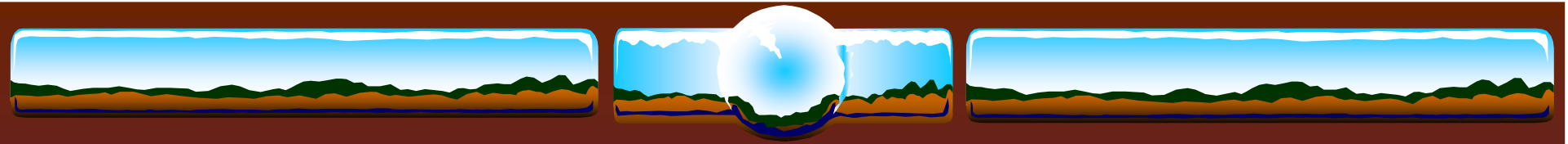


# Why I'm a Big Fan of Personal Information Pages (PIPs)...

## Or How I Can Go from Computer to Computer and Keep it All Customized

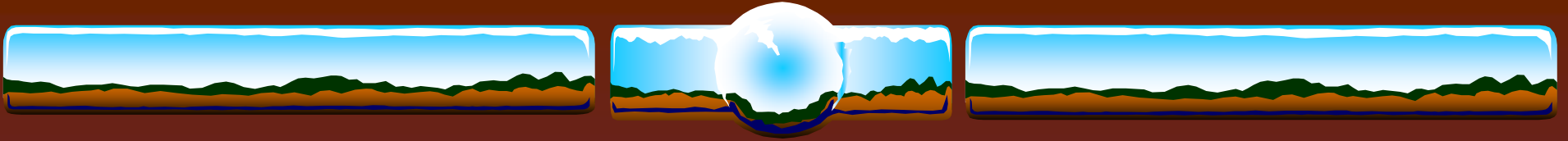
By Laurie Prange

January 26, 2006



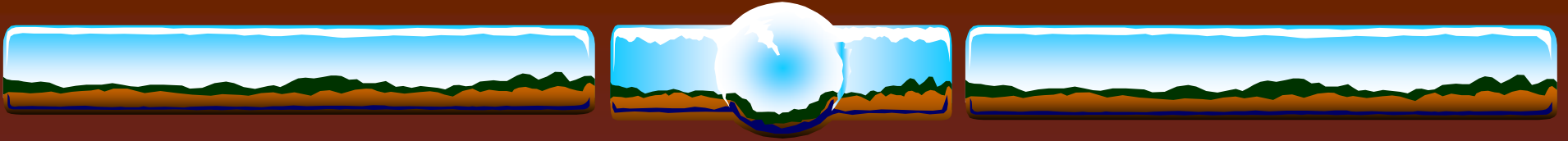
## What are PIPs?

- ❖ Personalized Information Pages or Personal Homepages, etc. are just what they sound like – a holding place for all your favourite online information.
- ❖ PIPs are different from websites in that they are only for personal use.
- ❖ Allows for a customized homepage no matter what computer is being used.s



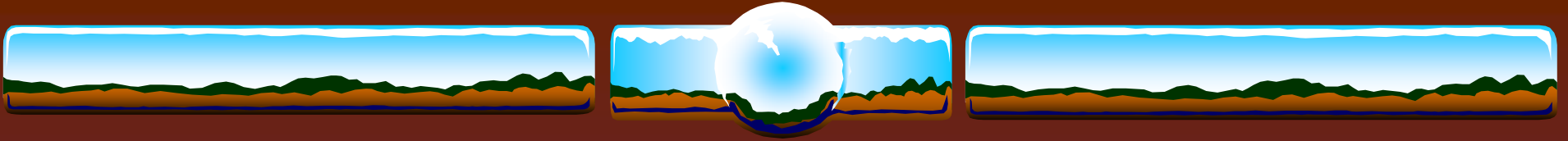
# Why would I want a PIP?

- ❖ Easily move from one computer to another.
- ❖ Manage RSS feeds.
- ❖ Have my To-Do List on the screen all the time.
- ❖ Remote access to e-mail account.
- ❖ Have my major bookmarks accessible on every computer.
- ❖ Not have to worry about settings being changed by co-workers or students.



# The Options Available

- ❖ **Netvibes** <http://www.netvibes.com>
- ❖ **Google Personal Homepage** <http://www.google.ca/ig>
- ❖ **Goowy** <http://webserver001.goowy.com>
- ❖ **Windows Live** <http://www.live.com>
- ❖ **My Yahoo** <http://my.yahoo.com>
- ❖ **Writely** <http://www.writely.com>
- ❖ **Gritwire** <http://www.gritwire.com>
- ❖ **SuprGlu** <http://www.suprglu.com/>
- ❖ **Homeportals** <http://www.cfempire.com/home/>



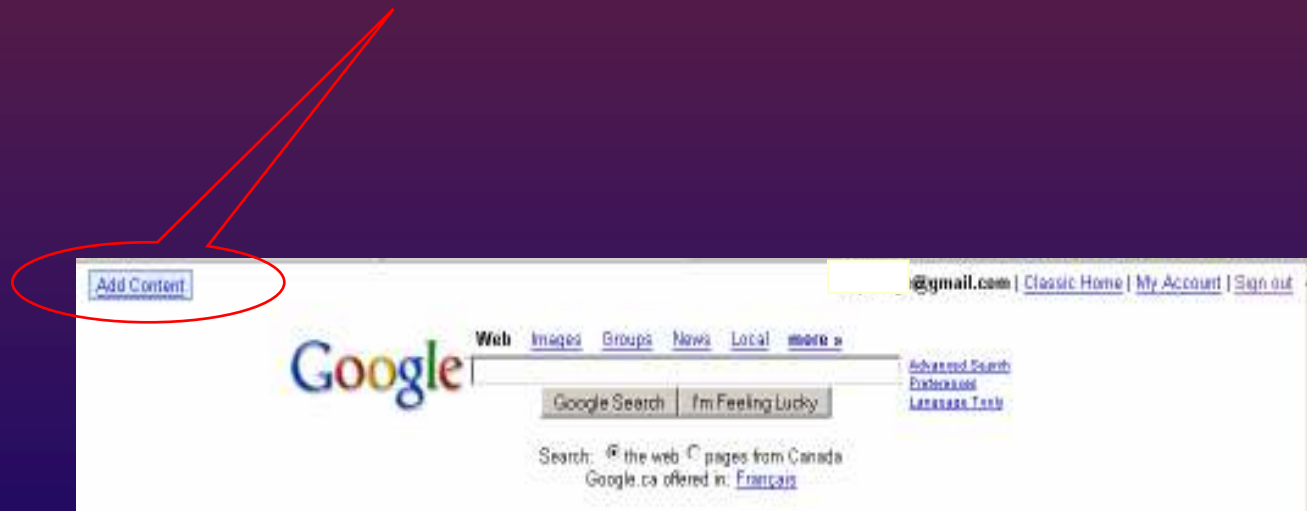
# Why did I pick Google?

- ❖ While not the prettiest, still nice to look at.
- ❖ VERY high number of modules available.
- ❖ Connect to my gmail account (where I occasionally will forward my work email).
- ❖ Easy to add or take away modules.
- ❖ To-Do List possible on the same page as my most important Bookmarks.
- ❖ Instant link to online searching, a huge part of my job.
- ❖ Not blocked by firewalls.



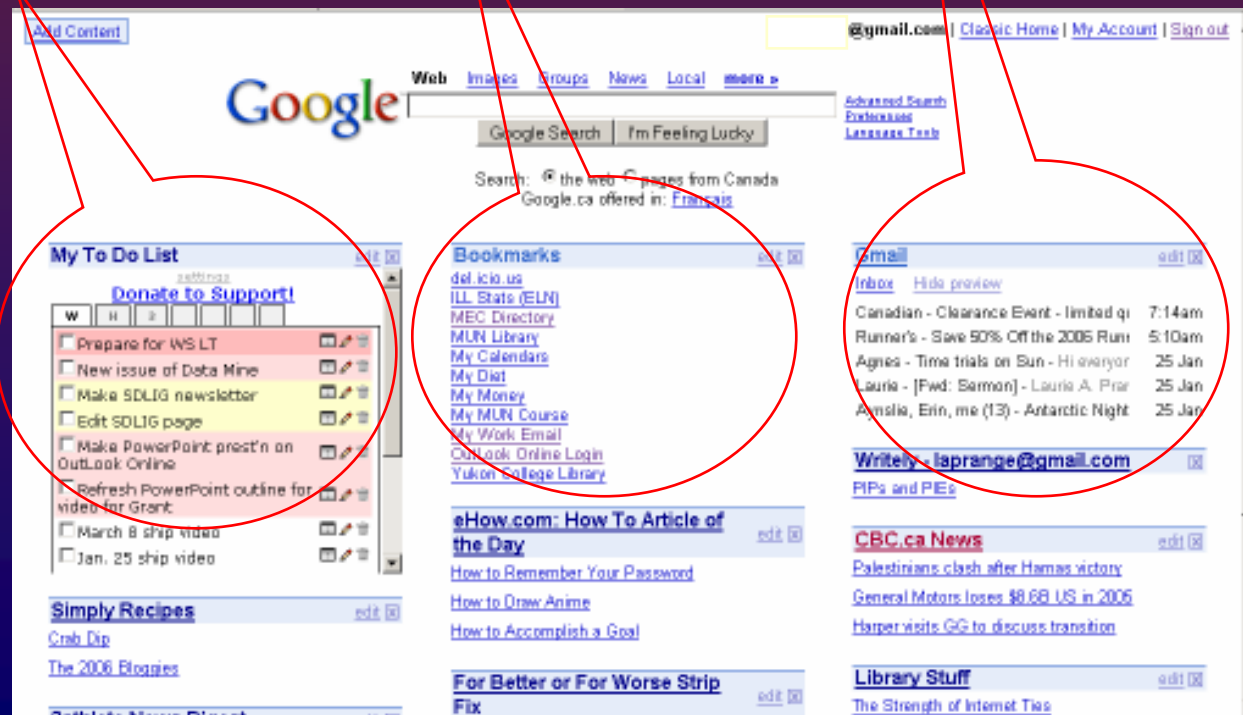
# How I got started

- ❖ Used my gmail account to set-up an account
- ❖ Used the “Add Content” feature to add modules.



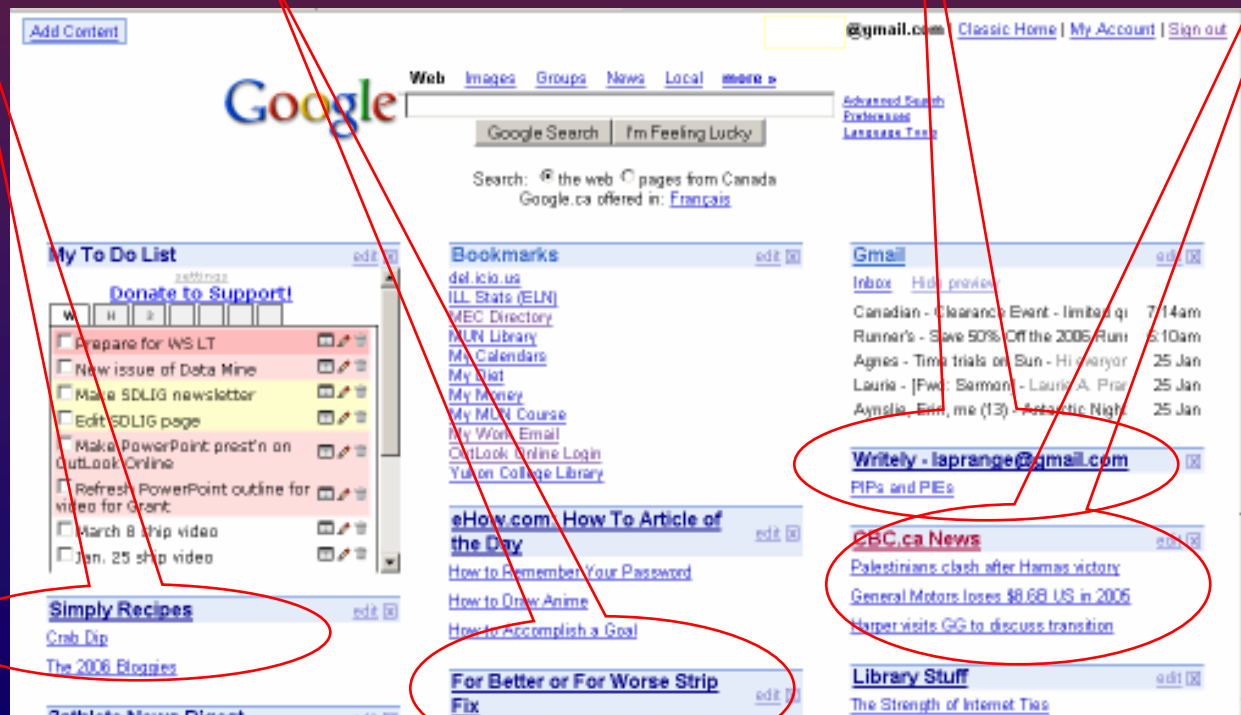
# In my opinion, the best features are...

- ❖ Monitoring Email (especially if away from my main computer)
- ❖ Bookmarks (but no more than a dozen)
- ❖ The To-Do List module

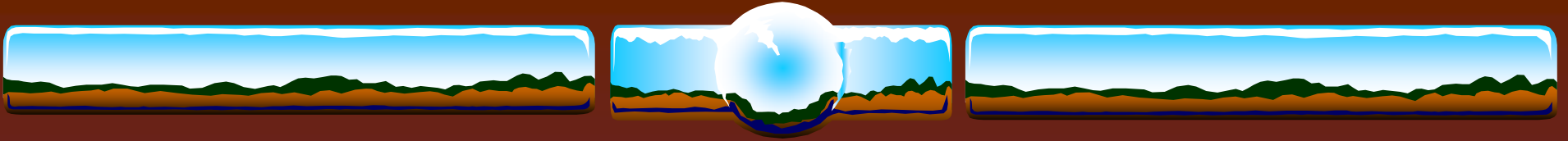


# The fun features

- ❖ RSS feeds of collaborative work projects, news, recipes, cartoons, etc.







# Conclusion

- ❖ It's all about customization on multiple computers... something I previously thought impossible.
- ❖ If you need customized features on whatever computer you're working on... but often change from computer to computer, a Personalized Information Page may be the ideal solution to your problem.