



**CourseCast of the Week – February 25, 2008 – Episode 37**

**Key Topics:**

- Online Student Gossip
- Telecom Balloons
- Mind-Reading Game Controller
- News Briefs

**Talk About It:**

1. Have you ever been the victim of malicious gossip or fabricated stories? Do you think sites like JuicyCampus and ratemyprofessor.com have any impact on individual's lives? What are your thoughts in general about social networking sites? (Online Student Gossip)
2. Does your school have an emergency notification system in place? If so, have you subscribed to it? Have your parents? Is an emergency notification system important to you? If you had been involved in the Virginia Tech shootings incident, do you think that this type of system is enough to alert you to campus emergencies? (News Briefs)

**Explore Technology:**

1. Visit spacedata.net. What types of services/products do they provide? How practical are their low-cost solutions? (Telecom Balloons)
2. Research the neuroheadset. What did you learn about the new product? Can it really read your thoughts? (Mind-Reading Game Controller)

**Think Critically:**

1. Is the future bleak or rosy for social networking? Discuss the future of social networking. (Online Student Gossip)
2. Many times we think of technology from an American perspective. In News Briefs, several articles refer to the use of international technology (British company developing software; International Telecommunication Union; the US Navy blasting the missile). Has technology changed the world from when your grandparents or parents lived? What about for the next generation? (News Briefs)