

Technically Speaking

Lights, Camera, Action!

By Chris Grandfield

The end of the semester is coming closer and closer. You can take all of your memories from the semester with you by putting them on a CD to have forever. Windows Movie Maker is the tool for you to create your CD with. Movie Maker comes with the Windows operating system and is installed on all of the university laptops.

The first step is to import your pictures by opening the folder of pictures you want to save and drag them into the Collections section in Movie Maker. Now you will need to drag all of these pictures into what is called the timeline at the bottom of the

Windows Movie Maker window. (Tip: Use Ctrl + A to select all the pictures at once.) Next you will need to add some music to the slide show. You add music the same way you imported the pictures. Find an mp3 or wma formatted song and drag it into the collections pane with the pictures you already imported. Then drag the music down to the timeline. Now your slide show will have music in the background.

You can preview your video at any time by playing it in the media player on the right side of the screen. You can adjust many transitions if you want to add

some variety to your slide show. Access the various transitions by going to tools and video transitions. To add transitions to the slide show, simply drag them to the timeline between two pictures.

When you are finally done tweaking your video, you can save the project to a CD that will play in a DVD player. You do this by going to File, Save Movie File. Now select Recordable CD and follow the on-screen instructions and your slideshow will be burned to your CD. Now you have all of those pictures in an easy, non-expensive form to watch anytime you please. 🐾

On the Web!



Fun Links

www.emulator-zone.com

- A good place to get started looking for emulators, games or more information on emulators.

www.stuffonmycat.com

- Stuff + cats = awesome. Hilarious pictures of random things that people pile on their cats.

www.shotgunguide.com

- Definitive rules on how to call the passenger seat of a vehicle.

www.officeslang.com

- Understand the lingo of computer nerds and other disaffected office workers.

www.thinkgeek.com

- Your home for all kinds of widgets and gadgets galore.

Printed copies of Technically Speaking are available at the Front Desk

Emulators: Bringing Console Games to the PC

By Becky Rainford

An emulator allows software to run on a different device than it was built for. Emulators open up a world of possibilities for game enthusiasts everywhere. Each emulator does not simulate a particular game or system, but attempts to recreate the original environment a game was intended to run on.

Because of copyright and software licensing, the original code for games and game systems is not available. So programmers must start from scratch when creating these programs. For this reason, the gaming experience is sometimes not exactly the same and can have a tendency to crash. The best emulators are for classic Nintendo systems, because the emulator and game code have had many years to be debugged and perfected. Emulators for newer systems, such as Xbox, PlayStation and GameCube, are still

under development and are not able to play actual games. You will have to settle for the classic Nintendo games for now, but someday more systems will be emulated.

The important thing to remember when choosing an emulator is that each emulator only plays games coded for that emulator. Find the game you are looking for first and then download the emulator to play it. Because of copyright laws on games, most sites that allow downloading of games for emulators should have a warning that you can only download and play it for 24 hours and then must delete it unless you own the original game. Even without a warning, the law still applies to any games originally on a game system. The rule does not apply to games made by others, also called 'homebrew games'. Game on! 🐾

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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

World's Largest Flash Drive - 16 GB!

March 11, 2006, Iocell Korea released the world's largest flash drive a 16GB version of the company's Celldisk. The drive is the same physical size as other flash drives. Who would have thought that flash drives would get as big as 16 gigabytes? That is more than enough storage space for the average computer user to back up all important data. However, the availability and price have yet to be announced.



Computer Lingo



Terms you should know

RAM- Stands for "Random Access Memory." Reading data from the RAM is much faster than reading data from the hard drive. The more RAM your computer has, the faster your computer will work. Think of RAM like baking a cake, it is a lot faster to make your cake if you buy all the ingredients at once rather than making separate trips to the grocery store for each ingredient.

Computer Tips



- Even if your password has not expired before the end of the school year, you should change it before you leave. While you are logged on to a computer on campus, press Ctrl + Alt + Delete and select Change Password. Your new password will be good for 120 days.

Online Employment Agencies

By Erin Jewell

How many times have you been searching for employment in the newspaper using a red pen to circle potential jobs? Generally this has been the case in the past, especially in movies. In today's society, researching and eventually applying for jobs has become an easier task because job search engines do all the hunting for you!! Job search engines will be very beneficial to you when looking for your next career opportunity. Why not make it easy on yourself and try an online employment agency?

The first step to creating an account with an online employment agency is to submit your personal information along with an electronic resume. Once this is done, you are allowed to apply online to jobs, have available positions matching criteria you listed emailed to you and also search whatever area or region of the country you are interested in working.

These agencies do not stop at helping you find a job. They also send you articles via email to

help you manage your career once you have found employment. One example of such an agency is Monster.com.

Many people find that once they actually get offered the job they applied for, they are unsure of what steps need to be taken next. Monster.com has a page directed solely toward answering questions new employees might have. Not only do they answer questions you may have through online chat rooms or email, but they also send a monthly newsletter to all subscribers with the month's most frequently asked questions in order to help those who have yet to encounter the problem.

Next time you are searching for a job, you should try using the online resources made available by Monster.com and other online employment agencies. The process will definitely help you cut back on time and see exactly what is out there for you in the wide world of work! 🐾

Test Your Knowledge

By Daman Kapoor

- Which of these should NOT be connected to the Northwest Network?**
 - Routers
 - Webcams
 - Xbox and other game consoles
 - All of the above
- A Blu-Ray Disc can hold 25 Gigabytes of data on a single layer disc and 50 Gigabytes on a dual layered disc.**
 - True
 - False
- Ctrl + S is the shortcut key to save your work on most Microsoft applications such as Word and PowerPoint.**
 - True
 - False
- What is a Firewall?**
 - Software or hardware that allows only certain messages from the Internet to flow in and out of the network keeping the network safe from malicious content.
 - A device used to connect to the Internet.
 - A wall on fire!
- CatPaws offers the following service(s):**
 - Registration for classes
 - Reviewing and paying your bills
 - Northwest Directory
 - All of the above
- What is speech recognition?**
 - Analyzing human voice and converting it into animal sounds for better communication with animals.
 - A computer program that converts human voice to text or commands.
- Which of the following can help you make your computer function faster?**
 - Run SpyBot to check for spyware once per week.
 - Defragment your hard drive.
 - Install a 100 cc engine in the computer's processor.
 - a and b 🐾

Answer Key

1 - d, 2 - a, 3 - a, 4 - a, 5 - d, 6 - b, 7 - d

Need Answers?

By Meredith Manning

Everyone tends to use a particular search engine for all occasions. The trick is to learn how your preferred search engine works best. The best way to search for information using Google is to state your query as an answer rather than as a question. For example, if you want to know the capital of Algeria, type 'capital of Algeria', not 'what is the capital of Algeria?' This will help greatly reduce the number of unrelated sites returned.

As you may know from their commercials, ask.com now features previews of the websites in their search results. The binoculars icon provides a preview of the associated web result without having to download the page. This handy feature can help you find a website if you are unsure of the exact name of the site, but you remember what the homepage looks like.

Most everyone is aware that putting quotes around your search will help to limit your search, but altavista.com states that you can also use punctuation to limit your search. For example, 'Hawaii.vacation/packages' returns the same results as "Hawaii vacation packages".

When I Googled "search engines", Google came up with 227,000,000 results. With all those to choose from, how do you know that you have chosen the best search engine? Truthfully, there is no good way to determine the "best" search engine. The only way to find a search engine that fits your needs is to simply ask around and experiment for yourself. Here is a list some of the most used search engines and directories: Yahoo, MSN, Excite, Google, Ask, Lycos, Go, HotBot, Webcrawler, AltaVista. 🐾

Return to the Herd!

By Allen Lode

The school year will be over before you know it. Before you leave campus, there are a few items regarding your University laptop that must be taken care of.

For one, you will need to decide whether you want to keep your computer over the summer. You may rent the same computer you have now for the summer months for \$75 if you will be living on campus next fall. You need to have housing contract on file for the Fall 2006 trimester.

If you do not want to keep your computer over the summer, you will need to return the laptop, the power cables, the green Ethernet cable and the black phone cord that was issued with the notebook — the carrying bag is yours to keep — to the ECSC. Be sure to have your Bearcat ID card handy when you go to check-in your computer. Also, you will need to bring your bag back with you in the fall, if you plan on checking out another laptop.

If you are not returning to campus and you do not return your computer, you will be charged \$1,000 for the replacement cost of the computer. The ECSC is open 8-5 M-F and will be open on Saturday, April 29, from 10am to 2pm.

Any files left on your computer will be erased before the computer is issued again. You should save anything that you might need in the future to a CD, a flash memory drive, an external hard drive, or something else that you can use to transfer to another computer. You may also save your documents on your Catbert/N: Drive storage as long as you want. You should also forward any important email messages to another email account before they are deleted at the end of summer.

Moving out may be a hectic time, so make sure you have everything ready to be returned before finals week to avoid any last minute hassles. Have a great summer! 🐾

Until Next Time...

Technically Speaking will return at the beginning of the Fall 2006 trimester.

Technically Speaking is a monthly PERT Newsletter for residents in Dieterich, Millikan, Franken, Phillips, Tower Suites, Douglas, and South Complex.

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Windows Live

Microsoft is updating their online services again. The applications are currently in the Beta testing stage, but they will soon be released in full versions. Some Windows Live Products include: Windows Live Mail (new hotmail that acts a lot like Outlook), Windows Live Messenger (new MSN Messenger) and Windows Live Search (improved MSN search engine). See www.live.com for more information.



PERT SPOTLIGHT

Becky Rainford
Millikan Hall

Becky is a Junior majoring in Interactive Digital Media with a Computer Science Concentration. She is the Secretary for DigEm, the club for IDM majors.

She considers herself to be a very crafty person and spends her free time hanging out with her fiancé Nik, crocheting, knitting or gluing whatever she can get her hands onto and has also been known to run with scissors.

When she is not being crafty or studying, she also enjoys playing Halo2 on Xbox linking up with whoever will play and wishes that we could play Xbox live here on the campus network. She has also recently become addicted to Dance Dance Revolution.

After graduating next spring, she plans on getting married in June and possibly moving to Oklahoma or Minnesota.

