

# Technically SPEAKING

Editor in Chief Tabatha Verbick Assistant Editor Merlin Miller PERT Editor Audra Gustin

## CatPAWS and Registration

by Daman Kapoor

CatPAWS can be accessed on the Northwest homepage under the Quick Tools menu. Click on the Enter Secure Area link and type in your Northwest ID# and 6-digit PIN. You have 5 attempts to enter the correct PIN. If you still do not remember it, you can click on Forgot PIN and answer your secret question. If you get locked out of CatPAWS, go to the Client Computing Office on the first floor of the library with your photo ID to have your PIN reset for you.

After you are logged in, you will see a variety of tabs across the top of the page. You should take a look around and get a feel for CatPAWS. CatPAWS has many important features like updating your personal information (your address, contact information, PIN), enrolling for classes, displaying your transcripts, midterm and final grades,

and applying for financial aid.

To access your Northwest bill go to the Student and Financial Aid tab, select Student Records and click on Account Summary by Term. You can choose to pay your bill online with a credit card or check.

Registration is around the corner and you should familiarize yourself with the process. CatPAWS allows you to register online for classes. Your registration priority depends on the number of

credit hours you have earned. To register, click on Student & Financial Aid, then Registration and click Select Term and Submit. Click Add/Drop Classes and CatPAWS will ask you for your Alternate

PIN. Your advisor will provide you with an Alternate PIN to register for classes. Once you have entered your Alternate

PIN, you are ready to add classes. Just go to Class Search and a menu will appear allowing you to select the particular department you want to search for classes in. Click the Class Search button and a listing of classes will appear. Click on the **checkbox** next to the appropriate course number of the class you want to

add. Click the Add to Worksheet button. Click the Submit Changes button once you have all the CRNs you want listed on the worksheet. You are now registered for classes.

*“Registration is around the corner and you should familiarize yourself with the process.”*

## HALO 3

The highly anticipated video game Halo 3 was officially released on September 25th in North America. The third game in the series continues the story from Halo 2 but “takes full advantage of the power of the XBOX 360.” (ign.com)

Online game play is one of the new features Halo 3 offers, along with a few others: new weapons, vehicles and a couple different controls. The Legendary Edition, which is a collectors version, is also available.

Microsoft announced that sales reached \$300 million in the first

week alone, which makes it one of the fastest selling video games ever.

Mountain Dew even put a new flavor on the market called Game Fuel just for the release of the new game.

Want to join other Halo fans? Come to the Halo LAN Party sponsored by the PERTs on November 8th in the Tower View Room on 3rd floor of the Union!

You can learn more about the Halo trilogy at Halo3.com



Chris Grandfield	South Complex	X-5084
Beyza Aydar	Perrin Hall	X-5627
<b>Daman Kapoor</b>	Hudson Hall	X-6206
Nathan Fuller	Phillips Hall	X-6570
Audra Gustin	Millikan Hall	X-5288
Eric Mackey	Dieterich Hall	X-6251

Printed copies of Technically Speaking are available at the Front Desk

### Help Desk x-1634

<b>Help Desk Hours</b>	
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
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### 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

So, assume you have a research paper due in 12 hours. You had two weeks to browse the Internet or the library and do the required research for a good paper. You jump onto the Internet, go straight to Wikipedia, type in your subject and research away. You cite Wikipedia and turn in the paper because you know the information is correct. Two weeks later you get the paper back from your professor with a "D" and a note stating, "See me on how to properly research."

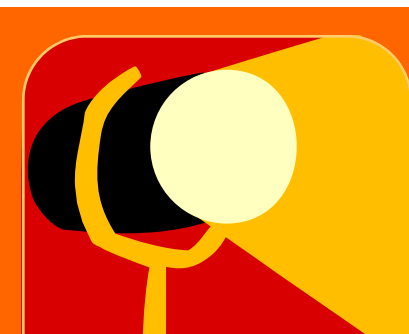
The reason you received a "D" on the paper is that Wikipedia is not 100 percent correct! While there are over 7 million articles about things like the Industrial Revolution, to TV Shows, even Egyptian Gods, the reason their

database is so big is because they allow the average person to edit and add information to the encyclopedia. The errors will only be corrected if someone catches them. Therefore, you may be retyping information that is incorrect.

Wikipedia does have a great upside. Wikipedia is a great way to get started on a research paper by giving you the main idea of your research subject. The greatest part of it is that Wikipedia will link you to other sources for your research topic. Most Wiki pages have a *Notes and References* section, allowing you to see where people obtained their

information. ALWAYS double-check the information from Wikipedia. Compare the information with a book, journal articles or other reliable references. To beef up your bibliography page, use other trusted sites and sources for your paper.

The most important thing to remember is that Wikipedia is primarily correct, but not always. Most professors do not like research papers with no credible sources.



## PERT SPOTLIGHT Nathan Fuller

Nathan is a senior from Parkville, MO. He lives in Phillips Hall in room 415. Nathan is double-majoring in Business and Marketing Management. He hopes to go into full time ministry and utilize the administration skills he has been learning.

Nathan is an avid musician and loves to write music. He just recorded a CD of his songs. He spent last summer in Mongolia teaching English with the Navigators. He also became engaged last summer to Jenna Karel, a student here at Northwest. They plan to tie the knot on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Nathan loves photography, because he can use Photoshop to edit his work. At the moment Nathan can not get enough of hanging out with his residents and playing Halo 3. Feel free to stop by his room and say hi!

## You Say Picasso, I say Picasa

by Chris Grandfield

Picasa2 is a great picture managing tool that is a free download from Google. When opened for the first time, Picasa2 offers the ability to easily manage your pictures by finding all the pictures on your computer for you. When Picasa is done searching for all the pictures, it will automatically add any new pictures when you add them to the computer any time after this.

Picasa also gives you some basic photo editing tools. The tools include crop, straighten and redeye reduction. However, Picasa also includes other tools that allow you to adjust fill lights, highlights and shadows. The adjustment tools allow you to quickly and easily brighten up a picture that is a little dark or darken a picture that is too bright. The final photo editing options in Picasa are the different filters you can apply to a photo, such as sepia and black and white.

So now you have your pictures just like you want them and you want to share them with friends and family. Picasa offers a few different options for this too. You can upload pictures to your blog, email or a web photo album. The web

photo album is a neat idea because your friends and family can go right to your web album and view your pictures. You can also give them the option of downloading the pictures if they want.

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*"Your family and friends can go right to your web album and view your pictures."*

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Besides allowing you to upload your pictures to the Internet, Picasa gives you the option to burn your pictures to a CD. Using this option, your friends and family can put your pictures on their own computer.

Finally Picasa gives you the option to print your pictures. You can print them on your own printer or you can order prints to be printed by professionals and mailed to you. Picasa gives you many options when you are printing on your own printer. Anyone can easily print the pictures how they want to, from wallet size to a full 8 x 10.

Picasa is a great tool to manage your pictures. More information is available at [picasa.google.com](http://picasa.google.com).





# Computer Tips

## 4 Tips You Should Know

Pressing Alt + PrtScrn buttons will take a picture of the active window so it can be pasted into a document.

# 1

To keep your laptop from going to sleep when you shut it, right-click on your desktop and go to properties > screen-saver > power > advanced. Select "When I close the lid *Do Nothing*."

# 2

Pressing Ctrl + F opens the find box.

# 3

Pressing Ctrl + Alt + Del gives you the options of changing your password, locking your computer or viewing the task manager which shows currently running programs.

# 4

## Fun Links

### Zappos.com

Brand name shoes for less with free shipping.

### CitationMachine.net

Generates correct citations for research papers.

### GettyImages.com

Large collection of stock images.

### GameFAQs.com

Tons of video game cheat codes and walk-throughs.

## How to Stay Out of Trouble

by Beyza Aydar

Northwest has several rules for using the campus network. Every time you log on to a university computer, you are prompted to accept the Computing Policies. Unfortunately, the majority of the students are unaware of the policies. The Computing Policies are divided into the following categories:

- Network Stability
- Disciplinary Action
- Network Policies
- Email & Net Send Policies
- Privacy Policies
- Web Page Content
- Residence Hall Policies
- Copyright Policies

Below is a list of some important policies you need to be aware of:

- Game consoles such as the Xbox and PSP are not allowed on the campus network.
- Webcams and video instant messaging are prohibited.
- Wireless LAN devices and modems providing dial-in services are not allowed.
- Commercial (selling or promoting your product) use of Cat Pages and email is prohibited.
- Copyright policies are very important. The rule of thumb is you should not download or copy data, pictures and music that do not belong to you.
- Sending chain letters, mail-bombing and harassing emails are not

allowed. If you receive harassing/life threatening emails contact Campus Safety at x1254. To report unsolicited mass mailings, contact Help Desk at x1634.

- You need to get approval to send the same email message to more than 100 people.

The policies are not limited to the ones listed above. You can find the entire list at:

[www.nwmissouri.edu/comperv/ClientComputing/ComputingPolicies.htm](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/comperv/ClientComputing/ComputingPolicies.htm)

Please keep in mind the Computing Policies were created to protect your privacy and to keep our network secure and stable.

## iPod Nano

by Nathan Fuller

Everyone is talking about the iPod Nano. Apple has been releasing smaller and more stylish products for several years. The iPod is becoming more advanced and Apple is finding ways to sell them for less.

Apple recently released the new iPod Nano. The new unit was designed with video in mind. Now America's more popular music player lets you watch videos on an even bigger and brighter screen. The display has great picture quality. The Nano plays up to five hours of video or 24 hours of audio. If the playback capacity of the Nano does not impress even the pickiest of consumers, the Nano offers even more!

The iPod can now be a platform for watching your favorite TV shows. You can find thousands of your favorite TV episodes. Each show will cost about

\$1.99. Entire TV series are available for purchase. Not willing to shell out the cash. The iTunes Store features thousands of free audio and video podcasts, including ABC News, Comedy Central, ESPN, PBS and NPR. You can even play video podcasts on TV using an optional Apple component or composite AV cable. The new technology will certainly spark some interest.

With the media technology becoming more readily available, the prices of most portable media devices are declining. The technology is continually improving. CD's and mini discs are becoming a wave of the past. The new trend is centered around customization of not only audio, but video. Apple and other companies are keeping up with this new craze in digital media. The new iPod Nano is a huge step into the customization of your pictures, music, books and videos.