

MUGShots

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**Macintosh Users Group of
Southern New Jersey**

Is Apple On Top of the Heap?

By Stan Horwitz

Apple's flagship Intel-based laptop is the 17" MacBook Pro, which was introduced in April. Reviews I have seen of this new model are positive, but can we Mac users say that Apple offers the most innovative laptops? Sadly, the answer is a resounding **no!**

Don't get me wrong, I think Apple makes great laptops, but it is far behind when it comes to offering the latest multi-media technology. Toshiba and Sony are shipping laptops that offer more and better features than Apple's laptops.



The Qosmio G35-AV6501 is Toshiba's answer to the MacBook Pro. The Qosmio G35-AV6501 has a 2GHz Intel Core Duo processor and 1GBytes RAM. The VAIO VGN BX570B is a laptop from Sony that has similar specs as the Toshiba, but with a Pentium processor instead of a Core Duo. Both laptops cost about \$3,400, fully equipped.

What sets the Qosmio and VAIO apart from Apple's 17" MacBook Pro is a whole host of multi-media features that the MacBook Pro lacks. The Qosmio G35-AV6501 supports high definition television (HDTV). The MacBook Pro with a 17" display has impressive video quality; but it does not support high HDTV. The highest resolution of the Sony and Toshiba laptops' display is 1920x1200 versus Apple's 1680x1050. These two Apple competitors support the modern 1080p high definition standard, which can be viewed on the built-in display or via an external display. Apple's laptops do not offer that level of HDTV support. High definition video is a highly desirable feature for anyone who wants to view movies in high definition format on a laptop.

Continued on Page 4

Leaders On Line

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Why Join MUGSNJ?

Membership in MUGSNJ offers several benefits!!

1. Free Workshops
 Free tech support
 Member Discounts
 Fellowship
 Mac Usage Ideas
 Discounted Subscriptions
 MUGShots Newsletter
 Special Interest Groups (SIGS)

Worth the Surf

Here are a few web sites that any Mac user should be aware of:

Technical Support

www.mugsnj.org/links

www.macfixit.com

www.macentral.com

www.apple.com/macosx/resources/

www.powerpage.org/

Software Downloads

www.versiontracker.com

www.apple.com/downloads/macosx/

www.macupdate.com

Hardware

www.smalldog.com

www.jandr.com



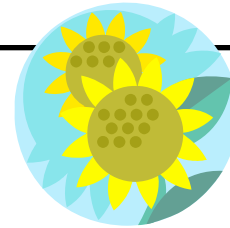
Miss a meeting and you'll miss Bill demonstrating his "Gizmos & Gadgets"



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- GCC Computer Graphics . Marc Humme
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We Need You!
Please help make MUGShots better.
Please contribute ideas or articles
You do not have to be a guru to write an article.
More more information, contact stan@temple.edu



June Meeting

Please join us on June 28th for "Meeting-in-a-BOX"

We will have Give-aways and Peachpit books on sale for only \$5.00, less than half the original price. Free refreshments will be served (donations appreciated). See the last page for meeting location and a map. **Check out page 8 for more details.**

Bonus Tech Tip

What is a universal application?

When a software developer says its software is universal, it means the software is designed to run on both the old IBM PowerPC and Intel's new Core Duo and Core Solo processors at peak performance.

How can I tell if an application is universal?

Click on any application's icon and get information on it by either pressing Command-I or pulling down the File menu and select "Get Info." Look at the top of the Get Info window. The "Get Info" window will have a "Kind" field near the top. In the Kind field, it will say "Application (Universal)" if it is a universal application. This means, the application is optimized to run on Apple's Intel-based Macs.

If an application is not universal, its "Get Info" window will indicate "Application (PowerPC)" in the Kind field. This means the application will likely run faster on older Macs, than it will on Apple's new Intel-based Macs.

Is Apple On Top of the Heap?—Continued from Page 1

The Qosmio G35-AV6501 has several other cool features such, as does the Sony VAIO VGN BX570B. None of the MacBook Pro models offer a built-in media card reader. Apple's new laptops lack a TV tuner, yet Toshiba includes one in its laptop. The Toshiba laptop can also be used like a digital video recorder, but to get that functionality in any Mac requires an investment of several hundred dollars in additional hardware. The VAIO has a unique fingerprint recognition feature for security.

The Toshiba laptop's biggest perk is its optical disk drive, which not only reads and writes dual layer DVDs at 8x, but it can also play the new high definition DVDs that are just now, entering the marketplace. Movies that are released in HD DVD format have a spectacular image quality that rivals the quality of a photograph. Sony will also offer Blu-ray DVD support in its laptop and a model with a 19-inch display

The Toshiba laptop has two 5400RPM 100GB SATA hard drives. If one hard drive fails, the other one contains the same data. These hard drives can also be upgraded or configured to yield at least 200GB of usable capacity.

Why am I discussing Sony and Toshiba laptops with such enthusiasm in this MUGShots issue? Sure, the Toshiba laptop has the colossal liability of running Microsoft Windows and it lacks iLife, but if I had to choose a laptop to use as a multi-media hub right now, the Qosmio G35-AV6501 would be my choice right now and that includes Apple's offerings. The Sony VAIO VGN BX570B would be a close second.

The reason I am telling you this because I feel we Mac users deserve laptops that offer similar features from Apple. Why isn't Apple offering laptops that have the same or better features as its competitors are offering? If Apple truly wants to offer the most innovative laptops in the industry, it has a long way to go before its products offer the same features as Toshiba and Sony offers in their high end laptops. Apple is giving multi-media enthusiasts a tough time justifying further purchases of Mac products! That is truly unfortunate.

Hot News From Apple!

New MacBook: On May 16th, Apple replaced its venerable line of iBook laptops with a new line of MacBook computers starting at \$1,100 for a model with a 1.83 GHz CPU. For a bit more money, you can buy a MacBook with a 2 GHz processor. Both models come with a 13-inch display.

The 2 GHz MacBook can be ordered in either a black or white finish. The 1.83 GHz module is available only in a white finish.

Enhanced MacBook Pro: In addition to adding a new line of consumer-level laptops to its lineup, Apple bumped up the speed of its professional laptop line, the MacBook Pro. The \$2,499 MacBook Pro now comes with a 2.16 GHz Intel Core Duo processor, up from 2 GHz. The \$1,999 MacBook Pro now comes with a 2 GHz processor, up from 1.83 GHz.

The 15" and 17" MacBook Pro models also offer a new optional glossy widescreen display at no additional cost. This new glossy display can show graphics with greater color saturation.

New Apple Store: Those of you who plan to visit New York City should check out Apple's newest store in the Big Apple. This store is built in a new architecturally unique space. It is located on 5th Avenue at 59th Street.

Secretary's Corner

In Walt's absence your Executive Committee didn't meet this month so there's not much to report. Instead I will follow in Nate's footsteps and write an article on:

How I Got Into Macs

I majored in Art in High School, specializing in Commercial Art. While continuing my education at The Philadelphia College of Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, I worked for a publishing company as a lowly past-up artist. Working full-time, I soon went on to spec type for the typesetters and so began my career of Desktop Publishing. When things were slow, I hung out in the Advertising Department where I was given the opportunity to learn from some of the top Advertising Artists in Philadelphia. I was permanently transferred to that department and given my own accounts, working there for 5 years until we started our family.

When my youngest started school I was hired by an Advertising Agency, 10 minutes from my home, as Art Director for *Delaware Valley Business Magazine* and the *DRPA Log* along with other responsibilities. When the company moved to Willow Grove, they set me up at home to continue as Art Director until they found a replacement. I was given an IBM Stand Alone so I could reset copy to make it fit. And so began my typesetting career and my own Free Lance business.

For the next 30 some years I worked in Art Departments at Publishing Companies and Printers, using various typesetting equipment, while Free Lancing on the side. I was introduced to my first Mac, a Macintosh Plus, in 1988.



I purchased my first Mac, a used SE/30, in 1991 as a package that included a Radius Pivot Monitor and a Laser Printer for \$3500. My next purchase was a used Power Mac 5200 followed by a new Power Mac 6500.

In 1999, I bought my first Laptop, a PowerBook G3, which we continue to use with OS 9.2. In 2002 I purchased an iMac (17") turning my 6500 over to my husband, who, in turn, replaced the still working SE/30 at our shore house, with his old 5200. When the CD drive on the PowerBook died, we replaced it with an iBook in 2004.

Unable to upgrade the OS on the 6500, I replaced Larry's 6500 with a Mac Mini earlier this year and his 6500 replaced the 5200 at the shore.

In 1999 we started our own business, Gemini Energy Products, Inc., and so ended my Graphic Arts and Typesetting career. We sold the business in 2004 and retired.

Carole Dadino
Secretary, MUGSNJ

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Information about
South Jersey Apple Users Group
meetings is at www.sjaug.org**

**CompUSA in Princeton
.Mac: It's All about the
Internet and Sharing
June 3rd at 2:00 - 3:00 PM**

**Springboard Media
The Mac as a Home
Entertainment Center
June 7th at 5:00 - 5:45 PM**

**CompUSA in Philadelphia
June 10th at Noon-1:00PM
iLife '06:**

Music, Photos, Movies, and Blogs

**A list of additional workshops
is available on the following web site:
seminars.apple.com**

File System Check

A Mac OS X Troubleshooting Tip

by Stan Horwitz
V.P. MUGSN

Mac OS X is composed of layers of software; each of which starts up when you start your Mac. Each layer adds more functions, such as the ability to access disks, set the clock, see your mouse, keyboard, and so on.

The last part of the start up sequence starts-up the Finder. If trouble arises, you can start your Mac into a lower level of the operating system called single user mode to troubleshoot the problem.

Single user mode like a terminal window. No graphics or network access is available in single user mode. In a normal start up sequence, single-user mode checks the hardware for any major issues.

If your Mac won't start or you have trouble opening files, your Mac's file system may be corrupt. One of the best ways to deal with a file system corruption is to use Alsoft's Disk Warrior, which is sold at any store that sells Mac software.

One way to try to fix file corruption on any version of Mac OS X involves using a utility called fsck (which stands for "file system check." The fsck utility cannot work while your Mac's hard drive is mounted.

To use fsck, your Mac needs to be in single user mode so it can run without any disks being mounted.

To get into single user mode, restart your Mac while you hold down the Command and "s" keys.

To check your Mac's file system, type `"/sbin/fsck -f"` and press the "Enter" key. If you are prompted to do anything that you do not understand, select "n". When you are finished, type "exit." You May need to type "exit" more than once. This will cause the Mac to start the higher levels of Mac OS X and hopefully bring you to the Finder.

The amount of time that fsck runs depends on the size of your hard drive and the amount of data on it. When fsck is finished, it will should display an "ok" message to indicate that your hard drive is fine.

Depending on how corrupt your Mac's hard drive is, fsck can take a long time to run; possibly several hours. If you are using a laptop, be make sure it is plugged in and running on AC power. Do not do this while your laptop is running off a battery.

Hopefully, fsck will resolve the problem. If not, try Disk Warrior. Neither Disk Warrior nor fsck can fix physical hard drive problems such as a scratch on the surface of the drive, but they both can fix issues where data is incorrectly recorded on a hard drive.

If you have any further questions about hard drive issues or any other problems with your Mac, feel free to post them on the online bulletin board that you can get to through www.mugsnj.org by clicking on the yellow sticky that appears on our web page.

Never Forget!

Those who do not back up
files will lose their files



**Did someone catch Frank Petrie
at Clementon Lake Park?**

A Book Review
Reviewer: Maria O. Arguello
iPhoto 6 The Missing Manual
By David Pogue



**Publisher: Pogue Press/
 O'Reilly Media, Inc.**
ISBN: 0-596-52725-x
Price: \$29.99
Media: Book without a CD
Level: For all iPhoto users
Rating: 4.5 out of 5

Everybody knows that I am a big fan of David Pogue and The Missing Manuals from Pogue Press/O'Reilly. I have many Missing Manual books in my personal library and consult them frequently when I have questions during the course of my work. Both David Pogue and Derrick Story are experts on this topic and they offer their best writing and expertise in this book. The writing is witty, clear, engaging, and enjoyable.

Among the things that make *The Missing Manual* series so practical, besides the content, is the index. David says that he makes an extra effort and spends the most time making sure the index is accurate. He also demands perfection in the index.

All the illustrations are in COLOR. Wow, what a concept! This was one of my pet peeves with books that only offer black-and-white illustrations. How is a reader supposed to see the difference when color correcting a photo if the "before and after" is shown in black-and-white? Duh?

Part One of *iPhoto 6 The Missing Manual* covers the essentials about digital cameras, how to use them to

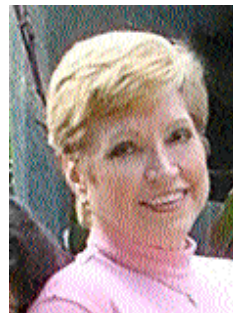
compose brilliant photos, tips for composing simple snapshots, and beyond. Part Two deals with iPhoto Basics. Part Three is all about sharing your photos with the public. In Part Four you learn about iPhoto Stunts like setting screen savers, AppleScript and Automator, and iPhoto File Management.

The 382 pages will have the reader mastering iPhoto 6 and looking like a pro, with many hidden tips, tricks, and explanations of why things act the way they do. For example, the transparent display that appears when dragging the vertical scroll bar gives you information you have selected from the View menu. I didn't know that! Before you know it you'll be making stunning calendars for friends and family, making blogs, photocasting your priceless photos over the Internet, sharing iPhoto Libraries, playing DVD slide-shows, backing up your photos on CD or DVD for future generations, ordering Kodak prints, and so on.

As much as I love The Missing Manual series, no single book can give you everything. In the *MacAddict* April, 2006 magazine, I discovered a way to control the size of the 'brush' for the Red Eye and Retouch tool. Set Caps Lock>control 9>tab> and use the left and right bracket to control the size. Neat trick and a total secret. Knowing this has made my editing with the Red Eye and Retouch tools much better, and more precise. It would have been great to find it in this book too. This book has no training CD or DVD. So, I am waiting for Jim Heid's *The Macintosh iLife '06* for the training DVD that comes with it. It is a component missing from *The Missing Manuals*.

This book is a must-have for every user of iPhoto 6. It is the missing manual that should have come with iLife '06.

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Maria is president and vendor liaison of the Main Line Macintosh Users Group (MLMUG). She is the Apple User Group Regional Liaison for the Northeast United States, as well as the Liaison for online groups.

A Book Review
Reviewer: Carole Dadino
iWork '05
The Missing Manual
by Jim Eferdink



I am proficient in both Quark XPress and Page-Maker, having used them for Desktop Publishing since they were first introduced, so, how difficult will it be to help our newsletter editor with his layouts in iWork's Pages? Not as easy as I thought. How do I change the leading? How do I set tabs? How can I set up my own templates? Jim Eferdink to the rescue with his *iWork'05 The Missing Manual*. Published by O'Reilly's Pogue Press. As with my other Missing Manuals, I found that the Index sent me directly to the page(s) dealing with the essentials needed in the layout I'm creating. I was especially impressed with the use of familiar printers terms used in Desktop Publishing like kerning and leading. Of course, Jim added a description of each word or phrase that may not be familiar to beginners.

Following the layout of all the Missing Manuals by David Pogue and others, Jim did a fantastic job of including basics for beginners, without boring the more advanced. The illustrations are large and are accompanied with a sidebar explaining their function. I especially appreciate the Tip boxes found throughout the manual focusing your attention to important information. Without a clue as to how to create a drop cap, (*a larger letter, used to begin an article or a paragraph. The letter lines up with the top of the copy but drops three or four lines below.*) I found my answer in Workaround Workshop on page 107. No way could I figure this out on my own as it involves 5 complicated steps.

I've only checked out a few functions in Keynote 2 and found that section equally well written. Having upgraded to iWork '06, the '05 manual addressed all my needs, as I believe '06 mostly deals with bugs, and Apple added more templates. I believe the upgrade offers very few additional functions. I highly recommend *iWork'05, The Missing Manual* to both beginners and advanced MAC Users using Pages and Keynote.

iWork '05 The Missing Manual may be purchased from the Apple Store, Mac Outfitters, www.macoutfitters.com or directly from O'Reilly, order@oreilly.com ISBN 0-596-10037-x. Ask for your User Group discount.

MUGSNJ's JUNE PROGRAM
"MEETING-IN-A-BOX", Part 1

At our June 28th meeting, we will focus on the "LIVE" experience of the Peachpit booth at Macworld San Francisco 2006. The DVD offers expert Mac training and real-world information, and cool Mac tips. You'll feel like you were right there in the audience as Mac pros share their great tips and inside info on the hottest applications and technology trends. It's the next thing to having a front seat in the Peachpit booth.

Speakers:

Jim Heid. — *The Macintosh Digital Hub*

Christopher Breen — *Secrets of the iPod and iTunes*

Jeff Carlson — *Making a Movie in iMovie and iDVD*

Michael Verdi and RYANNE HDSON — *Secrets of Videoblogging*

Maria Langer — *Mac OS X Tiger*

Diana Weyand — *Final cut Pro 5*

Davd Blatner — *inDesign Breakthroughs*

Charles Wyke-Smith — *Stylin' with CSS*

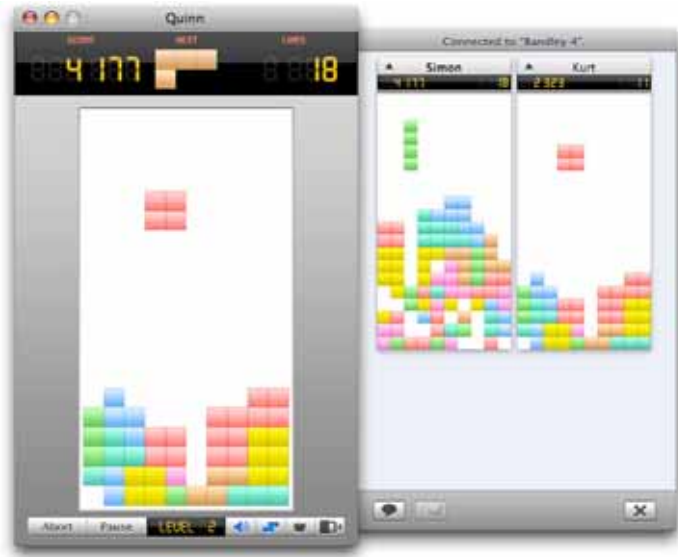
After each session there will be a time for input and Q-&-A. Free refreshments will also be served



Quinn 3.2.2

A Computer Game Review

By Stan Horwitz



Product: Quinn 3.2.2

Author: Simon Härtel

System requirements: Mac OS X 10.4.2

Test System: MacBook Pro

URL: www.simonhaertel.de.vu

Price: free!

Rating 4.5 out of 5 apples

WARNING:
Reading this review
can lead to an addiction!

Do you remember the Tetris game from 1988 that ran on the Mac SE? Tetris was one of the first games for the Mac. I spent many hours playing Tetris, which I referred to as "geometric simulation!"

Until a few days ago, I had not played Tetris on a Mac for many years. Last Sunday, a friend told me about Quinn, which is a color version of Tetris that uses Mac OS X's modern graphics features.

Use caution if you download Quinn because it is highly addictive! The first time I played Quinn, an entire hour passed by like lightning!

Quinn 3.2.2 requires Mac OS X 10.4.2. Panther and Jaguar users can play Quinn by downloading an older version from the author's web site. Quinn is a small program, so it will even run on a Mac with minimal memory and disk space.

Quinn is not intended to be a redesigned version of Tetris; it is a classic version. Unlike its ancestor, Quinn is in color and it runs on modern hardware. A typical Quinn game board appears on the left.

A few features have been added to improve the user experience without changing the game, itself. The new features include: configurable keys, network play via Bonjour or the Internet, multi-user play, and a personal high score for each player. You can also design your own game board and pieces.

Considering it is free, Quinn is exceptional. The author clearly put a lot of effort into writing this game. The graphics quality and keyboard response time are superb!

That being said, I could not give Quinn a perfect rating. When I first started playing Quinn, I was confronted with an unexpected challenge. I assumed the arrow keys on my keyboard could move the falling pieces and that the space bar could rotate them. My assumption was wrong, but I think that's the way the original Tetris worked.

Continued on next page

The Bob "Dr. Mac" LeVitus Summer Visit!



Dr. Mac will visit four local Mac Users Groups from July 7 to 16, 2006. **AND YOU ARE INVITED!** Dr. Mac will visit the Mainline Macintosh Users Group (MLMUG), Princeton MUG (PMUG), Hershey Apple Core, and Washington Apple Pi.

On Saturday, July 8, Bob LeVitus will be the main presenter right at the MLMUG's monthly meeting. After that meeting, Jim and Judy Habel of MacOutfitters in Doylestown, will host a free seminar and cookout in honor of Dr. Mac.

On Monday, July 10, 2006 at 6:00 PM, PMUG will host a dinner in Dr. Mac's honor. This event is open to all user group members who are interested in attending. To register for this event and for more information, please visit the web site at www.pmug-nj.org/ or www.whoscoming.com/LeVitus/. The registration deadline is July 5 and the cost is \$27.50 per person.

On Tuesday, July 11, 2006 from 6:30 to 9:30 PM, Dr. Mac will be the main presenter at the PMUG's monthly meeting.

On Wednesday, July 12, 2006, Dr. Mac will be the main presenter at the Hershey Apple Core, in Hershey, PA. Details are at www.hersheyapplecore.com/.

As if that isn't enough, Dr. Mac will be the guest speaker at the annual picnic of Washington Apple Pi in Fairfax Station, VA. Information on the activities and events planned with Dr. Mac is online at <http://www.wap.org/>.

Bob "Dr. Mac" LeVitus is one of our favorite speakers on the Mac. He is very generous with his time and loves to present and meet with Macintosh User Groups. This year is Bob's fifth annual visit to MLMUG, his fourth to PMUG, his first to Hershey

Apple Core and a repeat visitor to the Washington Apple Pi. We are so pleased to see other MUGs join us in sharing this wonderful person.

If you have any questions about the Dr. Mac Summer Visit, please contact Maria O. Arguello at arguello10@comcast.net. Please place "Bob LeVitus" in the Subject line.

Quinn—Continued from Page 9

As it turns out, those keys do nothing, although they can be configured to work as I expected.

The pull down help menu offers a lot of information, including a brief history of Tetris. Unfortunately, the information about which keys do what is hard to locate. I finally figured out how to maneuver the falling pieces when I looked at the preferences menu, which is where one can define the keys the game uses. Other than that minor detail, Quinn is truly a superb game.

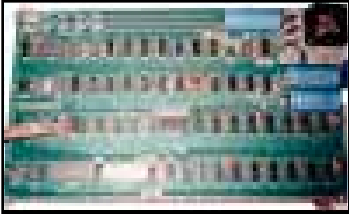
I am grateful to Simon Härtel for doing such a wonderful job writing Quinn and offering it to Mac users for free. Simon has informed me that he will put a new version of Quinn on his web site soon. Simon also wrote some Mac shareware such as an ASCII text editor and a graphics framework for other Mac game developers. Simon's other software is available on his web site.



Where is Walt Vennell?

THEN and NOW

1976 — Apple I



CPU

MOS Technology 6502

CPU Speed: 1 MHz

FPU: none

Bus Speed: 1 MHz

Data Path: 8 bit

Onboard RAM: 8 kB

Maximum RAM: 32 kB

Video RAM: 1 kB

Max Resolution: 60.05 Hz, 40x24 char

Power: 58 Watts

Introduced: April 1976

Terminated: 1977



The Apple I was Steven Wozniak's first contribution to the personal computer field. It was designed over a period of years, and was only built in printed circuit-board form when Steve Jobs insisted it could be sold. It debuted in April 1976 at the Homebrew Computer Club in Palo Alto, but few took it seriously. The Apple I was based on the MOSTek 6502 chip, whereas most other "kit" computers were built from the Intel 8080. The Apple I was sold through several small retailers, and included only the circuit board. A tape-interface was sold separately, but you had to build the case.

The Apple I's initial cost: \$666.66.

Picture Credits: Barkley Anderson

Apple Computer, Inc.

2006 — Power Mac G5 Quad 2.5GHz



Processor: Two dual-core 2.5GHz PowerPC G5

L2 cache: 1MB per core

Frontside bus: 1.25GHz per processor

Main memory: 512MB of 533MHz DDR2 SDRAM (PC2-4200); supports up to 16GB

Standard graphics: NVIDIA GeForce 6600 with 256MB of GDDR SDRAM, one single-link DVI port, and one dual-link DVI port

Hard drive: 250GB Serial ATA; 7200 rpm

Optical drive:

16x SuperDrive with double-layer support(DVD+R DL/ DVD±RW/CD-RW)

Expansion (2):

Three open PCI Express expansion slots: two four-lane slots and one eight-lane slot

Ports and Bays: One FireWire 800 port, two FireWire 400 ports (one on front), four USB 2.0 ports (one on front), two USB 1.1 ports (on keyboard), two internal hard drive bays (one occupied)

Audio: Optical digital audio input, optical digital audio output, analog line-level input, analog line-level output, front headphone minijack and speaker.

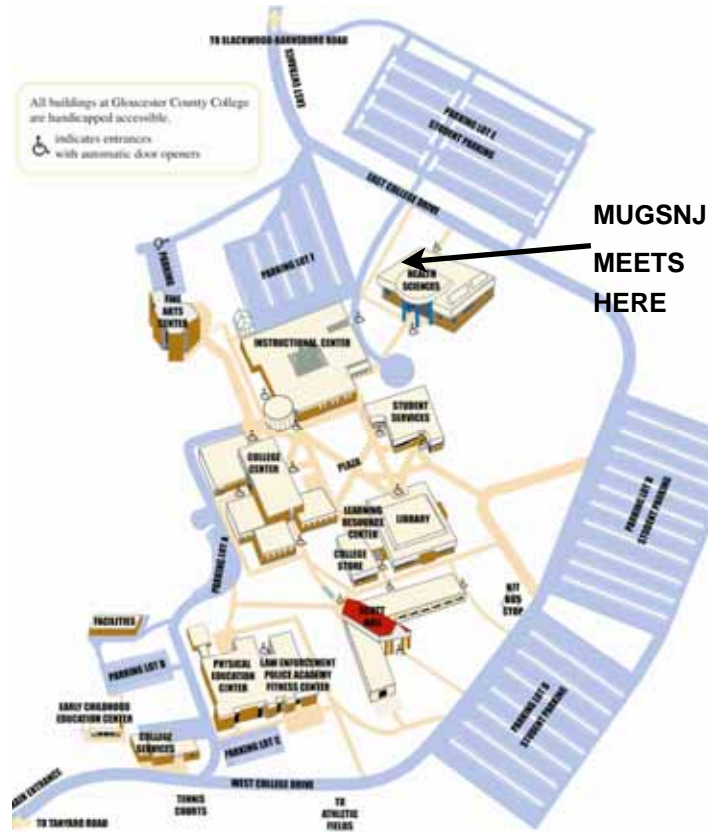
Networking:

Dual 10/100/1000BASE-T (Gigabit) Ethernet ports; integrated wireless antenna; optional AirPort Extreme and Bluetooth 2.0 + EDR (build-to-order option or through an Apple Authorized Service Provider)

Base price: \$3,299.00



MAP



MUGShots

May, 2006

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of Southern New Jersey
Liberal Arts Dept.
1400 Tanyard Road
Sewell, NJ 08080-9518
www.mugsnj.org
856-468-5000, ext. 6445

MUGSNJ General Meetings are held in the Health Sciences Building in Room 503 at 7:30PM on the last Wednesday of each month. (With Holiday exceptions.) Executive Committee meetings are held quarterly, Feb., May, Aug., & Nov., at 8:00PM in Room 503.

IT IS POSSIBLE THE COLLEGE MAY BE CLOSED DOWN FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS LIKE SNOW STORMS.

IF I AM NOTIFIED IN TIME, I WILL SEND AN EMAIL ASAP

CAROLE

MUGShots is available in color. You can download the color copy in a PDF file at www.mugsnj.org/news