By John S. Adams

Students in David Green’s introductory level Tech 130, Hardware and Operating Systems course learn to custom build desktop computers and configure operating systems. At least that’s what the official syllabus says. But with David Green they get some life skills to complement the technical ones they learn.

It’s a “a life skills course with hardware,” Green says. “What it really comes down to is to teach you how to think, and every other course you take here it’s to teach you how to think.”

In class students dismantle desktop computers, pulling out hard drives, motherboards, power supplies, and disconnecting cables, laying them on the table in no particular order. Then, when everyone (Continued on page 2)

Networking course offers more than computer skills

Time to Register
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Professor David Green, left, teaches his networking students to problem solve, while Brian Capstraw assembles another student’s machine.

is done stripping his machine, the entire class rotates one station counter clockwise, sort of like musical chairs, except in this game nobody sits down, and there’s no music. Now each one must reassemble someone else’s machine without (Continued on page 2)
first having seen how it came apart.

“I’d love to be able to tell you that everything is the same, but that’s not the way it is,” Green told the class. “You may encounter a situation where someone has been there before and made a mess out of things. Now you must think on your feet and reassemble computers without having seen how they came apart.”

Student Vincent Turtura spoke of his first experience dismantling a computer a few weeks earlier. “It was the first time I ever took a computer apart, I didn’t know what I was doing,” he said. But now he seemed confident as he removed each part.

Green requires students to document in writing and with photographs every step they take disassembling and reassembling their computers, and then write a manual that non-technical persons could follow to assemble their own.

“I labeled every piece that I took apart, step by step,” Vincent said. “I did it in the exact order that I took it apart.”

Brian Capstraw, another student, brought his own desktop tower from home and the most important thing he learned so far is to “document each step,” he said. Brian is now confident he could reassemble a computer without assistance. Like Vincent, Brian had never taken a computer apart prior to the course.

“Part of my job is to make them feel comfortable,” Green said. Student Steven Scott reassembled Vincent’s machine and tried to power it up, but it would only emit a series of beeps. He set about testing the power supply cord, the keyboard and the monitor to see if any of them were at fault.

It was an old machine and didn’t work anyway, but for Green it was a teachable moment.

“With any machine we need a generic trouble shooting process,” he said. “We tend to make things way too complex. When it comes to computers, it’s no different than

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Get ready to register!

Believe it or not, it’s already time for continuing students to register for the Winter 2017 Semester. The Student Services team will be stationed in the student lounge from Monday, November 7, to Thursday, November 10. Official registration hours will be from 8:30 am to 6 pm on all four days.

Students need to make sure they’ve been cleared by Financial Aid before proceeding. After that, just stop by the student lounge, where you will be helped on a first-come, first-served basis. No appointment is necessary, and any advisor will be able to assist students in all academic programs.

And there’s an added bonus: students who register next week will get their very own Bryant & Stratton T-shirt!

Students & staff show creative side for Spirit Week

The final week of October was Spirit Week on campus, culminating in a costume contest on Thursday. Out of many tremendous costumes, here were the winners in each category:

**Best Group or Duo:** Admissions
**Best Classic Costume:** Anne Sorrendino
**Best Character Costume:** Chris Conley
**Most Creative:** Kim Murphy

Chris Conley, right, and Anne Sorrendino dressed up for Spirit Week.
everyday life. You need to have a
generic troubleshooting process
for life.

“They need a way to think ana-
lytically and solve problems,”
Green added. “We can give them a
specific answer to a specific prob-
lem, but that doesn’t help. You
need a generic answer.

“The moment you understand
why things happen—someone
along the way someone taught you
how to think,” said Green.
Let your voice be heard, take the Noel Levitz Survey!

Would you like to influence new policies and programs at Bryant & Stratton? Would you like to point out what is working well for you and what you’d like to see tweaked? Then you need to complete the Noel Levitz student satisfaction survey!

The Noel Levitz survey is already underway and will continue until Thanksgiving.

This survey is administered to students every fall and is meant to gauge student satisfaction. Results help determine the decisions made for 2017 and beyond.

Every student who takes the survey will automatically be placed into a drawing for a prize. After the survey has concluded we will draw the winners.

The more students who take the survey, the more accurate and beneficial the results will be. So let your voice be heard by completing the Noel Levitz survey today.

The link was emailed to students, but just in case you missed it, the survey may be found at https://survey.noellevitz.com/

Networking students Brian Capstraw, above, Steven Scott, and Vincent Turtura learn about computer hardware.
Goldie Medick, above, baked a red velvet cake with butter cream filling and edible spiders for the ABG bake sale during Spirit Week. Students Patricia Corrice, right, and Kim Murphy dressed up as a hippie and pink flamingo, while Leslie Orman, assistant to the Dean of Instruction came as a 1920s flapper.