university email. MyNorthwest also allows users to create groups and use the portal as a social and informative networking tool. Students will not be able to log into MyNorthwest until its official release, which according to the Office of Information Systems, is scheduled for May 12, 2008.

MyNorthwest has been in development for over a year and will be accessible both on and off campus. The portal is designed and deployed using Sun Guard's Luminus Platform and is intended to function as an online resource for the entire university community. The portal will allow users to use

message boards, online groups, chat rooms, photo albums, targeted messages and many other features. MyNorthwest is similar to the commercial web portal MyYahoo, which allows users to customize their individual portal. My Northwest will allow users to log in one time and have access to email, electronic billing, online library resources, on-campus employment opportunities and many other web-based services.

"MyNorthwest is a web portal that allows students an easy one-step login."

news. Across the top of the home screen will be various tabs that are used to navigate MyNorthwest. Some of the tabs include CatPAWS, Student Life, Student Services, Library, Campus Services and MyTab. Most of these are fairly self explanatory. MyTab is where each user can incorporate additional information that may not be on the other tabs. Students can preview

MyNorthwest before May 12, 2008 by logging into the guest student account on the initial login page. MyNorthwest can be found at my.nwmissouri.edu. For questions or problems related to MyNorthwest, contact the Help Desk at X-1634 or by emailing helpdesk@nwmissouri.edu.

myNORTHWEST

Once a user is logged into the portal, they will see a home screen with announcements and Northwest related

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What to do with my school laptop?

Before you leave for the summer, a few things regarding your University laptop must be taken care of. If you will be living on campus in the fall, you may rent the same laptop you have now for the summer for a \$75 fee. However, if you are living off-campus next fall, you need to either return your laptop to the Electronic Campus Support Center (ECSC) located across from the baseball field or complete a rental contract at the ECSC.

If you do not need your laptop for the summer, you need to return the laptop, green Ethernet cable, black/silver phone cord and the

black power adapter to the ECSC before you leave campus. Note: For the high-rises, the Ethernet hub and power cord remain in your room.

If you are not returning to campus in the fall and you do not return your laptop, then you will be charged \$1,000 for the replacement cost of the laptop.

The ECSC is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and will be open on Saturday, May 3 from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. You need to save your files to a CD, a flash drive or an external hard drive before returning your laptop.

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Printed copies of Technically Speaking are available at the Front Desk

Help Desk	x-1634
Help Desk Hours	
M-T	8 am-10 pm
Fri	8 am-5 pm
Sat	11 am-4:45 pm
Sun	1 pm-10 pm

Notebook Support Center Hours	
M-F	8 am-4:30 pm

Library Lab Hours	
M-T	7:30 am-11:45 pm
Fri	7:30 am-4:45 pm
Sat	11 am-4:45 pm
Sun	1 pm-11:45 pm

Questions?
tab@nwmissouri.edu

Some would say that the spring trimester is the hardest trimester to survive with winter blues in the beginning, stressful midterms, warm weather outside but being forced into classrooms inside, a forced return from spring break and ending with the dreaded finals. However, stepping above the median and conquering the trimester is only half the battle.

What about other facets of life? True, the trimester may have not been the hardest, but do not worry, they get harder. How do so many students keep from making the mistake of getting behind on class work and keep other aspects of life balanced?

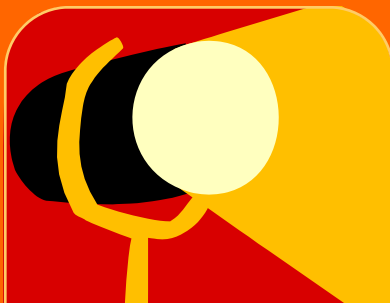


Well, push worry aside, many resources are available at your fingertips to make life easier and believe it or not they are free. Many websites exist that give you all the 411 on college life in aspects probably never imagined including study tips and skills, what to expect at college parties, what fraternities and sororities have in store, college life and just about anything else you might need or think of. One of the resources (collegetips.com) is written in an easy to read college slang format that anyone will enjoy reading and offers advice for your classes and your life as a student.

Remember college is not always just about getting A's since a well rounded individual is what most companies and employers are looking for. Many of the websites listed below can really help a student blossom in different areas of their life, which may have originally seemed out of reach to them. So get out there and take advantage of the following sites to become the student who can survive life, not just the trimester.

Your future awaits at:

- Howtostudy.org
- College-study-skills.com
- Academictips.org
- Collegetips.com



Computers: Male or Female?

A group was split into men and women to come up with arguments against why the computer should relate to the opposite gender.

Women stated computers should be referred to as male because:

1. In order to get their attention, you have to turn them on.
2. As soon as you commit to one, you realize that, if you had waited a little longer, you could have had a better model.

Men determined computers should be referred to as female because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic.
2. Even your smallest mistakes are stored in long-term memory for later retrieval.

Text courtesy of Ajokes.com

Do Not Be Fooled Again

by Eric Mackey

In relationship to young adults finding news and information, one wonders how new technologies like the internet have affected the viewership of mass-audience media such as television and tries to examine the uprising trends between internet media and television media. The trend analysis includes determining which media is best suited for finding the truth and spreading knowledge to the average young adult. The internet is a prominent type of information technology allowing any person with access to the world wide web to find a growing amount of information. However, determining which media source is better is more about how each person uses the media rather than how the media affects each person.

The difference between internet research and television news is that the internet is interactive whereas the TV is passive. Internet research requires more self-discipline by the user especially when forming viewpoints. Election research shows the more information that is put on the internet, the more users log in to do political research of their own. In 2000, 18% of people claimed to have gone

online for election news, which rose to 29% in 2004. What this is causing is a political efficacy, or in other words, people are more confident about what they know and their ability to impact politics because of the internet. However while the internet may have a substantial amount of useful information out there, the problem of selective perception exists. Selective perception is when people are more attracted to news and views that they are already interested in and choose what they want to view accordingly. Research studies of mass communication and the

internet have shown that people who are unaware of their own selective perception actively avoid any viewpoints they do not like and are pretty much propagandizing themselves. To avoid this and keep your mind open to things you do not know, it is always a good idea to stick to scholarly sources such as EbscoHost at Owens Library.

As long as the active viewers do not fool themselves to selective perception, internet prevails.

“it is always a good idea to stick to scholarly sources such as EbscoHost at Owens Library”



Computer Tips

4 Tips You Should Know

To minimize all your active windows with the keyboard, press the Windows key + M. **1**

Print a document quickly by pressing Ctrl + P. **2**

In Internet Explorer, go to View then Toolbars and uncheck the toolbars you do not want displayed. **3**

When browsing in Internet Explorer, use the Alt key with your left and right arrow keys to go backward and forward. **4**

Fun Links

www.jibjab.com

Create funny videos of you and your friends. All you need is their picture and the rest is easy!

www.hulu.com

Watch your favorite TV shows and movies in High Definition with content from over 50 providers such as FOX, NBC, Warner Bros., etc.

shopper.cnet.com

Helps you find the right product at the right price when you are shopping online for electronics.

Goodbye Old Laptop

by Beyza Aydar

Tired of your slow university laptop? Starting fall'08, Northwest will replace the old university laptops with new faster ones. The new laptops are going to be 2.0 GHz Hewlett Packard (HP) model 6515 with 2GB RAM, CD Burner, Microsoft Office 2007 to replace the Office 2003 we are currently on, wireless standard 802.11a/b/g/n, 4 USB ports, a 14.1" wide screen, media card reader, and FireWire port. The new HP laptops will have AMD processors instead of Intel. The operating system will still be Windows XP but the laptops will be capable of running Vista. Please keep in mind that loading another operating system to your university laptop is a violation of the Northwest

computing policies.

On April 1, 2008, Student Senate approved an increase of \$3 per credit hour in the technology fee; therefore, you will pay \$10 per credit hour next year. The increased fee will provide funding for not only the new laptops, but also the new warranty agreement. Currently university laptops are only covered for manufacturing damages, but the new laptops will be under warranty and be covered for accidental damages with a \$50 deductible charge for major damages. Unless the motherboard or the screen is damaged, you will not be charged a fee for the damages. For instance, damages to the keyboard and CD-ROM drive will be fixed without a charge. Students

will continue to be responsible for the full replacement costs of stolen or lost laptops which is \$1500. Thus, students are still encouraged to purchase liability insurance from an insurance provider.

I have more good news! Starting fall'08, every full-time undergraduate student, living on-campus or off-campus taking 12 hours or more, will be provided a new laptop with no charge besides the technology fee you are required to pay. Graduate students have to be enrolled for 9 hours or more to be eligible for a new laptop. Part-time students may rent a used laptop each trimester for a rental fee of \$50.

Yahoo Music

by Nathan Fuller

Y! Music, formally known as LAUNCH cast provides many music services. You will find internet radio, music videos, information on any artist, and some original programming.

LAUNCH cast is essentially a radio station run and directed by the user. The user selects their preferred music genre and artists and LAUNCH generates a radio station just for that user. After the personalized station is created the user will listen to music that is similar to his/her preferences. Each song that is listened to can be ranked by the user. These rankings will refine user preferences even further.

As finals approach students will be stress and pressed to make the grades they need. Relax with a little streaming music from LAUNCH. It only takes a few moments to sign up and if you already have an account with Yahoo!

It is easier.

If you want to add to your music collection you can use Yahoo Music Unlimited. Yahoo Music Unlimited offers music downloads for \$5.00 a month. An additional fee is charged if you want to put your music on a portable device like an mp3 player. Check it all out! Have a great summer, and finish out the year strong! To access Y! Music visit the following links:

music.yahoo.com/launchcast/

new.music.yahoo.com/