CGT 141/CPT 141 Lecture 18 Wk 12
Working with Site Editors and Development Tools I

The Range of Tools
- Converters
  - Save as features or standalone conversion programs
- Editors
  - Designed to help hard code
- Generators (WYSIWYG – What you see is What you get – authoring tools)
  - Powerful, expensive and often limiting

WYSIWYG Authoring Tools
- Advantages
  - Good for beginners (except the fact that they often prohibit the learning of code)
  - Good for quick prototypes
  - Good way to start monotonous things (like tables)
  - Generally a time saver
- Disadvantages
  - Many do not generate clean code (trash tags, deprecated or obsolete tags)
  - Many change any "custom code" you write
  - Many do not conform to latest standards
  - Most do not provide graphic control (or support of multimedia elements)
  - Most powerful packages are expensive

Potential Editors
- Windows: Macromedia/Allaire Homesite
- Mac: BBEdit

Potential Generators
- Macromedia Dreamweaver UltraDev (A++)
- Adobe GoLive (B+)
- Microsoft FrontPage (C-)

The primary thing to keep in mind about any Integrated Development Environment (IDE), multimedia or hypermedia authoring tool is this:
- Learn the tool, and you can do only what the tool can do. Learn the language and you can do anything.
- Do not become tool dependent – know how the technology works and you will get to the point that you will be able "to see into the future" as it were…