



# The STING

Volume 52, Number 3

February 19, 1998

## Could smart cards be in Southern Poly's future

**Bryan Garmon**  
News

Every student at SPSU is issued a student id when they enroll. What students do with those cards is another story altogether.

The original purpose of the cards were to provide a platform for a "one-card solution system" on this campus. As the name would imply, the card would provide students full access to a variety of services on campus using a single student id card. Some examples of these services would include entry into dorms, vending machines, food services, buying and selling books at the bookstore, library book checkouts, usage of copiers and even the ability to pay tuition and fees while on campus. The examples are easy to detail on paper, but the reality is somewhat different.

Currently students can use the id cards for the following: meal plans, identification, checking out books from the library and access to sporting events. As the system exists today, everybody does it a different way. Beginning with food services, students can put money onto the cards and buy meal plans which essential turn the student id cards into online debit cards. This system is very convenient for students who do



The computer chip on this smart card could store everything from your student id to the money needed to do the laundry

not need to worry about carrying around cash for meals. The student identification process involves simply looking at a student's picture and checking to make sure that it matches their face. Similar to the identification process, access to sporting events check to make sure that the student is enrolled at the university. The library chooses to add it's on bar coding system to the card in order to allow students to check out books. The problem with these approaches are that they are not campus-wide.

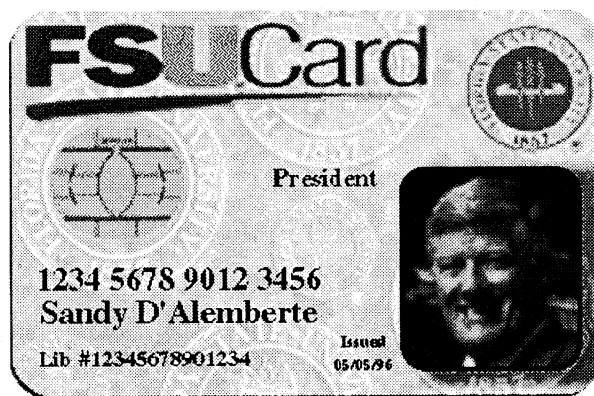
The solution to this problem is to implement a campus-wide card system that allows a single card to access whatever areas or services students need. There are two types of one card

solutions. The first type is the magnetic strip solution. These cards are what the school currently has. Each card has five separate tracks that can be used to store information about the student. For example track one might be your name and address and then track two would be your meal plan and track three could be building access rights and so on. The problem with this solution is that certain vendors require their system to be run from a specific track. If, for example, the meal plan took up track two on the card, and the new vending machines could only be accessed by track two then students are out of luck for the vending machines. Another key factor involved in magnetic strip technology is the limited number of tracks available. If a student is going to use the card as a debit card, an access card to get into buildings, a copy card, be able to check out books as well as being able to use the vending machines, the five tracks on the card are filled. What happens when financial aid decides to let students pay their fees with the cards? With no more tracks to use, the students are out of luck.

The second type of card is the latest advancement in technology called the chip card. These cards work exactly like the Visa cash cards that were used at the Olympics here in Atlanta. They have an embedded computer chip on the card that stores all of the information. The technology used virtually eliminates the limit of tracks on the card but there are some disadvantages to this technology. One disadvantage is that when used as a debit card, the money is actually located on the chip. This becomes a problem when a person loses the card because for the person that finds the lost card, it would be just as if they found cash lying on the ground.

As the decisions are made as to how the cards are going to be used, as well as which type of card the campus will adopt, SPSU has already begun looking at other school systems. In the past ten

years, Florida State University has been the leader in implementing the one card solution system. The school has been through three different card systems over these ten years and most recently switched to the chip cards. As the leading expert in education on this field, Florida State offers seminars where they teach other schools both the good and the bad when implementing this technology. It is almost certain



FSU's card may be a model for SPSU's card

that SPSU will look to them as well as other universities, such as Georgia Tech and Emory University, who are currently using these types of systems.

Another roadblock to these cards is the lack of funding available. Currently because campus security makes the cards, organizations who want to implement these types of systems go directly to Gary Chastain who in turn gives them the go-ahead to purchase the systems using their departments resources. According to Chastain there needs to be a more coordination involved among the various organizations that can take advantage of the cards along with funding that is used directly for this purpose. This will ensure the proper hardware and software will be purchased that will work for a campus wide solution. Another road block to these types of projects is the mindset that SPSU has been operating on a "break even" budget plan almost since the university was founded. This means that almost every penny in the budget is used to fund planned projects, leaving no money to fund these types of projects. Ultimately, the financial end will be dealt with by Daniel Youngblood, the assistant vice president for business and finances. Youngblood commented that in order for the money to be there, this philosophy would have to change to allow for a savings fund to be created that would go directly to projects such

as this. "We aren't talking about millions of dollars in a slush fund," Youngblood commented, "but if we could put aside around \$20,000 then that would cover a huge chunk of the initial equipment purchase that this system will require."

One solution to finding this extra money would be closing down the dorms during the month of December. According to Youngblood, we are the only university that keeps both dorms running full service during the month of December when an average of only five to ten students are living

in them. It costs roughly around \$20,000 to operate the dorms each month so this money would be available immediately if this one change would be implemented. It is important to note that this is just one solution to the problem and also that no efforts have been made to put this practice into place. "SPSU has always been the solution for everybody when it comes to housing. If there is only one person living in the dorms on the fourth floor,

See Smart Card pg 2

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**Letters to the Editor.** **The STING** welcomes letters on any topic. Letters should be typed and submitted on a 3.5 diskette. All Letters must include a name. Unsigned letters will not be printed. **The STING** reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. Please send all letters to **The STING**, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060-2896, or you can e-mail 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 5:00 P.M. on the deadline printed below.



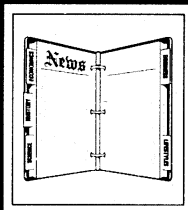
**Submissions.** Articles must be submitted by the deadline printed below and typed on a 3.5 inch IBM-Compatible computer disc. Please limit articles to two hundred words. All such articles are subject to editing for style or content, and are run on a space-available basis.



**Joining The STING.** Any student paying activity fees is eligible to join the newspaper. Interested parties should come by our office (Room 252 in the Student Center), and pick up an information packet.



**The Next Deadline.** Everything must be turned in by February 25, 1998 to be considered for publication in the March 5 issue.



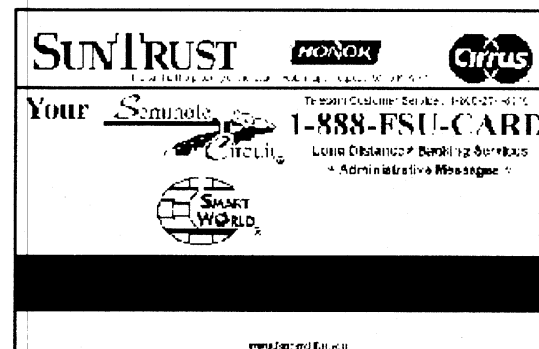
## Smart card

*Cont'd from front page*  
**Bryan Garmon**

then the building stays running during the month. Shutting down the system would be a huge decision that will involve a lot more discussion as time goes on," Youngblood commented.

Other efforts to cut the cost for the university to implement this system involves the new academic building. The building's initial design did not call for any type of card access system for it's security. Led by Anton Kashiri, the director of plant operations, the school has submitted a change request for the card access system to be installed. Because the building is funded by the state, if the change is approved then the university could use the money saved to expand the system into other parts of the campus.

Nations Bank would also like to get involved with this system. At Florida State, a local bank actually issues the cards to students who in turn have their own checking account at the bank. The card is then further enhanced by being able to use it at ATMs around the city as well as to use it at local shops and convenient stores. Nations Bank sees the same opportunity at SPSU. They have expressed interest mainly because for most students, this debit account would be their first checking account. Nations Bank feels that if these students are pleased with the cards and the service they receive from Nations Bank, then they will continue to do business with Nations Bank. Costs could be curbed further by allowing Nations Bank to provide the cards, which as Maggi Mcque Perish of information technology points out, "imagine having to re-issue a new card to every student and you can already see where costs begin



*FSU's card is paid in part by sponsors such as Suntrust. Southern Poly hopes to do the same thing on campus with Nations Bank*

to spiral."

In order to coordinate the process, Maggi Mcque Perish has stepped in and called the first official meeting together which will take place in March. Maggi has been on committees at two other universities that have implemented this type of technology and her experience in this area would be invaluable to SPSU. "The one card access system can be used for numerous things and is a great advantage to students. The hardest part is getting the university to mold the hundreds of uses of the card into one system that will benefit this universities needs." She also stresses, "before anything is put into place, the parties involved need to discuss exactly what they are looking for in order to smooth the process." As Youngblood commented, "After five years of being talked about, it's nice that we are now putting a concrete game plan together."

The reality though is that while the foundation is beginning to be laid for this technology, it will be at least two years or more before students will begin using these cards. In the meantime, the university is stuck using conventional methods.

## President for a Day Contest

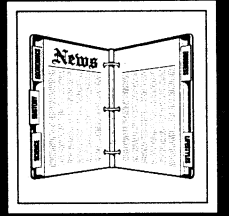
Ever want to be the president for a day? We can't give you the oval office, but we can give you a day as the head of this university. Sponsored by the SGA, students have the opportunity to switch places with our president Dr. Daniel Papp.

All students interested need to drop their names in the box that is located to the left of the information desk in the student center. There will be a drawing held on Tuesday Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> from all the names submitted and the winner will take over for Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Before the switch will begin, a breakfast or lunch event will be held where the student and the president will have a chance to discuss their schedules and experiences respectively.

As with most contests, there are some guidelines that have to be followed. Students will not have the authority to change policies while being the acting president, however the student will act in an advisory position to their concerns and those being discussed before them. This will allow the students to express any concerns they have while in this position. The student will have to have classes during the time period that is scheduled for the swap. There will be no special provisions made for students having tests on Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> but an interesting twist is that while the winning student is running the school, our current president will be attending your classes. Therefore the president will take any tests given on this date. The scores on such a test will be dealt with according to the professor's discretion. And finally, in case of an emergency, Dr. Papp will be located immediately and will resume his current position.





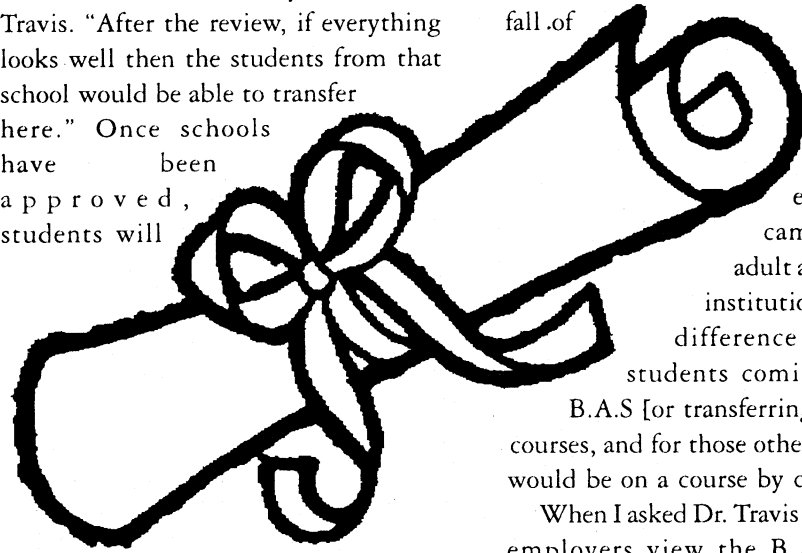
## Bachelor of Applied Science is being evaluated

**Jeff Combs**  
News

SPSU is now in the process of evaluating a new degree program, the Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.S.) degree. This degree is similar to the BS degree in management, except that it allows students from two-year technical schools to transfer their courses as a block rather than on an individual basis. Only students who have business or business related associate degrees will be admitted. Currently, several other schools in Georgia have B.A.S. degrees including Clayton State College, Valdosta State University and Georgia Southern University. According to Dr. Travis, vice president of academic affairs, "The B.A.S. is a degree that was authorized by the Board of Regents in an attempt to accommodate graduates from the adult and technical education schools without the loss of any credit."

The degree is now being pursued at SPSU on a trial basis. Three schools are being reviewed by the school of management, including Chatahochee Tech and Athens area tech. Each school will be evaluated on a separate basis, so

if one school is found acceptable, it would not necessarily mean that other schools would be found acceptable. "We must review the faculty that teach the courses, the exams that they give, and the curriculum that they have," said Travis. "After the review, if everything looks well then the students from that school would be able to transfer here." Once schools have been approved, students will



begin to be enrolled probably starting fall semester.

The curriculum for the B.A.S. degree has been finalized. No new courses are being added to the program; instead, the students will be taking the same courses that business management

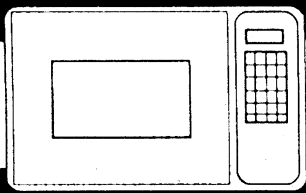
students take in their last two years. "I don't see any reason why the program wouldn't be successful," said Travis. "This is nothing new as far as students coming from the adult and technical education institutions. In the fall of '96 we

had [about] 100 students enrolled that came from the adult and technical institutions. The only difference with these students coming into the B.A.S [or transferring] a block of courses, and for those other students, it would be on a course by course basis."

When I asked Dr. Travis if he thought employers view the B.A.S. degree favorably, he said that "any time you establish something new the credibility has to be established. But I think if you take a group of [B.A.S.] students and put them in a class with traditional SPSU students and they all perform basically the same, then the students will become

able. It's not like there is a curriculum just precisely for the B.A.S. students. If they can perform satisfactorily [at SPSU], nothing will lead me to believe they wouldn't perform satisfactory when they go to work."

### cooking



## SIMPLE FRUIT DESSERTS

### the microwave way

**Derus Media**  
Service

Surprise your family tonight with a simple new desert created using the convenience of a microwave oven. All it takes to make Peaches 'N Dumplings is a can of sliced peaches and some staple baking ingredients. This recipe, sweet glazed peaches topped with tender fluffy dumplings, requires less than 15 minutes total microwave cooking time. It is easy to prepare and deliciously served with ice cream or whipped cream.

#### PEACHES 'N DUMPLINGS (6 servings)

2 cups sliced peaches (29 oz. can, drained)  
1/4 cup sugar  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
1/8 teaspoon salt  
2 tablespoons sugar  
2 tablespoons margarine, softened  
1/3 cup milk



1/4 teaspoon vanilla flavoring  
1 teaspoon cinnamon-sugar mixture

1. Combine peaches and the 1/4 cup sugar in 1 1/2-quart round glass casserole. Microwave at HIGH (100%) for five minutes. Stir.

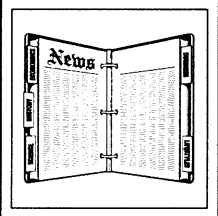
2. While peaches are heating, stir

together flour, baking powder, salt and remaining sugar. Cut in margarine until crumbly. Add milk and vanilla, mixing well.

3. Drop dough, using a rounded tablespoonful for each dumpling, onto hot peaches. Cover loosely and microwave at HIGH for 2 minutes. Rotate

dish and microwave at MEDIUM (50%) for seven minutes or until dumplings are no longer doughy. Sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar. Serve warm with ice cream or whipped cream.

Join  
The STING



# Campus News

## Web surfing problems plague the dorms

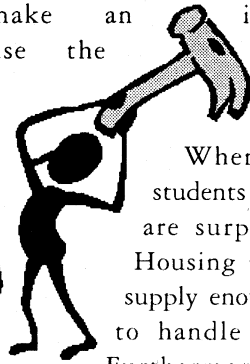
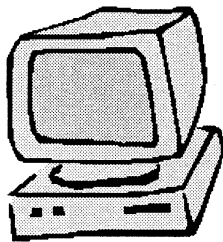
**Gustavo White**  
News

Everybody wants to be a part of the Information Superhighway. So why can't students living in the dorms be a part of this? The answer is the phone lines are used for both the Internet and regular calls. When people make phone calls, there are only a few select calls that go out at one time. On one side of the hall, five people could be talking on the phone at one time. When a sixth person wants to use the phone line for surfing on the Internet, he or she would not connect because the phone lines are busy. The opposite is also true. If a person wants to call their parents or friends they could not because the phone lines are all used up for Internet surfing. What would happen if a student wanted to make an emergency phone call but could not because

The Internet is the rave in the computer society today.

everybody was either on the phone or on the Internet. That student probably would suffer in some way (injury to themselves or others, etc.).

Every night, students complain about being able to use the phones, pleading with others to get off the Internet or hang up their phones so that person can make an important call or use the Internet for



research purposes. When asked, a few students replied that they are surprised that the Housing Office will not supply enough phone lines to handle the overload. Furthermore, students complain that it is inconvenient to have to go to the CS Lab or the CIT lab just to go on the Internet.

A petition, started by a group of students on the second floor of Howell Dorm, was distributed to students living in the dorm, generally to ones with computers. A possible resolution listed

on the petition was to create a line just for the Internet. Creating this line would free up the regular lines for phone calls. This line would also make it possible for students to stay in the "comfort" of their own dorm rooms.

At press time, a member of the initial group is scheduled to meet with the Vice President of Student Affairs to discuss the matter.

**Matthew Marino**  
Killed by a drunk driver  
on September 29, 1992  
on Roundtree Lane  
in Melville, New York.

**get the keys**  
friends don't let friends drive drunk

U.S. Department of Transportation

Ad Council

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

# WGHR fm 102.5

p r e s e n t s

## the Biggest Basketball Tournament in Atlanta!

**Feb. 25 • 7pm • Gym @ SPSU**

A 3-on-3 tournament to benefit WGHR  
Entry: 20\$ per 3-4 person team  
**CASH PRIZE FOR 1ST PLACE!**

Interested? Contact  
KC at 770 571-8817  
& leave a message!

Directions: I-75 to exit 112 west (South Marietta Pkwy / GA 120 Loop) and follow the Southern Poly signs. Campus is on the left, at the fourth light (past Cobb Pkwy / US 41). Go straight to the back of campus, and the gym and parking are on your right.

Hey!! All SPSU students, organizations, departments, faculty and staff are invited and this event is also open to the public!

## February Happenings

Rec Sports Badminton Tournament sign-ups begin through 2/27 call 528-6811	16C Noon, Rm 206 "A Trip Around the World" cultural diversity program 1-2 pm room 204 Student Center	University Roundtable "Ethics & Athletics" For student leaders and future leaders Lunch @ 12 SC Ballroom RSVP by 2/20 x7374	Career Day 10 - 2 SC Ballroom by Career Services x7391	Waffle Breakfast Rec & Wellness Center 8 - 9 a.m.	50th Anniversary Celebratory Basketball Game Food before game 6:30 sponsored by CAB Game 7:30 p.m.
2 2	2 4	2 5	2 6	2 7	2 8

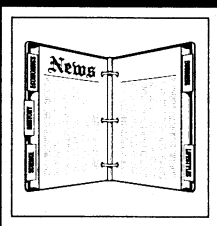
SPSU Events for February

**Home BASKETBALL!**  
5 Southern Wesleyan 7:30 p.m.  
9 Faulkner University 7:30 p.m.  
12 Georgia Southwestern 7:30 p.m.  
19 Brewton Parker College 7:30 p.m.  
21 North Georgia College 7:30 p.m.  
28 Shorter College 7:30 p.m.  
Home games are free!

**CAB MOVIES**  
2 - 8 Get on the Bus  
9 - 15 The Crush  
16 - 22 Rosewood  
22 - 28 187

**Home BASEBALL!**  
15 Georgia State 1:00 p.m.  
18 Tennessee Wesleyan 1:00 p.m.  
21 Anderson College 1:00 p.m.  
26 Faulkner University 1:00 p.m.  
28 Lincoln Memorial U 2:00 p.m.  
Home games are free!  
24 @ Kennesaw 2:30 p.m.

Southern Polytechnic State University Student Activities Office 770/528-7374



# Campus News

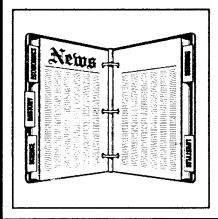
Career day '98 is coming to SPSU on Thursday February 26 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in the Student Center.

This is a unique opportunity for students to gain insight on future career options. The event is being cosponsored by the SGA, National Society of Black Engineers, IEEE, AME, ITE, Women in Architecture, NAMA and the Alumni Association.

The following are a list of exhibitors scheduled to attend. Bring your resume and don't forget to dress to impress

<u>Company</u>	<u>Majors of Interest</u>	<u>Types of Students Desired</u>
Alltel Corporation	CS	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni, Summer
APAC, Inc.	CET, CNST, Mgt.	BS Grads, Co-op, Summer, Part-time
Atlas Roofing Corporation	CNST, Architecture	BS Grads, Alumni
Automated PC Technologies	CS, CPET	Co-op
Cad Cam, Inc.	All <u>except</u> QA and ID	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni, Part-time
Caraustar Industries, Inc.	MET, EET	BS Grads, MS Grads
Carolina Holdings, Inc.	ID, Mgt, CNST, IET	BS Grads, Alumni
Charter Communications Int., Inc.		BS Grads, MS Grads
Chick-fil-A, Inc.	Architecture, CNST	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni
Client/Server Labs, LLC	CS, CPET, EET	BS Grads, MS Grads, Co-op, Summer
Cobb County Department of Transportation	CET	BS Grads, Co-op
Cobb County Personnel	CS, CpET, IS	BS Grads, Part-time
Comsys IT Services	CS, EET, CPET, IS	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni
Creditor Resources & Monumental Credit Ins. Group		CS, IS BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni
DFI Aeronomics	CS, CPET	MS Grads, Alumni, Part-time
Electric Power Board of Chattanooga	EET, CPET	BS Grads
EMBA Machinery, Inc.	EET, MET	BS Grads, Alumni
First North American National Bank	All Majors	BS Grads, Alumni, Summer, Part-time
Fitel Lucent Technologies	MET, QA, CS, CPET	BS Grads, Co-op, Alumni
GE Industrial Control Systems	EET	BS Grads
Georgia Department of Transportation	CET	BS Grads, Co-op, Summer
Georgia Tech Research Institute		BS Grads, MS Grads, Co-op, Alumni
Governor's Office of Highway Safety	Public Administration	BS Grads, MS Grads
Harland Company	CS	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni
Harvey Toub Engineering, Inc.	EET, MET	BS Grads, Alumni, Co-op
IBM	CS	BS Grads
Kelly Services	All	Part-time
Keyence Corporation of America	EET, MET, IET	BS Grads, Alumni
Lockheed Martin Aeronautical Systems	CPET, CS, EET, MET, Manufacturing	BS Grads, MS Grads
Lockheed Martin EIS	CS, CET, IS	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni, Co-op, Summer
Marshalls, Inc.		Co-op, Summer
MCI		BS Grads, MS Grads, Summer, Part-time
Mediaone, Inc.	Mgt, Marketing, any Engineering Tech.	BS BS Grads, MS Grads
Grads, MS Grads		
Milliken & Company	Engineering Technology	BS Grads, Co-op
Optio Software, Inc.	IS	BS Grads, Co-op, Alumni
Photocircuits Corporation	IET, MET, EET	BS Grads, MS Grads, Co-op
Premier Car Rental	Mgt	BS Grads, Alumni
PSI, Inc.	CET	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni, Summer, Part-time
time		
Rheem Manufacturing Company	IET, MET	BS Grads, MS Grads
Rosser International	EET, MET, CET	Alumni, Co-op
Royston/Division of ALOH Corporation	IET, MET, Manufacturing	Co-op
RPS, Inc.	All Majors	Part-time
Southwire Company		BS Grads, MS Grads, Co-op, Alumni
Staffing Solutions	Mgt, CS	BS Grads, MS Grads, Summer, Part-time
TDK Electronics		BS Grads
The Morgan Group	CS, MIS	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni, Co-op, Part-time
time		
Turner Construction Company	CET, CNST, MET	BS Grads
United Parcel Services	All majors	Part-time
Williamson Dickie Manufacturing Co.	IET	BS Grads
Worldspan, L.P.	CS, CPET	BS Grads, MS Grads, Alumni





# Special Features

## Deep Down in the Hive

### Corey J. Stanford

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 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, 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 e-mailing me at [cstanfor@spsu.edu](mailto:cstanfor@spsu.edu), leaving a message at The STING office: (770) 528-7310, or just stop me when you see me walking on campus.

#### SERIOUS (For the scholarly-type)

I am pleased to announce that The STING has branched out! We have readers from surrounding universities reading our paper. After searching around, I was approached by one of our outside readers. Her name is Crystal Jade Rutland. I am honored to have her as our guest columnist for this issue.

Ms. Rutland is a Sophomore at Emory University majoring in Interdisciplinary Studies. Her minor is Journalism. She is quite involved on the campus which makes her an ideal writer. She is involved in activities such as the Student Programming Council, NAACP, and E-motion. She has a strong academic background which includes her receiving the Journalism Cup back in high school.

Ms. Rutland has beautifully responded to the last issue concerning Bill Clinton and Monica Lewinsky. Please read several excerpts from her essay and enjoy the views of a true journalist!

Clinton's Task Force Institutes New Game Plan with a Suit Against Starr

In an effort to combat Starr's



correspondent, Mark Smith, Kendall sent a fifteen page letter to Starr on last Friday blasting him for his unprofessional ethics and his "appalling disregard" for confidentiality rules and laws.

Starr countered this motion by making the statement that, "[Kendall is]media grandstanding and [is] trying to

strategy, President Clinton's private attorney, David Kendall, filed a silent motion on Monday in the U.S.

District Court. It accused Kenneth Starr, special prosecutor in the Lewinsky sex scandal, of allowing leaks from his office about grand jury testimonies.

According to Associate Press

deflect and distract the investigation."

After Lewinsky was subpoenaed, she went to Washington and met face to face with Clinton and it is alleged that he told her to be "evasive" with questioning by Paula Jones' attorneys. At this time, the President has not made it clear what type of relationship he had with Ms. Lewinsky other than it was not a sexual one.

Will Clinton's task force's strategy work with this pending law suit against Starr? Though Starr thinks that is just an attempt at a distraction, Clinton's attorney may have a case.

In the United States Constitution, which applies to all Unites States citizens, even the President, we are granted certain rights. Under the Fifth Amendment, Clinton is guaranteed a fair process under the grand jury and under the Fourteenth Amendment, he is guaranteed due process of the law. In this grand jury trail, there is a twenty-three member panel along with the prosecutors who cannot disclose any statements or matters which they have heard in the court. The witnesses, however are not bound to this provision are free to discuss what they spoke about or the questions that were asked.

The sealed motion filed by Kendall has not stop Starr at all from going forward

in this case. He has now subpoenaed an official secret service agent to take the stand. Clinton's attorneys object citing that causing as secret service agent to testify against the President could create tension that would jeopardize the President's security. The Justice and Treasury Department are presently deciding in this matter. Attorney General Janet Reno told CNN, "I don't know what the resolution will be," Attorney General Janet Reno said Thursday. "We're trying to review all of the issues, obvious among them is the security and the safety of the President of the United States."

Contact The STING for complete article!

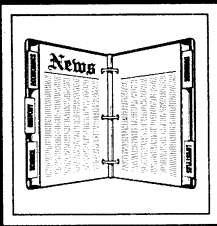
#### RIDICULOUS (For those who do crazy things)



I would like to introduce you to one of Atlanta's up and coming rap groups, Tha Whole Shabang! In this issue I decided to publish one of their verses to see if the students of SPSU could decipher its meaning. The verse contains 11 titles of movies! Can you pick them out? All participants will receive free pager certificates and I will draw winning entries for Blockbuster Music gift cards. This verse is taking from a song that is entitled "Abstract Ability."

Lost in this world like a T-rex the head is spinning like twister, sore like a blister. Opposite sex in my life to keep my head on I'm getting led on this path thinner than thongs. I used to play an armstrong, I moved up just a little bit like Forest Gump the face is looking innocent. Jump Jack Flash like Whoopie get wild like Jumanji, if you're sprung on the rhyme scheme. That's pretty proficient and prevalent some things are irrelevant, like being the devil's advocate. This rap thing, I'm just a vet. I've integrated circuits unlike Bullock and placed them on the net, so what's next? The plan is to get you in the mood. That means don't bite or eat it up like soul food. You gotta make the people scream in order to get green because money talks you shouldn't use that scheme.





# Special Features

GHOUGHPTHHEIGHTTEEAU

## BRAIN-TAMPERING

(For those who wish to workout the brain)

### MATH STINGER

by Dr. Joel C. Fowler  
Associate Professor of Mathematics

No solutions have been received to last issue's puzzle. I will restate it for continued work, along with a new puzzle. Two crossed ladders of unequal length lean against opposite walls of an alley forming a lopsided X. The puzzle is to find the smallest set of integers for the ladder lengths and alley width that make all distances involved in the problem integers (including the height of the crossing point, the distance each ladder reaches up the walls, the lengths along each ladder from each end to the crossing point, and the horizontal distance along the ground from each wall to the point on the ground directly below the crossing point).

The new puzzle for this issue is less involved. Suppose that you have 10 pieces of chain that are each 9 links long. You wish to use these to make a circular 90 link chain. It costs \$1 to open a single chain link and \$2 to close a link. The puzzle is to determine the cheapest way to make the circular chain. Hint: The cheapest method does not cost \$30.

**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.

### BRAIN BUSTERS

by Louis Phillips

Welcome to the world of Brain Busters. It was requested that Brain Busters should once again be added to the Brain Tampering section. Therefore, here it is! Submit your answers as well as a way to be contacted on a sheet of paper that should be placed in The STING box or you may e-mail (cstanfor@spsu.edu) your response. You must get each question right in order to qualify for an official SPSU t-shirt! Winning entries will be drawn. All participants will receive a free pager certificate.

- 1.) Two mothers and two daughters went to the store, and each bought a brand-new bicycle. Yet only three bicycles were sold to them. How is this possible?
- 2.) When the day after tomorrow is yesterday, today will be as far from Tuesday as today was from Tuesday when the day before yesterday was tomorrow. What day is it?
- 3.) A man once married to the sister of his widow. How could that be?
- 4.) A woman goes into a pet store to purchase a mynah bird. The man selling the bird tells the woman, "I guarantee that this bird will repeat every word it hears." Ten days later the woman takes the mynah bird back to the pet shop. "I want my money back," the woman complains. "You lied to me. This bird doesn't speak at all." "Ah, but I didn't lie to you, madam," the salesman tells her. And the salesman was indeed telling her the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. How is that possible?
- 5.) Ten parts of the human body can be spelled with just three letters. Can you name them?
- 6.) Look at the letters in the top right-hand corner of this page. What word can you spell from there pronunciation?

#### WINNER'S BLOCK

There were many winners in the last issue! Each were either given a movie pass or a free pager certificate. Due to the amount of space we have available, the names could not be printed. There were approximately 25 winners! Let's keep up the participation. We need more participants in the Math Stinger! I will start targeting better prizes to that area of the Brain Tampering section. Also, no one stopped by to take a funny picture. This contest is still open. Refer to the last issue of The STING for instructions. Those that were able to see Sphere, I hoped you enjoyed the movie! You may read about the review in the Arts and Entertainment section. More movies will come! Be on the lookout! - CJS

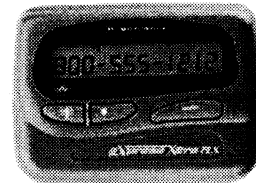
#### THE PRIZE CIRCLE

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

1000101010010010101111010101 IT 010101101010101110101  
WILL 1010100110101001010010 BE 10011001010 FREE PAGER  
CERTIFICATES 010001001010010101010 COURTESY OF  
0101010011010101 WIRELESS MARKETING 010110101100100!!!!

\*\*\*\* I WILL BE GIVING AWAY PAGER CERTIFICATES TO ANYONE WHO PARTICIPATES \*\*\*\*

**HOW DO YOU GET THE CERTIFICATES?** Submit your name on a piece of paper as well as your opinion on this issue of The STING. Entries should be dropped off in The STING office or in The STING box. Don't forget to write a way to be contacted!



Motorola Express Extra

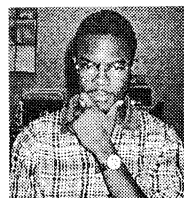
#### ADDITIONAL NOTICE

The courtesy pagers of Wireless Marketing are manufactured by Motorola. You have a choice to choose from the following:

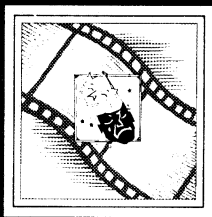
- Motorola Pronto Flex (Numeric Pager)
- Motorola Express Extra (Numeric Pager)
- Motorola Advisor Gold (Alphanumeric / E-mail Pager)
- Motorola Advisor Elite (Alphanumeric / E-mail Pager)
- Motorola Tenor Voice (Voice Pager)
- Motorola Seiko Watches (New Watch Pagers)

Each of these free pagers must be activated when claiming them from Wireless Marketing. Activation prices vary for each pager. **THERE ARE NO YEARLY CONTRACTS, ONLY MONTH-MONTH FEES!** Additional information will be given when the certificate is picked up.

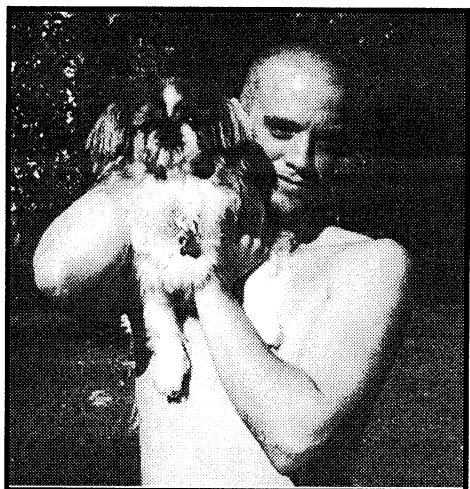
#### PHOTO CREDITS



Ms. Rutland: Provided by Ms. Rutland  
Tha Whole Shabang: Corey J. Stanford  
Blockbuster Card: Blockbuster Corporation (Homepage)  
Brain: Official Web Site of Brain  
Pager: Provided by Wireless Marketing  
Corey J. Stanford: The STING



## The Matt Column by Matt Thomas



To start off this issue, I want to talk a little bit about the album that I think is the best release of the year so far, "Fight Ambition to Kill" by the Massachusetts band OVERCAST. Having already been familiar with OVERCAST's prior material, I thought I knew a little bit of what to expect. Boy was I wrong. This band has made tremendous progression. This is their third release on Edison Records which is a label known for death influenced hardcore, or maybe that should say hardcore influenced death. Anyhow, this is melodically depressing and at the same time brutally uplifting. Very few bands can pull off so many mood changes in their music but OVERCAST is one of the bands at the top of that list. A person could literally drown in the slow, murky guitar riffs and deep, heart pounding drum beats, yet could be revived and brought back to life by the speedy intensity of the fast parts and the well sung vocals. That is what may possibly set this band apart from everyone else is Brian Fair's amazing vocal range. He can growl with the best of them and then all of a sudden break out into a very clean, melodic singing voice. Of course, OVERCAST possesses an amazing genius for song writing and that might just have something to do with it too. There is no particular song that I rank over any other, it would be more like, hey check out this song, no check out this song, no.....Another cool thing that really caught my eye (or more appropriately, ear) was the intense instrumental track entitled "Styrofoam Death-Machine." This song only helps solidify the musical

genius going on here. I usually don't recommend albums to those that don't like heavier music, but I would go out on a limb and say that anyone who likes guitars and drums in a song would appreciate the originality of this creation. I got in touch with Mike from OVERCAST and he mentioned that they recently played Atlanta in an abandoned bedroom. They fit themselves, their equipment, and 40-50 crazy kids in there. The only question that I have, "is where the hell was I?" Well, the next time they come to Atlanta I don't care if they try to fit 100 kids in a bathroom, I want to be in the middle of it.

U-N-I-T-Y, it's a word that is much too often taken for granted and speaking from personal experience and knowledge, there is no other musical form that emphasizes and appreciates unity more than hardcore. And there is no other single person in the scene that emphasizes and preaches unity more than Rick Healy, or maybe more appropriately Rick ta Life. He's the man who started the quickly growing record label, Back Ta Basics, so that bands could release 7"s and get some exposure. Well, upon that very brief introduction, I will announce that the man and his band, 25 TA LIFE, have

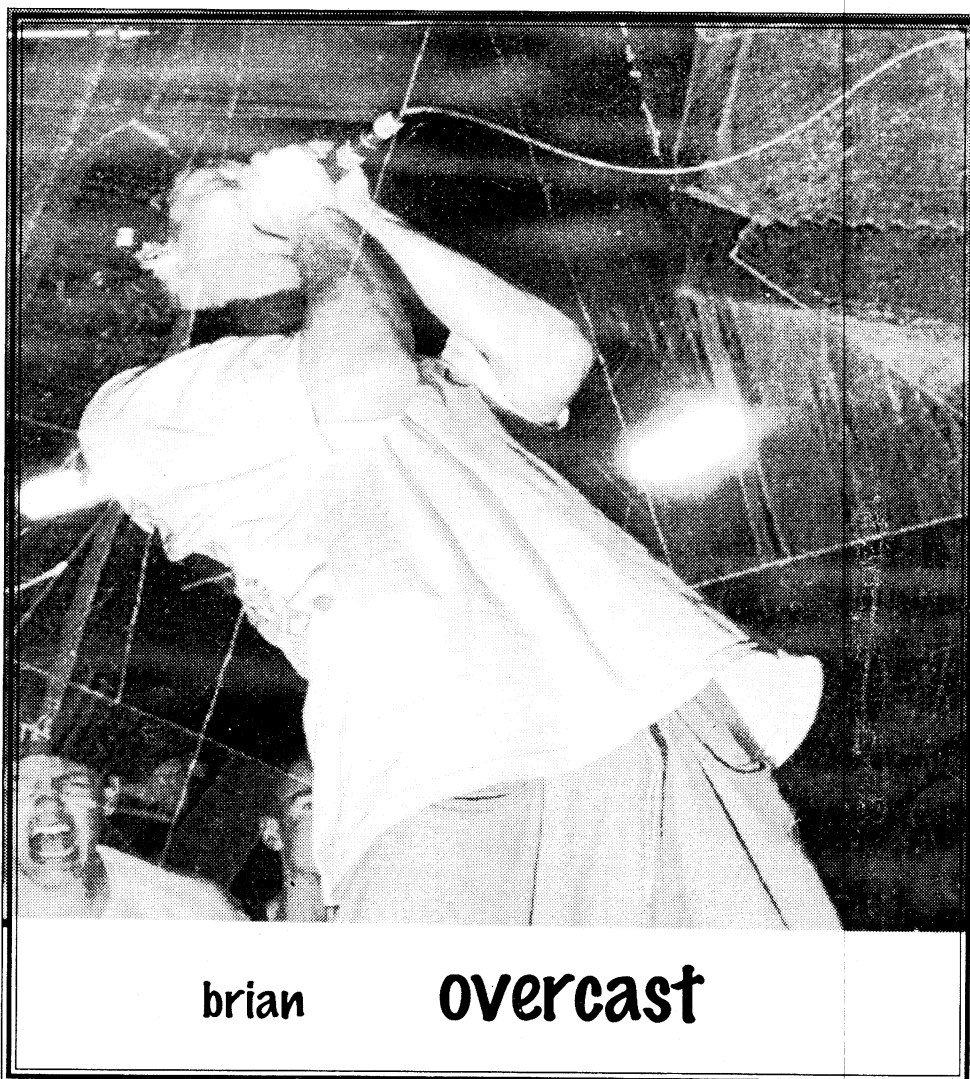
a new release on Triple Crown Records and it's called "Strength Through Unity \* The Spirit Remains." Six uplifting, reality exposing tunes in the same tradition that made these guys a very important name in the scene. Fast, emotion driven, and in your freakin' face. These lyrics taken from the track "Loyal Ta The Grave" may possibly sum up everything I'm trying to say..... "false claims / but I maintain / true to da game, hardcore family / brothers in blood, no matter da skin / wake up, end your fantasy / I'll remain, true til da end / I'll remain, true to my friends....."

Lastly, the second NEW YORK'S HARDEST compilation is now looming upon us. The first one, on IJT Records, featured such talent as VISION OF DISORDER, FAHRENHIET 451, UXB, SKARHEAD, FULL CONTACT, BULLDOZE, and 25 TA LIFE. Well, the NEW YORK'S HARDEST 2 (appropriately titled huh?) on Black Pumpkin Records features 25 TA LIFE, REACH, STEALTH, SONS OF ABRAHAM, CANDIRIA, STEM, ALPHA JERK, SFA, SKARHEAD, and INDECISION. All bands, all tracks are just simply

killer. SONS OF ABRAHAM are starting to cause a huge buzz in the scene and they have two dramatically brutal tracks, then you have the technacality of CANDIRIA which combines a definite jazz influence with the so called "new school" metal sound. Then REACH features Richie on guitar who was formerly of SICK OF IT ALL. Then you have another band ferociously rising on the scene, INDECISION. Then you have a newer band called STEALTH who features a BAD BRAIN on vocals as well as STEM who sounds like what RAGE AGAINST THE MACHINE wish they were (sorry to those who like RAGE, but STEM puts them to shame). But probably what I like most about this whole compilation is "\$nickers\$" by SKARHEAD. This has got to be the greatest party song of all time (and that includes topping everything NO REDEEMING SOCIAL VALUE has done). This is just simply a great compilation.

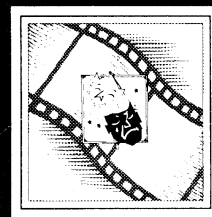
Now, here are some quick show announcements: Feb. 18th @ the Point, UNSANE / TODAY IS THE DAY, Feb. 25th @ the Masquerade, H2O / MISFITS, March 1st @ the Somber Reptile, YUPPIE SCUM / FALL FROM GRACE / EL DOPA, March 7th @ the Somber Reptile, WGHR benefit, March 26th @ the Masquerade, MEGADETH / LIFE OF AGONY / COAL CHAMBER, April 2nd @ the Masquerade, PRO-PAIN.

Well, that's all for now except I would like to leave out by saying that Kacey and myself have been listening to more than just music, look to the editorials section for more on what I'm talking about. I would like to take the time real quick to thank everyone who has emailed me, come by and talked to me, hung out on my radio show, or who has gone to shows with me and put all mental reasoning aside and just let everything loose. You are much appreciated! My show is Tuesday nights from 8 'til 11 and Stephen follows me up until 1:00. If you want more info on the aforementioned bands, records labels, upcoming shows or anything else, email me at [mattwghr@mindspring.com](mailto:mattwghr@mindspring.com). Much love and respect to all, Peace.....



brian overcast





# The Essence of Hip-Hop

## The Emcee Pt. 2. - By Kacey Mathews #8.

Let's continue where I left off. coming in at number five is the newly crowned "King of Brooklyn." Taking over from Brooklyn's finest, Jay-Z has come up quicker and larger than any other Emcee from the "Golden Era." His new single, "The City Is Mine," Jiggas the crown from the dearly departed notorious B.I.G.:

"What the deal playboy, just rest your soul/ I be holding it down yo' still on the dough. / Got these ladies on my d\*ck now yo' know how we go/ I got the whole world on lock down I know how we flow. / Don't worry about Brooklyn I continue the flame/ therefore a world with amnesia won't get your name/ You held it down long enough let me take those reigns/ I'd just like your spirit the commission rains. / Niggas can cross that "T" and "I"/ now that I got too popular top them pies/ I'm taking this rap sh\*tious to my demise/ jay sh\*t like cake x watch me rise. / Basic in the cement wasted asking my dog for advice and when he can't say sh\*t my red is fueled just give me a sign and I the world know that the city is mine." hail the king.

At number four, on The Top Ten Best Emcees is the great, late Tupac Shakur. With over two hundred plus songs under his belt this Emcee has another characteristic that is needed for a true Emcee, longevity. To check some of his best joints pick up these albums: *Me Against the World*, *All Eyez On Me*, *R U Still Down? (Remember Me)*, *2pacalypse Now*, and last but definitely not

least, *Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z.* These jewels will allow you to creep into the realms of a Thug. His tightest verse comes from the track, "I Ain't Mad At Cha," off the LP *All Eyez On Me*, this verse plus numerous of others defiantly puts him in the Top Five Illest Emcees.

With seven down and three to go, we come to the number three spot. He is the Notorious One, Biggie Smallz, Frank White, the King of New York, whatever you want to call him always call him an Emcee. Biggie came on the scene back in '92; the next year we had *Ready to Die*, after guest appearances galore and tons of ill verses, B.I.G. dropped a true jewel on the hip-hop community, *Life After Death*. This double disc LP is still in rotation, but after an untimely death we "possibly" won't be able to hear more verses like the one on the single "Kick In The Door" off the LP *Life After Death*:

"Your reign on the top was short like leprechauns. / As I crush so-called Willies, Thugs and rapper Dons. / Get in that ass quick fast like Ramadan/ It's that rap phenomenon, don dada/ F\*ck papa, you gotta call me, Francis M.H. White and

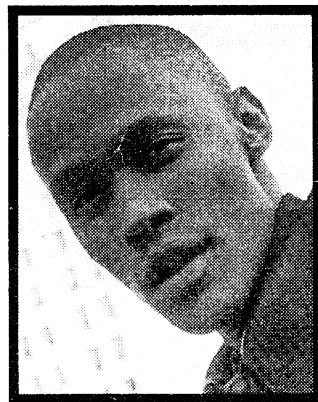


take light totes iron was told in shoot-outs/ stay low and

keep firing keep extra clips for extra sh\*t. / Who's next to flip on that cat/ with a grip on rap. The most shady, Frankie baby. Ain't no telling where I may be/ May see me in D.C. at Howard homecoming/ with my man Capone dummin'/ F\*cking somethin'/ You should know my steelo/ Went from ten G's for blow/ to thirty G's a show/ to orgies with ho\*s/ I never seen before. / So, Jesus/ get off the notorious/ penis/ before I squeeze and bust. / If the beef's between us we can settle it/ with the chrome and metal sh\*t. / I make it hot like a kettle get/ ya' delicate, you better get/ who sent cha' /you still peddle sh\*t/ I got more rides than Great Adventure." We'll miss you...

The future of this thing called rap is

coming in at number two. Some may wonder why him, why at the two spot? Well just check out what others are saying about Cannabis. "Aaah... battle-hungry Emcees rise again... to hear Cannabis so savagely rifle his brand-of verbal abuse at potential adversaries is to witness the resuscitation of a dying art. Extremely nice with the blah blah blah, the raspy-voiced Brick City native spits challenges with the skills of a time-tested veteran. After rippin' cuts with the Lost Boyz, The Firm, and



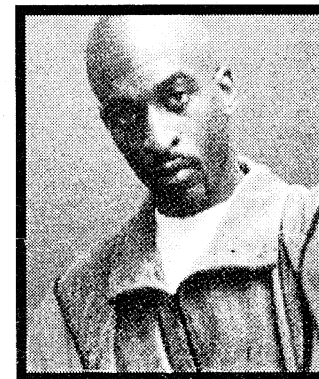
LL, the self-professed "greatest scientifically inclined mind since Einstein" is the one to watch..." And if that doesn't do it check out his verse from "Beasts From The East" off the Lost Boyz' LP *Love, Peace & Nappiness*:

Cannabis brings the sickest drama. / Fierce enough to pierce the thickest armor. / I smack b\*tches for trying to suck d\*ck through a condom. / Playing with the Mic is something I won't do, / my only concern when I approach you is to roast you. / I'll smoke you or whoever you standing close to/ and make every man in your crew denies that he knows you... None of y'all got the balls big enough to battle/ I go on and on like Erykah Badu. / 100 times nicer than the best is, / twice as arrogant as KRS is. / Who wanna test this? / F\*ck y'all you don't impress me and no one can test me, / an Emcee so ill I got AIDS scared to catch me... Been rocking longer than niggas twice my age/ back in the days, before Bob Marley was rockin' a fade, / before Honest Abe signed the paper that freed slaves, / before Neanderthals was drawing on the walls in caves. / I existed, / In the Garden of Eden, getting lifted, / sticking di\*k to Eve before she was Adam's mistress, / before Christ created Christmas. / I've been in lyrical fitness, / yo Cannabis'll spit until he's spitless. / 50 bars of total sickness, you won't forget this, / I'm putting every whack Emcee alive on my sh\*t list. / Verbally vicious,

telekinetically gifted, / Took you a minute to exhibit that I'm sick with it. / Now you tell me who is damaging sh\*t? / Going once, going twice, sold to that nigga named Cannabis..."

There is no doubt that this kid took these lessons from The Illest and has mastered them. That's why he's number two.

And now the moment that you have all been waiting for, the number one Illest Emcee. Without a doubt it's Rakim Allah, there is no need to say more. From the Golden Era through the Gangsta Era to present day, Rakim is and will always be the standard for a true Emcee. Most Emcees today will tell you that Ra is what got them in the business. Others will tell you that after hearing his verse off his



debut LP *Paid In Full* on the single "Eric B. is President" inspired them to grab a pen and write:

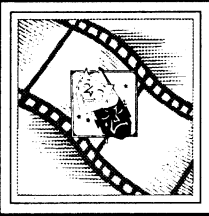
"I came in the door/ I said it before/ I never let the mic magnetize me no more/ but it's biting me, fighting me, invited me to rhyme/ I can't hold it back/ I'm looking for the line/ taking off my coat/ clearing my throat/ the rhyme will be kicking until I hit my last note..."

With Rakim's return he has not only put out his fifth album, which is hard for a real Emcee to do, but has also taken his crown as The Illest Emcee of all-time.

To all first time readers and to my fans of writing if you have any ideas, comments, or any thing at all, you can contact me either through e-mail—[kmathews@spsu.edu](mailto:kmathews@spsu.edu) or by dropping me some lines through the radio station or at the Sting. Don't forget to check out my radio show every Thursday night from 11p.m- until I get tired.

Until next time...

Oh and don't forget to check the editorials on a comment that was said to me and my co-writer.



## Makes sense to see "Senseless"

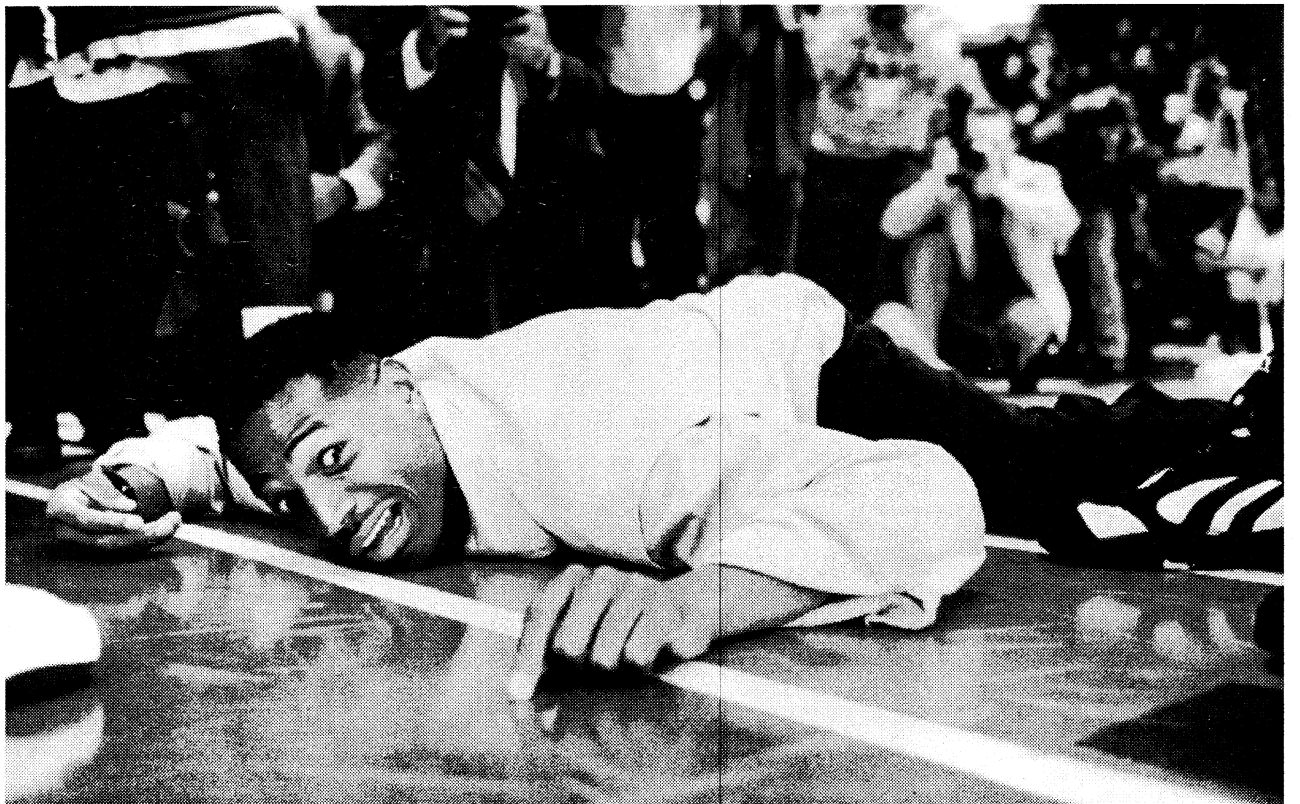
**Corey J. Stanford**  
News

The Wayans family does it again! Marlon Wayans stars in the new movie

'Senseless' directed by Penelope Spheeris. Marlon stars as Darryl Witherspoon, a Bed-Stuy kid who has made it all the way to the top of his economics class at Stanford University only to have personal economics threaten his future and his family's survival. When opportunity strikes in the form of a high-paying medical experiment that no one else will participate, designed to heighten his every bodily sensation, will spin out of control. At worst possible moments, without warning, he begins losing his senses – one at a time – rendering him utterly and hilariously "senseless." – Dimension Films Press Release (1998)

The movie screenplay is by Breg Erb & Craig Mazin. The producer is David Hoberman. Other cast members include David Spade, Matthew Lillard, Brad Dourif, Tamara Taylor, and Rip Torn.

I felt that this movie was a smash! If you like comedy, you will definitely enjoy this! I am an avid admirer of the Wayans family! They are constantly on the rise and success is sure on their path.



## Hoffman, Stone, and Jackson star in "Sphere"

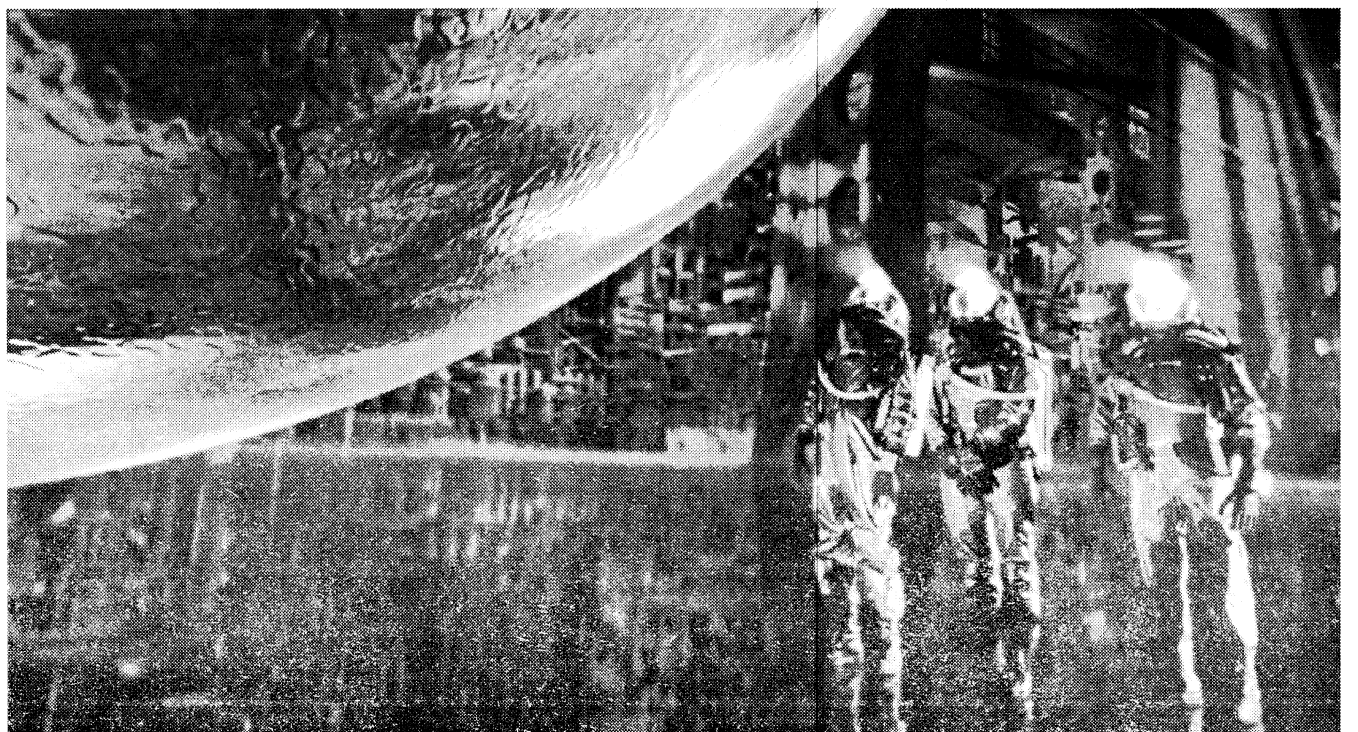
**Corey J. Stanford**  
News

A thousand feet beneath the ocean surface in the middle of the Pacific, something has been discovered. Its origin, its structure, its malevolent energy are baffling. But whatever it is, it can reach into your mind. It knows your worst fears. And now it's starting to come true...

Academy award-winning director Barry Levinson directs Warner Bros.' Suspenseful science fiction thriller,

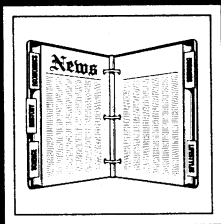
"Sphere," based on the bestseller by Michael Crichton. Its all-star cast is led by two time Oscar-winner Dustin Hoffman, Sharon Stone, Samuel L. Jackson and also includes Peter Coyote.

Hoffman stars as Dr. Norman Goodman, a psychologist who is unexpectedly summoned by the government to a spot in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. There, he joins a cadre of specialists supervised by a mysterious team leader named Barnes (Coyote). Also joining them is Sharon Stone as Beth Halperin, a biochemist who shares a past with Goodman; and Jackson as Harry Adams, a skeptical mathematician. The hastily assembled project team is asked to embark on a mission to explore a massive spacecraft that appears to have been submerged, untouched, for almost 300 years on the ocean floor.



As the team tries to unravel the meaning and function of the sphere, they become cut off from surface contact, their world limited to the claustrophobic habitat, the submerged craft, its baffling sphere – and each other. – Warner Bros' press release (1998).

I had the pleasure of viewing this movie with 25 fellow SPSU students. It was an enjoyable movie. However, there were parts that tended to be very slow. The ending was a little "cheesy" as well. Other than those flaws, the movie should be seen by science fiction lovers!



# Campus Announcements

Welcome to the Campus Announcements Section of the newspaper. This section is devoted to announcements that all campus organizations have that they would like the student body to know about. If you would like to be included, please submit your entries by the next deadline on an IBM diskette. If you have a logo that you would like to have included please include it with the submission.

## February "Community Concerns Series" Programs:

**"A trip around the world"** - Cultural diversity program (Feb. 24)

**"Detonating 'THE BOMB'..."** - Stress Management Program (Feb. 26)

- programs brought to you by The Counseling Center. For more information call 528-7226.

### DELTA MU DELTA

Todd Hewett, Secretary

On December 12, 1997, the National Honor Society for Business Administration held its Fall Induction Ceremony. The entire ceremony was a true success for Delta Mu Delta and its new members. The Officers, Faculty Advisor, and the entire Management of Technology Department want to sincerely congratulate all of the new members to the Eta Theta Chapter...

#### New Inductees:

Penny A. Canalizo  
Janette A. Hannam  
Mongny Liem  
John R. Slocum  
Traci N. Tranum

#### Honorary Member Inductee:

John Reiners

Also, Delta Mu Delta would like to thank all of the individuals that participated in the development and delivery of the ceremony.

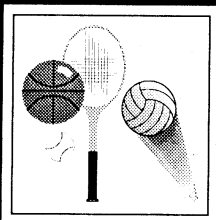
#### Participants:

Dean Yancy, Management of Technology  
Dr. Mohammed Obeidat, Faculty Advisor  
Thomas Alexander, key note speaker  
Melissa Carroll, Chapter President  
Deanna Thomas, Chapter Vice President  
John Walters, Chapter Treasurer  
Todd Hewett, Chapter Secretary  
All faculty, members, & guests

#### The Delta Mu Delta Motto...

Dia Mathessos Dynamis  
..."Through Knowledge, Power"

The STING wants to thank the campus for responding to our advertisements. We've picked up an advertising manager, sportswriter and a news reporter. But we are still looking for more news reporters. If you are interested, stop by our office in room 252 of the Student Center or call us at 528-7310.



## Intramural Hoops

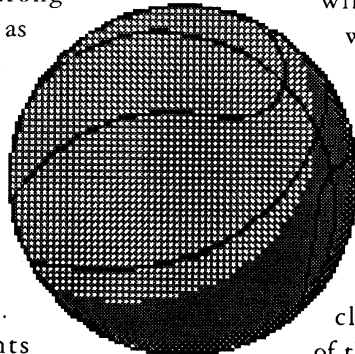
### Almaz "AP" Kerr Sports

Another exciting and action packed two weeks have passed in the Winter '98 Intramural Hoop Season. Picking up with games from Tuesday, January 27, Team fX notched a victory with a win over the Teke Sharks, 40-23. That same night the Pi Kappa Phi team squeaked out a 46-42 win over Team Players. As well, the Marietta Glory saw action for the first time against Sigma Nu. After a close first half, Sigma Nu pulled out the victory, 23-11.

On Wednesday, Jay Owens led the IM Staff team with 13 points as they defeated Pi Kappa Phi, 56-24. In other action that night, BSU erased a 16-point deficit behind 18 points from Wes Hand and beat Team Mixed-Up, 52-49. Also, in Advanced League action, Carlisle Hall netted 14 points in leading the Runnin' Rebels over Team Bomb Squad 54-47, despite 23 points from Troy Hill.

Thursday, January 29, saw action again for the Marietta Glory. Despite a strong showing, the Glory dropped the game to the Bloodshot Eyes, 40-20, with 10 points coming from Marty Bryant. Also in action was the undefeated Sigma Pi team, which had a strong, showing behind 19 points from Kevin Swain and 11 points each from Vanna Oun and Brian Bell, as they easily won 51-16 over the Teke Sharks. The staff team consisting of SPSU Faculty members had their first showing on Thursday as well. Even though the team was lead by 26 points from Melvin Hill and 14 points from Interim Head Coach Mike Helfer, Team FOG dropped their opener 71-65 to the Straight Balla's, led by Michael Benson's 28 points. In other Advanced League action, Team Bomb Squad got another strong showing from Troy Hill as he scored 33 points (7 three-pointers) to lead the team to a 74-64 victory over the Vipers.

On Monday, February 2, Team FOG faced Team Showtime in an Advanced League game. Showtime got 13 points from Dee McClure and 12 points from Trent King as they handed FOG their second loss, 55-45. The game marked the second showing for Interim President Dr. Dan Papp and his strong, "take it to the rack" style of play. The Intramural Program appreciates his, and all of the other SPSU faculty members who are involved in playing on the team. Good luck guys! In other action, Sigma



Pi posted its second 51-16 victory of the season with a win over Sigma Nu. Sigma Pi was again lead by Kevin Swain and his 20 points. Also, in a close battle, Team Players got their first victory of the season with a 38-35 victory over Bloodshot

Eyes. Clyde Sampson lead the Players with 11 points, while Eric Beele chipped in 11 points in the loss for the Eyes.

On Wednesday, February 4, Team fX got 18 points from Jake Massey as they won over Sigma Nu, 33-26. Danny Crumley scored 10 points for Sigma Nu in the loss. Later that night the undefeated BSU team rolled over Pi Kappa Phi 67-30 with four players scoring in double figures: Keith Pickard (15), Wes Higdon (14), Jay Took (12) and Bryan Frost (10). In advanced league action, the Runnin' Rebels continued their

winning ways with a 64-56 victory over the Straight Balla's. On Thursday, February 5, Intramurals had their closest game of the year, with

Team IM Staff hitting a NBA-range three pointer at the buzzer by Josh Fox to defeat Team fX 41-39. In other action that night, Mark Asbell poured in 15 points to lead Mixed-Up to a 60-31 drubbing of Sigma Pi.

Finally, on Monday, February 09, Team FOG took the court with Interim Basketball Coach, Mike Helfer, leading the charge. Despite scoring 40 of his teams 53 points, Team FOG fell to the younger Team Mixed-Up, 59-53, which was paced by 10 points from Justin Laurens and 13 points from Mark Asbell. Team fX took the court next and handed Pi Kappa Phi another loss by the score of, 39-35. For Team fX, Jake Massey had 13 points and Bryan Lodwick hit for 11. In a game pitting two of the recreational leagues better two teams, BSU outlasted a 15-point performance from Sigma Pi's Kevin Fordham, in beating Sigma Pi, 62-46. For BSU the Keith combination of Keith Pickard (19) and Keith Franks (16) scored 35 points between them in the leading the charge. In the nightcap advanced league game Monday night, Team Bomb Squad got a late bucket from Adrian Evans (23 points) with 1 second remaining to beat Team Showtime, 54-53. Rodric Alexander had a strong game for Showtime scoring 13 points.

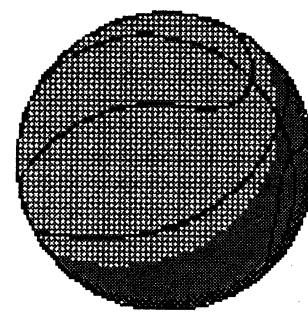
### Upcoming Schedule:

Racquetball Tournament: Sign-ups Feb. 6-13, Tournament will start Feb. 16, all skill levels invited

Whiffleball Tournament: Sign-ups Feb. 13-20 Tournament will be Feb. 23

Polar Bear Softball League: Sign-ups Feb. 11-18 League will start Feb. 19

Softball Umpire Training: Feb. 16 and 17 @ 5:00pm in Rec Center



AS OF

Tuesday, February 10

RECREATIONAL

Record

BLOODSHOT EYES 2-2

BSU 4-0

fX 3-2

IM STAFF 2-2

MARIETTA GLORY 1-2

MIXED-UP 4-1

PI KAPPPA PHI 2-3

SIGMA NU 1-3

SIGMA PI 4-2

SINGLE PLAYERS 1-2

TEKE SHARKS 1-3

FAST LEAGUE

Record

BOMB SQUAD 3-1

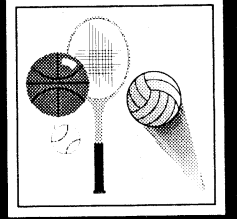
FOG 0-3

RUNNIN' REBELS 3-0

SHOWTIME 2-2

STRAIGHT BALLA's 1-2

VIPERS 0-2



## Baseball

### Almaz "Al" Kerr Sports

Are you ready for some baseball action? The Hornet baseball season is finally here. Coach Charlie Lumsden is coming back from last year's season that ended with a record of 31-11 regular season and 34-14 overall. The team has lost nine starters including the entire outfield. Pitcher Randy Black, Matt Griffin, Trey Hall, Ben Jackson, and Tom Paciorek have all returned giving the team some leadership and foundation.

Practice has been hard due to the recent rain, yet the team's defense is solid and the pitchers look great says assistant coach, Eric Alexander. The team is expecting good play from Junior college players Mike Buchanan, Bobby Cribbs, Joel Johnson, and Billy Morstad. The Hornets are also looking for additional assistance from Senior Tolley Campbell, Darrell Edwards, Brent Johnson, and sophomore Jeffrey Snipes. Byron Rhodes is a returning member of last year's team and the team looks forward to his experience in the center field.

This year's season starts tough with

with a season opener against NCAA Division 1 Georgia State University on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. The Hornets will play host to Tennessee Wesleyan, Anderson College, and Faulkner University, and Lincoln Memorial University in February. The earlier part of the season is also stressful and agonizing for players with upcoming finals and usually after spring break the players relax and with the culmination of talent and practice the team usually starts to play well together. We can expect big things from our team, which is exclusively from Georgia and full of potential.

The team should have a great season and as always they need the support of the students. The coach invites everyone to come down to the baseball field and see some exciting Hornet action.

## Hornets in action

### Almaz "Al" Kerr Sports

The Southern Polytechnic State University basketball team is in action as the season comes to a close with three regular season games left and the district playoffs beginning in March. Starters Wilbur Jordan, Bryan Swain, James Davis, Cedric Jones, and Deon Spear have led the team to an exciting fourteen wins, five of those being conference games. As anticipated Adama Fall has played extremely strong off the bench for coach Mike Helfer. Jamon Harris has played well as a welcome addition to the team as a Winter quarter walk on.

The new players have adjusted well and the team looks great in action. Wilbur Jordan scored a season high of

forty points against Emmanuel College on February 8<sup>th</sup> for an exhilarating 101-91 win. The Hornets backcourt has been explosive with Eric Blair, Bryan Swain, Josh Cowart, and senior Wilbur Jordan. Transfer Eric Blair adds that the team is playing very effective due to the recent adjustments and we can expect big things for the later part of the season. Cedric Jones is a powerhouse on the post and he delivers consistently as expected. The team commends head coach Helfer and assistant coach Wilson for their their added interest the players academia and on the court play.

As always all students are invited to come to the remainder of the games at the Hornets Nest and cheer the team on for a pulsating forty minutes of basketball action.

The STING would like to thank Almaz "Al" Kerr for taking over the Sports section.

## SPSU Hornets

### Remaining Basketball Games

#### February

19	Thur	vs	*Brewton Parker	HOME 7:30 pm
21	Sat	vs	*North Georgia	HOME 7:30 pm
28	Sat	vs	*Shorter College	HOME 7:30 pm

#### March

5, 7, 10 District Playoff TBA TBA

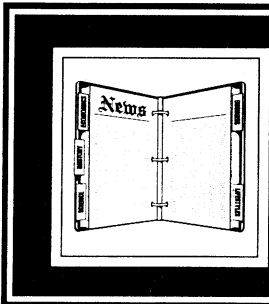
\*Conference Game

Don't forget that all home games are free!

## 1998 Baseball Schedule

February				
21	Sat	Anderson College (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
24	Tues	Kennesaw State University (1)	away	2:30 pm
26	Thurs	Faulkner University (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
28	Sat	Lincoln Memorial University (1)	HOME	2:00 pm
March				
1	Sun	Lincoln Memorial University (1)	Home	1:00 pm
4	Wed	*Piedmont College (2)	away	1:00 pm
5	Thurs	Tri-State university, IN (1)	HOME	3:00 pm
7	Sat	Tennessee Wesleyan (2)	away	1:00 pm
11	Wed	*Brewton-Parker College (2)	away	2:30 pm
14	Sat	*Georgia Southwestern (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
21	Sat	*LaGrange College (2)	away	1:00 pm
22	Sun	Faulkner University (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
25	Wed	*Shorter College (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
26	Thurs	U. of Minnesota-Duluth (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
28	Sat	*Southern Wesleyan University (2)	away	1:00 pm
30	Mon	Virginia Intermont College (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
April				
1	Wed	*LaGrange College (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
4	Sat	*Emmanuel College (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
5	Sun	Anderson College (2)	away	1:00 pm
8	Wed	*Southern Wesleyan University (2)	HOME	2:00 pm
11	Sat	*Georgia Southwestern (2)	away	1:00 pm
15	Wed	*Brewton-Parker College (2)	HOME	2:00 pm
18	Sat	*Piedmont College (2)	HOME	1:00 pm
22	Wed	*Shorter College (2)	away	2:00 pm
25	Sat	*Emmanuel College (2)	away	1:00 pm
28	Tues	Kennesaw State University (1)	HOME	2:30 pm
May				
2-5		GAC Conference Tournament - Albany, GA	TBA	
9-12		NAIA Southeast Regional Tournament - Albany, GA	TBA	
18-23		NAIA World Series - Tulsa, OK	TBA	

\*Conference Games



## Words From the Editor

**Bryan Garmon**  
Editor

One of the biggest buzzwords flying around

computer shops across the county is the Y2K problem. If you've never heard of it, you need to. I was struck by it when I went to the movies the other day and it's not a pretty situation.

So what does Y2K mean? The acronym stands for the Year 2000 problem but that's only the name. In a very non technical description, here's the problem: when computer programs were written way back in the 60's and 70's nobody thought the same programs would still be in use today. Therefore, the software was written to only read 2 digit dates (for example, 97 means 1997 when you are referring to the date and time). Well, when the year 2000 rolls around, the computers don't know how to handle the last 00 so they do either 1 of 2 things: a) they display 1980 or b) they don't come on at all. For a more technical definition along with solutions point your web browser to <http://www.microsoft.com/CIO/Articles/>

YEAR2000FAQ.htm.

When I went to an AMC theater to see a movie last weekend, I tried to use my brand new check card, which has an expiration date of February 2 2001. When my card was swiped through the machine, it came up as invalid because the computers used to verify my card number were not Y2K compatible. To the computer my card expired back in 1982.

The more serious issues involve the airline and banking industry. These industries are using software that suffers from this Y2K bug. These are two industries where it's not feasible to upgrade to the latest and greatest technology because what they have suits their needs just fine. But now they are being forced to upgrade and it's not a pretty situation. Not to create a panic, but on midnight December 31, 1999 don't be on an airplane and pull your money out of the bank before you go to bed. Theoretically the computers that control both airline flights as well as the money in your account could crash and leave you on a head on collision with another airplane and no money in the

bank. Now realistically, both of these establishments are quickly addressing the issue and have been for the past couple of years so that situation won't happen to the major airlines or major banking institutions. But what about the little guys?

Most companies big and small are working to get this problem fixed but the problems being created are huge. Imagine having to bring programmers out of retirement to fix the code they wrote when they were 30? In a lot of cases, the original programmers have passed on and companies have to start from scratch. This problem is doubled when you consider that the lack of people skilled in this area of programming has decreased by nearly half in the past ten years making those that know how to fix it a hot commodity, and able to charge astronomical rates for their expertise. In fact, many consulting firms have devoted their entire shops to taking clients with just this issue.

The sad thing is that this issue was brought up early in 1990 and no one thought too much about it. But in the past two years the computer industry

comments on it almost weekly. What can you as a college student do about it? you want to get rich quick, brush up your knowledge of programming language: used on mainframes and hire yourself out. For the rest of us, simply start asking questions. Call up your banks, airlines any company that you deal with for booking reservations, membership clubs, and so forth and pop the question "Is your software Year 2000 compliant?" As far as your personal computer is concerned, by the time it rolls around, Windows 98 will be on the desktops and it is Y2K compliant. But if you aren't going to upgrade, point your web browser to <http://support.microsoft.com/support/kb/articles/q172/7/07.asp> and you can download the updated files to correct this problem. Even though it's still two years away, the problem is closer than you think.

## A&E responds to recent requests

**Matt Thomas**  
A&E Opinion

Recently it has been brought to my attention that there

have been some complaints, suggestions, or what have you with aspects concerning the Arts and Entertainment section of the Sting. I understand that the major complaint/suggestion is that there are only two types of music represented, mine being heavier edged and Kacey's being more hip-hop oriented. I couldn't agree more that we need more musical diversity in the A & E section, but the question is who should do it? Answer: YOU! It comes across to me by using my common knowledge that those that have a problem with the matter and choose to speak up should do more about it than just sit back and complain. If there is any type of music that you want represented, stand up and write, speak your mind. Never has Kacey nor myself ever felt that we were on some sort of pedestal and felt that we must have all the space. The reason we do so much writing is first of all, we have a genuine heartfelt love for music and writing and secondly, there are no other people willing to join the Sting and write about other so called "genres" of music.

I was also recently asked if my

column could contain all types of music instead of just the heavier stuff. I don't think that is a question that should be asked of me nor Kacey, we write about what we love and know about. It would be hypocritical of me to write about say reggae, when I don't know a damn thing about reggae. I represent what I know and love and that is what I'm dedicated to. Nothing sickens me more than to have people complain and then sit back and do nothing about it. Now I have no idea who submitted complaints so none of this is anything personal towards anybody. I'm not sure if there is anybody out there who values the concept of unity and friendship more than I do. So none of this is a plot to cause enemies. I would love for people to come forward for the sake of music, the Sting, and the campus as a whole and represent what they know and love whether it be techno, reggae, blues, industrial, punk, ska, country, or anything else. Personal opinions and musical diversity/unity are two of the greatest God-given gifts we have. Stand up and USE THEM!

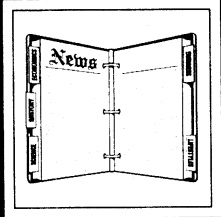
Another thing I want to address is the "musical underground." The reason I do what I do is to try to introduce you to some talent that I AM FAMILIAR WITH, and that you might not have heard before. I mean, you can go to any

magazine rack and find information on the new Pearl Jam or Bush or Green Day or whatever. Why, because it is all corporate related. Kacey and myself are trying to make known the music that is raw or otherwise known as independent. Kids who do things themselves, things coming straight from their heart instead of what goes straight to their wallet. Bands who hang out with their fans at shows and who do record labels out of their own house on their own budget and sell them for affordable prices so that kids can afford to buy their albums and see the live show. Those people need to be commended as well if not more than your typical rehashed, recycled, soon to be burned out MTV "rock star."

And lastly, it was brought to my attention that my top 50 of '97 should have contained all types of music. First of all, it said "Matt's Top 50", not the Sting, not the radio stations, not anybody else's but my own. It has been stated in earlier issues that the opinions contained in the column are solely my own unless otherwise noted. Also, it corresponds with the top 100 show I did on my radio show which features metal, hardcore, and punk. Now I happened to like the latest Wu-Tang but how in the hell would it look if Wu-Tang came in on Matt's Top 100 metal/hardcore releases of '97.

Surely people are not spot reading and looking for things to complain about without knowing anything about the subject matter, I think most people are smarter than that... always read into what is going on with something before you speak negatively (or positively for that matter) about a particular subject. I write for those students whose musical interests are the same as mine and I dedicate myself to that by passing on everything I know and representing it well instead of just doing small spot work for various types of music. It should be known that I can't and by no means try to please everyone, but I want to keep my work up to the highest standards I can for those who are pleased by what I am doing.

I respect everyone's opinions but those opinions quickly fade when no action is taken to back them. So I will end this by saying talk to me or Kacey directly and let us know what you think. You can email me at [mattwghr@mindspring.com](mailto:mattwghr@mindspring.com) or drop a note in the Sting box or at the radio station if you want more information on how to become a part of what's going on or if you just want to put in some positive or negative feedback or suggestions. Much respect to those who stay true, Peace.....



# Editorials

## The Rambler rambles on

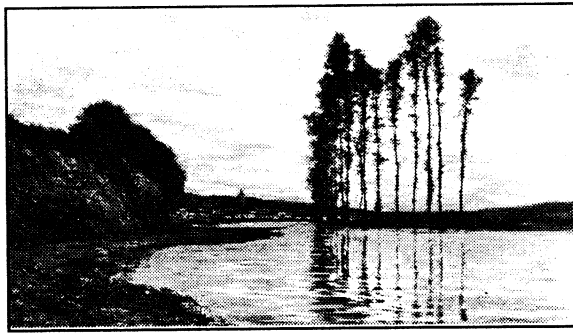
**Shaidu Kiven**  
*Contributing Writer*

“... 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. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is, many people strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism...”

Well, good people, here we come again! After nurturing our souls with the words of wisdom, let us look around and see how we are doing at this point in time. Let us, each and all, strive to make our today much more fruitful than our yesterday. Each one of us should endeavor to make everyone's stay in this PolyTech very smooth and worth-remembering.

Now, there are a few things that we all need to look at. First is our famous

SGA; can the association kindly inform us of what has been going on for the last few months! The Rambler understands that the Year Book can not be published because the students of this university have a lot of difficulties in writing English. As a matter of fact, a friend from one of the private colleges in Metro-Atlanta pointed to the Rambler that the quality of the Sting does not reflect anything close to a society of intellectuals. Anyone who doubts such comments should request a copy of the publication from any of the schools around - even from Dekalb College! Well, that is not the issue at stake, for it is well demonstrated that we have literacy problems in this community of ours. Whoever questions this assertion should challenge it on this medium - The Sting! If the Year Book is not published, it



should be wise to re-channel our hard-earned dollars back to us. The least the SGA could have done, I supposed, was to get the opinion of the students as to how the money would be handled.

The Rambler does understand that there are lots of student's organizations whose activities are funded by the student body. The Rambler suggests that the SGA and other associations that function on money from the students make it mandatory to report their activities to the student body via The Sting. Don't we deserve a say on the type of activities we are financing?

Some suggestions to those who labor to put together these few papers of ours. The Rambler has observed with dismay the quality and quantity of information that is disseminated from

department to department and around the campus, but never appear on The Sting. My little knowledge of journalism is that the journalists have to look for the news and not the other way round. No department is going to come and inform you of what events are going on, so you have to find a way of getting the information. There are a few publications of news and events around the campus; the content of these publication is much more informative than this paper. If you guys have committed yourselves to this task, you must endeavor to live up to the task. Otherwise, it is better to declare The Sting null and void as was the case with the Year Book! As this school grows to a true university, it should reflect the quality of such an institution! This is the understanding of The Rambler!

One last word for now - if those who are charged to handle our finances in those things that reflect our interest do care, the money that was meant for The Year Book should have been invested in improving the quality of The Sting. Isn't it a publication intended to educate, inform and encourage the students of this institution?

## Talking loud ...

**Kacey Mathews**  
*A&E Opinion*

Check this out, I was recently told that some fellow

students thought that my fellow co-writer and I didn't represent all types of music. To those who made these comments I suggest that you get off your ass and write about what type of music represents you. When I write, not only do I write from the knowledge of my music, but also I write from my soul. My soul goes to the beat of Hip-hop/Urban music, not to any other type of music. Urban music and Hip-hop are a melting pot of all types of influences. This includes jazz, R & B, funk, blues, reggae, even Rock n Roll, but I don't know as much about those types of music as I do Hip-hop. I am Hip-hop,

Hip-hop is me. This is what makes me who I am and this is what I write about. If you don't like it then I suggest that you represent your soul, your knowledge of whatever type of music you like.

To those who made these comments, I would like for YOU to step up to the plate and write! Don't just write about what's popular; write about the things that one normally won't find in any mainstream type of media. Write about the underground sound or if all you know is mainstream music, write about that. Instead of complaining, do something. If you don't do something it is like a saying that I heard once, "Talking loud, but ain't saying shit!" With this in mind, hopefully after reading this editorial you will grab a pen or pencil and write. Don't just write bullshit; write from your mind, soul, body and heart.

*The opinions expressed on these pages are the opinions of the writer and not necessarily those of the newspaper. Please do not confuse opinions with facts.*

ΦΒΣ ΦΒΣ

**SPREAD THE WORD...  
SIGMA IS COMING!!!!**

**The Men of  
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated  
Kappa Alpha Sigma Graduate Chapter  
Decatur, GA**

**Is interested in Starting a Chapter Here  
at  
Southern Poly State University!!!!**

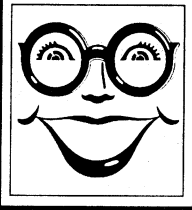
All interested men for more information please contact:

Director of Chapter Membership Intake  
Vice President Bro. Carlos Williams II @ (770)747-1914

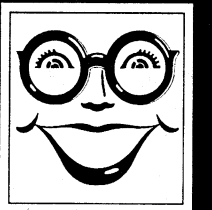
**Go to the Student Activities Office and complete an  
Information Sheet ASAP!!!!**

(I'm Bout It!! Are you?)

ΦΒΣ ΦΒΣ



# Comedy Corner



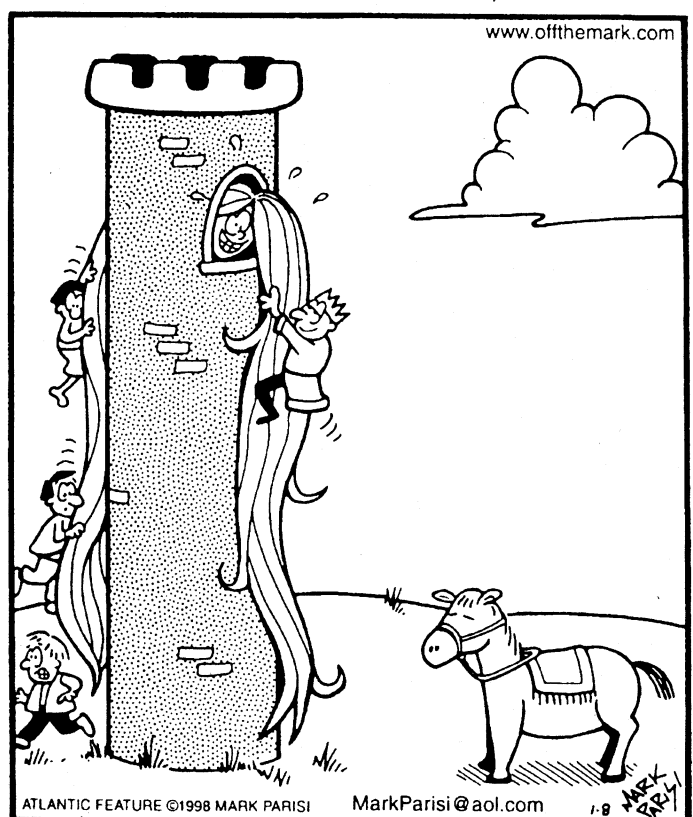
**off the mark** by Mark Parisi



**off the mark** by Mark Parisi



**off the mark** by Mark Parisi



**REALITY CHECK** ® by Dave Whamond



**off the mark** by Mark Parisi

