

SCIENCE & TECH

Techie Tips

Featuring Julia Houtchings

"Simplify, simplify, simplify!" Henry David Thoreau once said. Now take that mantra and modify it for your computer: organize, organize, organize!

The My Documents folder can become absolutely impossible to navigate and it happens much quicker than you'd think. The option to create folders exists for a reason – to make your computer (and thus your life) easier to navigate. If you have no clue where to start, I suggest creating a folder and naming it "Fall 2010." Within that folder, create separate folders with names for each course you're taking this semester. Then return to My Documents and move all the files associated with each of the courses into their new, cozy home. Also, don't be afraid of making folders, or folders within folders. Make the system work for you. After all, isn't a computer supposed to make some things in life a little bit easier?

Not even sure how to make folders? No biggie. It's quite simple. Open up My Documents and click on File along the top navigation bar. Point the cursor to New and select Folder on the menu that appears. After the folder shows up, the name "New Folder" will automatically be highlighted and ready for you to name it whatever you choose. If you missed that first chance, simply right click on the folder and select Rename. As for moving all those files at once, hold down the Ctrl button on your keyboard (the most vital step in this process) and click every file you need to move. Next move the cursor over any of the selected ones, then click and drag them to the folder where you want them. Repeat the steps if you need to move some of those files into a subfolder. Each time you create a document for a class (or anything, really), take the few extra seconds to save the file in the appropriate folder because doing so will save you tons of time in the long run.

Email your questions to herald@meredith.edu

Novels Leap Into the Electronic World

Jillian Curtis, Staff Writer

In today's society, technology is the unifying force that helps keep everything functioning. With laptop computers, cell phones, iPods, and GPS navigational systems, it is undeniable that technology has transformed from a luxury into a definite necessity. The next phase in the technology revolution is the concept of "E-Books." Instead of going to the bookstore to check out the latest novel, it is predicted that consumers will head online for the latest electronic literature.

This shift has already taken place in the world of print journalism. Newspapers are officially a dying industry and cannot seem to keep up with their electronic competition. Instead of heading to the mailbox to check out the local news, people are simply checking the Internet. Magazines are in a similar situation as well. Although their sales have not been as negatively affected by technology as have those of newspapers, they are still forced to create an online version of their magazine. This practice is not only costly but also incredibly time-consuming, as editors are now in charge of managing two major products.

With the development of Amazon's "Kindle" and the Barnes and Noble "Nook," it seems clear that novels are already making the leap into the electronic world. The benefits of this appear to be numerous.

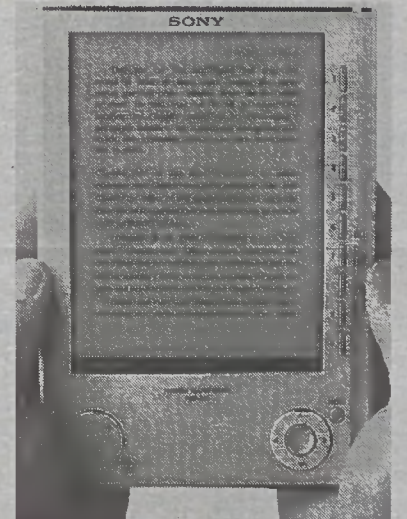
It is cheaper to purchase a book online than it is to buy an actual product at the bookstore. In addition, consumers can simply upload their desired novel to a Kindle or Nook device and it will load momentarily. Because of this, they are a lot more convenient to use than traditional books. They're also easier to transport, and these devices give one the option to access numerous books or articles at any given time.

Junior Olivia Izze states, "Kindles are fantastic because they are reliable and really easy to work. It's also great to download whatever you want and be able to read it instantly."

However, there are negative aspects to these new devices as well. The most popular complaint against the e-books is that, like online newspaper articles, the experience of reading these electronic versions is just not the same. Many people miss the traditional feeling of holding a book in their hands and flipping the pages themselves. Electronics seem to be incapable of replicating this feeling.

"While eReaders are a great technological advancement and may even help increase a child's penchant for reading because it [sic] incorporates a toy-like device into the learning process, there's something about holding a book in your hands that adds to the whole reading experience, and I don't think an eReader is going to capture that," commented junior Katelyn Holshouser.

Although some people are upset about moving further and further away from actual hand held books, the electronic book industry is booming. In order to keep themselves in business, Barnes and Nobles developed the "Nook," which is their own personal version of the Amazon Kindle. Many bookstores are worried about getting blown away by their online competition, and for good reason. It is clear that e-books are here to stay and plan on making a huge impact in the literary world.



The Sony E-reader, via <http://www.masternewmedia.org/images/sony-laytest-ebook-reader.jpg>

SPORTS

Player of the Week

Jillian Curtis Staff Writer

This week's Player of the Week is senior soccer star Kristin Braxton. Braxton is one of the co-captains on the 2010 team. Her leadership abilities and talented athleticism makes her a serious threat both on and off the field.

During her senior year of high school, Braxton was recruited by soccer Coach Paul Smith. When Braxton came to tour the campus, she was immediately attracted by the friendly welcoming environment. She decided to play for the Avenging Angels and has since proved

herself to be an invaluable asset to the team's success. During her time playing at Meredith, the soccer team has been incredibly successful. One of Braxton's favorite memories was beating Christopher Newport University in the conference tournament and being able to compete in the NCAA tournament.

Braxton has been playing soccer since she was four years old. Her passion and love for the game started at an early age, and continued to stay

strong during her time at Meredith. Braxton plays defense here at Meredith and is an essential part of the team's success. So far this season, Braxton has led her team to a 7-3 record. Braxton strongly believes that this year's team has what it takes to make it to the top.

"I think we are going to do really well. We have a very skillful team this year and I think we have the ability to go all the way to the NCAA tournament and be successful," stated Braxton.

Besides leading her team on the

soccer field, Braxton is very focused on her school work as well. She is a Child Development Major with a B-K license. Braxton believes that the hardest part about being a college athlete is balancing school work with practice and game times. However, Braxton believes that the friendships she makes with her teammates and the ability to play the game she loves, are well worth the struggle.