

DETAILED CAMPUS MAP INSIDE

Student Guide '11

CAMPUS LIFE

How to survive and thrive
in college

THE SPORTS SCENE

From Pac-12 pigskin
to club sports

CU CENTERSTAGE

Campus concerts, theatre
and more

ENTERTAINMENT

Cool things to see and do
in Boulder

BOULDER
WEEKLY

Five gadgets for the tech-minded student

by Quibian Salazar-Moreno

Cocoon's CP Pro Backpack



Back in the day, people took notes by hand, read books, did research using the card catalogue in libraries, and, yes, walked through a foot of snow — uphill both ways — to get to campus. Life has changed. And aren't you glad it has? Here's a quick look at some new gadgets designed to make your life as a student easier.

Cocoon's Central Park Professional Backpack

One of the most important items for a student is a backpack. You want one that will withstand the hustle and bustle of a school year, while having enough space and pockets to organize books and supplies. There's nothing more annoying than having a strap break a month into the semester, running out of room or having to dig through a bunch of junk to find something.

Cocoon, a company known for its organizational cases for everything ranging from phones and iPods to laptops and tablets, has developed the Central Park Professional Backpack. The backpack is made of ballistic nylon to withstand daily use and has a padded compartment that fits up to a 17-inch laptop. It also has two large document pockets for folders and notebooks, a media pocket for your iPods or phones and Cocoon's GRID-IT! System to help organize other items like pens, pencils, calculators or gadget accessories.

Being in Boulder, we get our fair share of snow, and the backpack's included stow-away water-resistant hood will prevent your things from getting wet. Get it for \$79.99 at www.cocooninnovations.com.

Stem's TimeCommand Alarm Clock for iPod/iPhone/iPad

Another important item in a student's life? An alarm clock. Time is just as valuable as the education, so why not have a top-tier alarm clock? Stem's TimeCommand Alarm Clock works with your iPod, iPhone or iPad with an accompanying app to control what songs or Internet

radio station you want to play when your alarm goes off. If you want to sleep to music, it will automatically turn off after a set amount of time. The app also can control a desk lamp. You can schedule when your lamp turns on or off, whether you want it to turn on with your alarm or dim at a certain time. The app also has the current weather and the day's forecast. The clock charges your iPod, iPhone or iPad and has a solid sound system where you can control a five-band equalizer and enhance the bass through the app. You can get the clock from the Apple Store for \$99.95.

Tuff-'n'-Tiny USB Drive

The small, portable file-moving device of choice for the documents, music and videos you need to take with you has long been the USB flash drive, which allows you to drag and drop files and keep it moving. Verbatim's Tuff-'n'-Tiny USB Drives are a slick option as your USB flash drive of choice. The miniature drive is as thin as a penny and no longer than a paper clip. It's

dust- and water-resistant (although it's not recommended you dip it in water to test it out) and can withstand daily, rigorous use. The drive comes in a variety of colors, and storage sizes include 2, 4, 8, 16 and 32 gigabytes ranging from \$9.75 to \$97.50 at www.verbatim.com.

Smartfish Whirl Mini Notebook Laser Mouse

The touch pads on most laptops are uncomfortable to use, a bit cumbersome and could put a strain on your wrist with constant daily use. Nowadays, students are busy working on their laptops every day, so why not alleviate some of that discomfort? Smartfish has developed the Whirl Mini Notebook Laser Mouse, a lightning-quick mouse powered by ErgoMotion. ErgoMotion technology reduces the risk of repetitive stress injury. It's even been installed in bed frames.

The mouse has a pivot base that moves and adjusts to your natural hand and wrist placement. It will follow

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Stem's TimeCommand Alarm



Powerskin battery case



Verbatim Tuff-'n'-Tiny usb



Cocoon's CP Pro Backpack



There's an app for that

Tools to make college life easier
by Quibian Salazar-Moreno

MyHomework (iPhone/iPad) — If you're going to school full-time and carrying a load of four to five classes a semester, keeping track of all your assignments, projects, schedules and due dates can be a bit overwhelming. But for those of you with an iPhone or iPad, the MyHomework app will help alleviate some of those anxieties. The app allows you to list your classes and your assignments and integrate them with a calendar to show when they're due. The app even has a notification feature to remind you an assignment is due in a couple of days. This makes life so much easier for just \$2.99. Similar apps are CoursePro for Android and StudentDocket for Blackberry.

StudyDroid Flashcards (Android) — Need to memorize words and their definitions? Need to remember the steps in solving a chemistry formula? Or maybe you just need something for a quick reference for your notes? In the past, students used index cards to create flash cards and jot down notes to go over when studying for an upcoming exam. Now, with technology's help, you can have those same flashcards on your smart phone. On Android's StudyDroid Flashcards, you can create flashcards, add photos from your phone to them and sync them with the StudyDroid website so you'll never lose them again, for just \$2.99. Similar apps are Flashcards for iPhone/iPad and

Cram for Blackberry.

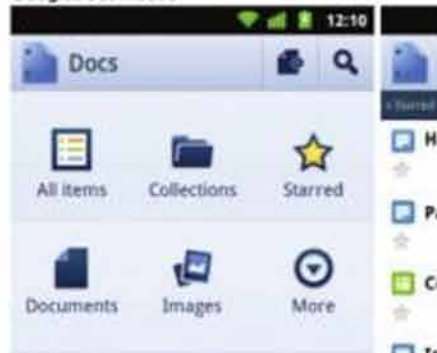
GoogleDocs (Android-only) — For those not familiar with GoogleDocs, it's a free web-based service that allows you to create, edit, store and share documents like spreadsheets, essays or PowerPoint presentations online. It's a great service that allows students to have access to their work from any computer, as well as share work or notes with classmates. GoogleDocs for Android lets you have access to those documents from your phone. Yes, you can put the finishing touches on that report, add notes to a class project or email the assignment to your professor in case you forgot to do that last night. The app is free.

iTalk Voice Recorder (iPhone/iPad) — If you're too slow as a typist or writer to catch all of the relevant pieces of a lecture during class, why don't you use your smart phone to record it? There are dozens of voice recording apps for every smart phone, but iTalk Voice Recorder has accompanying software that will allow you to download and manage the audio you've re-

MyHomework



GoogleDocs Mobile



corded on your computer. Plus, if you get the upgraded version of the app for \$1.99, you'll be able to use it in conjunction with DropBox, the popular Web-based file-hosting service. Similar apps are the VoiceRecorder for Android and VR+ for Blackberry.

Graphing Calculator (iPhone/iPad)

— A graphing calculator can cost anywhere from \$60 to \$150, which can strain a student's budget, especially if the calculator is only required for one semester. Luckily, you have a smart phone where you can get one for \$1.99. The iPhone's graphing calculator by Appcylon LLC has everything you need to get through that tough calculus class, including the ability to take screenshots and email graphs to yourself. Could you ask for a better deal? Similar apps are Scientific Calculator for Android and Gcalc for Blackberry.

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your wrist rotations left and right, forward and back, giving you the most comfortable position. It may take a day to get used to, but you'll notice a difference immediately. You can grab it at www.getsmartfish.com for \$49.95.

PowerSkin Silicone Case with Built-in Battery
It happens to all of us. We're

Smartfish Whirl Mini-Mouse



away from an outlet for so long during the day that the battery in our phone can no longer survive. It can be disastrous for those students

who depend on their smart phones to keep track of their schedule, notes and even lectures if they use their phones to record them.

The PowerSkin battery case comes with a silicone case to protect your phone and a back-up battery that doubles the battery life of your phone. The PowerSkin case is available for a variety of phones, including the iPhone 4, HTC Evo 4G, Motorola Droid X, Blackberry Bold and Curve and the Samsung Nexus S 4G. The cases are available at Amazon.com for \$59.99.