

STUDENT LIFE

Ask ASCII: How do I get missing tools back?

By Logan Stack
staff writer

Dear ASCII,
When I turned on my computer this morning, it started screaming at me. It was this real high-pitched, annoying noise. It stopped when I cleared my notes, pencils, pez dispensers, pop bottles and file folders off the keyboard and started pressing buttons. What was that all about? Then, when the screaming was over, I realized my screen was messed up so that I couldn't see the scroll bar at the right of my programs when I maximized them. How do I get those tools back?
- Slightly deaf

Dear Slightly deaf,
When you press numerous keys on your keyboard at once, the computer will beep at you. If you continue to press them, say because your drunken roommate left his half-empty Coors bottle on your keyboard, the beep may lengthen into a scream. There's no harm done, unless you had a file open. In that case, you may have some new and repetitive text in it.
The issue you have with the

scroll bar when your programs are maximized is likely not a problem with any software. What has likely happened is that the alignment of your monitor is off by a bit.

Your monitor (if it's not an LCD) works just like a TV. There's an electron gun in the back which shoots at the screen to make it light up and, if the gun isn't aimed correctly, the electrons may not all be hitting the screen.

To adjust this, every monitor comes with a couple of buttons or knobs, usually just under the screen. These are unique to every monitor, so if you can't figure it out by fiddling with them, you'll have to look it up in your manual. LCD's don't have this problem.

This brings up another interesting issue. Because computers no longer have floppy drives, they are no longer vulnerable to losing data if exposed to household magnets. Your hard disk has a sizable magnet in it which it uses to move parts. In ancient times (say 1999) when computers used floppy disks, magnets could erase the information off the floppies.

A record amount of Grammy sins

By Jim Farber
New York Daily News
(KRT)

Sentimental gestures have a sacred place in our lives. And deservedly so. Someone dies, you send flowers. Or make a condolence call.

You do not, however, award them a Grammy - or eight.

But Grammy voters Sunday night bestowed a treasure trove of trophies on "Genius Loves Company," the final album from Ray Charles, who died last year.

Not only is "Genius" not the Album of the Year, it could be the least necessary album of Charles' career.

Cut in the last year of his life, "Genius" captures a man who's clearly far from his towering power. Little of his brilliant phrasing or rich tone comes through. Worse, pairing one of music's greatest stars with a round of overexposed boomer-bait names from Elton John to Van Morrison plunges straight into the heart of marketing cliché.

This is the most depressing, and reflexive, Album of the Year award since Natalie Cole won for "Unforgettable," her morbid series of duets with her late

father, 15 long years ago.

The Grammy salute to Ray was just the cherry on top of a full evening's worth of moldy cake.

John Mayer's "Daughter" as Song of the Year? That had to come from some sort of split vote. Nobody thought that thing would win, including the singer himself. Backstage, Mayer joked that he thought he should screw off the top half of the award for himself and give the base to Alicia Keys for "If I Ain't Got You."

Mayer's piece reeks of insincerity. An icky ode to good

child-rearing, the song seems like some speech you'd hear on

"Leave It to Beaver" from Eddie Haskell, the guy who was always sucking up to his parents by telling them what they wanted to hear.

Not to be outdone in this year's sins, there's the "Best New Artist" award.

Of the five choices, voters went for the worst: Maroon 5. Taste of

Honey beat Elvis Costello in 1977 has there been a doozy of a boo-boo like this. Contenders Kanye West, Gretchen Wilson and Los Lonely Boys all have it over Maroon in innovation, per-

sonality and just plain tunes.

Grammy voters also fell into the trap of giving long-running artists awards for inferior works just because they felt self-conscious about ignoring their greatest ones.

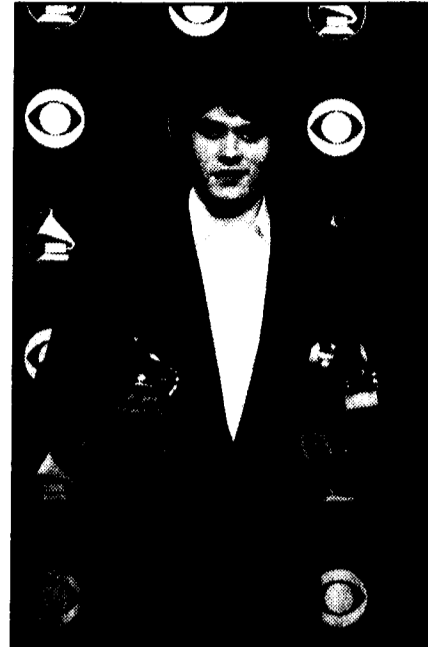
Both Rod Stewart and Brian Wilson bagged their first prizes this year for some of their louisiest recordings. Rod was honored for the third of his Standards CDs, (as Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album). Brian Wilson got the Best Rock Instrumental Performance trinket for "Mrs. O'Leary's Cow."

The latter is a novelty throwaway, the former manages to make Cole Porter songs seem unsophisticated.

Did voters get everything wrong?

Not quite. Green Day's "American Idiot" landed Best Rock Album, which it certainly is. And Alicia Keys took four R&B awards for material that returns the genre to a golden age.

But otherwise, Grammy voters brought us back to the dark years - that terrifying era when dross like "We Are the World" took top honors and Jethro Tull were seen as the world's greatest makers of heavy metal.



HAHN-KHAYAT/KRT

John Mayer, winner for Song Of The Year, at the 47th Annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles, California, on Feb. 13.

Should you show a little leg warmer?

By Karalee Miller
Knight Ridder Newspapers
(KRT)

Yes, they're back. But only the young and hip should attempt this hot fashion trend. Here's how the fashionistas say to wear 'em.

LEG WARMER DO'S

DO wear them with short skirts
Whether it's mini- or knee-length, the skirt should not travel lower than the kneecap when paired with leg warmers. Short and sweet is key. Trendy moccasins complete the leg-warming look.

DO pair them with flat, ballet-style shoes

Fashionable flats work best for this look. Toss the idea of pairing leg warmers with gym shoes or, worse yet, high heels. "High heels are a big don't," says Teresa Hunt, wardrobe consultant for Nordstrom's Personal Touch, the store's complimentary shopping service. "That look is a mother's worst nightmare."

Enough said.

DO wear them with pencil-cut jeans

You don't have to show some leg in order to show off this style statement. Pull some leg warmers over your favorite pair of pencil-cut jeans and you're set. "The more narrow the jean, the better," Hunt says.

Although this trend is fun and funky, realize that not everything in your closet is. Also, consider that while leg warmers are cute, "cute" doesn't work in every setting.

LEG WARMER DON'TS

DON'T wear them with flare-leg jeans
Remember, leg warmers have changed. "They used to be big and bulky, like Flashdance," says Lundy Johnson, also a wardrobe consultant for Nordstrom.

Do you realize how many times you'd have to French-roll your jeans (don't pretend that you didn't do that) to fit the sleeker leg warmer? And do you really want to find out?

DON'T wear them with gaucho pants
Everything about this possible look screams "fashion emergency." "It's the width of the pant, the length of the pant - with the leg warmer? It just doesn't look right," Hunt says. Hopefully, this is not news to any of us.

DON'T wear them with long skirts
If you're going for this look, why wouldn't you just wear pants? Just a thought.

WARMER MEMORIES

Some of the most memorable - perhaps regrettable - moments in leg-warmer history came from the 1980s.

Here's a look back.

"Fame" Re-MEM-bah, re-MEM-bah, re-MEM-bah . . . Of course, you do. The table-top-dance-lovin' kids in this 1980 film, and later on the TV show, helped propel the leg warmer and leotard look that haunted us for much of the decade.

"Flashdance" The year was 1983. After watching Jennifer Beals strut her stuff in this hit film, fashionistas turned into maniacs for off-the-shoulder sweat shirts and leg warmers.

-In 2003, Ms. Busybody from the Bronx, Jennifer Lopez, decided to pay homage to Beals - leg warmers and all - by re-creating the look of the movie in her video "I'm Glad." We weren't.

-Olivia Newton-John - After her popular 1980s music video, "Physical," it seemed people might be hopelessly devoted to headbands and leg warmers forever. We love - we honestly love - that they weren't.

-Jane Fonda - In her zillions of workout videos, Jane sure was fonda leg warmers. Feel the burn? No, just burn the look.

"Footloose" The credits for this film showcase several sets of dancing legs dressed in old-school tennis shoes and layered leg warmers. They wouldn't even show their faces. We're just sayin'.

Is Koppel's show nearing the end of the 'Line?'

By Marisa Guthrie
New York Daily News
(KRT)

In a highly unusual move, the producers of ABC's "Nightline" turned over Wednesday night's show to "Hotel Rwanda" star Don Cheadle for a piece on the genocide in that African nation.

It was a dramatic switch for the Ted Koppel-anchored show, no doubt. But it could be the first of many shifts and tweaks as the newsmagazine heads into its 25th anniversary.

By all accounts, the show is on the endangered list, and guessing what will remain of "Nightline" or emerge in the time period next season has turned into a television parlor game.

ABC executives are saying nothing definitive on the record.

"There has been an endless amount of speculation," said ABC News spokesman Jeffrey Schneider. "We're not going to add to that speculation except to say that 'Nightline' is a fantastic show and will

continue to be." How long, is the big question. Word is the entertainment and sports divisions at ABC are making a bid for the 11:30 p.m. EST slot, while the news division is trying to hang on to the show.

For example, the sports wing has proposed a show much like ESPN's "SportsCenter."

And ABC News staffers are toying with expanding "Nightline" to an hour or launching a new live show mixing news and popular culture. They've already shot a pilot with Bill Weir and Jake Tapper yukking it up about the news of the day.

"Clearly, what they're looking for is something that is much lighter in tone, that has a different sensibility, that is not hard news," said a source close to ABC News.

Koppel, whose contract expires in December, has said he will not do a live show. "This Week" anchor George Stephanopoulos has been mentioned as a possible replacement. But another source suggested having news and sports pitch shows was a smokescreen to divert atten-

tion from the real plan: shifting "Jimmy Kimmel" into "Nightline's" slot.

Some ABC insiders dismissed the Kimmel move, saying his low ratings make that move a long shot.

That said, the venerable news broadcast born during the Iran hostage crisis 25 years ago this May is not likely to survive in its current form beyond the fall. And the possible demise of "Nightline" underscores the dilemma facing television news organizations everywhere.

"What's really unfortunate is that the advertising industry is having such an impact on television programming by insisting that the demographics of news programs include more 18- to 34-year-olds," said Joe Angotti, chairman of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and a 20-year veteran of NBC News.

"I think it's a lack of imagination more than anything else that would turn it from a lively, well-watched public affairs program into a copy of yet another sports or celebrity or entertainment show," said Alex Jones, director of the Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard's Kennedy School. "We have no need for more of those. We have a great need for more serious news broadcasts."

How well do you know Martin Scorsese?

DallasNews.com
(KRT)

Martin Scorsese's latest film, "The Aviator," recently received 11 Oscar nominations. How much do you know about the veteran director?

1. Before devoting himself to filmmaking, Scorsese considered becoming a:

- A. Doctor
- B. Salesman
- C. Priest
- D. Veterinarian

2. Including this year's nod for "The Aviator," how many times has Scorsese been nominated for an Oscar for directing?

- A. Two
- B. Three
- C. Five
- D. Six

3. Scorsese directed the video for which Michael Jackson song?

- A. "Bad"
- B. "Beat It"
- C. "Billie Jean"
- D. "Thriller"

4. Actor John Turturro made his film debut with a small bit in which Scorsese film?

- A. "Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore"
- B. "Mean Streets"
- C. "New York, New York"
- D. "Raging Bull"

5. Scorsese did NOT write the screenplay for which film?

- A. "The Age of Innocence"
- B. "Casino"
- C. "Goodfellas"
- D. "The Last Temptation of Christ"

CORRECT ANSWERS:

- 1. C. Priest
- 2. C. Five. To date, he has never won.
- 3. A. "Bad"
- 4. D. "Raging Bull"
- 5. D. "The Last Temptation of Christ"

"Clearly, what they're looking for is something that is... not hard news," said a source close to ABC News.

Want your band featured? Know an interesting student? E-mail story ideas to the Beacon at behrendbeacon@aol.com