

# Technically SPEAKING

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## HD-DVD or Blu-Ray?

During the late 1970s and early 1980s, a "format war" was being waged between VHS and Betamax. Battles of this nature happen whenever two competing companies try to become the leading carrier and therefore the standard of that type of technology. While Betamax was of a much higher quality, the popularity and the VCR helped end the "format war" of the 1970s and VHS tapes won.

Since then, DVDs have made their mark because of high quality and have succeeded thus far without a format war. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a new era of video quality is at hand: high definition video leading to HD DVD. Blu-ray has been competing with HD DVD dur-

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ing this new "format war". Warner Bros, which was the last major studio to make movies in both HD DVD and Blu-ray, announced they will no longer make HD DVD format. The announcement created a chain reaction in the industry that eventually led to retailers such as Wal-Mart no longer carrying HD DVD. On February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008, the format war came to an end and Blu-ray is here to stay. For the people who already have HD DVDs, the outcome is very disappointing.

A bright future is still ahead for High Definition. So far, over 450 titles have been released in America and many more are scheduled

for release in Blu-ray format. Additionally, Playstation 3 currently uses Blu-Ray format for their games.

Blu-ray discs can store six times the information a standard DVD can, which makes it possible to store and play a new level of quality for both video and sound. Blu-ray also supports Sun Microsystems' Java, which will allow people to update their Blu-ray discs via the internet. The ability to update the disks is useful for things such as extra subtitles or promotional features that were not available at the time the disk was produced. Blank Blu-ray discs are now being sold for people who have the proper equipment to burn onto the discs. In short, the format war is over and a bright future lies ahead for Blu-ray.



## Do It Yourself The "I-Way"

Recently, have you had problems with your iPod not powering on, the treacherous sad face icon, the horrible file folder icon or cracked/broken parts that keep you from enjoying your iPod. Would you like to be able to fix these basic problems yourself?

Help is on the way and comes in the name of ifixipodsfast.com and all of their resources. With these simple resources, most common iPod problems can be fixed by anyone who has a little technological knowledge and some patience. Opting to fix your iPod yourself creates the need to find answers

to what parts and little pieces to use or what steps to follow. The website has many troubleshooting and step-by-step procedures that can help cure certain issues on an iPod. Also, with the site's forums, step-by-step videos and available parts store, most iPod problems are not too big or small for ifixipodsfast.com to handle. For more information visit their helpful websites at:

[www.ifixipodsfast.com](http://www.ifixipodsfast.com)  
[www.ipodhowtovideo.com](http://www.ipodhowtovideo.com)  
[forums.ifixipodsfast.com](http://forums.ifixipodsfast.com)

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**Questions?**  
[tab@nwmissouri.edu](mailto:tab@nwmissouri.edu)

Want to find a great internship this summer and gather some experience in your career field? Want to mock-interview with several prestigious employers catering to various majors and career options? If so, then Career Connections is the panacea. According to the Career Services eCompanion site, "Career Connections is a database of student and employer information connected to the Experience Network, the largest supplier of these systems for collegiate use across the country."

Northwest Career Services offers the Career Connections service online to provide students with important job-seeking tools. Registering with Career Services enables searching for jobs and internships online using the Experience database which displays jobs posted by

the Career Services office at Northwest, as well as, national listings. If you like a specific listing, you can save it in your profile.

A career calendar of events is available online to keep you abreast with application deadlines. Applying for jobs and internships is simple. Create a profile, upload your resume and cover letter and start applying! Applying is that easy and you do not have to fill out long paper forms.

Employers visit Northwest all year long to recruit. Career Connections allows you to see what employers are coming to campus and enables you to apply for interviews 24X7 from the convenience of your room. The Experience Network can be used to research the company profile to prepare for an interview.

If you cannot find a listing that suits your skill-set and interests, you can create a query to automatically receive email notifications from Career Connections when a listing matching your criteria becomes available. Career Services provides resume referrals to several employers that contact them looking for suitable candidates by searching their database. Upon finding suitable candidates, they send the resume to the employers within 24 hours. This service exponentially increases your chances of getting a job or internship.

What are you waiting for? Go to [www.nwmissouri.edu/careerserv/PDF/registering.pdf](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/careerserv/PDF/registering.pdf) and register with Career Services today to activate your Career Connections account!



**PERT SPOTLIGHT**  
**Beyza Aydar**

Beyza is a senior Management Information Systems major and has a minor in Database Systems. She is from Istanbul, Turkey, which is the only city in the world located on two continents – Asia and Europe. She is both proud and sad to be the only Turkish student currently attending Northwest.

Beyza is a member of Delta Mu Delta, Mortar Board, ISO and Association for Computer Machinery. She also works as a Computer Lab Consultant in the library. Dancing, soccer, tennis, shopping and traveling are her hobbies.

After graduation, she is going back to Turkey for a visit. In September, Beyza will move to Kansas City and start working for Sprint as a network engineer. Her dream is to move to California or Florida one day and live on the beach.

## Student Employment, But Why? by Beyza Aydar

Student employment has many advantages. First, you make money, which means having more money to spend on fun things like shopping! Campus jobs not only look good on résumés, but also help students to develop skills which are required in the business world. Many employers are interested in students who work and still manage to achieve good grades.

To be eligible for student employment, students must take at least six credit hours. International students with an F-1 Student Visa can also work on campus. Interacting with people during work is a great way to enhance communication skills and network for both international and traditional students. Also, Northwest offers training opportunities to all student employees each trimester. Therefore, working on campus is also a great opportunity to develop leadership skills and professionalism.

Northwest Missouri State University provides many employment opportunities. One-third of campus jobs are office assistant positions; however, several other options are available like becoming a Stu-

dent Ambassador, SOAR Leader, Resident Assistant (RA), Research Assistant, Library Assistant and many more! Apply for a job that interests you. For instance, if you like computers, Peer Educator in Residence for Technology (PERT) and Computer Lab Consultant are great options for you.

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*“Working on campus is also a great opportunity to develop leadership skills.”*

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According to the Northwest Human Resources website, the best time to apply for student employment is the end of June (after SOAR). If you have recently decided to work on campus, it is not too late to apply! Job openings are listed on the Student Employment website throughout the entire year as the positions become available. Go to [www.nwmissouri.edu/hr/student/jobs/](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/hr/student/jobs/) to check out the current job openings on campus. Do not forget to check the site at least once a week. Job descriptions, qualifications required and contact information for each available position are displayed on the website.

To obtain more information about student employment, visit:  
[www.nwmissouri.edu/hr/student/](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/hr/student/)

# Computer Tips

## 4 Tips You Should Know

1 Open Facebook in a different window so you will not navigate away from the current site you are using.

2 Running anti-virus program scans a couple times a week can drastically reduce the chances of your computer getting a virus.

3 Press Ctrl + B to bookmark your favorite website to reference at a later time.

4 Holding Alt while pressing the left or right arrow keys will navigate you backward or forward through web pages in Internet Explorer.

## Fun Links

[www.newsoftheweird.com](http://www.newsoftheweird.com)

Unique and true news stories from all over the United States. Updated weekly.

[www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)

A website for any movie lover. View the ratings, trailers, actors and much more.

[www.skateboard.com](http://www.skateboard.com)

Buy merchandise, learn tricks and watch videos. A must see for any skateboarding fan.

## Meebo- Do You Have It?

by Chris Grandfield

What in the world is a Meebo? Meebo is a completely web-based multi-protocol instant messaging website.

Meebo offers several different instant messaging protocols including AIM, MSN, Yahoo, GoogleTalk, ICQ and Jabber. Once you are on the Meebo site, you can log into your favorite instant messaging program or you can set up a Meebo account. With the Meebo account you can have a single login that will log you into all of your favorite instant messaging programs at the same time.

Meebo is completely web-based and does not require the installation or download of anything. Meebo is a great tool to use when you are in a computer lab setting and you

do not have the authorization to install the needed instant messenger software. The lack of software installation makes Meebo a nice tool to use if you are not the type of person who likes to install many different applications upon receiving a new laptop at the beginning of the year.

Meebo can be accessed from anywhere with an internet connection. Launched in September of 2005, Meebo has grown vastly in popularity. Currently, Meebo users exchange over 100 million messages daily.

Some individuals may wonder what Meebo stands for. The truth is Meebo

does not actually stand for anything. Meebo is just a goofy name the developers came up with. Their goal was to create something that would be easy to remember and also be very unique. The creators accomplished just that.

To summarize, Meebo is a very useful tool to instant message with your friends without having to install anything on your computer in order to use it. Many other Meebo products are being developed, but the instant messaging program has so far certainly been the most popular. To find more information about the Meebo instant messaging program or other tools go to [www.meebo.com](http://www.meebo.com).



## Envelope or Computer?

by Nathan Fuller

Presenting the MacBook Air. Weighing in at just 3.0 pounds, this lightweight champ is cutting edge in microtechnology! The laptop is a mere .76 inches thick. The MacBook Air's design is such that it is smaller yet more energy efficient than many other notebooks currently on the market.

The smart LED display provides instant full-screen brightness. "Light Emitting Diodes" use significantly less energy than other display lighting. The result is longer battery life. This amazingly thin laptop comes with a built-in camera, a relatively fast Intel Core 2 Duo processor, 2GB of memory and an 80GB hard drive. The life of its tiny battery is approximately 5 hours.

A few setbacks come with this new breakthrough technology. The com-

puter has only one USB 2.0 port, resulting in the attachment of fewer peripherals. Essentially, one USB port is enough to connect only a printer or a flash drive. With the limited space for components due to the laptop's size, this computer has average processing power.

Macintosh is making some major technology breakthroughs, but room for improvement still exists. Check out the new MacBook Air at [www.apple.com/macbookair/](http://www.apple.com/macbookair/).

