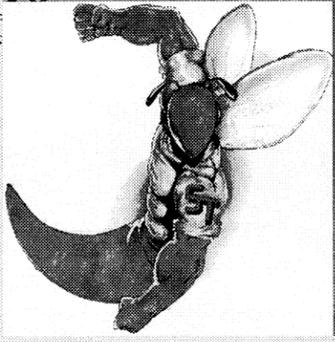


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SOUTHERN
POLYTECHNIC
STATE UNIVERSITY



The **STING**

Volume 51, Number 4

November 25, 1997

The STING would like to wish all of our readers a

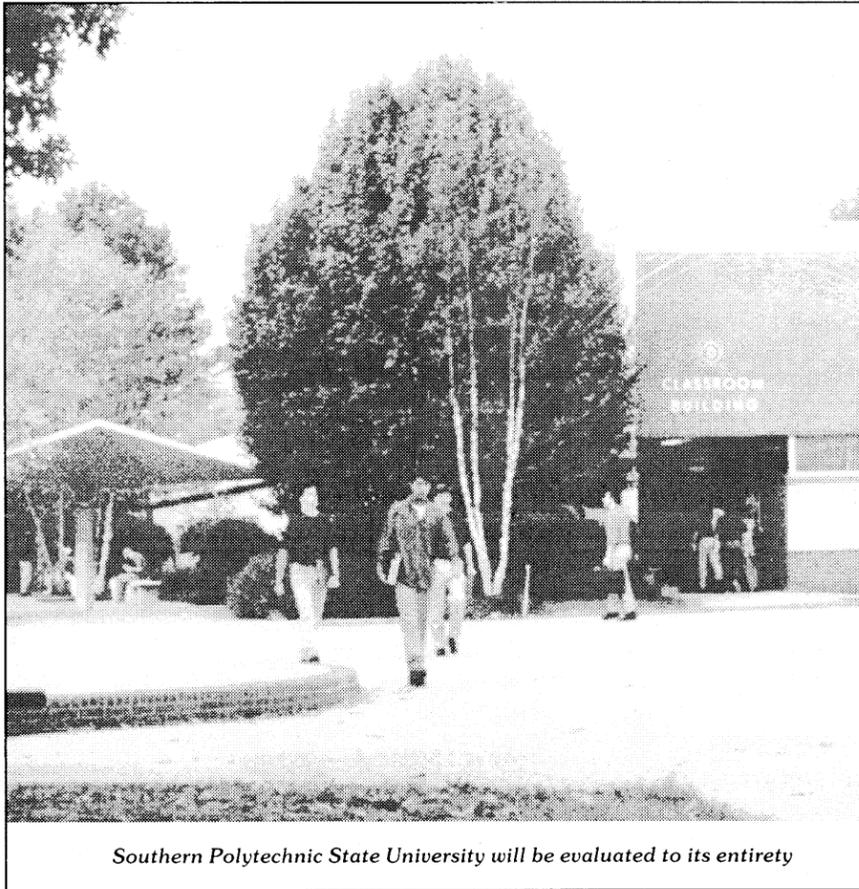
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

SACS will determine institution's credibility

By Corey J. Stanford
Reporter

Credibility is heavily incorporated in the aspects of an university. One example is when a degree is presented to a corporation for employment opportunities, the university's accreditation determines the weight of that degree. Southern Polytechnic State University has been an accredited institution for many years. Fortunately, the time has arrived to renew this status. The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) will oversee this project by utilizing the recognized regional accrediting organization, the Commission on Colleges (COC).

The COC accredits public and private institutions in the eleven U.S. Southern states (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia) and in Latin America for the institutions of higher education that award associate, baccalaureate, master's or doctoral degrees. The Commission consists of 77 elected members by the College Delegate Assembly (CDA). The U.S. Secretary of Education recognizes accreditation by the Commission on Colleges by establishing eligibility of



Southern Polytechnic State University will be evaluated to its entirety

higher education institutions to participate in programs authorized under Title IV of the 1992 *Higher Education Amendments* and other federal programs.

The focus of accreditation is primarily the improvement of education

throughout the region. Regional standards must be met in order to receive accreditation. To determine if standards were met, COC carefully evaluates the quality of the institution. This process is completed every 10 years.

The evaluation is a collective judgement of the faculty and administration of the institution during a self-study process, a peer review by a visiting committee, and a final evaluation by the Commission.

The self-study is a 2-year process. It originated in 1957 and has proven to be a contributing factor in strengthening higher education in the South. The self-study involves the formulation of 8 committees, made up of 10-12 people that consists of the faculty, administrative officials, staff, students, and trustees of the university. Dr. Rebecca Rutherford, Assistant to the President & Professor of Computer Science serves as the hard-working Chair of the Steering Committee. The Committees are divided into the following categories: Institutional Effectiveness, Educational Program, Financial Resources, Organization, Administration, and Corporate, Student Development, Physical Resources, Educational Support, and Faculty. The function of each committee is to complete *must* statements, in the form of a report, from the publishing of *Criteria for Accreditation* by the Commission. *Must* statements are the

Continued on pg 5

Auto break-ins occur on campus

By Jeff Combs
Reporter

This quarter, five cars have been broken into. One of the break-ins occurred in the main parking lot, and four additional break-ins occurred in the theater parking lot.

On October 9, in the main parking lot, a student's cellular phone valued at \$300 was stolen. The student had left his doors unlocked and his phone on the front seat of his car while he was in class.

On October 12, in the East (theater) parking lot, four cars were broken into. In one incident, a student's

convertible top was slashed, and a camera, computer science book, five-pack gift box of cigarettes and three CDs were stolen. In another incident, a radar detector and the car's rear window were taken. In the other two incidents, a student's rear window was broken and a \$200 cassette player was stolen, and another car was broken into but no items were stolen. Campus Safety believes that one group is responsible for the incidents that occurred on October 12.

Police Chief Gary Chastain said that items frequently stolen include CDs, radar detectors and after-market electronics. "If you have [any of] those

things, what you want to try to do is make sure that when you park, you cover them up, lock them in the trunk or take them out. Next, we want to make sure that anybody who sees someone that looks out of place in the parking lot not hesitate to call us, and we'll go over there and check them out.... Lastly, [students] need to record their serial numbers or make some kind of identifying marking on their items so that if we are able to recover them, we can identify who the item belongs to."

What's Inside:

The big surprise about semester conversion ... pg 2

History of SPSU ... pg 3

Changes are going on right now in food services ... pg 5

Gamma Phi Beta's article ... pg 6

We are giving away free SPSU clothing in this weeks Special Features section ... pg 7

Arts & Entertainment ... pgs 8-10

Check out our new sports section covered by Ellen White ... pg 11-12

The final Travel Log pg 13

Kevin Marks puts down his pen for one final editorial... pg 14

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Advertising Information. The local advertising rate of **The STING** is five dollars per column inch for ads smaller than one quarter page. Other pages available upon request. Ads for service and professional organizations on campus are free, but no run date can be guaranteed. Classified ads are handled by Pezign Media at 770/944-7160. All classified ad inquiries should be addressed to them. For more information, contact **The STING** at 770/528-7310.



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.



Submissions. Articles must be submitted by the deadline printed below and typed on a 3.5 inch IBM-Compatible 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.



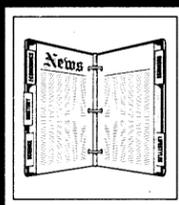
Price. **The STING** offers to every student, faculty, staff member, alumni, and official visitor of Southern Polytechnic State University complimentary copies of each issue numbering up to 0.25% of the print run for the respective issue. Every copy above 0.25% is to be purchased according to a price 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 January 14, 1997, to be considered for the January 22 issue.



The big surprise

- Simon A Strickland

Every quarter, a certain number of SPSU students get a big surprise. They fill out the papers, get departmental approval and petition to graduate. The Registrar's office evaluates the petition, and surprise, graduation will be delayed. Often the missing requirement is a small one and could easily be met, but too late, too late! Your author is well acquainted with this surprise. He had to go to college an extra quarter because of a footnote in the back of the catalog.

The Registrar's office is working hard to decrease the number of surprises, but the upcoming semester conversion will give many more students the chance to get one. And on top of that, the coming change to the Banner registration and records program will add to the danger. In the long run, Banner may provide a superior system, but initially it will actually decrease the amount of automatic checking available. Also, of course, there will be the confusion and error that always comes with a new computer system.

So what can a student do to avoid the big surprise? There are two basics which have always applied: first, take responsibility; if you don't meet graduation requirements because of poor advice or poor planning or honest mistakes or any reason, you will get a lot of sympathy and nothing else. Under the semester system this can cost you another half a year in school. Second, do your homework; nobody will ever understand your particular needs and requirements as well as you, and it's for sure that no one else will care as much about getting it right.

There are some essential facts about the semester system change which you should consider. The most fundamental is the graduation catalog. The SPSU policy is that you may graduate under any catalog from the current one back to the one in effect the last time you were admitted or readmitted. Furthermore, the University System has a rule that no student can be required to take extra hours because of the change to the semester system. However, if you change catalogs or majors, you must fulfill the requirements of your newly selected catalog or major, and it may be that some of the courses you have already taken cannot be used.

So, first and most important, pick a catalog. You may pick the new semester catalog (assuming you will be enrolled fall semester 1998), or you may pick one of the quarter catalogs for which you are eligible. Remember, once you have picked a catalog, the requirements therein are the ones you are trying to meet, and all other catalogs are irrelevant.

Having picked a catalog, you must then find out which courses under each

system will satisfy the requirements in your catalog. If you picked a quarter catalog, you need to find out which courses in the semester system can be used to satisfy your requirements and vice versa.

The new semester courses are all listed in the new 1998/99 catalog.

You must keep in mind that there are three different types of course requirements to be met, and the fact that a course meets one type does not mean that it meets all of them. The first type is the core curriculum. These requirements under the present system amount to a checklist, available in the most recent registration bulletin or from your major department. The second type is a curriculum of your major. This is published by the department that offers the degree. The third is the prerequisite requirement. It is perfectly possible that a quarter system course can satisfy a core curriculum requirement but fail to serve as a prerequisite for the next course under semesters and that next course is required in the degree curriculum.

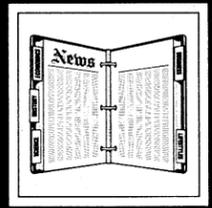
You must also learn the facts about critical sequences. A good example that applies to everyone is the physics sequence. Phys 201 under the quarter system, for example, will satisfy a core curriculum requirement under the semester system, but it will not serve as the prerequisite for second semester physics, which may be required under your degree curriculum. The precalculus sequence and the calculus sequence in math are other examples. Does your department have any such sequences in its curriculum? Better find out!

Another pitfall is the teaching schedule. There's no point in planning to take a certain quarter system course if it will never be taught again. Future schedules are hard to get, but each department has a published minimum guaranteed list of courses to be taught in the winter and spring quarters. This is available over the SPSU network or from the department.

A big factor for many students is transfer credit. Exactly how have your credits from other schools transferred, and what requirements can they be used to fulfill? It sometimes takes time to get your transfer credits on your record, but remember — if it's not on your official record, then you don't have it.

So how can you avoid the big surprise? Just take responsibility for your own academic career and do your homework. Get all the facts and apply them. Your advisor in your major department should be your biggest source of help, but you need to be as persistent as it takes to make sure you understand.





The History of SPSU: The Bubble Breaks

- Dr. Richard Bennett

The saga of the student center seems to herald a major transition in the life of Southern Tech as an independent institution. During the first years of the Cheshier administration, enrollment rose by almost one-third while desperately needed new facilities were approved and built. In 1980, Southern Tech, along with Kennesaw College, had ranked last in funding among the 14 senior colleges in the State University System. By 1987-88, this too had been dramatically reversed, thanks in part to rapid enrollment growth. But with all the positives, underlying difficulties and unmet expectations often went unaddressed. Indeed, some of these potential problems had been simmering for many years.

During the SACS re-accreditation self-study of 1987-88, a serious deficiency was noted in the dormitories. This might not have been so bad, had not essentially the same problems been cited ten years earlier. In ten years, it appeared to SACS as if no significant steps had been undertaken to

correct the problems. Another constant problem for students involved food services. For the faculty, changes had come rapidly as Southern Tech grew from being an outpost of Georgia Tech, offering a single degree program, to a college with multiple departments and numerous degree programs. These changes also served to de-stabilize former relationships between different units of the school. Communication, a perennial problem, was even further disrupted. This led to various "turf battles" and created a context for contention -- between departments and between administrative offices and academic departments.

During the 1988-89 academic year, the nation's economy went into the most serious recession since the Great Depression of 1929-32. This, of course, had a serious affect on Georgia's economy, hence also funding in the State University System. With only limited auxiliary sources of funding available, such as foundations and grants, the impact was felt almost immediately at

Southern Tech. Money for maintenance quickly ran short. New equipment purchases had to be deferred along with upgrades to existing equipment. Travel budgets for faculty and staff were affected. During the 1989-90 academic year, Southern Tech was required to return to the state 5 percent of its previously allocated budget. The following year, the percentage was somewhat greater. What made this especially difficult was that most of the money previously allocated was unavailable for surrender, and during the second year surrender necessitated personnel layoffs.

The difficulties of this period helped destroy morale on the campus and allowed for long-unaddressed hostilities and contentions to become more evident and intense. This situation exacerbated a growing atmosphere of distrust and estrangement, especially between the faculty and the administration. By 1993, the nation's economy was finally, barely beginning to turn around. But for Southern Tech

the struggle was far from over. Some building projects, begun during the 1980s, were brought to fruition. However, administrative units had been reorganized, creating internal inefficiencies and further disrupting communication. Student enrollment had reached a plateau just as the Office of Enrollment Management, responsible for student recruitment, was eliminated. While other schools in the University System, including Kennesaw, were registering enrollment increases, Southern Tech was experiencing modest declines, especially among entering freshmen and more recently, new graduate students. As a result, the funding problems continued, along with the difficulties of maintaining equipment and doing upgrades to laboratories. New equipment purchases, necessary to maintain the high level of education for which Southern Tech had developed a reputation, were often deferred for lack of funds. Distrust and contention, sometimes aggravated by short tempers, thus continued around campus, occasionally even emerging into open confrontations. More next quarter.

Attention All International Students on Visas

Things to do *before* you leave the United States:

Many international students will be traveling out of the country over the holidays. Remember to check your documents before departing the United States. Make sure that passports and visas have not expired. Be sure to obtain proper endorsements on the I-20 form from Charlotte Janis, Director of International Programs. We want to make sure that you return to Southern Polytechnic without any problems.

Visit the International Programs Office as soon as possible to avoid the last minute rush!

Lockheed teams with Aerial Robotics team

- Mark Fisher

Lockheed Martin's Vice President of Engineering, Mr. R.C. LeCroy, has teamed his engineers with SPSU's Aerial Robotics team. Mr. LeCroy states, "the international collegiate competition is intriguing, and I am pleased to offer support from several of our young engineers. Ken Johnson, Manager of Advanced Design, will be your point of contact. Ken has already identified a volunteer who was on the winning team at MIT"

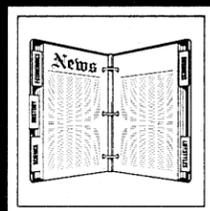
The Aerial Robotics Team (ART) hopes to perform their first flight on a "training arm" by Thanksgiving. Flight envelope expansion will occur on the old tennis courts by the gym. The aerial robot must fly without a human operator and identify and map live and dead bodies and toxic waste drums at unknown locations over a five acre area. It must automatically avoid water

geysers and obstructions. Students from multiple technical departments are involved with the challenge, including ECET, CS and MET. The competition is held in August 1998. Prior winners include Stanford, MIT and Carnegie Melon.

The ART team has been fortunate to receive equipment loans from Trimble Navigation in Sunnyvale, California for a GPS accurate to a cubic centimeter, and from Watson Industries in Eau Claire, Wisconsin for an altitude heading reference system (AHRS). ART will use artificial intelligence combined with a digital camera to identify objects. The visual recognition group within ART is grappling with industry style issues such as how to do the job with limited funds. Interested students or members from industry can contact Dr. Mark Fisher, MET, mfisher@sct.edu, for more details.

LOCKHEED MARTIN





Campus News

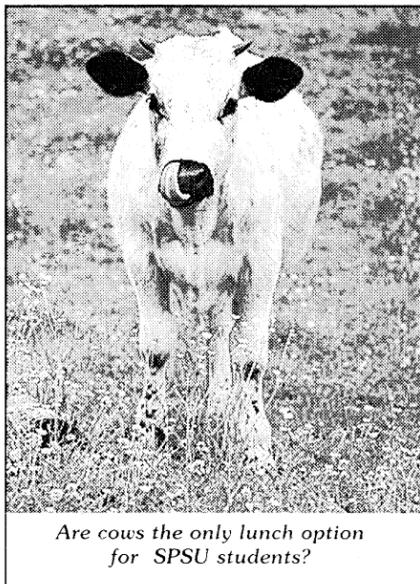
Changes planned for food service

- Mercedes Bankston

Recently, a petition was passed around the school in reference to the dietary preferences of some of the students. Two students, who continue to starve by eating (or lack of eating) at the school cafeteria, started the petition in an effort to change the meals offered to students. One student said, "it would seem to me that the school would provide meatless entrées in an effort to accommodate those who decline the flesh of land roving animals." Sixty-three percent of the students who signed the petition lived on campus and were on the current meal plan; their main concern was the lack of a salad bar. Others wanted food other than pizza and grill works. One student commented, "sure there is a hot bar, but do you ever know what is going to be served?" One of

the employees who works at the cafeteria said that having vegetarian entrées is quite costly, and there is a lack of demand. Yet, the vegetarian lasagna sells out early in the day.

After talking with Glen, the manager of the cafeteria, he shared his concern about students who could not eat the cafeteria food. He said there would be some changes in the meals served. In January, veggie burgers will be introduced to SPSU. A salad bar will



Are cows the only lunch option for SPSU students?

be tried in place of the hot bar. Soon students will be seeing "flip day" where there will be breakfast for lunch or dinner. New items such as fruit toppings for waffles and loaf breads will also be on the menu. Glen knows that the majority of the students at SPSU are meat lovers, so he

urges students to sample food from the hot bar, because he feels that you should not get something that you will not like. Other changes such as the menu being posted around campus, in the dorms, and in The STING will let students know what is being served that particular day.

Right now, a reworked cafeteria plan is "in the making." If the plan goes through, students will have an "all you can eat," but will not be able to take food from the cafeteria. It will also be mandatory for resident students to have a meal plan. If SPSU gets the renovated cafeteria, then perhaps we will have theme buffets and a daily salad bar. If the plan goes through, we will see the changes next year.

Fright Night at SPSU

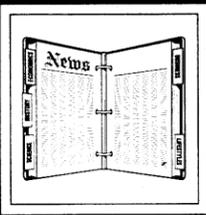
- Mercedes Bankston

On October 30th, Student housing once again sponsored the annual Fright night. In the past, Fright night consisted of students giving candy out to kids from our sister school, Park Street Elementary, friends of faculty and staff and under privileged kids. Over the years, the students have changed the event by creating theme halls and haunted houses in order to win T-shirts and a dinner. Organizations such as the Greeks, the basketball team and the Campus Activities Board (CAB) come together to give tours, take part in carnival games and give hay rides. Parents, faculty, the president's office, plant operations and campus safety donated candy, time and tractors in order to make the event fun for kids.



Students decorated their halls with trees to create a haunted house.





Campus News

Is it too cold in library

I have a question for the library users of Southern Poly. "When is COLD too COLD?" Recently, a student stopped by and told me that she wanted to study in our fine facility and that she worked here on a Sunday afternoon for as long as she could and then... IT GOT TOO COLD TO STAY... SHE HAD TO LEAVE, OR ELSE!!!! Two fellas walked into the library on the same day and passed the Circulation Desk. One of them said to his friend quietly, "well, we're walking into the refrigerator," as they continued up the ramp to the study area. The next Big Question is "When is too cold, too warm for someone else," followed by another Big Question:

"When is the library too COLD for everybody and what can be done about it?"

The library staff realizes that the study rooms can get very cold, and so we have requested that the janitorial staff leave the doors open over night and they have done so. A new faculty member accompanied her class here for Bibliographic Instruction (B.I.) in English 112 and they nearly froze their hands off in the B.I. Room. I understand that the study alcoves also are very cold places, and I have personal knowledge that the offices and staff areas are very cold at times.

It's the middle of the fall season

and we expect that the temperature will continue to decline as winter approaches. We have talked with plant operations and they are very responsive in sending an HVAC department representative to rectify the situation... even if it's Sunday afternoon and a great sports event is on TV... these doers of good SHOW UP. They take care of the thermostats and bid us farewell.

The final BIG QUESTION. What is a temperature that is bearable in a well-insulated building if its users primarily complain that the temperature is TOO low? If the customers say that it's TOO COLD then it's TOO COLD. Based on the two examples above, we enjoy

- Dr. Joyce W. Mills

having the comments from library users regarding the conditions and the materials as well as the services that we provide. Let us know what you think. Take the time to find a listener who has some clout and will follow through on your suggestion. The library is preparing an online survey of its services and would like for you to respond. In addition, we will place a print copy of the same survey in The Sting and hope that you will respond to this version only if you have not done so online. We always appreciate your input and hope that our next conversations with HVAC will result in softer, gentler air circulating through the vents of the library.

ISA students

-Oliver Hein, Vice President ISA

Hello International Students!
This is a reminder for those students that wish to leave the U.S over the Christmas holidays. You must see Charlotte Janis and let her sign you out on the I-20 form.

January 13, 1998 will be our first meeting for the next year. We will have a guest speaker (Mikel Jones) attending, who will give a speech on what you

should do if you happen to be involved in a car wreck.

I wish you all a nice Thanksgiving, a merry Christmas and of course, a happy new year.

If you have any questions or comments please contact me by e-mail: ohein@spsu.edu or call me at: (770) 590-0584. Thank you very much. It has been a pleasure having you on campus.

- Continued from front page

process because there will be officials stopping them to ask them questions about the campus. This will take place in February of next year. After the peers visit the campus, they will make recommendations to the Commission on whether or not Southern Polytechnic State University deserves to be accredited or placed on probation. Probation generally lasts a year and then the institution is re-evaluated.

It is imperative that Southern Polytechnic State University is represented well through the eyes of its beholders, or the pages of credentials that this university has developed will only diminish.

SACS

duties and responsibilities outlined by the Commission as the criteria for accreditation. The information for the report is currently being compiled and is expected to be completely published in December.

After the self-evaluating process, a visiting team of peers from other institutions will come to the campus and evaluate it to its entirety. This means that the physical appearance and internal operation will be reviewed and reported. "This is very crucial," according to Dr. Rutherford, "because if we lose our accreditation, we lose our federal funding and numerous schools will not accept transfer credit." Dr. Rutherford also mentioned that the students need to be informed about this

Gamma Phi Beta

-#165 PRVP

Hey girls, we finally made it! For those of you here at SPSU who don't know us, Gamma Phi Beta is one of two sororities on campus. The Delta Omicron chapter of Gamma Phi Beta was founded here at SPSU in January of 1980. Gamma Phi Beta's primary objective is to develop the highest type of womanhood through education, social life and service to country and humanity. Our sorority's philanthropy is special camping for girls. The Gamma Phi foundation owns Camp Sechelt, which is a special camp for girls in British Columbia. The chapter holds various events such as bake sales to raise money for this camp and other camps just like it.

We started the quarter off with five new members, and now we have five newly initiated sisters. Congratulations to Kim, Erin Cotter, Paige Horton, Erin Moore and Michel Waller on their initiation November 22rd. We can't wait to see you girls getting more involved, and remember you only get as much out of the sorority

as you put into it.

We would like to thank Lambda Chi Alpha for an awesome social. We had a great time going through the haunted house with you guys protecting us (Was that John pushing the girls through before him?).

I hope everyone had a great time at our Favorite Guy Party. Congratulations to all the guys nominated for Favorite Guy: Todd Sumption(TKE), John Schuler(Pi Kappa Phi), Michael Ferguson (Sigma Nu) and Luke Antonacci (Sigma Nu). We would like to offer a special congratulations to Luke for receiving Favorite Guy 1997, and we would like to thank him for all that he has done for the girls.

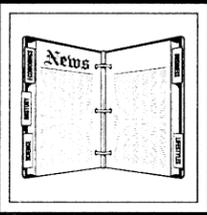
It has been a very fun and eventful quarter for Gamma Phi Beta. Now, the only things left are those dreaded finals. Hopefully, next quarter will be just as fun as this quarter. We are looking forward to our socials with Beta Sigma Chi and Sigma Nu. Good Luck! And study hard for those finals.

- Congratulations to the SPSU Ambassadors on completing their first term of service
- to the University community! The Ambassadors are Carrie Byers, David Brickle,
- Dion Cantrell, Melissa Cherry, Danny Crumley, Derrick Davis, Lakeisha Hall, Will
- Johnson, Justin Little, Shane McTigue, Quintina Owens, Rex Powell, Derrick Rowe,
- Julie Seymour, Luke Thornton, Traci Trantum, Kelleen Williams, and Richard Zonjic.
- This term, the Ambassadors assisted many departments: Admissions, Development,
- Engineering Technology, and Student Activities. They are a valuable resource for
- our University. If you are interested in becoming an Ambassador or want to request
- them to participate in a University event, please call Jackie at x7374 or Steven at x5549.

JOIN THE NEWSPAPER!!

The Sting is looking for news reporters, copy editors and an advertising manager. Stop by room 252 in the Student Center to pick up an application!





Campus News

SPSU heads to regional model organization

- Shaidu Kiven

Charity Boyd, Monica Senior, Angela Harleaux and Shaidu Kiven made up Southern PolyTech's delegation to the first ever Southeast Regional Model Organization of African Unity conference held in Macon, Georgia November 6 - 8, 1997. The delegation was prepared by Professor Weeks of the SIS Dept. and lead by Dr. Cochkrane as the advisor to the conference. At the conference, the delegation's resolution prepared earlier was debated upon for two days and accepted at one of the many Commissions. Those resolutions accepted by the delegates would be forwarded to the Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

PolyTech's delegation, known as Zambian's Delegation to the conference, was one of many from about twenty universities representing various African nations. Southern Poly students, as well as other students, had done a lot of research to better understand their designated country's needs so as to be good ambassadors of that country. At the conference, student delegations

engaged in a simulated meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU). This simulation, organized by the Board of Regent's Council on African Affairs, was designed to give students of the University System of Georgia, as well as interested state and private institutions throughout the Southeast United States, the opportunity to learn more about and deepen their knowledge of African politics.

A lot of students in attendance learned a lot about Africa, diplomatic and parliamentary procedures at various deliberations as well as about other students. One of the most fascinating ideas for many of the students was the fact that Africa is a very diverse continent with more than fifty countries. Many students prior to this project had imagined that Africa was a country!

The Southeast Regional Model Organization of African Unity (SEMOAU) will henceforth be an annual event. Those interested in learning about it can contact the Social and International Studies Office (G-56).

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SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS

The following are the library hours for the holiday and exam periods of November - December 1997. Library hours are also available in OLLI, the library's online catalog. Type HRS to display the hours for the current month. Type HRS ##, replacing ## with the number of the month for which you wish to display hours (e.g., HRS 12 for December hours).

November 26	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
November 27 - November 29	CLOSED
November 30	2:00 PM - 9:00 PM
December 1 - December 2	8:00 AM - 11:00 PM
December 3 - December 4	8:00 AM - 10:00 PM
December 5	8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
December 6 - December 7	CLOSED
December 8 - December 12	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
December 13 - December 14	CLOSED
December 15 - December 19	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
December 18	library will be CLOSED 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
December 20 - December 21	CLOSED
December 22 - December 23	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
The library usually CLOSES at 2:00 PM on December 23.	
December 24 - January 1	CLOSED
January 2	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ANALYSTS

Full-time and Part-time opportunities

Harbinger Corporation (HRBC), an Atlanta Fast Tech 50 company, is the leading provider of electronic commerce (EC) software and services. We are experiencing phenomenal growth and seek bright, motivated professionals to contribute and share in our success.

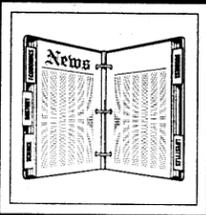
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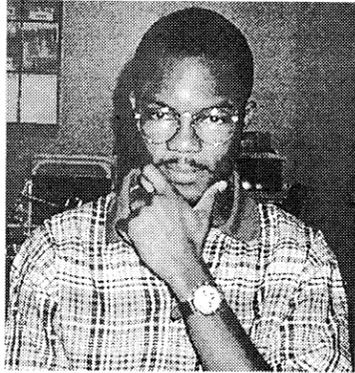
Special Features

Corey J. Stanford

Reporter

Welcome new readers, welcome back previous readers, to the place where students hang out, **Deep Down in the Hive!**

This section has been designed to publish anything that deals with the students of Southern Polytechnic State University. I say 'anything' to leave all avenues open for your reading pleasures for now! This includes questions/answers, concerns, photos, poems, you name it! It is split into five sections: Serious, Brain Tampering, Ridiculous, Winner's Block,



and The Prize Circle. Each section is open for your suggestions.

I would first like to introduce myself to you. My name is Corey J. Stanford, creator and author of this section, striving for perfection. However, this cannot be done without your help. So if you have any ideas, please let me know by emailing me at cstanfor@spsu.edu, leaving a message at **The STING** office: (770)

528-7310, or you can stop me when you see me walking on campus. Remember, this section is only a page!

THE PRIZE CIRCLE

Hmm...let's see what will be downloaded on the PC, THE PRIZE CIRCLE?

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**** I WILL BE GIVING AWAY 2 SHIRTS ****

HOW DO YOU GET IT? Submit your name and a way for you to be contacted on a piece of paper as well as one thing that should change about **The STING** newspaper. Entries should be placed in the box outside of **The STING** office. There will be a drawing for the winners.

SPSU IS LOOKING FOR A NEW PRESIDENT

A Presidential Search and Advisory Committee has been formed and will consist of the following members:

- Dr. Sidney Davis, Professor Technology Management Department
- Mr. David R. Caudill, Associate Professor I ET Department
- Dr. LaJuana Cochrane, Social & International Studies Department
- Dr. Emerelle McNair Director, Scholarships and Financial Aid
- Ms. Amy Roberts, President, SGA
- Mr. Edward B. Andrews, Group Vice President, SunTrust Bank
- Mr. David Manuel, South Africa Siemens Energy and Automation
- Ms. Linda Morant

For more information contact any of the members listed above or visit <http://www.spsu.edu/PresSearch>

BRAIN-TAMPERING (For those who wish to workout the brain)

MATH STINGER

by Dr. Joel C. Fowler Associate Professor of Mathematics

The puzzle for last issue was to determine the exact time between 3:30 and 4:00 that the hour hand and the minute hand on a standard clock are exactly the same distance from the 6 on the dial. The answer is 3:41 and 7/13 seconds. Correct answers were received from Tony Panzarella, Michael Harris, and Franklin Cain.

The puzzle for this issue is geometric in nature. A tetrahedron is a solid having four identical equilateral triangles as sides. The appearance is roughly that of a three sided pyramid.

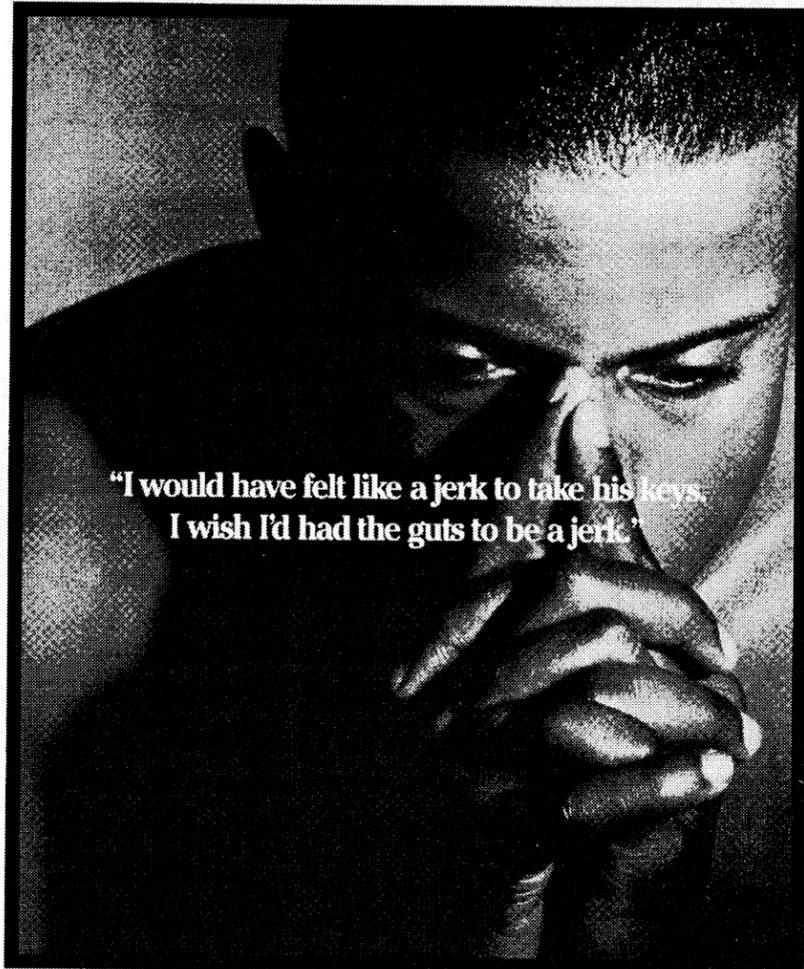
Suppose that a tetrahedron has surface area exactly 1. Find its exact height (from the center of the base perpendicularly to the top).

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.

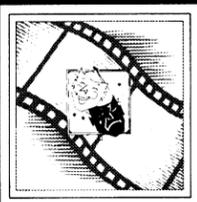
Unfortunately, there were no winners to print in this issue. However, there were several close answers. It has been brought to my attention that people choose not to participate because they feel as though a winner is chosen the first day the paper comes out. This is not the case! I have decided to change the way I setup the contests. Instead of giving away the prizes to the first people to respond, I will have drawings of all correct answers. If there is an abundance of prizes to give away, it will be on a "first come first serve basis."



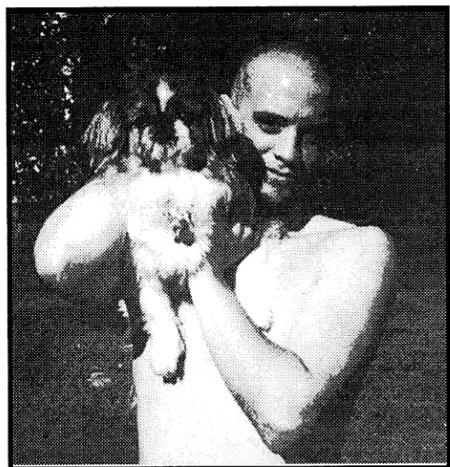
"I would have felt like a jerk to take his keys.
I wish I'd had the guts to be a jerk."

Drunk driving isn't about statistics, it's about the choices people make. Don't drink and drive yourself. And don't let anybody else do it either.





The Matt Column by Matt Thomas



Have you ever wondered what a particular band sounded like, but you were too afraid of getting burned, so you held off on buying their album because you thought you might not like it? Have you ever wondered what type of music and bands a particular record label offered? Do you ever wish there was a way where you can hear a few songs by each band from a record label without costing you twelve hard earned dollars? Well, not many people are aware that many labels (mostly independent) offer "CD samplers" at very cheap prices so that you can sample the sounds of a particular band or label. For this column, I will mention just a few labels and samplers and how to find out if a label offers such discs.

The first one I want to mention is Fat Wreck Chords. This punk label from Cali, run by Fat Mike of NOFX, has just released their third sampler. This one is called "Physical Fitness—Fat Music Vol. III." Another cool thing about samplers is, not only do you hear everything a label has to offer at a cheap price, but you usually get really awesome unreleased stuff that you can only get on that disc. The new Fat release features unreleased tracks from Lagwagon, Good Riddance, Strung Out, Propagandi, Me First and the Gimme Gimmes, and the legends themselves, NOFX. You also get other cuts from the

likes of No Use For A Name, Screw 32, Bracket, Screaching Weasel, as well as many other Fat bands. But check this out, this CD is only \$3.98 and includes 18 tracks in all. I must say this is well worth the price. But hey, contact them for yourself, Fat Wreck Chords, P.O. Box 193690, San Francisco, CA 94119.

The next sampler worth mentioning comes to us from Nitro Records. This label is run by the guys from the Offspring, who used to be a punk band as opposed to what they've become now, but that is besides the point. This sampler is only \$4.00 and includes tracks from all the Nitro bands including OLDER Offspring from their first album as well as the Vandals, Guttermouth, AFI and Jughead's Revenge. This sampler, entitled "Go Ahead Punk...Make My Day," is worth getting just for the Jughead's Revenge tracks; they are a damn good band. Also on here, the Offspring attempt (the key word is attempt) a punk version of Jimi Hendrix's "Hey Joe" which you can only get on this sampler. Write the guys at Nitro for more info, Nitro Records, 7071 Warner Ave. Suite F-736, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

Another thing with label samplers, especially punk, is how much fun they have with things like cool pictures of the bands, cool info about the bands (some things you probably don't want

like the one for Hopeless Records. The cover portrays a punk version of the "Grease" soundtrack cover. Instead of

This has some great bands that you may have otherwise not hear of. You can get it from the guys at Fearless by dropping a line to Fearless Records, 13772 Goldenwest St #545, Westminster, CA 92683.

I figured the only way to really describe what a sampler does is to review a few that I know about. Though all of the aforementioned labels are California punk labels, many independent labels with different sounds offer relatively inexpensive samplers for usually about \$3-5. Sure, you will discover good bands, and you will hear bands that you never want to hear again, but at least you'll know before you go buy that album that you were wondering about. Another good use for samplers is parties. Buy five good samplers,

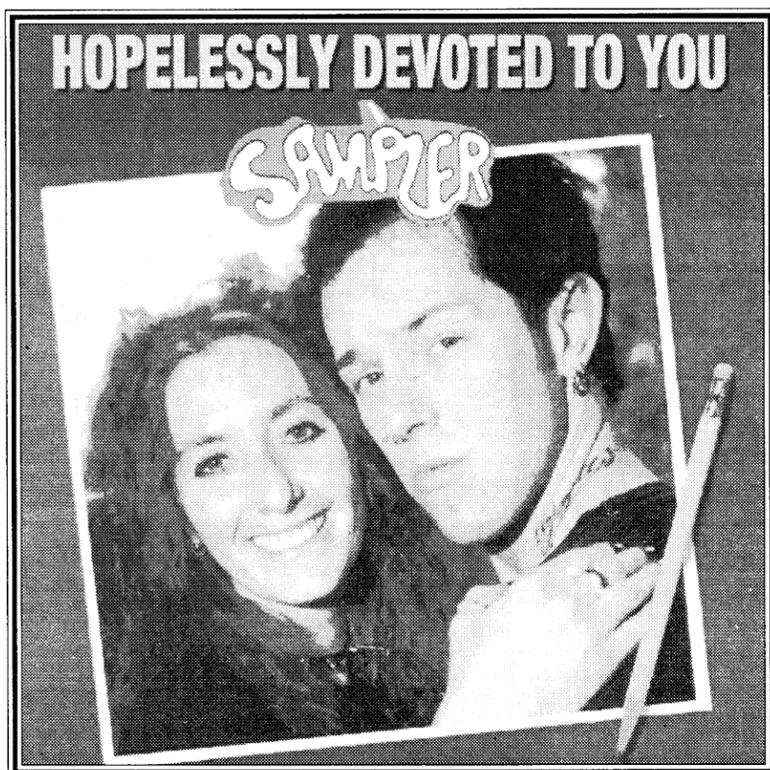
which usually have 15 to 20 songs on them, throw them in a disc changer and all of a sudden you have music for the entire night from about 75 different bands at a cost of only about \$25. Always remember that independent labels pay more attention to their supporters because that is why they are doing it, for fellow music lovers. No suit and ties, no corporate intervention, just true music. The easiest way to get more info is to simply write the label or band that you are interested in and request a catalog and ask if they offer a sampler of their bands. Throw in a SASE, because hey, these people run the label themselves, they can't afford to buy stamps for everyone that writes, they will appreciate it and may even hook you up with extra goodies like posters and stickers.

Well, I guess that is about it; just remember to look into independent labels a little bit more, you will be surprised at the talent that lurks on the non-commercial underground for pretty cheap prices. Also, many of the bands and labels I mentioned can be heard on my show on Tuesday night from 8 to 11. Contact me at mattwghr@mindspring.com. See ya.....



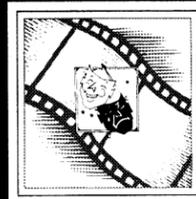
seeing Sandy and Danny in their pose, it's two tattooed and pierced punks, but they look like a happy couple anyway. Oh well, as for the bands on this label, I think Hopeless might have gotten the lesser talent from the numerous Cali pop punk bands that exist. That's not to say that \$4.00 isn't worth it; it's just to say that this isn't the first one you want to buy. It does contain unreleased tracks from Digger and Funeral Oration as well as a Misfits cover done by 88 Fingers Louie, but not much else. Some of the other bands on here include Falling Sickness, Nobodys, Schlong, White Kaps and a few others. The sampler is called "Hopelessly Devoted to You" and can be bought from Hopeless Records, P.O. Box 7495, Van Nuys, CA 91409.

The next sampler is definitely worth the \$5.00 price. This one is amazing for what it has on it. It contains 24 tracks, nearly half of them previously unreleased. The label is Fearless Records and the sampler is called "The Fearless Flush Sampler." This contains tracks from Strung Out, Blount, Dead Lazlo's Place, Big Wig, Drunk In Public, Chuck, Grabbers, 30 Foot Fall and a few others. This has at least two tracks from every band with, like I said before, many of them previously unreleased. This also contains the uncut 30 Foot Fall version of Billy Idol's "Dancing with Myself." This is really a great buy (and no, I don't work for Fearless Records, and you buying a sampler doesn't benefit me in any way). All I am giving you is my honest opinion, so if you like poppy, snotty, Cali punk then definitely pick up this sampler.



to know) and really stupid album covers

wghr
102.5fm



Confessions Of A DeeJay Interview with DJ Shotgun.

- By Kacey Mathews #6.

This past summer, I entered my first DJ Battle Contest. This contest was held at a local music store and allowed deejays and others involved in the music industry to get together and discuss the tricks and nuances of Hip-Hop. In this contest, deejays with the skills on the wheels of steels battled one another for new equipment and the title of being called the best battle deejay in Atlanta. After the smoke cleared, only one emerged above the other fifteen participants. That solitary deejay was DJ Shotgun, recently officially named by Creative Loafing as the best battle deejay in Atlanta. Since the contest, Shotgun and his crew, Third World Citizens, have come to the radio station numerous times and showcased their talent. On one such occasion, I decided to ask Shotgun a few questions to see what I can learn from him to improve my skills as a Deejay.

Sting: How long have you been deejaying?

Shotgun: Oh, I'd say about twelve years.

Sting: Wow that's a pretty long time to be in the game; what got you started?

Shotgun: Well, people from my old neighborhood in Detroit are what truly got me started, that plus the movie Beat Street.

Sting: In the past twelve years there must have been plenty of competitions that you have entered. What are the ones that you have won?

Shotgun: Umm, let's see. I've recently won the Gemini Battle Competition, and back in 1990, I won the DMC Battle Competition Midwest division and also in 1991 the DMC Battle Competition Southeast region.

Sting: I know that recently Creative



Did Somebody Say Battle?

Loafing chose you as the Best Battle Deejay in Atlanta. Do you have any other titles?

Shotgun: This year I was chosen by Hot 97.5 as Deejay of the Year.

Sting: In the world of Deejaying, there are many Deejays with great skills. Of these Deejays, who do you respect as a Battle Deejay.

Shotgun: I try to respect all Deejays, but the Deejays with the tightest skills on the one's and two's that automatically has earned their respect are Mr. Sinister, ISP (Invisible Skratz Picklez), X-Men and the Beat Junkies.

Sting: In your opinion, who is the best battle Deejay worldwide, past and present?

Shotgun: Well worldwide, I believe DJ

Noise from Denmark is nice as ice, but I don't believe he can hold a candle to Mr. Sinister. From the past, I think DJ Miz is the bomb-diggity. Now-a-days Mr. Sinister has just about everything locked, no doubt.

Sting: I know that just about every Deejay represents a crew. What crew of Deejays do you represent?

Shotgun: I represent the Twelve-Tech Mob out of Detroit and also the Third World Citizens here in Atlanta.

Sting: Are there any major groups that you have Deejayed for?

Shotgun: The only group that I have Deejayed for is Goodie M.O.B.

Sting: Whenever you go to a battle competition, what albums do you always bring with you?

Shotgun: These Tracks I always bring; even if I don't use 'em I bring 'em anyway. 1. Eric B. and Rakim- "Eric B. is President," 2. Audio Two- "Top Billin'," and last but definitely not least 3. Jeru the Damaja "Come Clean."

Sting: In the world of Hip-Hop, there are four factors: B-Boying, Graffiti Art, Emceeing, and Deejaying. In your opinion which one is the most important and why?

Shotgun: They all complement each other; you can't have one without the other. That's what makes Hip-Hop different from any other type of music. It's more than just music; it's a culture and it is universal.

Sting: Well it's been real, but before we go, I've got one last question for ya.

Shotgun: Shoot.

Sting: What is your favorite flavor of Jolly Ranchers Candy?

Shotgun: Strawberry hands down, but in a strong second is Green Apple.

Sting: Got any shouts?

Shotgun: Big shouts to the Third World Citizens: Craze, T-Rock, King James and Faust. Big Shouts to all Deejays keeping the culture alive. Peace!

The Little Mermaid is back in theaters

- Ray Smith

The year is 1989, and I am sitting in a crowded movie theater with my two nephews awaiting the opening of Disney's new film *The Little Mermaid*. My nephews are sitting on the edge of their seats with their hands clutching their stuffed Sebastian. Sebastian, for any of you non-mermaid trivia experts, is a lovable animated crab. The rest of the children in the theater are also holding stuffed characters from the film. The movie got a lot of hype in its post production phase, and children were long awaiting its opening. Parents just wanted it to open so they could shut the kids up. The movie started and the children once again were transfixed by Disney's creation. Well, if you were not fortunate enough to sit in on

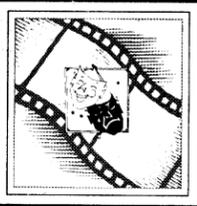
the original release of the film in 1989, you're in luck. Disney is re-releasing the film for a limited holiday season run. Why would a parent want to take their child to see a movie that came out almost a decade ago? They could just go rent the movie. The answer is because unlike watching a film on a small screen and seeing the animation reduced to distinctive mush, one can experience the thrilling visual excitement of a true masterwork film, as it should be viewed. That sounds good, but isn't the film just a cartoon? Just a cartoon! No, it's not just a cartoon. It is a collection of beautifully drawn and colored cells that create magic once filmed and projected. This is not a Saturday morning cartoon.

When I was a child, my grandmother gave me a collection of fairy tales written by Hans Christian Anderson. My favorite story, which I made my parents read over and over to me, was *The Little Mermaid*, a story is of someone's wish coming true. Ariel is a Mermaid Princess who wishes to be mortal so that she can have Prince Eric, the man of her dreams. She must make a choice between her life and family in the sea and her love. She chooses Eric and life as a mortal. This is fine until she has to rescue her father's kingdom from Ursula, the wicked Sea Witch. In the end she saves everything and lives happily ever after with Eric and the Sea.

The cast of voices for the film is

very impressive. Pat Carroll is Ursula. Ms. Carroll has been a favorite of mine since seeing her as one of the ugly stepsisters in *Cinderella*. Buddy Hackett, who plays Scuttle, the squawking seagull, is hysterical. Mr. Hackett is Scuttle. The rest of the cast was just as marvelous. I especially enjoyed the voice of Ariel the Mermaid played by Jodi Benson. Although Ms. Benson's face is not as well known as the rest of the cast, her voice has been heard on several Disney projects.

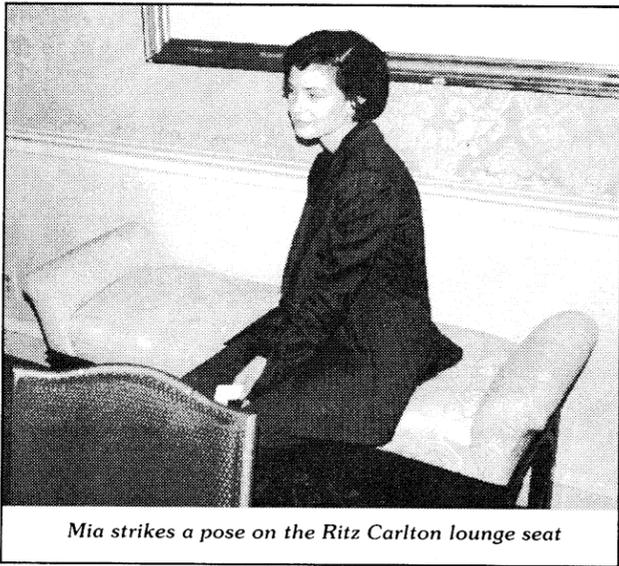
The animation is top notch and flawlessly executed. The magic of early free hand drawing has been replaced with computer animation. The film opens nationally November 14th and runs through the 30th. Don't miss it!



Arts & Entertainment

The STING interviews 'Mad City' star Mia Kirshner

- Corey J. Stanford



Mia strikes a pose on the Ritz Carlton lounge seat

On November 6, 1997, Mia Kirshner, star of "Mad City" arrived at the Ritz Carlton of Buckhead in a room full of reporters all prepared to compile lots of information on the 21-year old actress. Coincidentally, her role in "Mad City" involved media coverage. The reporters sitting around the table included those of Georgia State University, Emory University, University of Georgia, and 99X.

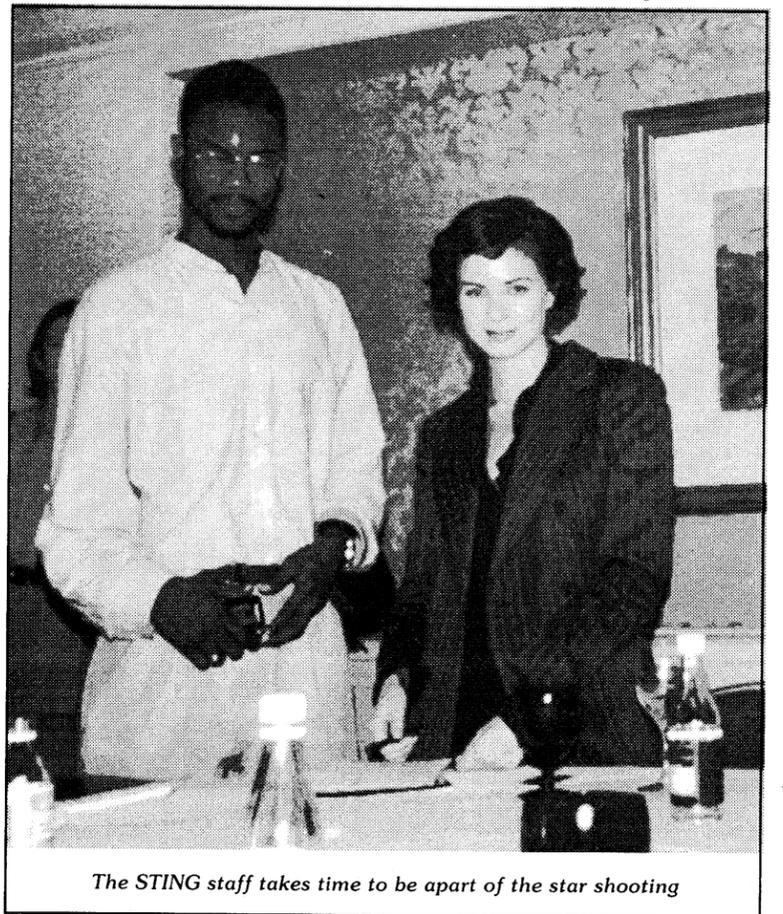
When Kirshner spoke, her clear and mellow voice reflected that of a scholar. Scholar would be the appropriate word to describe her for the mere reason that she juggles acting and work as a student at McGill University in Toronto. There she majors in Russian Literature. When asked the question if the students at her university, particularly the females, were jealous of

her status, she responded, "I try to disguise myself therefore, they don't recognize who I am."

Kirshner began her career at the age of 17 as a lap dancer in "Exotica" and later grew profusely in her role in "Love and Human Remains." Other projects of Kirshner include "The Crow II: City of Angels" and this year's "Anna Karenina." "Mad City," the latest film starring Dustin

Hoffman and John Travolta, serves as her initiation into mainstream Hollywood. She plays the character Laurie who is an intern to Hoffman's Max Brackett. He uses the media in an attempt to end a hostage crisis. Even though Kirshner does not like to see her own movies, she did attend a showing of "Mad City." She also mentioned that when she was taking a Russian Lit course, her class had been assigned to go see "Anna Karenina." "It made me very uncomfortable," she says.

Some interesting things were mentioned in the interview. For instance, she stated that she wrote a porn in the eighth grade. "I was bored and we were reading [*Gone with the Wind*], so my friend would and I would write during class. We would go to the park



The STING staff takes time to be apart of the star shooting

and read it to the girls who would simply close their legs." This was quite shocking when mentioned. She finds the studio more exciting than the classroom. "You know how students do it. You say to your friends, 'let's go study,' you really have to study for the exam, and you go into the coffee shop and you all have books open in front of you. Nobody does a scratch of work. You're all talking and eventually you say, F-it, let's all go to the bar and drink." Mia feels as though

"Mad City" is relevant to the university crowd because it is important to know how a story is constructed and what the elements of a story consist of.

The actress has not decided on her next project -- she is taking it one day at a time. However, Jessica Lange is one of her critical influences in her decisions. The interview was concluded with a photo session and the serving of chicken tenders.

The King and I plays at the Fox

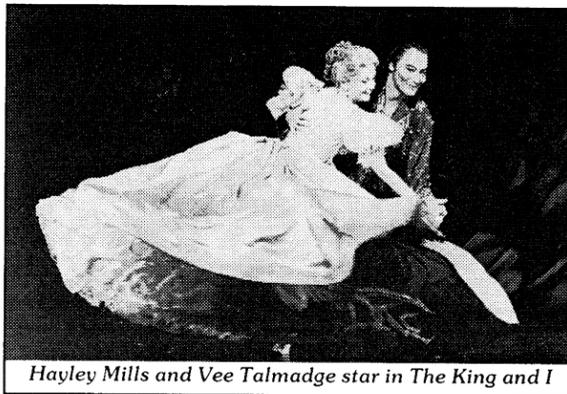
- Bryan Garmon

I've always loved seeing movies. The monstrous screen, THX digital surround sound, what could possibly make for better entertainment (well I can think of a few things, but we're talking television here). Going with the entertainment theme here, I've always thought that it would be great to watch live theater performances. Well I got my chance when Rodgers and Hammerstein's classic play *The King and I* came to the Fox Theater during its national tour that ran from November 4-9.

In the 1860s on the docks and in and around the Royal Palace in Bangkok, Anna Royal (Hayley Mills) must teach the King's (Vee Talmadge) children a modern education. During her stay in the palace, Anna and the king fall in love, and the play focuses on the development

of their relationship, which tragically ends in the King's death.

The set design was magnificent. Being a proscenium stage, the set designers were able to line the outside frame with two gigantic elephants, representatives of royalty during that time. The center was set apart by a red scrim curtain that to my amazement seemed to dissolve into nothing as the play began. The inside of the palace was another aspect of the set that really drew me into the



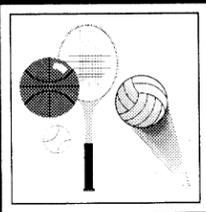
Hayley Mills and Vee Talmadge star in *The King and I*

performance, with the throne being lavishly adorned in gold and satin. Numerous backdrops were also used as the characters

moved from inside the palace walls to other scenes such as the outside of the city looking in. It was amazing to me that such designs were possible in live theater. It was absolutely breathtaking.

The parts of Anna and the King were cast marvelously. Sitting in the audience, I could feel the chemistry that

existed between the two of them. Both actors did a wonderful job in the performance. One of my favorite scenes involved the smallest child's introduction to Anna. All of the previous sons had bowed down before the King, then stood and greeted Anna who then released them to their mothers. When it came time for the smallest child to be introduced, the child ran over to where his father stood and seeing the scowl across his father's face, looked directly into the audience, looked back at his father, then turned around and ran back into the palace. It was humor such as this that made the performance a joy to experience and the next time it comes around, I would highly recommend taking the time to see it.



SPSU Hornets are on a roll this season

- Ellen White

Southern Polytechnic State University's Hornets promised an exciting season at the GAC Conference Pre-Season Tournament November 6th, 7th, and 8th. The basketball games, which SPSU sponsored, were against Southern Wesleyan, Emmanuel, and Georgia Southwestern. The Hornets finished the tournament with a 2-1 record. They entered the tournament with a win against Johnson & Wales from the previous week.

The first game of the season saw SPSU beat Johnson & Wales, 123-67.

Forward Deon Spear scored 18 points, and Center Carlos Bermudez had a game high 12 rebounds. This November 1 match against Johnson & Wales was Family Night for students, faculty, and staff. Head Coach Mike Helfer extends his "sincere thanks to the people working and attending. That kind of support doesn't go unnoticed by

myself or the team."

SPSU then hosted the GAC Conference Pre-Season Tournament on November 6, 7, and 8, and invited teams from the conference to attend. The Hornets' first game was against Southern Wesleyan, but the Hornets came up one point short after double overtime with a final score of 108-107. Two of SPSU's starting players were hurt in the second half, and the other three fouled out by the end of the first overtime.

The Hornets were up 3 points with 4 seconds left in the first overtime, but Southern Wesleyan scored a Desperation 3 from mid-court. Despite the OT loss, Bermudez had 15 rebounds and 24 total points. Wilbur Jordan, a starting guard for SPSU, scored a total of 31 points against Southern Wesleyan.

SPSU won their second game of the tournament, which was against Emmanuel College, 122-81. Haran Walker scored 23 points in the game, and Guard Wilbur Jordan earned 17 points for the Hornets.

On the final day of the tournament, SPSU came up against the defending conference champion, Georgia Southwestern. The Hornets dominated the entire game and won, 93-85. Despite the Hornets facing their third game in three days, Coach Helfer said the team "didn't give in to being tired." Coming into the game, Georgia Southwestern had only two games behind them. This win was a "good measuring stick for our program."

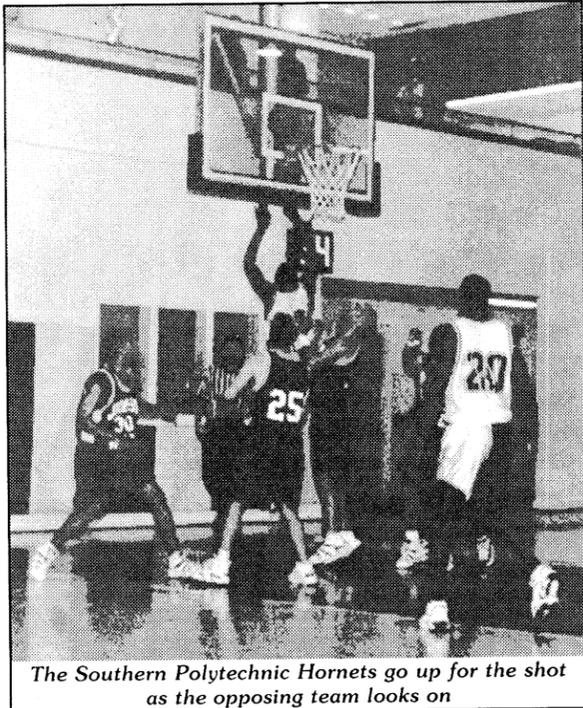
Jordan scored 24 points, Walker and Eric Blair each earned 16 points, and Bermudez added 12 points to the scoreboard and had 8 total rebounds.

Coach Helfer commented, "The team played exceptionally well and extremely hard. They played 94 feet the entire week." He believes this is a great start for the season because "the true GAC test begins in January." With players like Senior Wilbur Jordan, who averaged 21 points per game during the 3-day tournament, and Carlos Bermudez with his "great work ethic," the team will continue to do extremely well. Helfer also said that Guards Haran Walker and Eric Blair are strong players who will continue to contribute to the team's already successful season.

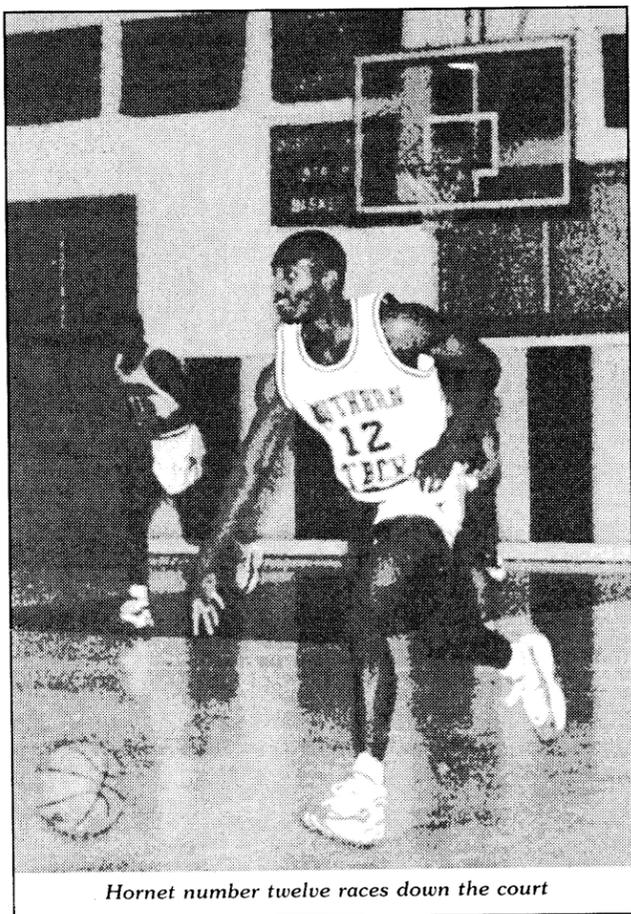
The Hornets have averaged 100 points per game so far, and Helfer believes this will continue, thanks to the team's "new style and new system."

So what can the fans look forward to next? The Hornet Classic will take place November 28 & 29 at home. In December, the SPSU team will travel to the Lee College Tournament on December 12 & 13, and then the Hornets will start off 1998 with a home game against Grace College on January 2.

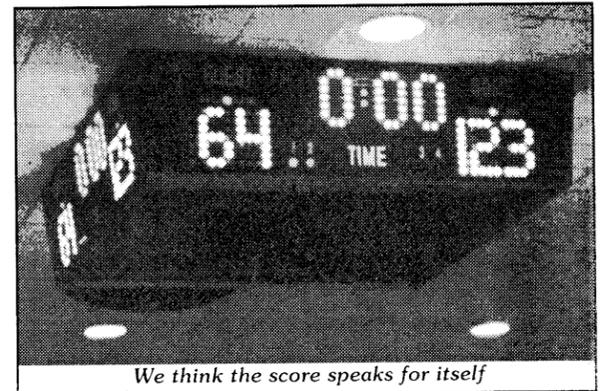
Students can attend games free of charge with their student IDs.



The Southern Polytechnic Hornets go up for the shot as the opposing team looks on



Hornet number twelve races down the court



We think the score speaks for itself

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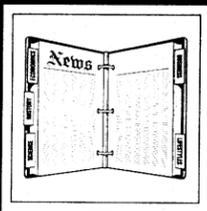


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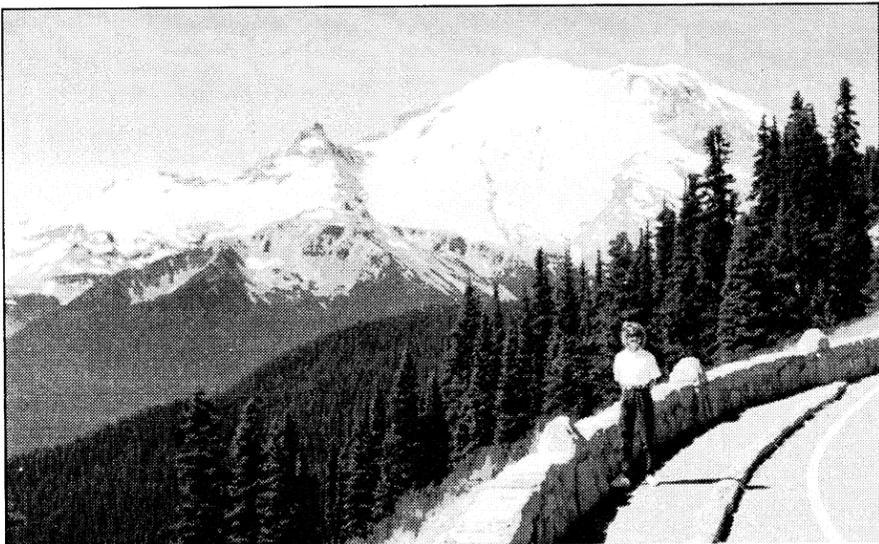
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Paradise awaits at Washington's Mt. Rainier

- Kevin Marks

As fall quarter draws to a close and chilly winter days lie on the horizon, put up your feet and join me for a trip to Mt. Rainier National Park, located in the Cascade Mountains of Washington



One of Mt. Rainier's many spectacular roadside views

State.

When I first moved to Washington State in January of 1982, all I saw was rain. In fact, it rained for six straight weeks! It didn't rain hard, but it was enough to blot out any scenery. I kept hearing that Mt. Rainier is "just over there..." One day in mid-February, the weather cleared and there, to the southeast, rose an incredible sight: dwarfing everything near, Mt. Rainier rose 7,000 feet over its neighboring brothers and sisters.

At 14,441 feet, Mt. Rainier is the second highest peak in the continental U.S., just 84 feet shorter than Mt. Whitney in California. Twenty-five glacier systems continually make their home upon Mt. Rainier, and even in the middle of summer, the sparkling whites and blue-whites of the glaciers can be seen from 75 miles away in any direction. Five river systems derive their source from the 34 square miles of glacial ice.

The western approach to the Nisqually entrance provides on-again-off-again views that grow

captivatingly larger with each passing mile. Conversely, making your way to the northern entrance, via Enumclaw, provides little in the way of views as thick forests tower above. Once inside the northern park boundary, many miles pass with nothing but forests on either side. Then, you come around a bend and the mountain literally fills your entire forward view. I nearly wrecked when I first saw it! It was so breathtaking that I almost needed emergency roadside resuscitation! All I could manage was to pull off the road, stare, and take some photographs. The visual experience was equaled by the emotional effect produced

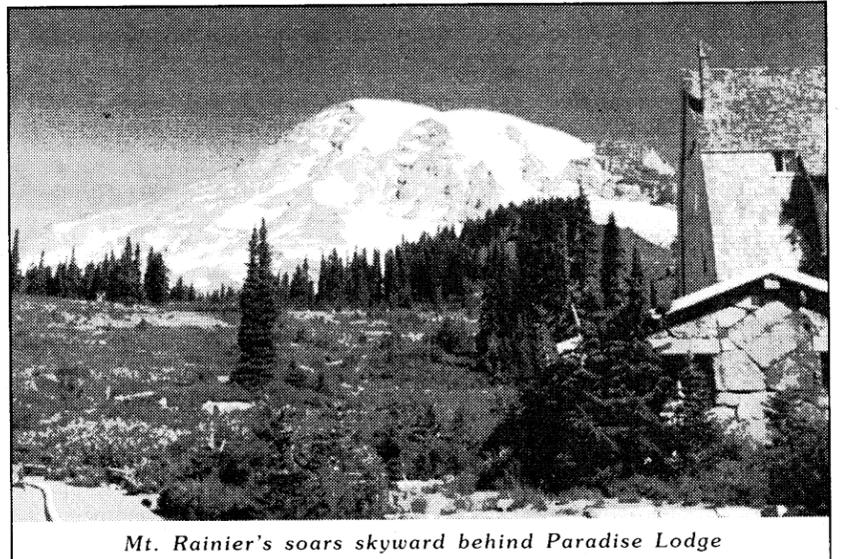
by the juxtaposition of the 85 degrees I was feeling, and the cold, vast expanse of glacial ice I was seeing. Now, with every twist and turn of the road, another nuance of the mountain paraded across my visual cortex.

Mt. Rainier had a 93.5-foot annual snowfall accumulation—the highest ever recorded—during the winter of 1971. Hiking to the top can be treacherous, but you can spend a day in climbing school, and attack the summit with professional guides the next day. Keep in mind though, that Mt. Rainier is a dormant volcano; its last eruption was 150 years ago, but only a small amount of steam and ash were discharged. Normally, thoughts of eruptions are forgotten in the presence of outstanding sub-alpine flower meadows, waterfalls, and spectacular alpine scenery.

A particularly outstanding result of the weather system on the mountain is the formation of ice caves. The caves can be easily reached from Paradise Lodge, in the park's southern section. The lodge, at 5,400 feet, was built in 1917 and features a huge timber-constructed lobby with a gigantic stone fireplace. The mountain rises gracefully from its rear flank, and well-maintained trails lead up to the tree line and above. A two-hour hike—and an elevation change of about 2,000 feet—

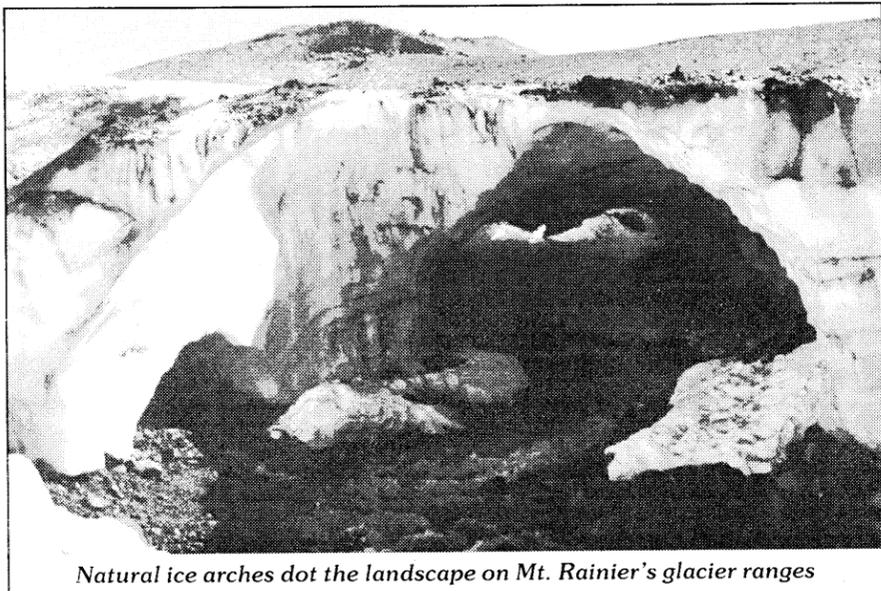
will bring you to the ice cave shown here. You cannot tell from the photo, but there is a continual hue change from deep blue to ultra-white as the water and wind-carved interior literally melts into the snow-covered exterior. Note the delicate ice archway in the picture that, during colder months, would be quite stout. The water running out of the cave is colder than a you-know-what's-what, or from a scientific perspective, about 0.00001 degrees Celsius. The cave stretched back under the mountain as far as the eye could see, but further exploration was not possible due to the time and having to hike back to the lodge.

My first experience with the mountain was on a Yamaha 650, in the days before I graduated to a Harley. Several visits later, I was still thrilled by the smell of high-mountain air and the vision of this natural wonder. Several years later, my wife and I honeymooned at Paradise Lodge for several days.

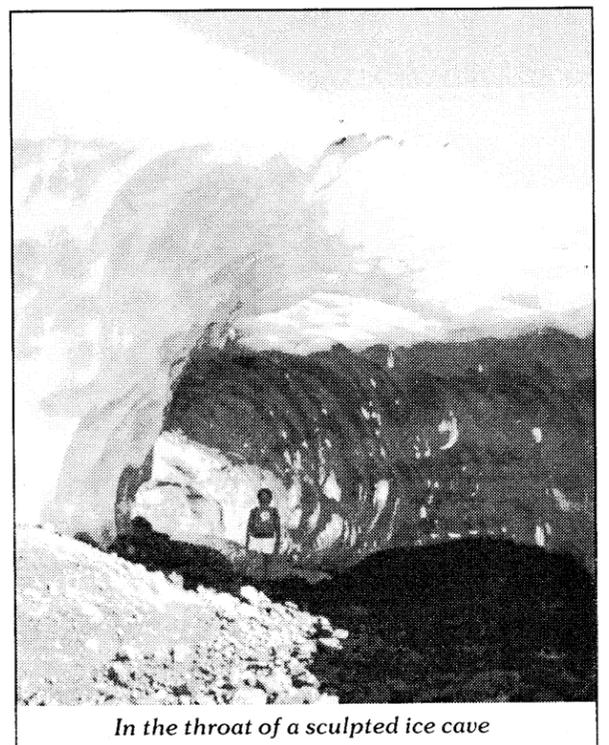


Mt. Rainier's soars skyward behind Paradise Lodge

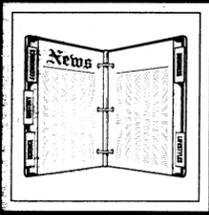
That was nearly ten years ago, but the vision of Mt. Rainier is still fresh, and the thought of returning to this magnificent area occupies a pretty high position on my endless list of "things to do".



Natural ice arches dot the landscape on Mt. Rainier's glacier ranges



In the throat of a sculpted ice cave



Words From the Editor

My biology professor always says that humans are lazy. But what happens when laziness leads to refusal of knowledge? A few days ago, I was passing through the halls on my way to class, when I overheard a group of students talking about the material their professor was teaching in class. One of the students commented, "Man, why is this guy teaching us this stuff—it's not something that I'm going to have to know for my career." Normally, I would have just filed his comment in the back of my mind, but as I continued down the hall, I heard another group of people commenting on the same subject matter. This group offered to each other, "I can't believe he's making us learn this stuff." I started wondering what reason someone could have for wanting to refuse knowledge. After all, isn't knowledge power?

The quarter is ending and like most students I'm feeling the deadlines creeping closer and closer. A project here, a paper there, and don't forget about the test on Tuesday, the quiz on Monday and the final next Thursday. With massive amounts of information to be learned, it's no wonder that human laziness forces us to take shortcuts!

In the past, I've regrettably relied on Cliff Notes for one or two of the

books I was supposed to read in English class. After all, who wants to read Shakespeare in Old English when you can pick up a chapter by chapter summary of the action in plain English? It didn't surprise me very much when I got the test back with a red "C" splashed across the top.

By refusing to let myself come up with an interpretation of what Shakespeare was talking about as I read the book, I lost a chance to improve my interpretation skills. How does being able to interpret Shakespeare help my career? In five years from now, I could be negotiating a huge contract with some overseas company and see that the executives on the other side are getting edgy for me to sign the contract. Through my interpretation skills that I practiced by reading Shakespeare, I could interpret through their body language that they were trying to hide something. This interpretation would warn me to look really closely to the terms of the contract. Without my practice at interpretation, I would have missed that buried in the middle of an obscure paragraph deep inside the contract was a line that gave controlling ownership of the company to a third party. So the ancient book that I never thought would do me any good turned

out to help save my business.

Shortcuts in education are everywhere. Just look at the sciences. With thousands of long scientific names, it only makes sense to find shortcuts such as DNA. Acronyms like "Bad Boys Race Our Young Girls Behind Victory Garden Walls" for resistor color codes in Electronics class or "Pretty Please My Dear Aunt Sally" for the rules of multiplication exist to help students remember key concepts in other subjects as well. But the key is learning the material. In science the solution is simple: either learn it or don't learn it.

It concerns me that some people feel that there are only certain principals or concepts that they need to know to succeed in their jobs. I came to SPSU for an education, and I'd like to think that those around me are here for the same reasons. Isn't it logical then to take in all the education you can while you're here? Sure, learning that DNA are the building blocks of life might not help a computer science major, but it might teach them the importance of keeping up with notes, or the importance of coming to class each day. Besides, how can you predict what they need to know beyond a few basic assumptions (i.e. computer science majors need to know how to use a computer).

- Bryan Garmon

My philosophy on college education goes something like this: College is a place where knowledge sprouts from every tree. You can choose to pick the fruit from those trees and better yourself, or you can stand idly by and wait for one to fall on your head. Either way you are going to learn something.

Life experience is another reason to perk up when a professor starts spouting out personal experiences or starts expanding on subjects that you think are totally irrelevant to the class. Life experiences are things that are picked up along the way that won't necessarily help you on the upcoming test but will benefit you later in life. They are guaranteed tools for success. I guess tidbits of great information could be an acronym for life experiences. Regardless of what they are called, however, most professors offer them up for grabs as the quarter progresses so it's good to listen up.

Are humans lazy? To a degree I think the human race is. But laziness is still no excuse for refusing the knowledge that you come across each day.

The best two years of my life

When I arrived here two years ago, I wrote my first letter to the editor. Next thing I knew, I was on staff at **The STING**. I took pictures, laid out pages and assumed the duties of an Assistant Editor. Then, I sat in the Editor's chair for nearly a year,



before retiring to write the Travel Log. Well, after this quarter, I will be a senior, so it's goodbye—for good—after this issue. It has been fun. But, before I go, I have two things to get off my chest.

The first, simply put, is: I AM NOT, NOR HAVE I EVER BEEN, "THE RAMBLER." A few of you have developed the notion that Shaidu Kiven and yours truly are one in the same. Kiven. Kevin. Is there a connection? Shaidu Kiven is an international student who is definitely not me! If you have

ever read my writing during the past two years, you would certainly conclude that he and I are two different people. Please, if you have a hard spot with his opinions, stop complaining to me. I have no need to hide behind a catchy moniker, and I have no difficulty telling people what I think, name notwithstanding.

The second issue is related to the current exercise involving **The STING** being read and commented upon by English 110 students. This, I feel is a good practice because it gets students more involved with their newspaper. However, I was saddened to receive a recent comment from one student which read, "the travel section, in my belief, has no place in the newspaper.... I was trying to figure out what it had to do with SPSU and its students. Perhaps if the article was about something in Georgia, or even the southeastern United States, I could understand its purpose."

This particular student—and others like him who cannot fathom the "value" of literature, history and other core-type courses—has yet to learn the real reason for education: to enrich and widen one's view of themselves and life in general. How

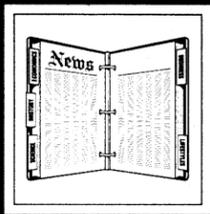
tragic—or perhaps it is just a consequence of immaturity—that an individual would not find "education" in stories of far-away lands. And, by stating that stories about Georgia or the southeastern US *would* have a purpose, I can only surmise that this individual never plans to leave Georgia or its immediate neighbors, let alone visit a unique place 1,800 miles to the west. Perhaps you may never travel to these places; perhaps life will deal you a hand that makes such journeys impossible. Should you be forever shortchanged? Hell no! "Can't go to Alaska?" Fine. You can read about it and experience it through another, and thereby expand your mind and your appreciation of your fellow humans.

If you carry nothing away from this school but one idea, perhaps it should be an understanding of the global nature of our lives, be it technical or sociological. Those who desire to limit their travel to the southeast certainly have that right, but don't limit your thinking by any geographical boundaries. An engineer's worst enemy is *narrow-*

- Kevin Marks

-mindedness. The mind can expand to encompass creation itself, if allowed to do so. Yes, I will earn a degree in Computer Engineering Technology next year, and I have increased my technical knowledge ten-fold since my first class in 1995. But—and more importantly—I have been enriched beyond measure by the individuals I have encountered during my stay at SPSU. From lofty professors to fellow students, I am a better person for each and every interaction. This has truly been the best two years of my life.

So, thanks for the comments about the Travel Log. Turn the page and you will find yet another trip to another not-so-far-away place. Try to imagine yourself standing in an ice-cave, or how it might feel to be a primitive human, standing upon a glacier and wondering what it is all about. As you contemplate, perhaps you will discover answers to some of your questions.



Editorials

The Rambler

- Shaidu Kiven

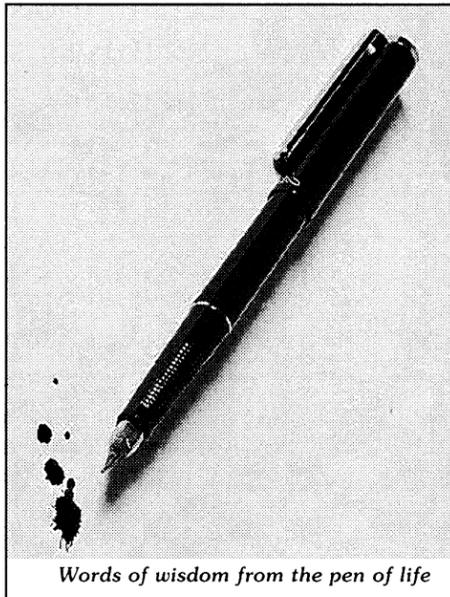
As promised, here from the Rambler is more from the Words of Wisdom: "Avoid loud and aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain and bitter; for always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery." More next time.

That said, let us now look at what has transpired around the campus since our last encounter. Things have been a little harder than usual — probably due to El Nino! The weather has not been polite to us at all; it has become very difficult to differentiate fall from winter. The harsh weather coupled with the end of the quarter hassles has caused lots of my friends to smile less. The Rambler pleads for patience and understanding, for in a couple of weeks or so, we will

all part one another for a brief break.

Again and again, we have raised our voices so high to get the attention of the powers that be for a few things. So what is it that the students are concerned about? The first concern is the library and its wonderful and cheerful staff. But how is it possible that in the library of Southern Polytechnic State University, there doesn't seem to be a single reliable photocopy machine? I also wonder how it's possible to justify that to get back a dime taken from an out-of-service machine in the Library, a student has to fill a form and include

her or his Social Security Number? The Rambler suggests that those copy machines in the Library be discarded since they do not serve the purpose for which they are there. Also, let the presentation of school IDs suffice instead of disclosing our Social Security Number.



Words of wisdom from the pen of life

Another point of concern is that the printer in the UNIX lab (that's where you all check your e-mails) in the H-Building. It is very hard to understand

why nobody is responsible for the well being of the lab that it is used by lots of students! How could it be that the technology center of learning hardly

reflects technology? The student body, in the Rambler's ardent believe, deserves to be treated better. By the way, have you all noticed that one has to allocate a substantial amount of time to queue up for a chance to get to one of about ten terminals for more than 4,000 students. Can we get better than 10 terminals?

The next item on the list is a very disturbing issue that seems to be on the rise on our lovely campus. The Rambler thinks that civilization entails that a person, a student for that matter, should exercise a higher degree of regard for public property than for personal things. It amazes me that students here actually write on walls! Since there do not seem to be any infants around the campus, I think that we need to educate ourselves to be responsible adults.

And with this note, the Rambler wishes you all a very serene tests and finals period!

Letters to the editor

I am writing to inform you of some of the facts that I have discovered in my quest to discover the reasons for Ann Marie's selection to SGA. I figured I needed to check into the facts since my school newspaper has completely failed to do so. Here are just a few of the facts:

- Ann Marie Tyson received more votes than Derrick Davis last spring in the SGA elections.
- If a member of the SGA misses two or more meetings in one quarter he/she can be impeached.
- Ann Marie Tyson and Derrick Davis were both members of the SGA after spring elections.
- Ann Marie Tyson resigned her position on SGA because she would not be able to attend the summer meetings.
- Derrick Davis failed to resign his position or attend summer meetings.
- If a member of SGA is impeached then he/she cannot hold a position on SGA again.
- Only one SGA voting member on

the day in question was a member of Gamma Phi Beta.

- The position Ann Marie received could have been appointed by the President of SGA.
- The president of SGA is a member of Gamma Phi Beta which in order to avoid this type of controversy is the reason the position was voted on by the council.
- Ann Marie also lives on campus. She lives on the fourth floor of the Howell dorm.

These were just a few of the facts that I felt The Editor, The Rambler and the student body might need to know since it is quite obvious that they will not be printed by the staff of The STING.

-- Stephanie Grogan

Editor's Response: The reporters of this paper pride themselves for printing factual material for all of their news stories. When it comes to editorials, the writers are free to express their own opinions about whatever they feel. The

editorial in question was my opinion based on the facts that I had at the time that the editorial was written. Since that time, I have changed my opinion, but I don't feel that I need to inform the entire student body every time my opinion changes. I have spoken with both Ann Marie and Shidu (The Rambler) about this topic, and as far as I'm concerned, it's old news.



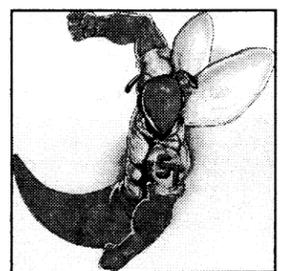
Love, Truth, and Honor. All simple words. But in Greek societies they are the cornerstones of the entire establishment. Some people take these words to further strengthen their bond of sister/brotherhood-others don't fully understand the purpose of them. When someone establishes a strong position in a Greek organization and spends years dedicated to the bettering of that group; love, truth, and honor should stand above any personal feelings of malice towards that person. Almost every one drinks and makes mistakes-but not everyone is persecuted for those actions. No details or names shall be spilled, but to every person who knows the truth-you should start to question whether you deserve to wear Greek letters. Are you responsible for this tragedy? Are you

any help to your organization? But most of all, do you believe in Love, Truth, and Honor?

- 110

Well, after years of reading "The Sting" I have finally found a use for it. I place them at the bottom of my birdcage for an obvious reason. We should do away with not just the yearbook, but also The Sting, this idea of paying people to serve on SGA, what the hell do they do anyway? and any other money wasted on campus. I also have to admit that the lame interview with the "Administration" over the Dorm Dispute was a little ridiculous. I wish that my boss would settle for, "We just don't have the resources to accomplish what you want." I don't live in the dorms, but I hope the Administration realizes who the customer is!

- Mike Cates



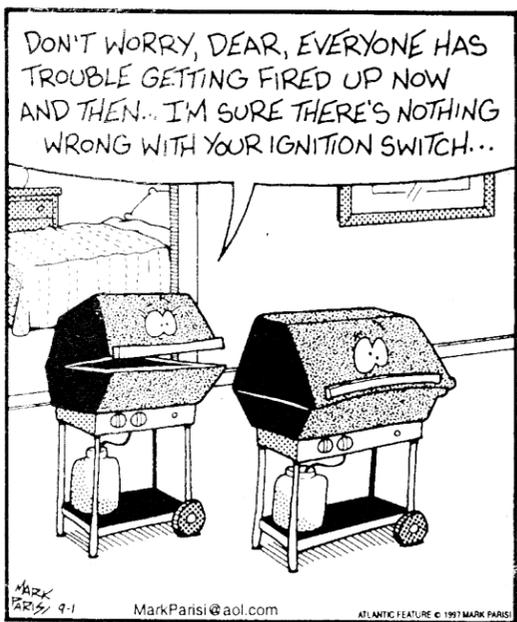
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Comedy Corner

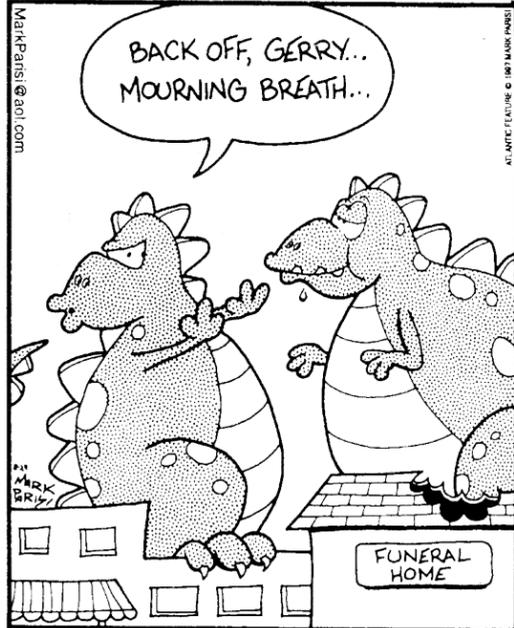
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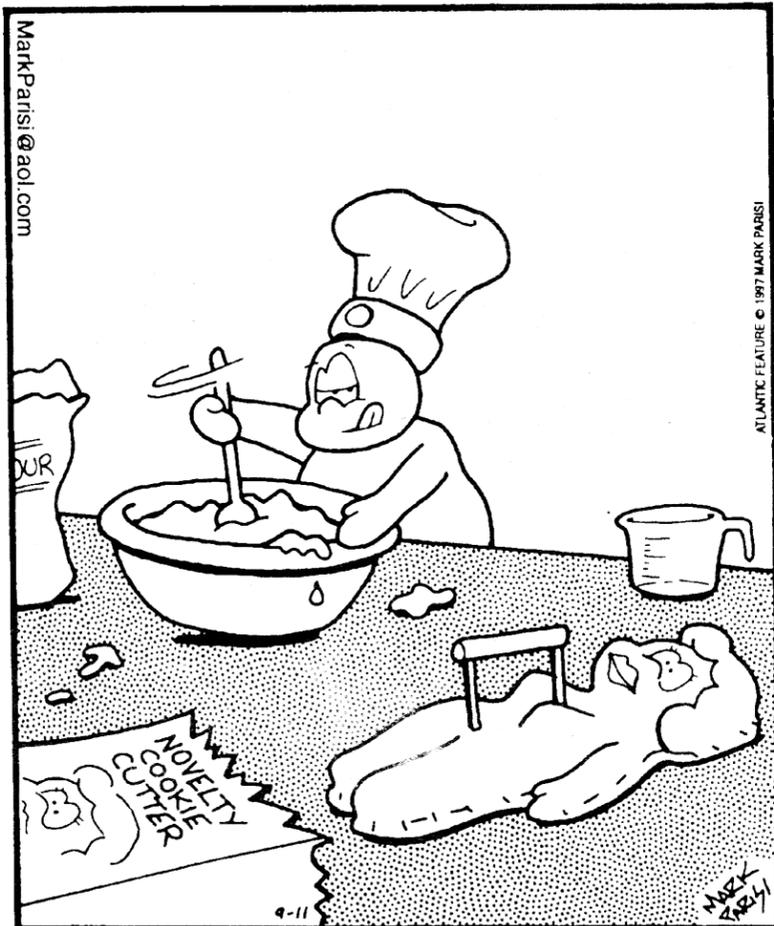
off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi



off the mark by Mark Parisi

