

The **STING**

Volume 50, Number 10

August 19, 1997

Southern Polytechnic State University's Athletic Director is put on administrative leave

- Charles Banton



Seen warming the bench in 1991, Coach Perides is benched in 1997

It was announced that on Monday August 4, 1997, Athletic Director George Perides was placed on paid administrative leave pending a review of administrative practices in the Athletic Department. Interim President Dr. Daniel Papp, states that this action was based on a need to review how business procedures are being handled in

this area. Dr. Papp also stated the following in an official press release earlier this week,

"Such a study into practices should not lead anyone to conclude that wrongdoing is perceived. However, it is the University's responsibility to study procedures and determine if corrections are needed."

Perides has been responsible for the Athletic Department as a whole, and he has also been the basketball coach for twenty-one years. He has coached the Hornets to a combined record of 460-258 including six NAIA District 25 championships. In the twenty-one seasons coaching the Hornets he has had only two losing seasons on the NAIA level. Perides enjoyed his 500th career win on February 7, 1996. Coach Perides was quoted in the Marietta Daily Journal as saying, "You could say this has been the longest week of my life." The basketball players are due to report on September 15, and the expectation is that the investigation will be over by then.

Vice President Harris Travis, is handling the administrative ...

See Coach, page 5

Dr. Travis to retire after 16 years at SPSU

- Contributed

After sixteen years of dedicated service to Southern Polytechnic State University, Dr. Harris Travis will retire as Vice President of Academic Affairs on March 31, 1998. During his nearly two decades as Vice President, Dr. Travis has presided over immense growth in SPSU's academic program and operations. When Dr. Travis came to SPSU, the then-Southern Technical Institute offered nine Associate Degree programs and seven Bachelor of Science programs. Today, SPSU offers fifteen Bachelor of Science degree programs and six Master degree programs, with more under development. In 1982, SPSU's faculty numbered ninety-three people; today, there are 158 faculty members. The student body has expanded from approximately 3,000 students to nearly 4,000 students during Dr. Travis' tenure.



At the same time as the University's academic programs and operations expanded, Dr. Travis helped maintain the University's high academic quality and reputation. This is indeed an impressive record. Upon Dr. Travis' retirement, Dr. Ed Vizzini, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, will serve as Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs. To ease the transition, Dr. Vizzini will begin to work closely with Dr. Travis during Winter Quarter 1998. SPSU will begin its search for a new Vice President of Academic Affairs after a permanent President is named in 1998.

Converting to semesters means more student preparation

- Bryan Garmon

As everyone has heard, beginning Fall of 1998, we will be converting from our existing quarter system to the state-wide semester system. This conversion brings a need for some very careful planning by each student that is still going to be at school in 1998. Beginning with this issue, THE STING is going to begin coverage of the details involved in the conversion and hopefully, prepare you for what's going to be expected. I can't stress the importance of careful planning but more importantly, getting advised for the next year.

Most of the departments are giving students packets designed to inform them of the specific needs they need to consider when assessing their options for semester conversion. If you've picked up a copy of the Fall Bulletin, there's a general question and answer section dealing with the semester conversion that will cover all of the basics.

For Civil Engineering Technology students, there have...

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Letters to the Editor. **The STING** welcomes letters on any topic. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double-spaced and should not exceed three hundred words. Letters must include a name, address and phone number for verification purposes, but names may be held upon request. Unsigned letters will not be printed. **The STING** reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to **The STING**, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060-2896, or email Vortex0007@mindspring.com, or drop them off at **The STING** office, Room 252 in the Joe Mack Wilson Student Center. All letters must be in before the deadline printed below.



Organization Articles. Articles must be submitted by the deadline printed below and typed on a 3.5 inch PC computer disc. Please limit articles to two hundred words. All such articles are subject to editing for style or content, and are run on a space-available basis.



Price. **The STING** offers to every student, faculty, staff member, alumni, and official visitor of Southern Polytechnic State University complimentary copies of each issue numbering up to 0.25% of the print run for the respective issue. Every copy above 0.25% is to be purchased according to a price set by **The STING**. Taking more copies of an issue than constitutes 0.25% of the print run of that issue is THEFT and a criminal offense.



Joining The STING. Any student paying activity fees is eligible to join **The STING**. We prefer creative students who have passed English 110. Come to our meetings Wednesdays at noon, in **The STING** office, Room 252 in the Joe Mack Student Center, or call 770/528-7310.



The Next Deadline. All organization articles, letters to the editor, advertisement requests, and public service announcements must be turned in to **The STING** by September 10, 1997, to be considered for the September 16 issue.

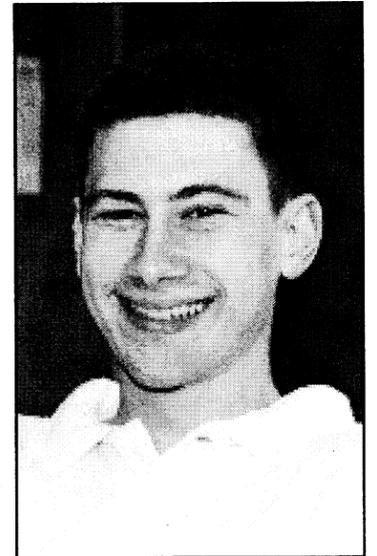
Words from the editor

- Bryan Garmon

Every now and then everyone gets passed some written word that really makes a difference in their life. For some people it's a letter from a friend or a loved one that they haven't heard from in a long time. Others find those life changing stories in their local newspapers. But in print media today, more often than not, it's an editorial where people find their compassions buried. Editorials not only make people stop and think about how they live, but they actually force you to act on their subject matter. Well, that's what a good editorial is supposed to do, anyway.

Look, you've all read them at some point so you know what I'm talking about. Unfortunately; most editorials are just the ranting and raving of some guy you couldn't care less about. Personally, I can't do the ranting and raving; artificiality just isn't my cup of tea. Instead I'd like to tell you a little story about a recent occurrence in the office that could have made a difference.

The Sting was given this wonderful "letter to the editor" that was written in response to our July 17th article on the decision to remove five department heads from their positions on campus. The student who had wrote it was "new"



here at school but he was quick to point out that "the politics around this campus outweigh what each student is trying to accomplish here at SPSU" and I can only assume that he meant our education. This student upholds that Dr. Travis "was correct in his actions against the former department heads. If this were not an educational institution, the same individuals would have been told to hit the road." It doesn't sound too spectacular here in pieces but the letter in its entirety was written by someone clearly in control of the English language.

The second major point of the letter was the basic education that the students of Southern Polytechnic receive. His statements were bold and sounded like very credible arguments about the importance of the students here at SPSU. This student brought up things such as midterm teacher evaluations so that "in the instant the students who felt that they did not learn a damn thing and hence withdrew from the class" would be able to comment on their professors teaching ability. It was probably one of the most profound letters we've received in quite a while. In fact, it opened my eyes to a few issues at this school that I had overlooked. In light of that discovery, The Sting is going to be looking into a few of these things during the course of the next year. My point however, is that the letter did exactly what it was meant to do; it expressed an opinion that was strong enough to spark further evaluation of the facts.

Unfortunately, this letter will not be printed in The Sting. The reason for its absence is explained by the absence of a signature at the end of the letter. It is a standing policy of The Sting not to print ANY unsigned letters, no matter how well written or how true they may be. This was a tough call on my part because the student had some very valid arguments. But what really saddens me is to see such strong opinions being expressed in an unsigned letter. It really makes me wonder about the integrity of the person that wrote it. After all, it's this student's opinion that they were expressing -- why did they choose to hide behind anonymity?

A few issues back, The Sting printed a letter about Campus Safety not helping a young woman to change her tire. Some of our readers attacked both the writer as well as The Sting for printing this letter unsigned. The decision to print this letter was made by The Sting's former editor. It is my belief that if you can not stand behind your opinions by signing your name to the letters you write, you shouldn't waste your time writing them. I would love to hear your opinions but do us all a favor and stand up for what you believe by signing your name. With that said, I will leave you to enjoy the rest of the newspaper.

Activities & Organizations

Saying Good-Bye To Southern Tech/Southern Polytechnic

- Helen Spivak

It seems very strange to contemplate leaving STI/SCT/SPSU after spending so much of my life here. Looking back on it, there seems so much more good than bad that rather than focus on the things that have frustrated me, as so many people have done in previous final articles, I would like to focus on the good I have found here.

The first good experience I had here was my first class. I only came here to learn how to read blueprints because I wanted a deck built on my house and I didn't want to be taken advantage of by an unscrupulous contractor. Little did I know that I would be changing my life. Mr. Sargent asked me at the end if I knew how to draw, and I told him that I had never tried, and then he encouraged me to take a drawing class and let me know that I was too good a student to not pursue more of an education. Although I wasn't able to come back for a couple of years, it stayed in my mind that someone valued me and thought I had potential. In addition to explaining the material in a way that I could understand, I felt like he was giving me the opportunity to excel by encouraging the talent that he looked for. It took a lot of effort to look beyond the exterior of a housewife and find the serious student underneath, and I have always appreciated it. It is that effort that changed my life.

After I had been here several years, I met Dr. McNair at one of her financial aid seminars. She invited me to work for her for one day -- I stayed for most of a year. Dr. McNair has been consistent over the years in encouraging me to achieve everything that I'm capable of. After a two-year absence, I came back to Southern Tech to complete my AET degree, but was told that I couldn't. I had to get a job and was fortunate to be hired by Dr. McNair as her departmental secretary. After I had worked for her for about a year, she convinced me to go back to school full-time, and changed my thinking from why I couldn't to how I could. She has always been there for me, and I hope we are still friends when we are old ladies rocking on the porch of "The Home."

There are many more people here who helped me along the way: Professor Patrick, who explained different physics concepts with different analogies until one finally clicked that seemed to explain "God, the universe, and everything;" Dean Vizzini, who walked over to the registrar's office with me to help me get transfer credit; Mr. Carter, who figured out a way for me to graduate in a finite amount of time; all the guys in construction; the "Wild Librarians;" and many more people too numerous to mention. Of course, one of the most influential people in my life is my current employer and department head, Dean Yancy. He was always nice to me, even when some people saw me as "just a secretary." He took a chance and gave me a chance, both for an advanced degree and a job. One of my greatest wishes is to live up to the confidence he expresses in my abilities -- I feel that is the only way I can honor what he has given me.

Sometimes life gives us things that are a challenge, and we need help to overcome them. I feel very fortunate to have had the support of Mary Stoy and the counseling department. Not only have I learned to deal better with situations, but I have made changes in who I am. During the time that I have spent with her, I have learned new ways of looking at things. A few years ago, Dr. Morrow suggested that I "lighten up", and I bleached my hair. Now I'm not totally literal in my viewpoint, which is real growth for me. It's funny - just before I came back here in 1991, the pharmacy gave me a senior citizen discount without asking (I must have looked BAD). Last St. Patrick's day, they carded me at Applebee's. I don't know if SPSU could be the fountain of youth for everyone, but changing my attitude

has given my life new energy and meaning.

I have tried to analyze all my feelings about SPSU and find that they are mixed. Of course, I want to finish this term and finish my degree, but I find that I am also sad when I think about leaving. The people here have become more like a family to me and I can't imagine being separated after so many years. Somehow spending most of my waking hours here makes me feel like this is truly my home, but I know that I need to leave and go out into the world. I hope I can carry what I have found here with me -- the love that sets this place apart. That is the big secret here -- the love that motivates so many people to sacrifice their time and effort with no thought of their reward. This is the most important thing I have learned here: there is no love without sacrifice, the love you give rather than the love you get is what can change your life, and love is the only thing that will last forever.

Internet Café



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Campus News

Dr. Papp upholds Dr. Travis' decision about department heads

- Contributed

On Monday, July 28th, Dr. Daniel Papp, the president of SPSU, made the decision to uphold Dr. Travis' decision to relieve the five department heads of their administrative responsibilities. The following is Dr. Papp's final word.

"During the last few years, Southern Polytechnic State University has experienced several incidents in which members of the administration signed resolutions or voiced expressions of no confidence in the university's leadership. At SPSU, as elsewhere, such resolutions and expressions are extremely serious matters.

The most recent incident occurred in late May when five SPSU Department Heads signed a statement requesting that a resolution of no-confidence in Dr. Harris Travis, Vice President for Academic Affairs, be discussed at a Deans and Department Heads meeting. In response to this, Dr. Travis relieved the five department heads of their administrative responsibilities.

After their dismissals, the five Department Heads appealed Dr. Travis' action to President Cheshier. President Cheshier declined the appeal. Rather than continue their appeal to the Board of Regents, the dismissed Department Heads asked me to review the situation.

From my perspective, this entire incident was extremely unfortunate, especially given the transition that was in place in the SPSU presidency and the lack of accurate information that was available about the raise issue that led to the Department heads' original action. Nevertheless, the incident occurred, and it must be finally and completely resolved.

Thus, since assuming the presidency, I have met with all of the people involved in these events. I have also sought counsel from many others including faculty, staff, students, administrators, and alumni. My objective is to resolve this matter fairly and equitably, keeping the long-term best interests of SPSU foremost in mind.

In reaching my decision, I have taken many factors into account. They included: 1) how to bring the best possible people into leadership positions at SPSU; 2.) how to end the cycle of confrontation that has beset the university; 3.) how to foster a sense of community between faculty and administration; 4.) how to promote a sense of community within the administration; 5.) how to confirm lines of administrative authority; and 6.) how to underline the need for accountability for actions.

Taking these factors into account, I be-

lieve that the best long-term course of action for the university is for me to uphold Dr. Travis's decision. I have instructed Dr. Travis to ask the Deans of the appropriate Colleges to appoint Search Committees to begin national searches immediately to find the best person to lead each affected department. Anyone on campus or beyond may apply or be nominated for each Department Head position.

My hope is that this decision and the ensuing search process will bring the best people possible to leadership positions at SPSU, help end the cycle of confrontation that has beset the university, foster a sense of community between faculty and administration, promote a sense of community within the administration, confirm lines of administrative authority, and underline the need for accountability for actions.

It is time we all made a fresh start."

In an interview shortly after this document was published, The Sting learned that in Dr. Papp's eighteen years of administration (and one month here on campus), the decision was "the hardest decision I've ever had to make."

In a related decision, Dr. Travis decided to remove the original letter given to the five department heads from the record.

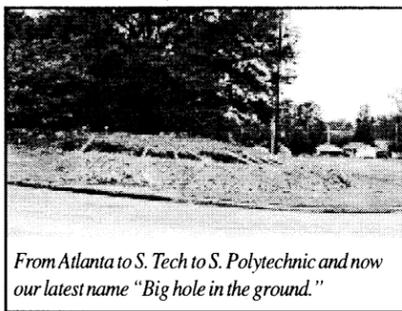
External signs are under construction.

-Ellen White

Southern Polytechnic State University is getting new entrance signs. The two on Marietta Parkway are being replaced, and one is being added to the South Cobb entrance near the recreation fields. Gay Construction Company began digging the footing for the signs on Tuesday, August 5, and should complete the job in early September, according to Jim Brown, Director of Construction Management and Environmental Safety.

The three signs, designed by Gardner, Spencer, Smith, Sarden, & Partners Architects, cost approximately \$65,000 and will be made of pre-cast concrete. Chris Allegood, former president of SGA, explained that last summer's decision to change the school's name to Southern Polytechnic State University was based on how it would affect changes like the logo, the letterhead, and the

entrance signs. The existing signs had fixed letters, so they had to be redone. The new signs will allow for future changes if necessary.



From Atlanta to S. Tech to S. Polytechnic and now our latest name "Big hole in the ground."

Internal signs might also be replaced. "A proposal has been made, but there is no contract yet," Brown commented. The cost on that is unknown, but it may well exceed \$100,000.

Other construction projects are also underway at Southern Polytechnic. For example, the main parking lot off of Hornet Drive is the original 1960 pavement, so Brown hopes re-paving will be completed before Fall Quarter begins. Some roofing projects are planned for the near future, and construction on the architecture building is scheduled for next spring.

A grant from the State of Georgia will continue to fund these projects after a proposal is submitted and approved.

Semesters

- Cont'd from front page

... been some changes in the courses offered. CET 160 and CET 150 have been combined into CET 2160. The new CET 2213 Engineering Mechanics combines CET 213 and CET 317. SURV 2221 Surveying I combines SURV 221 and SURV 222. The new Structural Analysis and Design I (CET 3371) and II (CET 3381), combine material from CET316, CET 337 and CET 330. Other changes include Transportation Systems (CET 3321) which combines CET 321 and CET 331, Introduction to Environmental Engineering Tech (CET 3344) which combines CET 354 and CET 364, and finally CET 3324 Project Cost Analysis, a combination of CNST 415 and CNST 321.

The combination of classes weighs differently for each student. For example, if you've already taken CET 316 and CET 330 but missed CET 337, when semester conversion takes place, instead of being able to take just CET 337, you'll end up taking Structural Analysis and Design II, which is CET 330. This is the main reason students are advised to finish sequences of classes.

Campus News

A new academic building is in the works

- Jeff Combs

On July 31st, bidding opened for the new academic building. Bidding will take approximately thirty days. Administrative director James Brown says that construction will start between September 1st and September 15th. The building will house the Construction, Industrial Engineering, and Humanities and Technical Communication departments as well as the School of Management.

The location for the new building will be behind the H building down the hill towards the textile building. It will be three stories tall, contain 100,000 square feet, and cost an estimated \$10.58 million to build. "It is going to be a beautiful building," said Mr.

Brown.

Estimated construction time is 18 months. Mr. Brown thinks it might take longer, but he hopes it will be completed on time. SPSU's enrollment is increasing, and Mr. Brown is trying to find more space for fall quarter classes.

The new building will be strictly for academic use and contain classrooms and offices. The School of Management will have small meeting rooms for its students to meet in small groups. Besides the additional space for classrooms, the new academic building will allow the renovation of older classroom buildings. Mr. Brown believes this is long overdue.

"Coach"

- Cont'd from front page

... responsibilities of the Athletic Director until further notice. When asked what his plan was for the basketball program, he stated that he had to react based on one of two different assumptions: one, that Perides would not be returning, or two, that Perides would be returning shortly. Dr. Travis choose to assume that Perides would be returning shortly and has acted as such. Dr. Travis states that no matter what the outcome of the investigation, SPSU will continue to have a successful basketball program. He further states that "we expect this to be cleared up by September 15."

MSSE Program Announced

- Cecilia McAllister, CS Graduate Admissions Coordinator

The Computer Science Department recently announced the approval of our Master's program in Software Engineering. With the expectation to accept our first group of MSSE students Winter Quarter, 1998, many preparations are being made to accomodate this group.

Our current application rate for the MSCS program is approximately 300 per quarter, with 30 openings for Winter, Spring, and Summer, and 50 openings for Fall. With the initiation of the MSSE program, applications processed through CS are expected, at a very minimum, to double. We are, understandably very excited about the opportunity to offer this new program.

For more information about either of our Master's programs, or an application packet, contact our office at 770/528-7406, or email me at cmcallis@spsu.edu. Also be sure to pick up a copy of our Fall premier newsletter, "Windows into the World of Computer Science." And good luck to those of you are aspiring to enter one of our programs, as well as those of you who are currently involved with the Computer Science Department here at SPSU.

What is a DJ?

A DJ is an entertainer. A DJ is a music maker. A DJ is what makes the music bigger than what it is. To find out what a true DJ is I suggest that one doesn't look at the big radio stations. Go to a local club and find the true DJ's or listen to underground radio. These men and women of the music industry are what keep it movin' in the hearts of the true music fan. Whether the music be Hip-Hop, R.P.M., Metal or what ever type of music that you like never forget the DJ, because without him there is no music. Remember this especially when you are listening to underground radio. Underground radio is radio that does not play a rotation of music. Underground radio is when the DJ, not the commercial money, chooses what is played and what is not. Underground radio gives you a variety of music. For those that are wondering "**Where is my local underground radio station?**" **Believe it or not there is an underground radio station right under your noses!**

WGHR 102.5 is such a radio station. So, if you ever get tired of the rotation music of the commercial radio station, tune in to **WGHR** at any time, and I guarantee you will get a variety. They play every type of music, so just tune in for your type of music.

Heart Dreams

Lost heart dreams
Let you feel
Unlike schemes
May be real
 Timing is
 Everything

Mind can talk
Listen, share
Take a walk
Learn to care
 Timing is
 Everything

Water Speaks
Sunset lands
Moonlit peaks
Holding hands
 Timing is
 Everything

Find the time
Make paths wend
Hear the rhyme
Be my friend
 Timing is
 Everything

Gayle Olive
7/3/97

Campus News

A degree on the Internet?

- *Bryan Garmon*

For the first time in Georgia, a master's degree is going to be offered over the Internet. The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has approved SPSU to establish the first Master of Science degree in software engineering in Georgia. The degree will meet the high demand for a professional degree in software engineering for non-traditional audiences of working professionals.

"Software engineering represents one of the fastest growing segments of career opportunities for software professionals. Yet, few educational programs in the country target software engineering. Nationwide, there are only 25 other software engineering graduate programs," says Dr. Rutherford, who is an assistant to the president and a computer science professor.

Dr. Rutherford further explains, that "software engineering has emerged nationally as a specialized area of computer science. It emphasizes addressing the problems and complex issues associated with developing and maintaining mission-critical software to meet the needs of business and industry."

The program was developed two years ago due to input from industry and from many SPSU graduates working in the field. The Computer Science Department's goal is to begin offering the program in winter quarter 1998. Serving as software engineering coordinator for the program is faculty member Dr. Duggins.

***The STING* wants to know what its readers want.**

The Freshman Issue of *The STING* (September 16) will be our biggest issue ever and we want to know what you would like to see in this newspaper.

Come to *The STING* office located on the upper level of the student center in room 252.

Write us at *The STING*, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060-2896.

Email us at

Vortex0007@mindspring.com .

Learning C (ECET314) at 70

Undotted i's and uncrossed t's
Go along with aging knees.
So it is for C syntax,
Punctuation failing through the cracks!
Braces, parenthesis, or brackets square?
Details continuing to ensnare.
Debugger tells not the fault or line;
Just teases on mistakes of mine!
Each function has a unique quirk;
Can't get I/O control to work.
Can it be my bits have gone to pieces?
Leave clerical stuff for daughters, neices,
And go back to what I used to know,
The kind Fortran of long ago!

- A software suffering senior citizen
and current SPSU student,
Bernie Miron

Campus News

Memorial service for Lawrence V. Johnson

- Jeff Combs

On June 13, Lawrence V. Johnson, the first director of Southern Polytechnic State University, died in Alexandria, Virginia. A memorial service was held on Sunday, August 3rd in the Joe Mack Wilson Student Center.

The ceremony was officiated by the Right Reverend Charles Judson Child Jr., VII Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta. Speakers at the service included C.T. Holladay, professor emeritus and former department head, Civil Engineering Technology; Robert W. Hayes, professor emeritus, English; Hoyt L. McClure, former director of Southern Technical Institute and professor emeritus, Industrial Engineering Technology; Hans A. Troemel, acting department head of Civil Engineering Technology; Dr. Stephen R. Cheshier, first president of Southern Polytechnic; and Dr. Daniel S. Papp, interim president.

Johnson directed Georgia Tech's

Technical Institute Program in 1947, which culminated in the establishment of the Southern Technical Institute (now SPSU). During his next twelve years, he guided its growth from a two-year technical institute to a four-year college from its original campus at the old Naval Air Station in Chamblee, Ga., to its permanent campus in Marietta.

While administering SPSU, Johnson helped to guide the national technical-institute movement. He served four terms on the ASEE National Committee of Twenty-one for Technical Institutes and served on numerous committees dedicated to their growth. He played a major role in explaining technical institutes to educators, parents, and industry.

In 1963, Johnson received the James H. McGraw Award for outstanding contribution to education in engineering technology in the United States.

Prior to his arrival at SPSU, he earned

a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering physics in 1930 and a Master of Science degree in physics between 1931 and 1942. Johnson served as acting head of Georgia Tech's Daniel Guggenheim School of Aeronautics from 1942 to 1945. While on leave from Georgia Tech during the 1945-46 school year, he served as a professor of electrical engineering at the Biarritz American University in France.

Lawrence V. Johnson is survived by his wife of sixty-six years, Cecelia Coons Johnson; a sister, Eloise Crawmer of Schenectady, N.Y.; two sons, Dr. L. Ray Johnson of Starkville, Miss., and Ralph W. Johnson of Fairfax, Va.; five grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Donations may be made to the Lawrence and Cecelia Johnson Memorial Fund at Southern Polytechnic State University.

Is Southern Poly keeping up with today's technology?

- Bryan Garmon

Southern Polytechnic State University is a college that was designed for the business owners of the Atlanta area. It was this school's job to prepare its students for their futures in the work place by offering the latest technological training in a variety of fields. However, after a closer look at some of the things around campus, The Sting has uncovered that "today's technology" that is supposed to be helping us embrace the future is not as updated as it needs to be.

In looking for current technological advances the first area to consider is computing. After all, in the business world today everyone needs a computer. Tomorrow the business world will demand that everyone have a computer. Beginning in the library there are about a dozen computers, where almost half of them are setup with the sole purpose of being able to conduct research over the internet. The library computers have one flaw though — they lack the tools needed to experience the Internet as it is currently being "delivered" to the country each day. Using Netscape Navigator version 2.12 along with Windows 3.11 (Navigator is now at version 4.02 and Windows is not too far from releasing Windows 98), the computers are unable to experience the Java/

ActiveX content that is being pumped through the web. But as a more important issue, they crash at regular intervals.

As the Internet 2 is being pushed rapidly into development, college universities are going to be offered a chance to take the plunge but the outdated equipment being used in the library will prevent SPSU from experiencing that breakthrough.



recently replaced the computers that are located in building H. The Pentium processors in these machines are just a few steps shy of being top of the line technology. Unfortunately these attempts are hampered by the need to keep Windows 3.1 on these machines. The reason for this decision seems to be the need to keep DOS versions of programming languages and other

The school however, does show an interest in trying to keep up with the latest technology. Gateway P166 Pentiums

applications on those computers. Unfortunately, this presents students with a very difficult position. The students of this school see a need to keep up with tomorrow's technology and most students that have a computer at home are running Windows 95. This creates a problem when a student needs to use the labs at school to do homework. This involves file compatibility issues that are the result of the software in the computer labs at school not being kept up to date.

The network infrastructure is also a question among students. In the library, students can download from the Internet at an average of about 23K per second, yet in the computer labs the speed drops to an average of about 11K per second. But speed is not the only issue involved. Many sites simply refuse to allow SPSU students access. This is not an everyday occurrence but it is a problem that needs to be addressed.

Micron Electronics ran ads in computer magazines recently stating "They're building a bridge to the 21st Century. Call us when you get here." In order to prepare students for the future you must embrace the tools that are currently available. But as the 21st century rapidly approaches, SPSU continues to lag behind.

The Matt Column

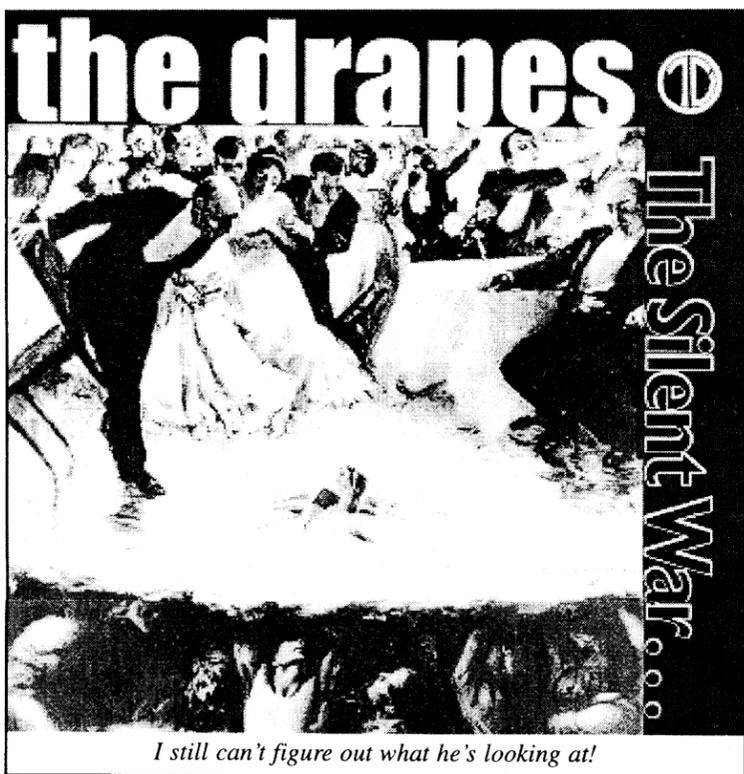
-Matt Thomas

Yep, it's me again, oh well. Just sit down and shut up, and read this..O.K.? I know this next statement is getting really repetitive, Victory Records has two new awesome releases. Well, they do. Strife and By The Grace Of God have new ones out and yes, they are amazingly impressive. The

S t r i f e
(which was actually available back in March) is called "In This Defiance" and this band has moved a long way since "One Truth," their previous album. I'm not knocking "One Truth," at all, this just has a more creative sound.

There are some cool slow down mosh parts and some pretty good grooves. They still play their traditional "chicka, chicka, chicka" drum beats while Rick Rodney yells at the top of his lungs. And yes, the main emphasis is still how straight-edge they are. The highlight tracks include "Stand As One (Redemption)," "Grey," "Will To Die," and "To An End." By The Grace Of God has released a unique, melodic hardcore adventure as well entitled "Perspective....." Since the break up of Guilt, there has been seemingly more concentration on By The Grace Of God and it shows that the members put a lot into this one. Catchy, yet heavy melodies that only a pissed off straight-edge band can give you. This also has definite punk influence. My personal faves include "Beneath The Blue," "Cole," and "Boy And The River." The back of the CD case makes the statement that "Straight-Edge is a non-violent movement".....Wait a minute, now

I am confused. Non-violent? First I hear about a kid getting beat down for smoking a cigarette, now I hear Straight-Edge is non-violent. Maybe all the straight-edge kids should get together, sit down with their Pepsi and broccoli and figure out what they stand for, yeah that's it.



Okay-Dokay, the next band is on Mayhem/Fierce Records and is called Fall From Grace. All I can say about the self-titled release is grunge, grunge, grunge....I thought that stuff died out. Nirvana and Soundgarden are dead, Pearl Jam burned themselves out, and Mudhoney seems to have disappeared off the face of the earth..... hhhmmmm. This band is good at what they do, but there are just sooooo many bands like them. This band may eventually grow on me, but right now it just seems too unoriginal. The back of the CD case has a picture of the band, all decked out in flannel and dingy, semi-long hair. Unlike the aforementioned bands though, they haven't signed with a major label.....yet.

Lansing, Michigan's own Powerface has a new, much awaited (for me anyway) release entitled "The Method" on Heavy Jack Records. This has some cool jump up and down parts with a lot

of slow down and depress you because I'm mad parts. "Big Plug" is a pretty cool song, I personally like the four song EP they put out before this a little better, but that is not to say "The Method" is disappointing. This record does contain two of the major influences going around these days, Tool and Korn. The good thing about it is that it is not a rip-off album, I'm just saying that it has that kind of an attitude and mood that bands like Tool and Korn have been doing. Overall, this is a very good effort.

The next band is on Ignition Records and goes by the name Stem. Their EP entitled "Forever Up," sounds like a mature version of Rage Against The Machine. Now I'm not knocking Rage... but you must admit, at times Zack De La Rocha sounds like a twelve year old kid who just discovered a new cuss word and is really pumped about using it. Anyway, I like this band a lot, they have a bright future ahead of them. This is one of those cases where a band is doing that rap metal style but.....they are damn good at it. The EP has six songs on it in which I don't really recommend any one song in particular, the whole thing was obviously thought

out and well done. Hey, when the band members only go by first names which happen to be Skat, Ocean, Edd, and Bill. you can't go wrong (I don't think)...O.K. disregard the names. Their email address is STEMNJ@AOL.COM. Just let them know you want more info.

Well, this next band goes out to all the people into the whole fast paced positive hardcore scene. The band is called Better Than A Thousand on Revelation

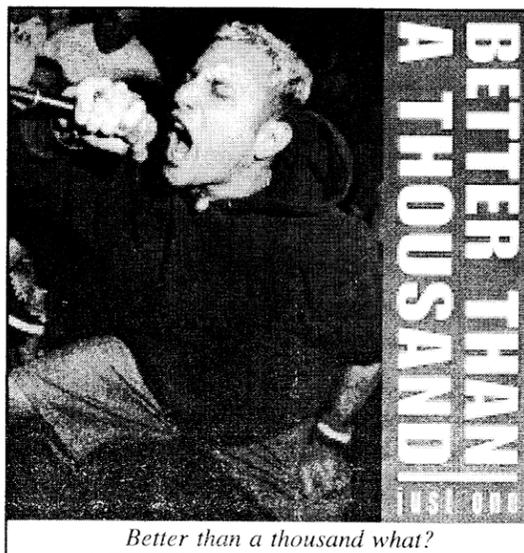
Records and it happens to be Ray Cappo's (Shelter, Ray and Porcell) new project. Very fast paced with nice, harmonious melodies that gives you the type of outlook that you can conquer the world without screwing anyone over. I mean the first song is all about making the most out of life which happens to be called "Live Today". This is a really cool disc. Very impressive.....I guess I will end this by saying....On behalf of all the hardcore music lovers everywhere, thanks Ray.....

The last band for this issue comes to us courtesy of Onefoot Records. The band is called The Drapes and their disc is called "The Silent War....." Very melodic punk much in the vein of Strung Out and Good Riddance. In fact, when I first heard this, Strung Out popped into my head which happens to be my favorite punk band. This band has a lot of potential to be the next poppy punk phenomenon. The highlight tracks include "Missing Piece," "Please," "Mistaken," and "Times May Change." I have worn this CD out since I got it; I really like it. It's a different flavor in terms of the newer punk bands, it seems to have more of a sincere edge to it. The guys in the

band have been life long friends and this is what they always wanted to do...it shows.

Well, that looks to be it for right now. Definitely check out the Freshmen

Issue coming up in the fall, I will give my top 10 picks for the 1997 year in terms of albums and concerts. My e-mail address is mattwghr@mindspring.com My show is Tuesday nights at 8:00PM, definitely something to check out...I think, I hope, uhhhhhhh, O.K. bye....



Better than a thousand what?

DJ KC's Album Review

-Kacey Mathews

This is the first but not the last; here I come about to blast; every mc, DJ, and producer; with verbals that will seduce ya'; ears; I'll be here for a while maybe years and years.

- 5: Slammin' ;a must get
- 4: Worth every penny
- 3: Same ol', same ol'; Just like everyone else
- 2: Worth checking out
- 1: Don't waste ya' time, money, or energy to check out

This album review is on Rampage's new joint "Scouts Honor... By Way Of Blood." From the beginning until the end my head is nodding to the beats of this Busta Rhymes backed album. DJ Scratch, Rashad Smith, and Backspin do the production. The lyrics are out-standing, but somewhere in the middle of the album you get tired of his voice and find yourself wondering what's on TV. I guess that's why the rating is the way it is. There are a few jewels, but other than that the album doesn't set itself apart from an average MC's album. Tracks to check 2,3,5,7,8,10,12, and 13. Overall I'd give it a 3.

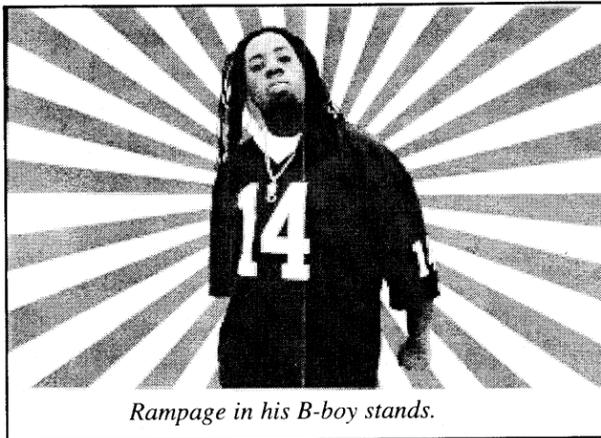
- 1. Intro
- 2. "Flipmode Iz Da Squad" Starring: Rampage, Spliff Star, Serious, Busta Rhymes, & Lord

Have Mercy
Break you off with a head check of the Flipmode squad.

Each verse comes with lyrics that makes you grab a pen and pad and write your own lyrics to go.

- 3. "Da Night B4 My Sh-Drop"
- 4. "Talk Of the Town" No comment.
- 5. "Get the Money and Dip"

Starring: Rampage, Busta Rhymes: Nice chorus- using Busta Rhymes smooth voice & excitement.



Rampage in his B-boy stands.

Starring: Rampage, Serious
Definitely will rock a party!!!
The beat is borrowed from Public Enemy's "Public Enemy #1." Rampage does give the beat its just desserts.

9. "Take It To The Streets" Starring:

Rampage, Billy Lawrence. Another joint crafted to keep your butts moving and to get all sweaty at the club. Will make the butts jiggle with a wiggle like Jell-O. I like it!! I like it!!

10. "Conquer Da World" Starring: Rampage, Meka. This track should become a classic single similar to Nas' "Who's World is This" or "If I Ruled the World." Something nice to sit back and chill and think of how you would run the world.

11. "Hall Of Fame". No comment.

12. "Ni-az Iz Bad" Starring: Rampage, Serious
Reminds me of "Scenario" by L.O.T.N.S.; extremely, extremely hype.

13. "We Getz Down (Remix)"
Another party joint...

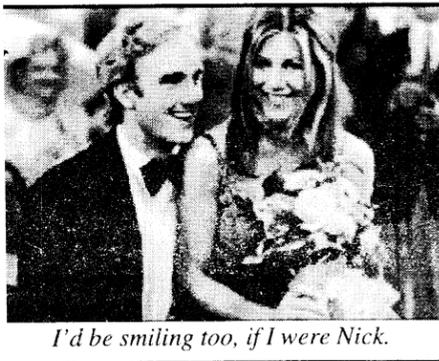
14. "Outro"

A great mix of sex, Navy Seals and paranoia.

- Bryan Garmon

Up for this issue is "Picture Perfect," "G.I. Jane" and "Conspiracy Theory."

"Picture Perfect" involves Kate (Jennifer Aniston) falling for Sam (Kevin Bacon). The only catch is that Sam is only attracted to women that are off-limits (i.e., married). Enter Nick (Jay Mohr).



I'd be smiling too, if I were Nick.

The picture perfect fiancée, who isn't really a fiancée. It's a real mess, that makes for a good movie. Be aware, that this movie is not for the sexually squeamish, as the movie focuses on Kate's ex life, and is full of sex jokes.

Next up is "G.I. Jane." The plot revolves around Lt. Jordan O'Neil (Demi Moore) and her nomination to be the first woman to enter training to become a Navy Seal. From the onset of the movie, you see the tension over females being allowed in combat. But the thing that really gets to you is the physical limits that these soldiers



So she does wear her clothes!

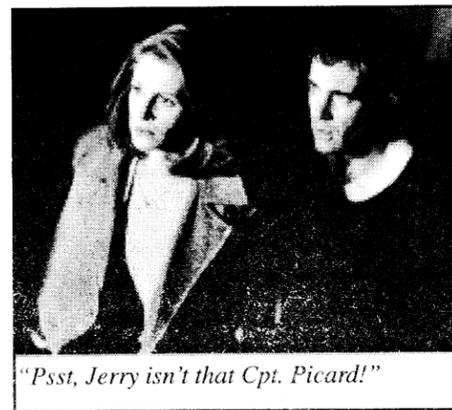
are pushed to. Some examples of the rigors of SEAL membership include holding life rafts full of water straight over their heads for hours at a time and pushing huge barrels up sand dunes. But what really gets to you is that while the movie does a great job, I'm sure that it's not even close to what real Navy Seals go through. In a role that Demi Moore plays extremely well, we are forced to look deep

into American beliefs as to what a woman should and should not be allowed to accomplish.

Finally, we come to "Conspiracy Theory." This movie is just weird! The plot revolves around Jerry's (Mel Gibson) belief that "they" are out to get him. Along his journey of exposing "them" through his newsletter, he falls in love with Alice (Julie Roberts), a Justice Department employee. Along the way, they butt heads with Dr. Jonas (Patrick Stewart), who by the way, makes a really excellent bad guy! In an interesting side note, The Sting has been receiving copies of the real Conspiracy Theory mailings for quite some time.

Want laughs, see "Picture

Perfect". Want to shake up the way society views women, "G.I. Jane" is your movie. For a good ol' American action flick, check out "Conspiracy Theory."



"Psst, Jerry isn't that Cpt. Picard!"



Arts & Entertainment

Copland is a Bust!

- Charles Banton

In almost every movie there is a good guy and a bad guy. We as an audience have come to expect this. We are usually held in suspense, waiting on the bad guy(s) to raise their ugly head(s). In Sly Stallone's newest movie CopLand they didn't use the old technique of keeping you in suspense and then in the last minute having a rush of excitement as the clues come together and the good guy finally starts winning. Instead this film took the non-traditional straightforward approach. You know who the bad guy is, you know who the good guy is (Sly, of course) and you know what is going to happen. Since you know what is going to happen your suspense is turned into boredom as you wait for the "grand finale".

If you want to know the basic story here it goes. There are some bad cops in New York who are on the take and they all happen to live in the same neighborhood. This neighborhood has a sheriff and his name is Sylvester Stallone. The sheriff has known that his



Sly shows the world his gut to the world!

"Copland" was full of crooked cops but he has such a low opinion of himself that he has never done anything about it. A series of events finally motivates him to do something and that's the whole story. It's not tricky, surprising, or action packed; it's just a story. By the way, do people in New York really curse so much that the "f" word is turned into a noun, pronoun, verb, adjective and other grammar uses to be invented later?

There is something very unique about Stallone's character, which makes you feel a little uncomfortable. Stallone's character is a chubby, low self-esteem, sheriff whose dreams have been shattered. After twenty minutes of this character you begin to wonder if he is ever going to do something heroic. Stallone's acting capabilities (and you thought he had none) are displayed by his ability to act like a slow minded, not so smart kind of person and at the same time as he is being the hero. This adds realness to his character. It's not like flipping a switch from zero to

hero instantly.

Although Stallone's character is very real and therefore different from other movies, it doesn't do enough for this movie to make it entertaining. Do

you ever walk away from a movie saying to yourself; "that movie was missing something but I'm not sure what"? That coupled with the feeling that I wanted to warn everybody not to spend their hard earned college dollars on this movie until it gets to the dollar theatre is what I was thinking as I left the theater that night, and that's all I've got to say about that.



Stallone gets the bad guys.

187

In the movie "187," Samuel L. Jackson stars as Trevor Garfield, a high school teacher who returns to teaching after being stabbed by a student that he flunked. One year after being attacked, Garfield moves from New York to Los Angeles only to find himself in a hopeless situation trying to teach students who refuse to learn. When he tries to stop some of his students from disrupting class, his life is threatened.

In addition to dealing with students who are impossible to teach, he also has to deal

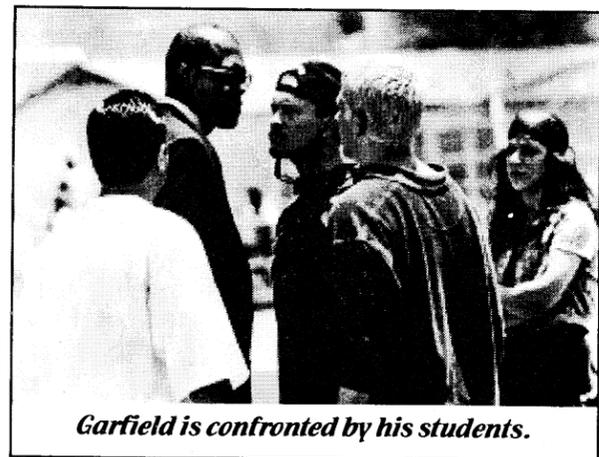
with an administration that is impossible to reason with. After one of Garfield's students steals his watch, the school's principal will not let him search the student's locker for fear of a lawsuit.

Almost everything is against Garfield, but he does meet and fall in love with fellow teacher Ellen Henry (Kelly Rowan) and makes a difference in the life of one of his students: Rita (Karina Arroyave). However, what Garfield's situation forces him to alienate himself from Ellen Henry. Garfield's refusal to accept the unacceptable inspires some but also starts viscous rumors.

refusal to accept the unacceptable inspires some but also starts viscous rumors.



Trevor Garfield encourages his student, Rita.



Garfield is confronted by his students.

- Jeff Combs

A teacher wrote 187 (which is the California penal code for murder), and much of what is portrayed comes from his own experiences as well as those of teachers he worked with. It is a unique movie that is definitely worth seeing even though it does forego the traditional Hollywood ending; offering more meaning as opposed to the happy go lucky attitude.

Arts & Entertainment

HIP HOP MUSIC: COMMUNICATING THROUGH RHYTHM AND RHYME

- Kacey Mathews

This is a two part docomentrey on the history of hip-hop music. In this docomentrey I will discuss the past and the present of hip-hop music. One may wonder why the future isn't discussed. Well the main reason is because the future is determined by the listeners and by innovators of new techniques. In this first part I will discuss the three components of Hip-hop and some of its history.



The "Sugar Hill Gang" performing live in New York, 1979.

Every decade has a type of music that appeals to the young generation. In the 1920's through the 1940's, it was jazz. In the 1950's through the 1960's, it was rock-n-roll. For today's generation, hip-hop music is the music of choice. Hip-hop music started out as poetry being said with music being played in the background. Hip-hop music today is now a multi-billion dollar industry that has created an internationally accepted culture. The purpose of hip-hop music is to inform the audience about the life experiences of the emcee and those who have followed in his footsteps. Because of this, hip-hop music has created controversy. To know the true essence of hip-hop, one must know where it started.

When most people think of the pioneers of hip-hop music, they think of Run-DMC or the Fat Boys. However, the true pioneer of hip-hop music is Afrika Bambaattaa. When Bambaattaa first debuted with his new type of music, the music was put under the classification of disco or pop. His music was created for a party, but as his popularity grew so did his music. The hit song "Planet Rock" is what put Bambaattaa in the mainstream of American popularity. With it being played in every discotech and at every house party, hip-hop music was put into every home.

If one was to ask, "Who was the first rap group that they heard?" most would respond with Run-DMC or Eric B. and Rakim. Most people would not respond with the Sugarhill Gang. The Sugarhill Gang debuted before Bambaattaa. They combined disco music with rhyming and started an era in music known as the "Era of Hip-Hop."

To understand the music's intended effect on one's ideology, first one must know the music's components. The first is the art of freestyling. Freestyling consists of saying a

rhyme from the top of one's head. This art, if mastered, can make or break one's career in the hip-hop industry. Another definition of freestyling is reciting a rhyme that has already been written from the top of one's head. This technique is what most performing artists use when performing.

The second component is the artist, or the emcee. The emcee is the person that relays the message to the listener. The emcee is also called the master of ceremonies. These definitions may make one think of a singer, but an emcee does not sing, he rhymes. In some cases, if the emcee does not relay the message correctly, he "falls off," or no longer holds the title of emcee. The barometer for speed, tone, rhythm- for genius, in emceeing could be anyone. For most hip-hop fans living and loving the music today, Rakim is that standard. Often called the greatest emcee to rock the microphone, Rakim changed hip-hop. He proclaimed the Black man as god and his righteous rhymes opened the eyes of youth from Long Island, New York, to South Central, Los Angeles. His flow was steady, his tone mellow, and his posture erect.

He bestowed a legacy that is nothing less than stellar. There were great emcees before Rakim, and certainly others have taken his ability to new levels, but he remains the standard for judging pure lyrical agility.

There is only one who inherited hip-hop's heaviest burden: Rakim's throne. With the best rhymes and the best verses, he confirmed his status as a radical philosopher and lyrical molester. His precise attention to detail rendering New York street life three-dimensional, made his claim to the throne unchallenged. With no formal declaration, Nas reminded hip-hop fans that the world's best emcees have come from the 41st side of New York.

Another component of hip-hop music is the DJ. The initials DJ stands for disc jockey, but since the incision of hip-hop into mainstream America, DJ now stands for more than that. The DJ now stands for a person who

makes the beats. They make or break the emcee's career. The best DJ on the radio is Funkmaster Flex. As Rakim is the standard for emcees, Flex is the standard for all DJ's. He is the individual who best exemplifies the diversification and sophistication that DJ's will have to practice in order to thrive.

Once on wax, the next component is the executive factor. In the business side of the world of hip-hop, the standard is Russell Simmons. Simmons is the owner and founder of Def Jam records, which brought old school and new school "flavas" together. On his label, are acts like Run-DMC, an old school power and Method Man, the emcee others love to hate. The best executive of today's generation is Sean "Puffy" Combs. Sean "Puffy" Combs has accomplished in five years what very few accomplish in a lifetime.

He owns and controls his record label, Bad Boy Entertainment. He has helped develop double-platinum artists from the late, great Notorious B. I. G. to Mary J. Blige. However, he was not satisfied with just music, he had to make the next logical step for total control of every aspect of the hip-hop industry. He added the titles of producing, co-directing videos and artist.

Two factors of hip-hop that some truly forget about is B-boying (Breakdancing) and Graffiti art. These two factors represents the true essence of what hip-hop is all about. These two factors anyone can't do.

For example, an experiance B-boy or B-girl has broken at least one bone some where in their body. And a vet of the aerosal can has been arrested at least one time for vandalism or some other trumpeted up charge. In the world of b-boying the standard is Crazy Legs. His name is of world wide status. In my life time, I've only seen him perform once and that was on a music video. When I saw him in action, that let me know that B-boying wasn't for me.

In the world of graffiti art there is no standard, only the limits of the artist's imagination. In this component of hip-hop I do have some knowledge, but only with a pencil and a pad not with the weapon of choice, the aerosal can.

....continued next issue.



The Living God - Rakim

Activities & Organizations

Students Speak Out

-Bryan Garmon

Back in May, SPSU students were polled for their opinions on various Student Activities. Here's what they had to say: Sixty-six percent of the students surveyed said that they were members in student organizations with ninety-four percent of those involved saying this helped them with leadership roles and/or social skills. One student commented, "College is not only fun, it is important."

The next question dealt with the Campus Activities Board. CAB offers programs for social interaction and breaks from academic stress. Seventy-one percent of students felt that they were accomplishing their goals. But others didn't agree — "I'm a night student and I never hear about CAB activities until it is too late." When asked to provide suggestions for future CAB events, students favored comedians, Dinner Theaters, Spring Flings, coffeehouses, free food, music bands, outdoor cookouts, and picnics, along with numerous other things. Fifty-six percent agreed that the Cultural Series Committee is providing programs that increase student appreciation from drama,

art, and music, but there are still those students who expressed, "I didn't know we had [a cultural series committee]." Others expressed the need for more food, more activities, and more drama. One of the more outspoken responded "This is an engineering school - we don't need liberal arts crap!" Additional suggestions included foreigners visiting jazz festivals, concerts, and even talent shows.

When asked if the Student Center should be the campus living room, providing a clean, comfortable environment for socializing, eating, meeting, and being entertained, eighty-eight percent felt it was doing just that. Comments offered included the need for more cleaning, more faculty involvement, and a wider variety of food. "The movie room smells like a pile of dirty socks, and needs a closed-in window to keep out the other noises." Food was the next area of the survey. Fifty-two percent of the students said that they eat 1-3 meals in the Student Center. The general sentiment of the responses ranged from "the lunchroom service is irate and the workers have a

terrible attitude" to comments such as "No comments, it seems fine to me!" Students want more variety and cheaper prices. A popular suggestion was the installation of a Taco Bell or a Burger King, but the biggest complaint was lack of variety and the fact that the actual size of the cafeteria was so small. Others called for the re-opening of the food service line.

I'm happy to report that the newspaper seems to be doing its job. Sixty-nine percent of those surveyed regularly read The STING. Comments offered included ... the need for color, "more Afro-American staff" and the inclusion of teacher evaluations - all of which will be incorporated into the paper, beginning with the Freshmen issue. Others wanted to see a bigger paper that came out more often, and while we would love to have a weekly paper, the staff to support it simply doesn't exist, however, the paper is bigger now, the standard size being sixteen pages as opposed to twelve each week. "Where's Dilbert?"

See Activities Survey, page 15

Career Services Happenings

ON CAMPUS INTERVIEWS - Summer 1997

- Contributed

For:	Date:	Company:	Majors	Open Sign Up
Graduates	July 11	Actel Corp.	CS, CPET, EET	See Glenda
Graduates	July 24	LXE	EET, CPET	TBA
All Students	July 24	UPS at Student Center		9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

PART TIME OPPORTUNITIES

All Students	July 28	UPS at Student Center		3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Graduates	July 31	John E. Chance	EET, CPET	TBA

CAREER FAIRS - Summer 1997

All	July 15	Greater Atlanta Career Fair, Cobb Galleria Center		9:30 a.m. to noon & 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.
All	July 21	Atlanta Technical Fair, Cobb Galleria Center		11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. & 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

ON CAMPUS INTERVIEWS - Fall 1997

Graduates & COOP	Oct. 21	Lockheed	TBA	
Graduates & COOP	Oct. 21, 22	Milliken	CPET, CS, EET, IET, MET, TMGT, QA	Information Session at the Student Center
Graduates	Oct. 24	Southwire	TBA	
Graduates	Oct. 27 & 28	Landis & Staffa	EET, CPET, ID	
Graduates	Oct. 29	Fitel Lucent Technology	CPET, EET, MET	
Graduates	Nov. 5	Keyence	CPET, EET, ID, IET, MET, TMGT	
Graduates	Nov. 5	Shaw Industries	TBA	
Graduates	Nov. 6	Siemens	CPET, CS, EET	Information Session 10:00 am in Career Services foyer
Graduates	Nov. 18	Lithonia Lighting	TBA	Information Session at Student Center
Graduates	Nov. 19	Lithuania Lighting	TBA	

Travel Log

West Ireland

- Helen Spivak

I had always heard that Galway Bay was one of the most beautiful places on earth. Since the manager of the hostel agreed with that opinion, I set out one morning on the train across Ireland. Being a small island, you can



Monument to Cristoforo Colombo.

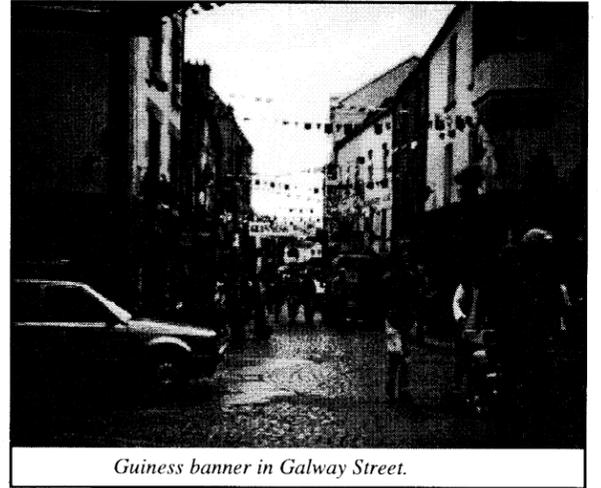
go from one side to the other in about 2 hours, so even with stops you can go from anywhere to anywhere and still have time to see something while you're there.

The day was overcast, but it never really rained -- it just misted for a few minutes. After getting off the train, I walked to the center of town. I was hungry, so one of the locals suggested a good fish-and-chips place. When I got there, I was surprised. I thought it would have oak tables and hushed tones, but it was more similar to a McDonalds than anything else. It really was more fun -- teenagers were there on dates and families were there with babies and toddlers running around. It made it feel a little more like real life than those fancy places I had been.

After lunch I walked down to the historic district and part of the bay. The winding cobblestone streets were hung with lines of little flags and banners, some of which proclaimed the virtues of the Irish cure for everything -- Guinness. When I couldn't get Harp Lager with one of my dinners, I tried it -- it tasted like medicine and erased my memory with one glass. One of the locals told me it was an acquired taste.

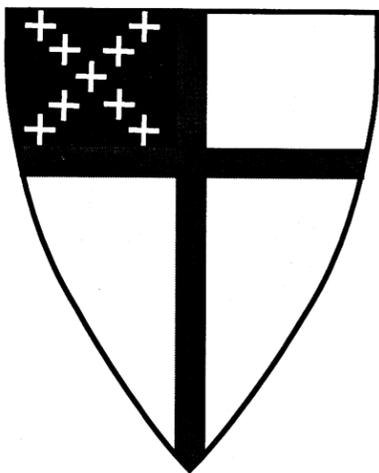
One of the interesting sights that surprised me was a monument that read, "On these shores around 1477 the Genoese sailor Cristoforo Colombo found sure signs of land beyond the Atlantic" in both English and Irish (Gaelic). Until I saw it, I had no idea that he had ever been to Ireland, or that he had started so early to think about lands beyond. I wonder what the sure signs were. There was also a monument to the people who had done the bridge construction, which included the general contractor. That was the first time I had seen anyone but the owner or architect mentioned as being important, and was a further example to me of the Irish attitude.

I wandered a little while and bought presents for my mother and a couple of my friends. After enjoying an afternoon tea and cake in a little cafe, I caught the afternoon train and settled into a section where 3 people were already sitting. I was tired from walking and shopping, and just rested for quite a while. After my break, I made a com-



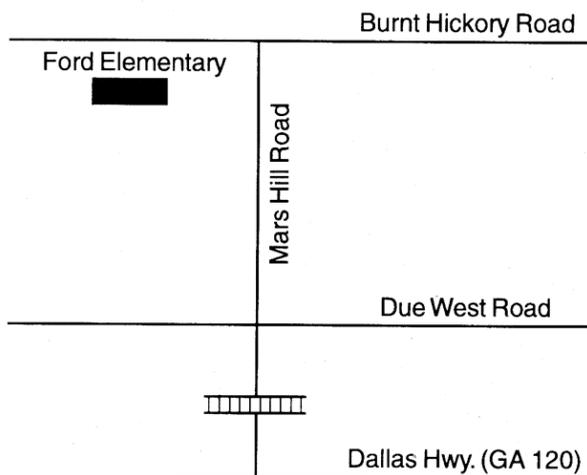
Guinness banner in Galway Street.

ment to the man sitting across from me. The lady sitting next to me was his sister-in-law. After we all talked for a while, he invited me to come back to Dublin and go with him to the botanical gardens. She whispered to me that it looked like I had a date already set up for my return. At that point, his wife woke up and asked what she had missed. Her sister told her that it was nothing and she should go back to sleep. At that point, we all had a good laugh. The sisters told me that since the one had become widowed, they shared the surviving husband, but I'm sure that they meant it in an innocent way. We laughed and joked and told stories all the way back to Dublin. It was a wonderful experience for me, and Tom told me that it made his day. At 81 years old, he is still active in the community and still gardens -- he made my day too.



St. Teresa's
Episcopal Church

St. Teresa's Welcomes You



Services: Ford Elementary School
1345 Mars Hill Road, NW

Times: 8:00 am Holy Eucharist
9:00 am Sunday School
11:00 am Holy Eucharist

Office: 609 Acworth Due West Road
Phone: 770/590-9040

Travel Log

The Return

- Helen Spivak

Our ship headed out over open waters from Ireland out into the Atlantic bound for France. This time I paid the extra money for a berth. Although there was room for four people, no one else arrived, so it was like having a nice private room. I also had a private bath with shower. It was so good to be able to take a shower and crawl into a real bed with sheets. The ship rocked so gently it was like a lullaby -- I don't think I have ever slept so well.

The next morning we arrived in France, and a group of us caught a train for the next stop. We were unable to get a non-stop train to Paris, and so ended up in a small town in the middle of nowhere. French nowhere is picturesque, but I wanted to get back to someplace familiar, so I got on the express train. By the time they figured out I was there, we were most of the way to Paris. The express trains are so plush and comfortable that it was worth taking the risk of having to disembark and find another train. They were very nice about it, but explained that one had to get reservations in advance. Luckily, someone had done that but not used them.

We got to Paris, and then another of the uncanny events happened. I was trying with extremely limited French to get a telephone connection to the hotel that I had stayed at the week before. I was getting nowhere when a man came along saying that

he needed a phone card to speak to his wife. I told him he could use part of mine, but when he put it into the phone it showed "too much money"

and he wouldn't use it. He offered to help me with the call, and as he did, I noticed that the ends of all his fingers were missing. He got through to the hotel for me, and I spoke very briefly to the hotel clerk and arranged a reservation. When I turned around just a minute after he handed me the phone, he

was nowhere to be seen. It made me think of "entertaining angels unawares" and then I thought about it -- what better test to see if a person has a heart than whether they will help someone who needs it.



As a complete stranger walks down the street, I couldn't help but snap a photo.

I spent the day and night in Paris and went to the Flea Market at the Port Au Clingincourt with money this time. I spent all I could at the lace seller's stall and then went back to the train station to go to Den Hague. I couldn't leave my bags due to the fact that it was Sunday and they closed down the lockers for "security" reasons. I think they like to be difficult. After schlepping everything I owned all over Paris on the bus, I was ready for anything. I sat on the railing next to a light fixture (they don't have benches) and a gentleman from Africa sat next to me. He was thirsty, so I gave him half of my water (they don't have water fountains there, either). We had a nice talk, and he gave me his address there in Paris, and told me I could stay with him whenever I was there instead of paying for a hotel. On the way to the train, I saw a man for the third time in my two trips to Paris. He told me his name was Michel, and he begged me to write to him when I got back to America. He offered to help me with my bag, and since the one thing they did have working was the announcement not to trust anyone with your bags, I handed him the one with my dirty laundry, just in case. He turned out to be an electrical engineer.

I went through Brussels and arrived in Den Haag (the Hague) late in the afternoon. I wasn't able to find a listing for the person I went there to see - one of my professors from the first time I went to a university. He said if we were ever in Europe to come see him. I guess my forever was a little long. I went through Amsterdam and went back to Berlin on the evening train. It's funny - it seemed like going home when I got back to Germany. Everything ran so much smoother - it was almost a cliché, but a wel-

come one.

Early in the morning I decided to go to the Berlin Zoo. They have carp that are tame and come up to a bar to be petted. It was a strange feeling to pet a fish, but almost irresistible. In the ape house, I took pictures of the gorillas. The male strutted for me, and I took his picture. Then the female came down and sort of flirted through the window. When I took a picture of her, he got mad, walked away, and sat up on a perch pouting at me.

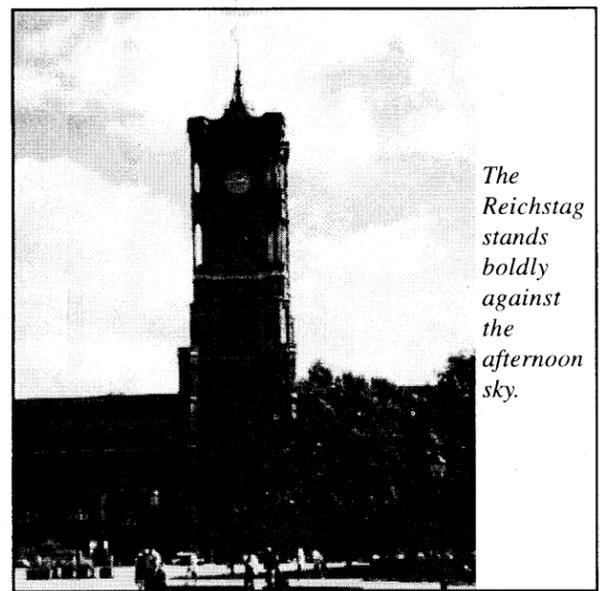
I took a bus to the area where the Reichstag and the Cathedral are located. The Reichstag is the government building from "former times", and has a fountain with a statue of Poseidon. I walked up the street to the cathedral, and when I went in they were just starting a concert that included one of my favorite Bach passaglia and fugues. It was breathtaking to hear in that music inside that grouping of domes - the sound reverberated and was so rich - it was truly a transcendental experience. I really did look up and see angels in the architecture.

Next up was the airport. I took a taxi back to the airport and eventually got on the plane and came home.

It has been a wonderful experience for me to travel, and another good experience to write about my travels for the Sting. I hope I have encouraged some of my readers to travel whenever they have the opportunity. I



The Pouting Gorilla at the Berlin Zoo



The Reichstag stands boldly against the afternoon sky.

saw things I had read about in books and seen pictures of, and I learned that there are some things that you have to truly experience to understand. Of all the money I have spent in my life, I think what I spent for this trip was the best investment I have ever made. I made many new friends and acquaintances in several countries, and that is the most important part of it all.

Special Features

Math Stinger

-Dr. Joel C. Fowler

Last issue's puzzle involved 100 points scattered around the rim of a circle. All possible line segments are drawn connecting pairs of these points. The puzzle was to determine how many intersection points occur (assuming that no three of the lines meet in a point). The correct answer is 3,921,225. Correct answers were received from Alan Gabrielli, Jie Yu, and Michael Covington.

The puzzle for this issue is in a different vein. A man wishes to generate a random sequence of 0's and 1's with the two digits equally likely. That is, in each position

0 and 1 occur with probability 1/2. Note that this does not imply that there must be an equal number of 0's and 1's in the string, only that they were generated via a process that made each equally likely to occur. For example, one method would be to obtain a fair coin, flip it repeatedly, and let each head be "0" and tail be "1". Now suppose that you have a coin, but you suspect that it may not be fair. The puzzle is to find a procedure using only the (possibly biased) coin that is guaranteed to generate a sequence with 0's and 1's equally likely. You may assume that neither heads nor tails

have probability 0 for the biased coin.

MATH STINGER IS NOW ON THE WEB. The current Stinger as well as many past Stingers are on the Mathematics Department page on the Southern Polytechnic State University page. Check it out!!

Answers should be sent, via conventional methods or e-mail (jfowler@spsu.edu), to Joel Fowler in the Mathematics Department.

Correct answers and the names of the first to find them will be printed in the next issue of the Sting.

Activities Survey

... Unfortunately, one of the former editors let our subscription run out and when the Atlanta Journal picked him up, we no longer had the option to run the comics. I'd like to ask the student that submitted that the paper was "blane" to offer an explanation of what he meant, as four different dictionaries have failed to reveal the existence of this word in the English language.

When asked about *The Log*, the yearbook, 72% of the students that responded did not receive a '96 copy of the yearbook. One response, "Yes. Pretty good. Great. Very good. Good. It was good. Good.

Good. Excellent." Opinions varied widely.

When it came to the radio station, 57% said that they never listen to WGHR. The reason for this as one student put it, "I can't pick up the signal at my house. Otherwise, I would listen." Another student offered "Everything's fine, they just need more power and range." A third student commented, "It doesn't matter, I don't listen to it [WGHR] because I can't receive it off campus."

The survey also revealed that most students spend seven or more hours on campus a day. This time is spent in class or

studying for upcoming classes with very few spending time socializing. Attitudes of students included comments like "segregated attitudes," "students are stuck on themselves and faculty do not interact with enough students, getting help for a certain subject is just like help from Georgia Tech (non-existent)." "I would like it more if there were more socialization on the floors of the dorm, and other activities for residents who live in dorms." One of the most popular statements was that the library closed "WAY" too early. A more striking comment from one student "SPSU has lost sight of who the customer is."

-Con'td from page 12

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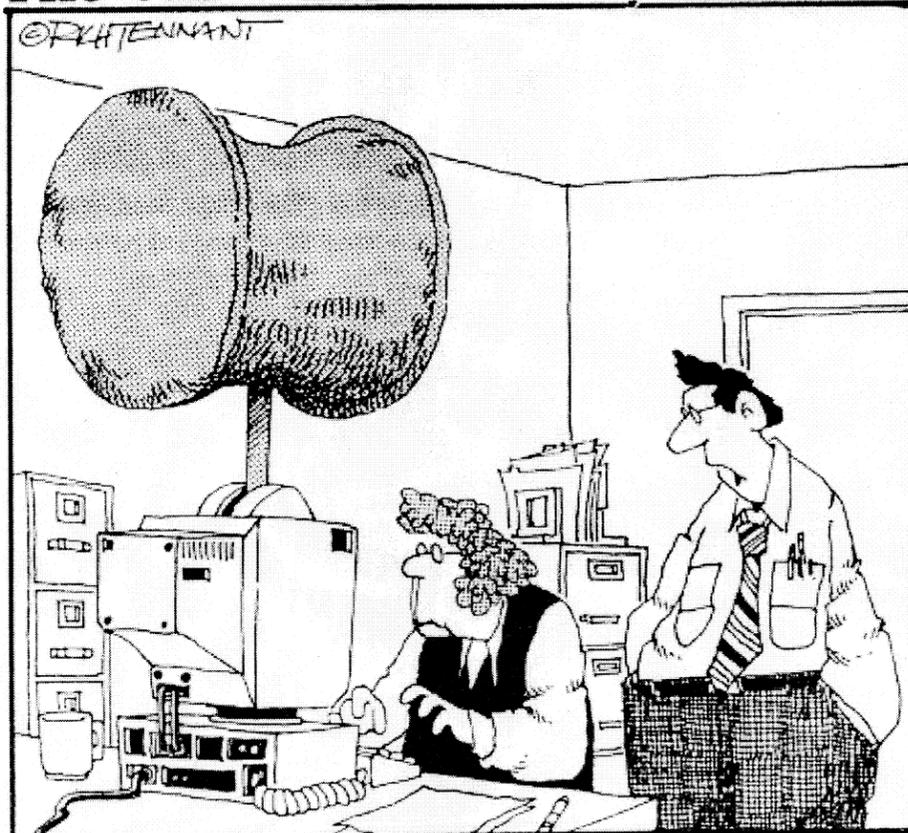


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The 5th Wave

By Rich Tennant



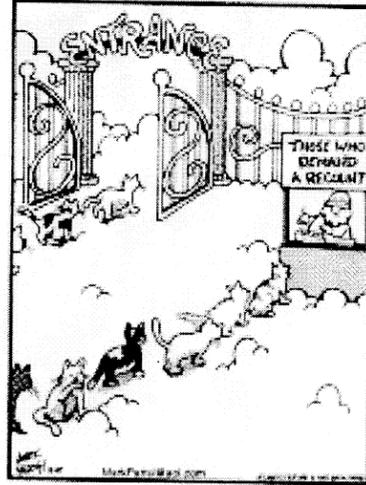
"OH YEAH, AND TRY NOT TO ENTER THE WRONG PASSWORD."

Comedy Corner

off the mark by Mark Parisi



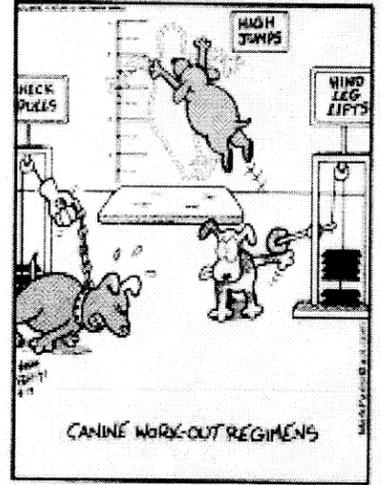
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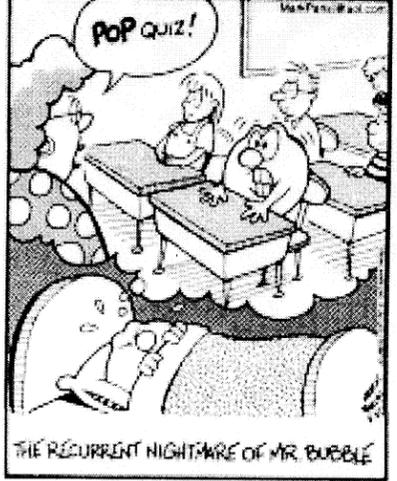
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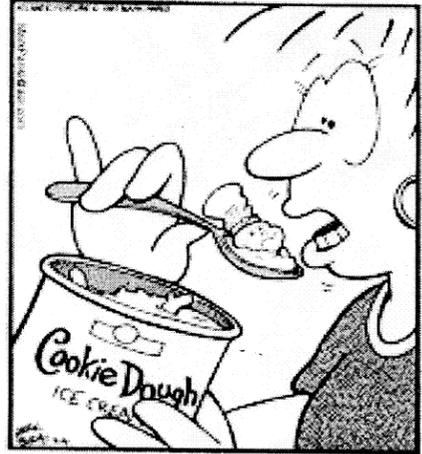
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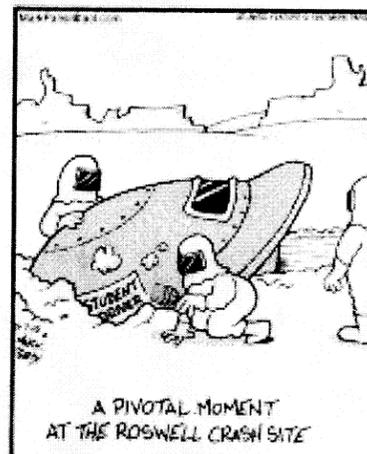
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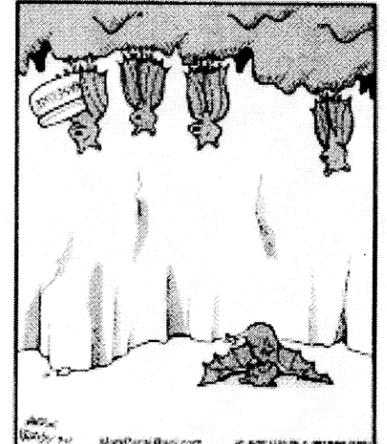
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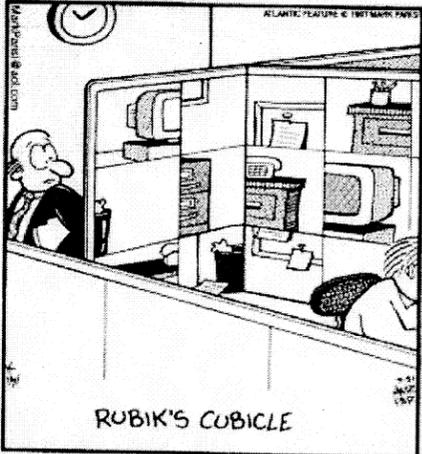
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