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Mandatory Fee System in Debate

By Zachary Jones

The method of allocation of mandatory fees at universities has become the topic of hot debate throughout the nation. Recent court cases bring the mandatory fee system into question throughout the nation, including here at SPSU.

With the recent allocation of student activity fee monies at the end of this past semester among the various student organizations here at SPSU, many know the allocation process very well. In summary, budget requests are first submitted to a Budget Committee, comprised of SGA members. Then the Committee analyzes the requests, redlines certain requested items, then allocates a final budget to the student organization. Though these processes may not seem faulty to many, a recent federal judge disagreed. The University of Wisconsin-Madison System

Board of Regents vs. Scott Southworth trial, after climbing all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, deemed that the UW System of mandatory fee allocation was unconstitutional, failing to be a "viewpoint-neutral system."

Supreme Court Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wrote, "The First Amendment permits a public university to charge its students an activity fee used to fund a program to facilitate extracurricular student speech if the program is viewpoint neutral."

"Despite defendant's efforts, the measures undertaken fail to address the central constitutional defect in the segregated fee program," District Judge John C. Shabaz wrote. "The level of the student government's discretion is unchanged."

Furthermore, Leif Jorgensen, finance committee chairman of the Associated Students of Madison, said regarding the case decision, "Without complete changes in the way the university collects, allocates, and oversees student fees, the student fee system is not and will not be viewpoint neutral."

How will this decision affect Georgia universities, especially SPSU? According to the National Association of Campus Activities, as many as 70 percent of the nation's public colleges and universities rely on mandatory student fees to finance student activities. SPSU is no exception.

Close to home, Georgia Perimeter College student Tara Brunson, said, "I'm a non-traditional student and I'm not getting any

thing out of the Student Activity Fee. I feel like I should have a choice, but I'm only here one day a week and by mandating this fee, to me, that's not giving me a choice."

Following the court decision, Scott Southworth asked questions that many at SPSU may begin to ask, "Certainly there are questions about viewpoint neutrality at this point. What is it? And is the university even doing viewpoint neutrality?...No student, regardless of political ideology or religious beliefs, should be forced to fund the advocacy of a private student organization they disagree with. A socialist should not have to fund a capitalist. A capitalist should not have to fund a socialist."

Student Exec, a student magazine designed to promote effective

college student leadership, stated, "Where a problem could arise concerning this concept is in resource allocation. If, for instance, one student group is allocated more funding or a bigger office than another group, does this still constitute a viewpoint-neutral system?"

Though the court case rages on, a great deal of issues as to the constitutionality of the many mandatory fee systems (including, but not limited to, the Activity Fee, the Technology Fee, the Board Fee) here at SPSU are yet to be settled.

SPSU's Brani awarded Fulbright Scholar Award to teach in Botswana

By Jim Farmer, Media Specialist
Public Relations, SPSU

David Brani, an associate professor in SPSU's Mechanical Engineering Technology department, has been selected for a Fulbright Scholar Award in Botswana during the 2001-2001 academic year.

The award is given by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars, a private non-profit organization that has chosen American candidates for the Fulbright Awards for the past 54 years. This year, approximately 750 scholars have received awards enabling them to teach overseas. The purpose of the Fulbright Program is to increase mutual understanding

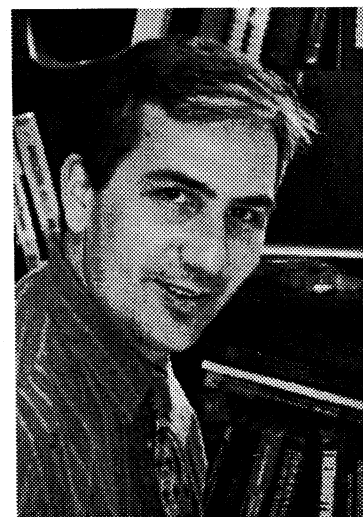
between the people of the United States and those of other countries.

"What most appeals to me is the ability to live in another country and live their normal lifestyle, instead of getting a tourist interpretation," said Brani. "I will be traveling with my wife and my two young children and it's a wonderful opportunity for us all to explore other cultures."

Brani will begin his residency in August. He will be teaching courses in numerical control of machines and computer-aided manufacturing in the University of Botswana's Mechanical Engineering Technology

department.

Founded in 1982, the University of Botswana has approximately 9500 students. It is located in Gaborone, the capital of Botswana.



Picture: Davis Brani

Mexican Exchange Program Enters Third Year

By Mark Campbell

Now in its third year, the Apparel and Textile Engineering Department at Southern Polytechnic State University is again providing students with the opportunity to live study and work in Mexico in a summer exchange program. The program is held in cooperation with the Universidad Iberoamericana Laguna campus in Torreon, Mexico, with the support of the Southern Tech Apparel and Textile Education Fund. This summer, starting on Monday, June 4, four SPSU students and two additional students from George Brown University in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, will study for six weeks

alongside Mexican students from UIA Laguna.

The program provides SPSU students with the opportunity to study Mexican History and Culture, learn some preliminary conversational Spanish, and gain a unique in-the-field experience in Apparel/Textile Production Planning and Scheduling. Credits applying towards degree requirements may be earned by students, upon completion of reports and other course requirements. During the summer of 1999, 6 SPSU students participated in the program, followed by another nine students in the summer semester of 2000.

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Mexican Exchange Program Enters Third Year

By Mark Campbell

Students who participate will stay in the homes of hosting Mexican families. The cost to students is nominally listed as \$1,250.00, but a generous thousand-dollar scholarship has been provided to each student this year by the Southern Tech Apparel and Textile Education Fund to defray the students' expenses. By staying with families, each student will have a unique experience in establishing the personal ties necessary for success in the Mexican society and business culture.

The Southern Polytechnic students participating this year include Trischa Bode, Judith Spence, Elizabeth Walden, and Crystal Baldwin. Bode, Spence and Baldwin are all Apparel and Textile Engineering Technology majors, while Walden has not yet declared her major. Both Bode and Walden are seeking a minor in Spanish studies, a program recently added at Southern Polytechnic. Trischa Bode is a junior, while Spence, Walden and Baldwin are sophomores.

Also accompanying the SPSU students are two students from George Brown University in Toronto, Canada. The Canadian contingent is comprised of Kathryn Nowina and Susan Doug, George Brown University has three campuses and a student population of approximately ten thousand.

The program provides an opportunity to learn some Spanish through coursework. The Universidad Iberoamericana provides daily instruction in the Spanish language with English at levels suitable for beginners, intermediate students, or at an advanced level. Southern Polytechnic's Social and International Studies Department, headed by Dr. Charlie Weeks, may also provide credit for MFLA 2903/01, a special topics course for Preliminary Conversational Spanish for Beginners. Requirements include an evaluation of coursework completed in Torreon, and demonstrated proficiency in understanding and answering questions in

Spanish. Dr. Bernice Nuhfer-Halten, SPSU's Spanish language instructor, will evaluate the work of those students seeking credit.

- Dr. Richard Bennett, Director of International Programs and a professor in the Social and International Studies Department, will evaluate student coursework and the project paper required from those SPSU students seeking credit for SIS 2903/01. The course is a special topics course on Mexican History and Culture, whose objective is to provide a basic understanding of Mexican culture and delineate cultural similarities and differences between Mexicans and United States citizens. A report is required, and must include discussion of topics such as the political situation in the State of Coahuila and the city of Torreon, Mexican aspirations for the future, stereotypes, interpersonal relations, and the attitudes held about the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).

Industry support for the program is evidenced by the Southern Tech Apparel and Textile Education Fund. In addition to providing the thousand dollar scholarships to each of the students participating, the fund also disburses approximately \$60,000 each year to ATET students in merit-based scholarships. To ensure that the ATET department and SPSU can maintain the exchange program, the Fund also spends about \$25,000 to meet overhead costs, including partial pay for faculty overseeing the exchange program. To assist the students who attend, Dr. Carol Ring, Professor Larry Haddock and Dr. Rich Bennett will make brief visits to Torreon. Ring and Haddock are professors in the Apparel and Textile Engineering Department, while Bennett is a professor from the Social and International Studies Department.

According to Dr. Walter Thomas, department head of the Apparel and Textile

Engineering department, the leaders in industry are concerned with the ability to recruit and retain qualified engineers for production facilities. Economic pressures have compelled textile and apparel manufacturers to seek low labor costs, yet the quality of goods demanded by consumers remains high. By introducing ATET students to foreign cultures where such plants exist, it is hoped that graduates will consider employment in responsible positions abroad. The program with Universidad Iberoamericana Laguna is a first stepping-stone in helping SPSU and the ATET department in assisting the industry with their needs.

Professor Haddock, the instructor for ATET 4670 (Apparel/Textile Production Planning and Scheduling), explains how the students apply their skills in Torreon. Each student would be paired with a Mexican student from

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Music Midtown

By Ann Bartone

Music Midtown is spread thorough out a three-day weekend full of concerts with a wide variety for everyone. This year it was held on May 4, 5, and 6 in Midtown, Atlanta.

The eight stages were hosted by: Budweiser 99x, Mercury Mountaineer 99x Locals Only, Unite Georgia Z93, Coca-Cola V103/VB 36, Ford Focus/Fox 5, Jose Cuervo 96 Rock, Turner South, and Radio Disney Kids. The bands that performed included: Offspring, Marvelous 3, Live, Blues Traveler, Ludacris, Steppenwolf, and Oleander. The Harry Potter magic show was one of the many activities that were planned for the children.

This festival is a great place for bands to acquire new fans and to renew the interest of their older fans.

The 99X Locals Only Stage was the beginning for many of the bands that now play on their main stage. Some of the

bands that started out on the Locals Only Stage were the Josh Joplin Group, Rehab,

and Marvellous 3. Other than concerts, the people were able to enjoy many shops and other attrac-

tions. The stands were selling everything from jewelry and

where many people received shots of pure oxygen. The "bartender" used the phrase

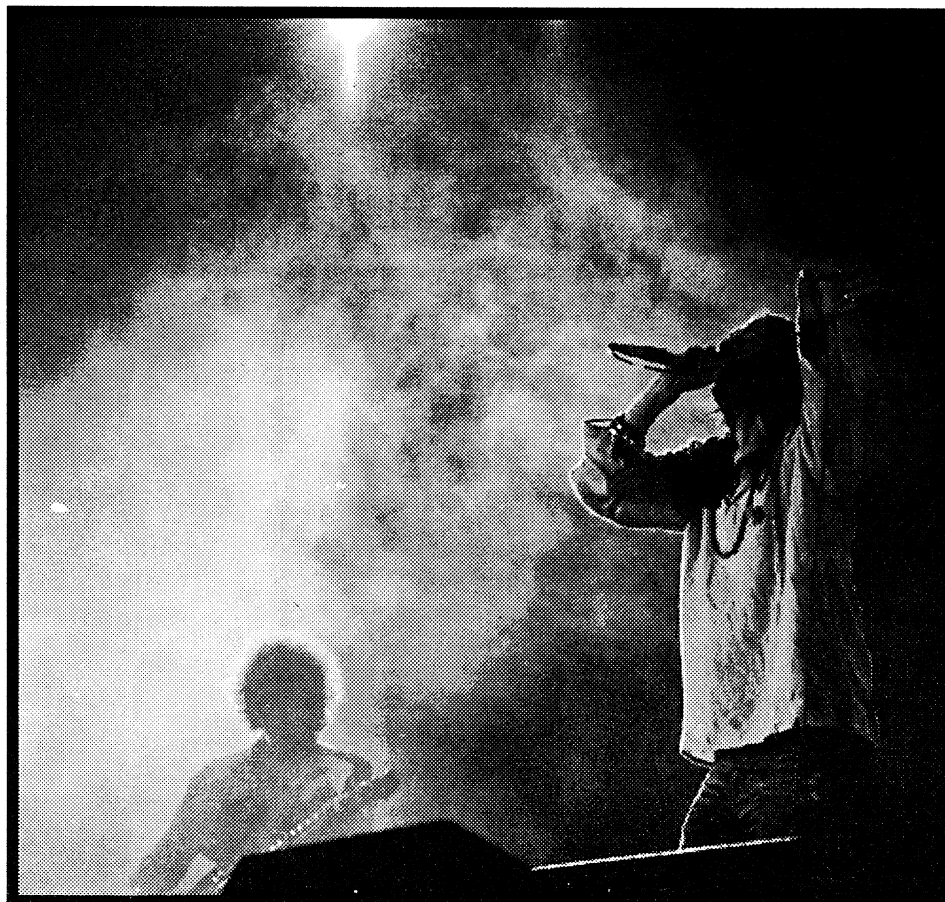
"It's the legal way to get a buzz" to attract customers.

There was a wide variety of food for just a snack or a full meal. Greek, Thai, Mexican, Chinese, seafood, hotdogs, and ice cream were some of the many foods found at Music midtown.

Live finished off this years Music

Kowalczyk split his pants while singing, the concert carried on, after he embarrassedly announced to the crowd what had happened.

Ed Kowalczyk introduced his guest saying, "...I play playstation II, I sometimes download music off Napster...and I think that basketball hasn't been the same since Dennis Rodman left." With that said, Dennis Rodman came onstage and they sang a duet to "All you need is Love". After one encore, they left the crowd wanting more, as Music Midtown came to an end.



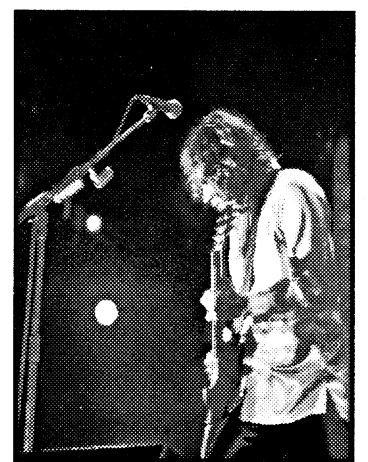
The Black Crows

and Marvellous 3.

Other than concerts, the people were able to enjoy many shops and other attrac-

clothes to candles. One of the more popular stands offered Henna art. Another popular attraction was the oxygen bar

Midtown on the Budweiser 99x stage. Their energetic stage presence captivated the audience. Although Ed



The Black Crows

Mexican Exchange Program Enters Third Year *Continued*

UIA Laguna in analyzing production within a portion of a U.S. company's factory near Torreon. A factory manager would ask for a report (in Spanish) concerning a production line. Once per week, the teams would spend a day looking into the factors governing production and quality control. Factors such as the number of items produced per machine per day, or the number of items per employee per day, are considered. The student teams would also investigate the production schedule, quality standards, time and motion, and the number of machines required for factory throughput in making recommendations to improve both efficiency and quality.

According to Thomas, the opportunity provides SPSU students to see the actual problems encountered in production. SPSU's ATET labs expose students to some very sophisticated production equipment, yet the exposure to the actual equipment used on the line is considered to be a tremendous benefit to the students. Professor Haddock attested to the quality education SPSU's ATET department provides. Although most of the Mexican partners of the two-person teams are studying industrial engineering, they are often impressed with their learning experiences as the

factory managers, the SPSU faculty, and most frequently, the SPSU ATET students, instruct them in the methodologies used by the industry in analyzing production.

The two-person team approach is used to foster a sense of international cooperation in achieving goals. While SPSU students may assist their Mexican colleagues in the methods used to analyze production, the Mexican partners in turn instruct SPSU students in proper technical writing in Spanish for the Mexican business culture. The joint effort often provides for good reports useful to the company sponsoring the educational opportunity.

The summer of 1999 saw SPSU students working with Mexican colleagues on behalf of Vanity Fair, Major League, Inc., and a sports apparel manufacturer, provided a similar opportunity in the summer semester of 2000. This year, with the addition of Canadian students, the two-person teams will constitute a true NAFTA effort.

Universidad Iberoamericana Laguna was chosen as a partner university for the program due to its similarities with Southern Polytechnic. UIA Laguna is located in the metropolitan city of Torreon, with a population of about a half million and an

array of maquiladoras (factories) associated with the apparel trade. The university serves approximately 4000 students, many from the Mexican middle class, who wish to study many of the same technical disciplines offered by SPSU.

According to Thomas, the dire need for qualified engineers abroad in the apparel and textile trade is leading towards recruiting nationals who reside in those countries. However, the high cost of attending an American institution like SPSU for four or more years has proven to be a show-stopper. To meet the needs of the industry, SPSU has implemented a 20 semester hour certificate program in Apparel Product Development. Upon completion, students will have received instruction in Apparel and Textile Computer Systems I and II, Equipment and Systems Evaluation and Selection, an introduction to Computers for the Textile and apparel industry, and International Sourcing and Employee systems. During the spring semester, some of the coursework was completed by six Mexican students who have received instruction in industrial engineering, mechanical engineering, or apparel and textile engineering elsewhere.

For the future, Professor Haddock sees the exchange program with UIA Laguna as just a start. He hopes that the ATET department will be able to offer SPSU students opportunities in three very different cultural settings. At present, the ATET department is exploring opportunities to open exchange programs in China and Turkey.

Haddock explains that China is a major trading partner. In particular, the Chinese government is making efforts to expand the Hong Kong business model to other cities. Amongst these cities is Shanghai, and negotiations have been underway with Wuxi University, with an eye towards implementing an exchange in a couple of years. Wuxi is a satellite city of Shanghai and is located in Jiangsu Province. According to Haddock, Shanghai is poised to become the major trade and manufacture center of China within the next 20 to 40 years.

Another exchange program option under investigation involves a technical university similar to SPSU in the vicinity of Istanbul, Turkey. Haddock states that Turkey is one of the hottest countries for U.S. business investment, as the country has trade agreements with both the European Union and many of the former

east bloc nations. In addition, labor costs are relatively inexpensive compared to other entry points in these markets. Turkey has also provided incentives to foreign investment with low tax rates, trade free zones, and a good educational system.

One advantage SPSU has in negotiating these programs lies with SPSU alumni. In each case, SPSU alumni working in the apparel and textile trade are employed in these nations, and have proven instrumental in making contacts. Still, negotiations overseas take time. At present, for instance, the tensions between China and the United States over the collision of a U.S. EP-3 surveillance plane with a Chinese fighter jet have cooled relations between the two countries. However, this is not believed to be a major influence in exploring the possible exchange program with Wixu University.

These programs, in addition to existing programs with the Institut Universitaire Technologique in Ancy, France, and the universities of the state of Sachsen-Anhalt in Germany, provide opportunities for SPSU students to broaden their horizons by studying abroad. Further information on the Universidad Iberoamericana Laguna can be found at <http://www.lag.uia.mx>.

A New SGA

By Kamie Harkins

If there was one thing that any member of the 2001-2002 SGA would want students to know, it would be that they are committed to working together as a team for the benefit of the students of SPSU. This was obvious in their first meeting. Every member seemed to be quite optimistic and have an eager, positive attitude. The words team and teamwork were repeated many times during the meeting. Respect for their roles and each others seems to be prevalent. And most importantly, they realize that they are here for SPSU students and for their interests.

After the usual first meeting introductions, a few items were presented before

the SGA on the May 29, 2001 meeting. Shawn Hall asked that the appeals for tickets issued for not having parking decals that are given before the financial aid checks are issued be nulled. He made the point that students should not be fined or penalized like this when they do not have the money to pay for the decals because one department did not communicate with the other. The SGA unanimously approved this. So if you get a ticket because you did not have the funds to buy a parking decal before your financial aid check was issued, appeal it and thank the new SGA.

Also, there was a request for the freshman orientation program called

JOURNEY. The program is to help incoming freshmen get a chance to meet each other, meet current students, and get to know the campus. Basically, they asked that the SGA sponsor an ice cream social on each of the two sessions. Current students would be welcome and encouraged to attend. The council decided to wait on making a decision on this request until they got a chance to form their committees.

The main issue presented to the SGA was a request for the \$4,000 originally intended for SPSU students to go to Germany is given to German exchange students as a one-time scholarship. SPSU students cannot go to Germany this summer

because contract negotiations between the administration of SPSU and schools in Germany failed. Many SGA members did not have all the information on the details of the contracts or why SPSU students are not able to go to Germany, and they did not seem to feel comfortable making an immediate decision on this request until all the facts were found and presented. However, the person making this request, Dr. Bennett, asked that a decision be made before June 3, 2001 when he will be going out of the country.

Overall, the new SGA seems to have a lot of potential and good ideas. They seem eager to work together for the students.

Hopefully, the momentum will maintain throughout the school year.

Free the Weed

By Ann Bartone

On May 6, there was a banning of marijuana protest on Peachtree Street, in Atlanta. Music Midtown goers were stopped on the corner of North Avenue and Peachtree Street by this small group of protesters. They carried with them posters with phrases such as "Free the Weed" and "God gave us Weed".

The leader of this protest began their chanting of "we smoke pot", and



A Stoner and her Son

then continued to point at

people in the Midtown crowd

and say, "you smoke pot".

One of the protesters asked

the crowd to join in and

police whistles and trying to recruit more people.

protest the banning of marijuana. The Midtown crowd, however, did not meet this offer, with enthusiasm. As they past by the crowd, they handed out plastic marijuana leave necklaces to people.

Most people thought this demonstration was humorous. Maria Wells said that she was astonished, "I could not believe they even brought their young children to march with them!"

The protesters marched on without an addition to their group, ignoring

SPSU's Foreign Relations

By Mark Campbell

Mention a study abroad program, and many American college students think of glossy package deals offered by unheard of "colleges" posted on bulletin boards around campus. Many, however, are unaware of the opportunities that Southern Polytechnic State University offers to its own students to broaden their horizons — abroad.

The most prominent exchange programs at SPSU have been with the Universidad Iberoamericana Laguna in Torreon, Mexico, and with a variety of Fachhochschule and Universitaet in the former East German state of Sachsen-Anhalt. The Mexican exchange program was started by the Apparel and Textile Engineering Technology department with assistance from the apparel and textile industry. The German exchange program was begun by Ms. Charlotte Janis, currently Director of International Student Services. Except for this summer, SPSU has sent students to Germany since the summer of 1995.

Southern Polytechnic has also had exchange programs with the Institut Universitaire Technologique in Ancy, France. Begun under the guidance of Dr. Laurence Logue of the Mechanical Engineering Technology department, this program has seen French students from the IUT come to SPSU to pursue degrees in Physics. Assistance has also been provided, albeit less formally, to students from India pursuing graduate degrees in computer science.

And there are future options in the offing. As part of a concerted industry effort, SPSU's ATET department is exploring the possibility of establishing exchange programs in the city of Wixu, Jiangsu Province, in the People's Republic of China, as well as with a technical university near Istanbul, Turkey. Dr. Walter Thomas, the department head, has said that the department has had contact with industry delegations from Argentina, Brazil and Columbia. And in a similar

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Sidebar: An International Love Story

By Mark Campbell

Foreign exchange programs can have a dramatic impact on a student's life, but it isn't always academic. Take, for instance, the case of Diego Huot and Roxana De Hoyos. Huot, a French national born in Mexico City, came to Southern Polytechnic State University on an exchange with his home institution in Ancy, France, and the Institut Universitaire Technologique. De Hoyos, from Lazaro Cardenas, Mexico, arrived at SPSU in the Spring Semester of 2000 from her school, the Universidad Iberoamericana Laguna in Torreon. It was here at Southern Polytechnic that the two met and fell in love.

Huot has earned a degree in Physics from SPSU and is working on a minor in Management. De Hoyos, a Mexican national, is studying industrial engineering. At present, under U. S. immigration laws, Huot has a one-year grace period for finding employment in the United States. Companies that hire foreign nationals, however, can help their employees in attaining a visa that allows for continued long-term employment in this country. Huot has enjoyed his experience in the United States and plans to stay for a few years.

The exchange program

with France was started under the auspices of Dr. Laurence Logue of the Mechanical Engineering Technology Department, with assistance from Professor Kathy Hall of Mathematics. Huot credits Dr. Logue with assisting Dr. Sam Scales of the Physics Department in the international paperwork necessary for arranging a course of study. Huot's home institution, the IUT in Ancy, is a two-year school with approximately 1800 students, of which about 300 are studying Physics. Huot is presently the last French student to attend SPSU under this program, as Dr. Logue winds down his affairs in preparation for retirement. It is hoped that the new Director of International Programs, Dr. Richard Bennett of the Social and International Studies Department, will see to the continuation of the exchange program.

Ironically, Huot's own parents met each other abroad while backpacking in South America. His father, a U.S. citizen, resides in Portland, Oregon. His mother, a French national, resides in his hometown of Bons-en-Chablais. De Hoyos and Huot will be spending a month this summer travelling in and around his hometown.

CAB's Battle of the Bands Deemed a Success

By Zachary Jones

CAB's Battle of the Bands Deemed a Success —With exclusive STING interview with Friday at Five drummer, Barry Birkhead
By Zachary Jones

April 25, CAB's First Battle of the Bands fulfilled its purpose to give exposure to local bands as well as bring increased activity to campus.

Virginia Greene, excited CAB Public Relations Officer, said, "Battle of the Bands is where bands come together to show off their talent and put a new dawn on the age of college music." Moreover, she said, "The Battle of the Bands had a better turn out than expected (even after the pizza showed up and disappeared)."

Though this was the first time CAB had attempted a concert of these proportions, CAB hopes that it is not the last. Greene continued, "The Battle of the Bands will hopefully have a larger outcome in bands and audience either this fall or in the spring." For those that liked the event, she urged, "Talk to your CAB committee about it and tell them you want them to host it again."

Though this was the largest concert CAB has

sponsored, it surely wasn't the first. Past CAB sponsored performers include Purple Mustard, One Handed Molly, and many others.

What about the band exposure? For Friday at 5, a campus band, composed of faculty and staff, it was their first public performance. Performing a five-song set of "Born to Be Wild," "Proud Mary," "Keep Your Hands to Yourself," "Alright Now," and "Sunshine of Your Love," said that they received a lot of positive feedback. "We do it because it's fun."

"Not many know that we are musicians on campus," said drummer Barry Birkhead, "and I think that not acting our age has some appeal here on campus." Mainly because of their performance at CAB's Battle of the Bands, Friday at 5 received their second gig at the Faculty/Staff Campus Picnic.

Regarding Tragically Undecided (formally known as No One) and King's Indian, they will next be performing at the Somber Reptile on June 23rd. For further information regarding that show, contact their PR, Virginia Greene at virginia_greene@hotmail.com.

SPSU's Foreign Relations Continued

manner, delegations from South Africa and Portugal who are interested in apparel and textile manufacturing will be visiting the campus this month.

Dr. Richard Bennett, a professor in the Social and International Studies program, will be officially assuming the duty of coordinating SPSU's foreign exchange programs on July 1st, 2001. Unofficially, he is already acting in the capacity of Director of International Programs, a role he took on in mid-April. One of his first tasks was to meet with Vice Rector Professor Dr. Markus Seewald who came to SPSU from the university system of Sachsen-Anhalt personally to facilitate negotiations for a contract renewal that had begun last summer. Dr. Bennett will be visiting Sachsen-Anhalt starting on

June 13th in an effort to extend the contract that expired last academic year.

For assistance, SPSU has turned to the Student Government Association for funding for dormitory housing for four German students who may arrive for the 2001-2002 academic year. Currently, the SGA has allocated \$4000.00 for assisting SPSU students this year who wish to travel abroad as part of an exchange program. But with no requests from those going to Mexico, and no ongoing exchange in place this summer for Germany, the monies remain unspent. Dr. Bennett's proposal would have the SGA use that student activity fee money to pay the school for the dormitory spaces required, as a goodwill effort to extend the contract with the German institutions. The SGA decided

to table the matter at their last meeting.

According to Bennett, contract negotiations with the partner institutions in Sachsen-Anhalt have bogged down on the matters of providing room and board. Previously, SPSU and the schools in Germany have agreed to provide free housing and a limited number of meals to exchange students as part of the program. Bennett states that according to information he learned from Vice President of Business and Finance Patrick McCord, such an arrangement is not in compliance with state regulations. Therefore, a new contract will be necessary that somehow properly compensates SPSU for the use of the dormitory rooms.

Bennett added that the principal parties in the development of a new contract

include President Lisa Rossbacher, Vice President of Academic Affairs Sandy Pfeiffer, Vice President of Business and Finance Patrick McCord, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment Ron Koger, Director of International Programs Richard Bennett, and to some extent, the current Director of International Student Services, Charlotte Janis. When Seewald visited SPSU in mid-April, he was able to speak with Pfeiffer, Koger, and Bennett, according to Dr. Bennett.

Bennett has asked that the SGA expedite their decision, as he will be leaving soon for Mexico, followed by a visit to Sachsen-Anhalt on June 13th. The next regularly scheduled SGA meeting is on Tuesday, June 12 at noon. In the meantime, Dr. Walter Thomas

of the ATET department will be meeting with the Portuguese delegation on June 15th as part of an industry tour originating in Washington, D.C.

Students interested in participating in a foreign exchange program should contact Dr. Bennett by email at rbennett@spsu.edu.

New Students Get Their Bearings

By Mark Campbell

Some of the new students attending Southern Polytechnic State University for the first time received an orientation to the campus in the student union ballroom on Monday, May 21st. Here the principal players they will encounter during their stay at the university were introduced, and the functions of the various departments explained. A question and answer session was held after each session, and the sixty or so students and parents participated.

Dr. Ron Koger, Vice President of Student Services and Enrollment, gave a brief recap of the day's schedule. He then introduced Student Government Association Vice-President Randall Ware.

Ware welcomed the new students, then explained that SPSU was an institution that put a lot of effort into educating students. He likewise pointed out that students can put a lot of effort into their own education and the school by participating with the many competition teams on campus. In particular, he singled out the Aerial Robotics team, the General Engineering of Autonomous Robots Team

(which builds a firefighting robot), and SPSU's excellent Steel Bridge Team. He pointed out that the competition teams allow one to apply the skills and knowledge learned in the classroom. Ware is President of the GEAR team.

Mr. Ware acknowledged the presence of a number of coed students in the audience, and commended them for choosing SPSU. As a father of three, he said he tries to impress upon his own daughters that there are no limits as to what they can accomplish.

Teamwork, according to Ware, is the key to success. He emphasized that the competition teams use teamwork and a multidisciplinary approach to accomplish their objectives. His advice to each student was that they get to know each other, their faculty, staff and administrators. Communication and teamwork, he emphasized, were the keys to getting things done and to succeed.

The next speaker was university President Lisa Rossbacher (PhD, Geology, Princeton University). Rossbacher prefaced her remarks by asking the audi-

ence how many had seen advertising for SPSU on the radio or television in the last month. In response, about a dozen people raised their hands.

Rossbacher explained that the Board of Regents (of the University System of Georgia) had designated Southern Polytechnic as a special purpose institution with an emphasis on teaching the application of science and technology. She added that the many student projects available on campus emphasize the ability to work in groups and communicate effectively.

Another purpose of the university is to prepare the student for the first job, and all subsequent jobs, according to Rossbacher. She expounded by explaining that at the previous liberal arts college (Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania), knowledge was gained for the sake of gaining knowledge. Southern Polytechnic State University, she added, is very different. Here "we're very focused on how you apply knowledge to solve real problems." When she asked if anyone had yet to decide what they wanted to

study, not a single person in the audience raised their hand.

Rossbacher also suggested that students allow themselves the opportunity to explore. She started by saying that in her undergraduate year, she had declared as an English major. But the curriculum called for a science course in her freshman year, and so she enrolled in geology to meet the requirement, as it was the only science course still available to her upon registration. She found, instead, that the subject appealed to her, and consequently she went on to earn a doctorate in the discipline.

She went on to advise the students that SPSU was a challenging place, but that all the faculty and staff, including the administrators that were present, are available to help the student.

As to the male to female gender imbalance, she emphasized that SPSU has an initiative to increase the number of women here on campus and in science, engineering and technology. In closing, she asked the new students to advise the school on how they can increase visibility and services in those areas.

Koger took the opportunity to point out that SPSU intends to have a women's intercollegiate basketball program in place by Fall semester of 2002. Barry Birkhead, newly promoted to Dean of Student Services, took the opportunity to introduce Karl Staber, Director of Recreational Sports and Athletic Programs.

Staber informed the new students of the location of the Recreation and Wellness Center. It is across the main parking lot from the student union, and is the SPSU building closest to the Greyhound Bus station. The hours are from 7AM to 8PM on weekdays during the summer, and an SPSU student identification card is needed to use it. The Recreation and Wellness Center features indoor basketball courts, handball courts, an exercise room, an indoor pool, a weight room, and exercise equipment.

SPSU offered intramural sports in about 20 to 25 different activities, according to Staber. Included in these are basketball, softball, handball, tennis and golf. In addition, he pointed out that SPSU has a track and field

club, and that a soccer club may soon be forming. Although not mentioned, SPSU also has an ultimate Frisbee club.

Intercollegiate sports presently include men's basketball, baseball and tennis. Staber added that the women's intercollegiate basketball program will be recruiting for one year, and that they will start competing in 2003.

Staber also pointed out that the Recreation and Wellness Center has a health promotion and fitness coordinator as well as a registered nurse. The nurse has some supplies to provide for minor injuries, and an arrangement has been made with the WellStar Group to handle minor cases requiring a physician at their centers in the Cobb County area.

Birkhead next introduced SPSU campus police Chief Gary Chasteen. Chasteen emphasized the three responsibilities that the department takes on: Security, Parking Service, and Police. For security, he pointed out that his department produces the student identification cards, and that this could be done dead center on the bottom floor of the Norton Hall dormitory. Chasteen emphasized that his department secures lab spaces after hours. Students who have been permitted access to the labs should approach his department to have the necessary doors opened for them.

As for parking, students are advised that a fifteen dollar parking decal is required by the fifth day of classes in a given semester. Chasteen cautioned that students should be wary of parking in the following areas, as they may get tickets: near fire hydrants, in handicap parking, in Green and signed faculty lots, in

Orange faculty lots, or anywhere else if they haven't gotten their parking decal. He pointed out that tickets must be paid, or a hold may be placed upon a student's records, preventing registration for classes or getting transcripts. Southern Polytechnic, according to Chasteen, has the best ratio of parking spaces per student anywhere in the University System of Georgia, so properly parking should not be a problem.

Chasteen also pointed out that Southern Tech police have original jurisdiction on campus and are state-certified police officers. He pointed out that while there are very few incidents of crime on campus, some theft has occurred. The police, he stressed, are here to serve the students, and are willing to escort students at night. In addition, there are a number of emergency phones that connect directly with the police on campus.

Barry Birkhead introduced himself as Dean of Student Services, and took the opportunity to point out some of the services in the student union, which was remodeled and greatly expanded in 1994. Food service is available on the bottom floor, and elsewhere in the building are a number of offices for student organizations. Birkhead mentioned that the campus radio station (WGHR) and newspaper (the Sting) are housed in the student union. The Student Government Association also has its offices and meeting in the student union. In short, he added, the student union is the center of campus life, "even though it is on the north end of campus."

Birkhead then introduced Assistant Director of Student Services Jackie Gilpin, who advises the Campus Activities

Board, the fraternities and sororities, and the SPSU Ambassadors. Gilpin also manages the Cultural Series. She pointed out that although the Campus Activities Board is quiescent in the summers, they do arrange for movies downstairs in the big screen theater. The Campus Activities Board is comprised of students interested in arranging social functions and other fun things to liven up life on campus.

Gilpin also assists the three sororities and six fraternities in planning their activities. As a manager of the Cultural Series, she pointed out that the students' student activity fee monies help subsidize tickets to plays, art shows, festivals and professional ballgames for students on a first come, first serve basis at the student union information desk. An example is the Georgia Shakespeare Festival, which will be held at Oglethorpe University this summer. And the SPSU Ambassadors program, which she advises, is a group of students interested in promoting SPSU and helping with events such as orientation days. Her advice to the new students was to get involved and stay involved.

Jeff Orr was introduced next as the ATTIC director, an amalgamation of previous services housed around campus. Orr explained that the acronym stands for "Advising, Testing, Tutoring, International Student, and Center." Although the new center does not officially open until July 1st, 2001, he explained that most of the services are available now. The center is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, and may be opened a couple of evenings from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM. It can be found in the J or

Atrium building, on the second floor in room J253.

The ATTIC staff are available to provide students with advise on choosing a major and a career, testing for student deficiencies, and providing tutoring to help fill those deficiencies. As the learning resource center on campus, students are free to use the tools and advise to enhance their educational experiences. Additionally, international students are encouraged to visit the center for advice on how to fill out the necessary paperwork required to attend SPSU and stay in the United States legally. Disability services will also be provided by staff in the center.

Finally, Eugenia Doyle was introduced as the Director of Career and Counseling Services. Career Services had moved out of the bottom of Howell dormitory into the counseling center in the upper northwest corner of the student union. The new center provides advice on resumes and profiles of different companies. The center also maintains a list of approximately 1400 openings available with those companies in the area through the Georgia Hire database. Staff are also available to provide useful tips on the interview process. Ms. Susan Denman was recently hired to assist students in starting their careers.

Doyle pointed out how her staff arranges a Career Day once each semester. In the fall, this is usually held in conjunction with other universities at the Galleria, while the spring sees Career Day held on the SPSU campus.

Doyle also said her office handles the cooperative education program as well as internships. Ms. Brittany Glazier was recently hired to assist students in qualifying for

co-op or internship positions. Doyle stressed that the co-op program provided practical work experience to complement one's education. In addition, starting salaries are typically \$1900 per month, and over 300 positions are available.

Doyle pointed out that the average starting salary of SPSU graduates now exceeds \$42,000.00 per year. Further information on career services can be found at <http://www.spsu.edu/careerservices/>

The new center will also include counseling services. A staff member will be available to help students uncertain about career choices by looking at other career options, through career tests, and workshops. Counseling will also be made available for such items as stress, time management, and family counseling.

Doyle said the office will be open from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday, except that hours may be shortened on Fridays. (Note: the Career and Counseling Center closes at 5:30 PM on Fridays during the summer.)

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Behind the Scenes at WGHR

By: Amy Jalutkewicz

Although it is summertime at SPSU, there is plenty going on at the campus radio station, WGHR. The station is slated to be signing on with College Public Radio (CPR) as part of an underwriting program, obtaining a construction permit for a new frequency on Atlanta's airwaves, and completing station renovations. We have also recently renovated our website.

WGHR has been offered the opportunity to air syndicated shows for CPR (www.collegepublicradio.org). Pete Knapp, alumnus of WGHR and SPSU, will produce a series of sponsored shows, and distribute them to several college radio stations across the US who are working with CPR. The shows will be playing music of under-played artists from all over the country. CPR affiliates are paid by the advertisers through underwriting, which is a type of payment

specifically for non-profit organizations. WGHR plans to start airing the shows in July. To learn more about the shows and CPR itself, check out www.collegepublicradio.org.

WGHR is also working on obtaining a license for a new frequency on your dial. We are hoping to secure a construction permit with the FCC for 89.7 FM by the end of this year. Since a larger, commercial station is attempting to obtain 102.5 FM, we, as a noncommercial station, are forced to look for a new frequency to broadcast from. We are currently in the process of talking with lawyers and broadcast-engineering firms.

WGHR is planning to complete all renovations by the end of this summer in order to have the station in top shape for Fall 2001. We are com-

pleting the renovations started by the Architecture students who completed the main renovation of the station (which recently won 2, 1st place prizes in the SPSU art show). We are hoping to purchase some new furniture, build a listening station for our listeners in our lobby, and complete some mechanical upgrades in order to have WGHR operating at its best. Upgrades that have been already completed include a new, improved automation system, and a new phone system that allows us to put callers on the air.

Finally, WGHR has recently renovated its website in an effort to make it more user-friendly and to offer our listeners more opportunities and service. Check out the website at wghr.spsu.edu.

This summer will be busy for WGHR, but we are looking forward to sharing all of our hard work with the students of SPSU and our faithful group of off-campus listeners.

Summer Line Up for WGHR

By: Amy Jalutkewicz

Although we do not have all of our DJs on campus this summer, we still have a good amount of shows playing on a daily basis. We also have some new additions to our DJ staff.

Mondays:	
Prof. Flannery	4-6pm
Tuesdays:	
Michael Rickman	4-6pm
Matt Womack	6-8pm
Farhan Rabbi	8-10pm
Dave Kundak & Marc Brown	10-12am
Wednesdays:	
Kevin Love	12-1pm
Prof. Flannery	4-6pm
Thursdays:	
Rich Merritt	10-12am
Fridays:	
Trae Johnson	4-6pm
DeMarius Bell & Craig Gresham	6-8pm
Leslie Franklin	8-10pm
Saturdays:	
Tony Cagnard	4-8pm
Lindsay Hammett	8-10pm

WGHR would like to welcome its new DJ's who started this summer: Tony Cagnard (aka DJ Blade), Craig Gresham, and DeMarius Bell.

For more information about shows and up-to-date showtimes, please check out the WGHR website, wghr.spsu.edu.



Gamma Phi Beta Update

By Christy Fleming, ΔO 196

First of all, the girls of Gamma Phi would like to send a fond farewell to the sisters that graduated this May. Belinda Carroll, Myrna Steele, Kimberly Walker, and Erin Moore have finished their lives at Southern Polytech. Congratulations and Good Luck girls (We know we will see you at Alum Date Night and Initiation)!

The rest of the girls of Gamma Phi are busy with summer jobs and summer classes. Each is hoping to get some well deserved rest over the summer so they can come back with a tremendous rush next fall. After last fall's pledge class doubling the chapter size, the girls have a lot of weight on their shoulders to do even better this fall. No one is worried, as the women

have an outlook and know that they can do anything they put their minds to.

With summer rush retreats already planned, the girls are going to be ready come back this fall.

New Hispanic Culture Club Looking for Members

STING STAFF

A new student organization promoting Hispanic language and culture here at SPSU, planned to start Fall 2001, currently is looking for members.

Prospective President, Zachary Jones, said regarding the hoped-for response to the club, "I hope that people from many diverse backgrounds join this club. Too, I hope that no one has the misconception that you have to BE Hispanic to join the club (though we want you too!). Look at me! I'm just a gringito who happens to think he is Dominican."

Proposed events include Campus-wide Dances (featuring merengue, salsa, bachata, and many other Latin

rhythms), Dance Lessons, Restaurant Field Trips, and Community Involvement. "Hispanics are the fastest growing minority in the nation," continued Jones, "and we plan to make people aware of the culture and language of these varied peoples, ranging from South America to the Caribbean."

If you are interested in this club, please send a short email to zjones@spsu.edu expressing your desire to join. The more people on the request to start the organization, which will come in Fall 2001, the more likely the SGA is to approve it.

CAB Summer 2001 Movies

—Submitted by CAB

Be sure to check out CAB's Summer 2001 Movies in the Student Center Downstairs!

Meet the Parents:
June 25-July 2

Remember the Titans:
July 9-15

Miss Congeniality:
July 30-August 6

The Legend of Bagger Vance:
August 13-19

On The Bricks Kicks

By Mad Booking

(Atlanta, Ga) Mad Booking and WNNX-99X are pleased to have announced the entire line-up for the 2001 On the Bricks concert series on May 9th at Smith's Olde Bar in Midtown Atlanta. In front of a packed house, one artist from every show was on hand to announce their particular show date and line-up. Shortly after, the crowd was entertained with performances from Jeffrey Butts of Modern Hero, Will Hoge as well as Left Front Tire who jumped into a surprise medley of On the Bricks artist songs. 99X APD/Music Director, Chris Williams adds, "99X is excited about the potential of On the Bricks becoming downtown Atlanta's premier benchmark event. The inaugural line-up is anchored by rock bands known for their exciting live performances."

This free weekly Friday concert series will be held in downtown Atlanta at Centennial Olympic Park. The series will begin on Friday, May 25 and continue through August 10th. The official On The Bricks event launch was made on Thursday, April 12th where Mad Booking

The full On the Bricks line-up is as follows:

Friday, May 25 - Tantric, Powderfinger, Poe and Ours
 Friday, June 1 - Staind, Brand New Immortals, Cold
 Friday, June 8 - Better Than Ezra, Rehab, Six Against Seven
 Friday, June 15 - Vertical Horizon, Will Hoge, Modern Hero
 Friday, June 22 - Our Lady Peace, Doves, Tendr Idols
 Friday, June 29 - They Might Be Giants, Joydrop, Travisty Theory
 Friday, July 6 - Tonic, G Love & Special Sauce, Lotustarr
 Friday, July 13 - Cowboy Mouth, Grand Theft Audio, Left Front Tire
 Friday, July 20 - Sister Hazel, Dexter Freebish, Marathon, Chrystina Llore
 Friday, July 27 - Special Guest, Josh Joplin Band, Drive-By Truckers
 Friday, August 3 - Marvelous 3, Mars Needs Women and Atlantis Showcasing Artists
 Friday, August 10 - Special Guest

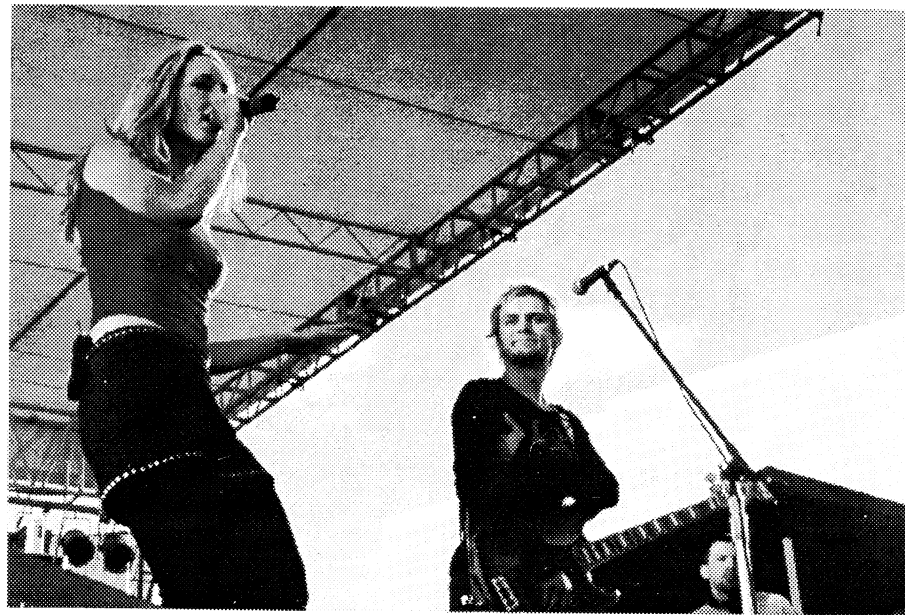
Stone Temple Pilots, Counting Crows, LIVE and Ben Harper & the Innocent Criminals.

On the Bricks is produced by Mad Booking and presented in conjunction with 99X-WNNX and Centennial Olympic Park along with media partners The Atlanta Journal Constitution and WB36!

Visit www.onthebricks.net for more information.

President, Marcie Allen announced four of the artists set to appear during the summer. Look

for special promotions for 99X freeloaders all summer long! On the Bricks was created to mirror the highly successful Dancin' In the District series in Nashville, which celebrates its 9th Anniversary this season.



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college and corporate events nationwide. For the past two years, Mad Booking has secured the talent for the Voodoo Music Festival in New Orleans with artists including: Cypress Hill, 311, Train, Marvelous 3, Moby,

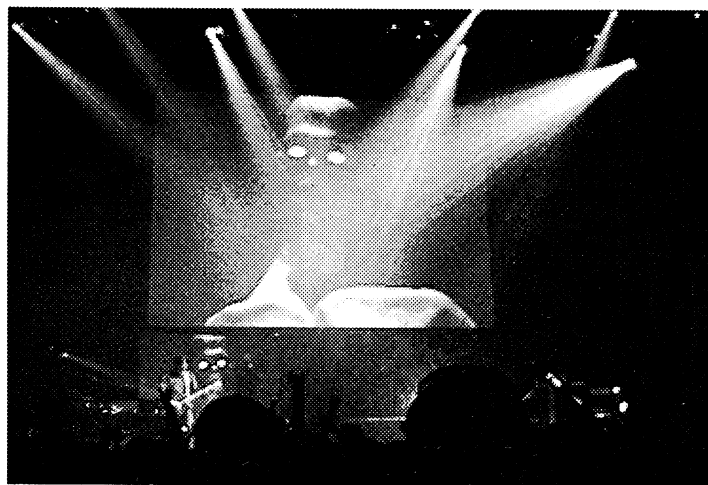
Recently acquired by Mad Booking, Dancin' in the District is held every Thursday night at Riverfront Park in Nashville May 17th-August 9th (with no show on Thursday, June 14th due to Fan Fair).

Tool - An Experience not to Miss

By Kamie Harkins

I had the privilege of being able to see TOOL on May 15, 2001 in Atlanta at the Tabernacle. And do you know what? The show was awesome. They sounded perfect (after they fixed the sound during the Grudge, vocals too low). Maynard was cracking jokes all night. He announced that the next song was Schism, and then Adam Jones corrected him and MJK said, "Sorry, I'm old, the next song is Prison Sex." After half time, which was about a 10-minute, they came back out on stage and MJK said "This isn't an encore, we're old, and we needed to take a dose of Geritall and Viagra." He also was being a smarty (I cannot say what I really want to here, but that is ok) when he said a few times, very sarcastically a few times "Thank you for your patience, and support." His

sense of humor might be lost on people who don't understand what a dry sense of humor he has. Before Aenima he said, "I'm going to use an old joke that I haven't used in a long time, so I can use it. This next song is about water sports. Was it funny?" The stage show was perhaps the most impressive I have ever seen, especially in a small venue. There was a giant video screen behind the band, and one as well on the platform MJK was standing on. He disappeared into it at certain times. The set up of the stage was different then any band I've seen before. Instead of the standard drum riser in



the back, guitarist on the right, bass player on the left, singer in the middle, it was two risers in the back, one with the drums, and one with MJK and the video screen (he hardly stepped off the riser the entire show), with Adam on the left of the stage, and Justin on the right. The visuals fit perfectly with the music. The images were, for lack of a better term, flipping bizarre, and I

loved them. You had naked people in a swimming pool, weird graphics from the

artwork of their albums, men and women touching each other, but it was all cool. Like I said, it fit the music perfectly. When the songs changed, so did the back-grounds. The lighting enhanced the whole atmo-

sphere. Danny Carey ripped it up all night. His drumming was superb, and whenever he kicked in the double bass, the entire floor rumbled.

TOOL did not disappoint, even if they did get on about 2 hours too late. A lot of people bought fake tickets from scalpers, so they had to weed the real ones out. It was awful for the band to have the delay, for the crowd to have

to wait so long for the concert to begin, and for those who got bled out of hundreds of dollars on fake tickets. I was waiting on line outside the Tabernacle at about 2:30 in the afternoon, so I had an awesome place. We were right in the front row under Jones. Our spot was as close to Jones as humanly possible. A perfect seat, a perfect show. TOOL rules the rock world. I am still buzzing from the experience. It was so amazing that I doubt I will ever be the same. In my opinion, MAYNARD IS GOD! Also, if you did not get to go to this show, there is the possibility that they will be coming back to the Atlanta area very soon. Maynard said at the end of the show "see you real soon, next time get your tickets from a legitimate source." If you love Tool, keep your eyes out. I will do my best to keep you posted on any details I find out.

On The Bricks Kicks-Off with 12,000 in Attendance!

By STING STAFF

ATLANTA, GA: The very first On The Bricks concert, held last Friday night, had amazing results! 12,000 in attendance with Tantric, Powderfinger, Poe and Ours performing! This Friday, with performances by Staind, Brand New Immortals, and Cold, there's no doubt On The Bricks is getting hotter!

Gates open at 6:00 pm and bands will perform from 7:00pm till 10:30pm under the stars at Centennial Olympic Park. Whether you work, live or play downtown, On the Bricks is the place to be every Friday night this summer! "What a great way to kick off this inaugural series! 12,000 in attendance!" explains event promoter, Marcie Allen "This week's show is going to be amazing.

Staind has the number one selling record in the country and people in Atlanta can see them for FREE! Not bad for a Friday night." Staind's new release,

Break The Cycle sold 716,000 pieces in its first week of release, don't miss them live at On the Bricks!

Come down this Friday beginning at 4pm for Market On the Bricks! This area is open to everyone, so make sure you get down to the park early for drinks and shopping before the show! Also stop by the AJC booth on site and sign up to win an EphiPhone Electric Guitar to be signed by artists throughout the season! Also visit any Mellow Mushroom location for a chance to win a seat on the stage during a headliner's performance at On the Bricks.

General event restrictions: For the convenience of all concert attendees, no pets, coolers, recording devices, roller skates/blades, bikes, lawn chairs, professional camera equipment, or alcoholic beverages may be brought to the park grounds during On the Bricks.

Food and beverage will be available at the event.

On the Bricks is produced by Mad Booking and presented in conjunction with 99X-WNNX and Centennial Olympic Park along with media partners The Atlanta Journal Constitution, WB36 and AT&T Broadband!

Portions of the proceeds from On the Bricks will benefit VH1/Save the Music. Look for special promotions for 99X freeloader all summer long!

Catch Better Than Ezra, Rehab and Six Against Seven next Friday, June 8th.

Visit our newly designed website www.onthebricks.net for more information.

Acorna

By Ann Bartone

Anne McCaffery wonderfully illustrates the passion of one young girl, a Lynarri to be specific, and her struggle for what is right. Acorna was sent out into space to die peacefully instead of falling victim to the sadistic torture of the Khlevii. A passing miner ship saved the pod. The miners decided on finishing off their job on the astroid before they gave Acorna to authorities. In no time at all, they fell in love with the toddler.

Acorna, being of the Lynarri, had many special characteristics. She could purify air and water with the little horn on her head. She grew up quicker than any human. The miners take her to the planet Kezdet for refuge, and all their lives change for the better. Kezdet is prosperous because of its child labor. When this problem comes to Acorna's attention, the Piper and other owners of Kezdet's children better watch their "investments" because she has plans for them.

The Writer

By Josh Cabella

I'm a writer
With no specific goals,
I write as I please
Not as the wind blows.
I write about freedom,
Peace and unity, sometimes.
Othertimes, I write about
Death, hatred and pain.
I write about people,
Experiences and thoughts.
I write about Love,
The past, the present and the
future.
I write about things
That have came and
Things I wish would come.
I write about ethics, religions
and culture.
I write them as a feeling
Wanting you to feel them too.
So, I am a poet
That goes whichever way.
I follow nobody
And I go as I please.

Losing Grace World Premier

Atlanta, GA: Don't miss the world premier of Losing Grace, a Green Valley Entertainment production showcasing as part of the 25th Atlanta Film and Video Festival. The premier will take place at the Regal Hollywood 24 Theatres in Chamblee on Sunday, June 10th at 8:00pm.

Written and directed by Michael Valverde, Losing Grace is based on the true story of brothers finding their way after the unexpected loss of their beloved sister, Grace. The film delivers an inspiring message of hope and perseverance.

Filmed in Atlanta and Tampa, the cast and crew of Losing Grace are thrilled to finally share this special evening with you!

The richness of the story attracted the attention of seasoned actors including; Academy Award Nominee, Lesley Ann Warren (Victor/Victoria, Clue, Burglar, Life

Stinks, The Color of Night) and Ronny Cox (Forces of Nature, Loose Cannons, Total Recall, Beverly Hills Cop I & II, Robocop, Deliverance) who star as the brother's parents. The brothers, Jordan and Zachary, are played by WB 7th Heaven regular, Matt Farnsworth and Ryan Browning. In addition to the fresh young talent like Farnsworth and Browning, Losing Grace is pleased to introduce a few exciting new actors like, Beth Ann Warren as Grace. Warren is also the niece of Lesley Ann Warren.

Limited seating is available. You may purchase tickets online at accessatlanta.com - keyword: film or call (404) 352-4224 for more information. You can also visit www.LosingGrace.com for information on the story, cast, crew, and a behind the scenes look at the filming of the movie.

Shrek

By Ann Bartone

The latest movie completely computer-animated, *Shrek*, is not just a kid's movie. Shrek, Mike Myers, is a sarcastic, easily annoyed ogre that lives in solitude. He has convinced himself into thinking that he enjoys his life by himself.



After meeting and saving a talking donkey, Eddie Murphy, his swamp becomes filled with fairy tale creatures. Due to the prejudice of the king, they were forced to live in the swamp.

To rid his home of the storybook people, Shrek sets out on a quest that leads him to a beautiful princess. His is accompanied by the donkey, who cannot be quiet. The princess, Cameron Diaz, insists that he must be her true love, him being the knight that saved her. Through out their walk back to the kingdom a friendship forms between the trio.

The princess learns a valuable

lesson after revealing one of her dark secretes. This is a nice new story to the theme "never judge a book by its cover". You get a happy ending mixed with many humorous fairy tale creatures.

DANCE

By Josh Cabella

Dance with me
throw our troubles away.
Dance with me
let's hold each other tightly.

Dance with me
throw the night away.
Dance with me
come live our fantasy.

I never want the night to end.
I want to be with you.
Dance with me and never
acknowledge
that this night could ever end

Dance with me
before the night closes.
Dance with me
and never let go.

Dance with me
before the night ends.
Dance with me
and reveal your soul

Dance with me and live a little
longer.
Dance with me because every
step I take,
I fall deeper in love with you.

Stumpy the Squirrel and the S.G.A.

By Shawn Hall

Since we last heard from Stumpy, several life-altering events have happened to him. I spoke with him recently after a SGA(Squirrel Government Association) Meeting.

“Stumpy, I haven’t seen you in a while. What’s going on?”

–“Well, I was busy campaigning and running for the SGA. It was a hard battle, but I was elected as a Council Member, representing my fellow squirrels here at SPSU.”

“Stumpy, you are starting to sound like a politician already.”

–“Well, I had to get into a better mindset. I realized the thug-life wouldn’t get me too far in the world. I had to re-organize my life, and hide my skeletons. I’ve changed, but I still like big, bushy a*** on my squirrel b***!”

“Stumpy, you better be careful with all those squirrel b****. You see what happened with Marion Barry and Jesse Jackson!”

–“I know, man. I’m living good though. Thanks to the U.S. Supreme Court I can’t get my medicinal marijuana anymore. It’s okay, cause I don’t eat so much Krispy Kreme anymore and have lost 10 pounds. The downside is that I’ve got constant pain in my amputated tail. It’s okay for all those big-time politicians to drink alcohol and take little blue pills to get their Johnsons hard, but people like me must live with pain.”

“Stumpy, are you trash talking your fellow politicians?”

–“I am, because I’m not like them. I want to actually help my fellow squirrels here at SPSU. The overall administration here is not very helpful to the student body, so I have to do my part to change things.”

Stumpy then left for another meeting he was late for. As he left I pondered his words, and dreamed wishfully for the now-bygone days of Stumpy’s “tail medicine” parties and bushy-a*** squirrel b***

Did you know? Wait! Did anyone know?

Bt Kamie Harkins

Did you know that on May 19, 2001, there was a Volkswagen convention on the parking lot near the student center? I was surprised when my boyfriend and I drove by it on our way to a concert. Infact, we decided to stop and take a photo of it. We then asked about it on the 21st in the police station, in the student activities office, and asked some administrators. And guess what. No one knew about it.

It would have been cool to know that there was an old hippie convention on campus. Check out this picture. It seems that a lot of “interesting” people camped out here, used our resources, and no one even knows who they are or why they are here. Check out the photo of it to see for yourself.

That seems to be a common theme here on campus. A lot of events are taking place that no one really seems to know about. On May 9th, there was a swarm of kids that over took the campus. The food service was swamped by them, the student

Having the gigantic swarm of kids on campus on the 9th of May was a big headache. Why? Well, first of all it was the last day to move out of the dorms. It is tough to move your stuff while there are so many kids running around. Why couldn’t they

could have been damaged. I have crashed and damaged many important systems when I was younger because I was allowed in an area where I should not have been. If you do not believe me, ask my dad. If there was a kid with an inquisitive or mischievous

did get curious with some of our equipment. And if they did, there would have been no one there to stop them and the damage would have been done.

Furthermore, the student center did not have the resources prepared for such a

large crowd. The bathrooms ran out of supplies and became more disgusting than usual. Finally, the food service people did not even know about this. They were understaffed and did not have any notice so they could get the

supplies and food necessary in order to feed the people who came here. And yes, a lot of these kids over ran the food service people. The next day, they had next to no food left and lost money as a result.

I think having events



center was packed to capacity, and the campus was flooded by these kids. And there was no warning to anyone about it. What is stranger is that no one knew about it before hand or who those kids were when it happened.

have had the event a day or two later so that the dorm students could move their stuff out in peace?

Also, no one from the school was doing any crowd control. Little kids were running around all parts of the school. Expensive equipment

mind, then the possibility of that is very likely. By the way, did I mention that these kids were here for a science convention? Normally kids who like science also like messing with and taking equipment apart. SPSU is lucky that none of those kids

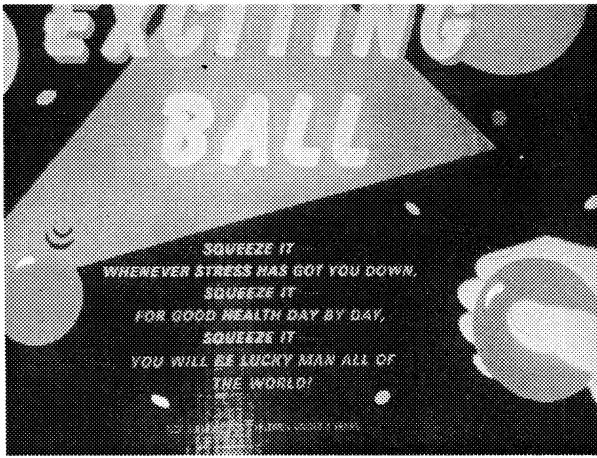
Exciting Ball

By Kamie Harkins

Language is funny. It is odd how one thing makes sense in one language but in another it is completely strange or hysterical. You could say one phrase that makes complete sense in English and translate it to Spanish. However, something may be lost in the translation and it would become hysterically funny.

This is true in many video games that are made in other countries. The biggest joke people on campus know about is the "All Your Base Are Belong to Us" thing. Check out this link if you do not know about it <http://www.planettribes.com/allyourbase/AYB2.swf>. It is funny.

However, it is present in advertising. In Publix, I saw a display for a stress ball. It is called "Exciting Ball" and says:



"Squeeze It
Whenever Stress Has Got you
Down,
Squeeze It.....
For Good Health Day By
Day,
Squeeze It.....
You Will Be Lucky Man All
Of
The World!

Not Suitable for Children
Under 3 Years".

I may be insanely perverted, but that sounds wrong and kind of dirty. It sounds like the "Exciting Ball" is not suitable for children under 17 years of age. Incase you do not believe that this is real, I have included a photo of this. Hopefully, the makers of the "Exciting Ball" did

not realize how dirty this sounds.

Honestly, I do think that it is highly important to make sure you know exactly what you are saying when you translate something. It is especially important for companies to do this when marketing something internationally. And if you do not, some bratty college newspaper writer in another country could make a big joke out of it.

The Things I Learned at Music Midtown

By Christy Fleming

After a day of music and sun, I was quite tired. But there was no way I was leaving before the LIVE concert was over. So I stifled the yawns and danced along with the crowd. The guys to the left of my friend, Ann, were rather hot and they had accents (BIG PLUS)! They were nice enough and quite receptive to our flirting. We talked and danced with them for quite a while.

Now the guys to my right were younger. They were probably about 12 years old or so. Why is it that the twelve year olds would not stop placing their hands on my rear end? Even after several looks and slaps from me trying to wave their hands away, they kept doing it. Finally I just moved, as I didn't want to make too big of a deal out of it since their dad was standing right behind them.

Finally the show was over. It was getting late and I was tired. Ann and I headed out to find the MARTA station. Once we did, we sat down on a bench and waited for the train. A young guy with no shirt came up to us and asked me for a cigarette. Being the nice person I am, I willingly obliged his request. Instead of just taking the cigarette, saying thank you and walking away, this

guy decides to sit and talk to us. Ann and I look at each other and grimaced, this guy was high as a kite and quite annoying too. He asks us what station we are riding to and tells us that he is also going to the Hamilton Homes station. He then asks if he can follow us home. WHAT IS THAT? Ann and I made quite sure that we were sitting as far as we could get from him, even though that wasn't very far... we were in the same train car. Once we got off the train at our station, we stopped and pretended like we were waiting on someone while the guy walked by. Luckily he didn't see us, and we followed behind the crowd at a slow pace.

There are two things I learned from my experience at the LIVE concert and on the MARTA trip home. 1) Flirt with guys from New Zealand (ACCENTS...mmmm) and they will give you beer. 2) Give the shirtless guy on MARTA a cigarette and he will want to follow you home. So next time you girls are at a concert or club, flirt like crazy with the guys, just watch yourself on the way home. There are some weirdos out there.

What's Pissing me Off This Week...The War on Drugs

By Shawn Hall

There has been much printed lately in the mainstream media about "America's War on Drugs", especially since our Coke-Head-in-Chief "W" recently appointed his new Drug Czar. (What exactly does a drug czar do??). I personally find it totally ironic for George Bush to speak about the horrors of drug use. I mean, drug use did wonders for him. He was a successful businessman, owning a baseball team, and he became the President of the United States of America! He should be the poster boy of the keg-party/white-line express social set.

I feel that American citizens should re-examine this "war on drugs" on a large scale. They should look at the amount of tax-money spent to build prisons, jails, and detention centers. They should look at they amount of tax-dollars spent to purchase police cars, helicopters, and drug-sniffing dogs. They should look at the tax-dollars spent to train our armed forces and the Coast Guard in drug interdiction. They should look at the number of people in the American prison system. Presently we have the highest

per capita prison population of any industrialized nation. The majority of these "criminals" are in prison on drug-related offenses. They should look at who benefits financially from our "war on drugs": Lawyers, construction firms, the defense industry, drug-companies. Then they should look at how much these industries donate to campaign contributions via their respective lobbies.

The American public should also consider the constant erosion of their civil liberties, and our evolution into a police state. The police would have you to believe that everyone driving a car is hopped-up, coked-out, high, geeked-out, drunk, or trafficking narcotics. For this "reason", the courts allow them to pullover drivers if there is probable cause (which basically translates into if the cop feels like it), search their car, search their passengers, search them, and if the driver resists then they go to jail. It doesn't matter if you have illegal drugs or not. The police can also listen to your phone conversations and audit your taxes. The FBI is already started monitoring email via their "black boxes" that were forcefully installed at

internet service providers. There is even a current Supreme Court case under review that will possibly allow police to scan homes with infared technology, so as to check for illegal marijuana grow operations.

This past Memorial Day, I thought of all my family members who have served this country, as well as all veterans. I thought of how they fought to eliminate fascist and communist countries, places where the government has all the power. Places where civil rights are non-existent, travel papers must be shown, and citizens tell on other citizens for wrongs against the state. Then I thought of our war on drugs. Where civil liberties are being eroded. Where illegal search and seizures occur every day. Where the government teaches children at school to "rat-out" Mom or Dad if they smoke pot. (They never tell those kids that Mom and Dad will go to jail while they go to DFACS). I think of the country that all of the soldiers fought and died for while defending it, which once stood for personal freedom and civil liberty, and the mess it has become now. It mad me sad

and embarrassed.

I don't believe that all drugs should be decriminalized. I've seen and known people hooked on crack, it's not a pretty sight to see once vibrant and responsible young women turn into "geek monsters" and give \$3 blow-jobs down on Ponce. Too bad it happens every day. Heroin should remain illegal also. What a drug...One bad hit and your done for.

I do believe however that marijuana should be decriminalized. People who are against decriminalization say it's a gateway drug, or that there is no medicinal benefit. I say that those people are wrong. Marijuana can be a gateway drug, but only because of our current attitudes on kids and drugs. A child is brought up continually hearing that marijuana is bad-stay away from Weed!.

During their rebellious phase as teens, some try marijuana just to piss-off their parents. After the do, they realize it wasn't as bad as Mom and Dad said it would be. Then they start to wonder what else their parents lied to them about. They then go on to try Ecstasy and coke, to see what they will do.

Speaking as a past recreational user of marijuana, I feel that it does have medicinal value, as do cancer and AIDS patients. I found that "weed" was very effective in relieving the pain I felt as a result of migraine headaches. Since you lose collegiate financial aid if you are caught using marijuana, I have had to discontinue my self-induced migraine treatments. (Here's the deal with financial aid and pot. If you are caught using/selling it, you forfeit your financial aid responsibility. But if you rape, rob, steal, or murder, you can have as much financial aid as you want.) So whenever my headaches flare up, I must suffer through the pain. I could take strong drugs from a "respectable" drug company, but shouldn't I be able to have the choice on what I put into MY body?

And I guess that's the whole problem with the "war on drugs". The drug companies see legalization as a threat to their multi-billion dollar industry, and the government believes I'm not smart enough to make my own decisions without their help and guidance. Makes you wonder who's pulling the strings....

Financial Aid.....or Financial Annoyance

By Kamie Harkins

Ok. What is up with the Financial Aid department this summer? They say that things will get better because there are staffing changes in the department. They claim students will be helped. They claim that they will be more efficient.

Hmmmm. I guess that I must be incredibly blind here. I will admit that I am not one of the world's most intelligent people. However, I have noticed that something is not right here. Here are a few of my observations.

First of all if you have a student loan and it is the only way to pay for your tuition, then you have to pay for the tuition first out of your pocket. Then, a few weeks later, you may get reimbursed. That is, if the Financial Aid department has remembered to issue you your check. Do not believe me that they have "lost" students' checks? Ask around. There are many students who have had this happen to them....repeatedly. I do not know about you, but something is not right here. You see, a student loan is not a loan if you have to fork over the money at first. That is highly illogical. Furthermore, there are many students who have to scrape together a lot of pennies in order to pay their tuition and fees in order to prevent their schedules from being dropped. I have asked

the Financial Aid department if there was anything that can be done to change this in order to help students, and the answer I got was "NO." This is not acceptable. Financial aid is supposed to help students with the costs. Not say "ok, pay for your tuition and fees and we will pay you back later.....if we feel like it." Furthermore, if you are struggling to pay for other expenses like living on campus, then having to pay tuition and fees when you have a student loan is an added burden.

Also, when you get paid back is also an issue. We do not get paid back for quite a while. Over two weeks from the start of the semester. And many students have a hard time making ends meet during this period of flux. I do not know, but this bothers me. It appears that the Financial Aid office does not even seem to care about the extenuating circumstances that most of the students have. This seems kind of greedy and heartless.

To further add to the callous nature of the Financial Aid department, you have the problem of the fees. You see if you want to use your Financial Aid to pay for the wastefully high price of books, you had to do this by May 21, 2001. However, the first day of classes was the 23rd of May. And there was no real notifi-

cation of this to students. In addition to this, there is the wonderful parking decal mandate. Students are required to have their parking decals on their cars by 6:00 A.M. on May 30, 2001. Well, if you have spent all your money on books because you did not know about the May 21st deadline for paying for books with financial aid and paying for your tuition even though you have a student loan, paying for a parking decal may not be your highest financial priority. However, the police department here does not seem to care about that. So as a result, you may have another fee to deal with. Thankfully, the SGA did something to help out with that atleast.

And to add insult, and yes I do mean insult, to injury, many students were unfairly penalized before the start of fall semester. You see, someone in our lovely financial aid office did not do their job correctly and numerous students wound up being listed by the financial aid office as being under academic probation or "failing SAP" standards even though their grade point averages were above 2.00. This happened to me and many other students. When I found out about this, I called the Financial Aid office around 11:00 am on May 17, 2001 and was treated with incom-

petence. I told them the situation and was told "obviously your grades are failing." I then asked them to check my records with the registrar. The secretary said she would have to ask the head of Financial Aid if she could do that. She asked for my number and said she would call me back in a few minutes. By 2:00pm the next day, I did not receive a phone call from them. So, I called the office back. The same lady informed me that this is happening to a lot of students and they are "fixing it." I asked why it happened and she told me that they did not know. I then informed her that that was not acceptable and requested to know what was going on. She then proceeded to tell me they were fixing it and to just wait until they get it fixed. Well, I talked to some other people on campus who actually know what is going on and found out that many students at SPSU (between 50-70% of the student body) were listed from about May 5th to about May 23, 2001 by the financial aid department as having about a 1.88 grade point average. The problem was eventually fixed, but it is scary that it even happened in the first place. I do not know about you, but if I do not want to fail any standards....and being listed as failing standards when I am not infuriates me.

Why would being listed as being on academic probation be a problem? Well, it means that you would lose all your financial aid with the school. That is right. No money for you! And this came right before the start of the summer semester. Many students probably lost their financial aid because of this. They are being unfairly penalized because of the imbecility of another person. And yes, I am being harsh because this has to do with a mistake that can cost someone their education. There has been no appology by the financial aid department over this at all. They are trying to pretend that it did not happen. Well, I am sorry, but it did. And many people were hurt because of it.

I hope the horrors of these first weeks of the summer semester are isolated incidents. Hopefully, the new people in financial aid will get their acts together. If not, the school could lose a lot of business....and definitely wind up financially hurting a lot of struggling students. I invite anyone in the Financial Aid department to email me in reply to this. I am willing to discuss this with them at any time in hopes that something will finally change around there.

No More Baby Butchers?

By Machaek Rickman

It was George W. Bush's very first major action while in office, can you name it? Most of you uninformed, mindless people who have no idea what is going on in this country probably cannot. President Bush, which sounds a lot better than President Gore, overruled an abortion-friendly policy that was set by the former President, Bill Clinton. This action stops U.S. funding to international family-planning groups involved with abortions. Thank God! Now we just have to stop the slaughtering of innocent children in our own country.

As you can probably guess by now, I am pro-life. This means I don't like to kill little babies. This is nothing more than

blowing up an abortion clinic is the right thing to do. I disagree totally with this form of justice. These people are the ones that give "Christians" a bad name. They claim to be following God's will. I am sickened by the idea of these religious retards. They have a distinct inconsistency in their morals and beliefs. Think about it, they don't want to kill children, but they do want to kill doctors who perform abortions. The Doctor just wants no killing at all! Is that too much to ask? While I DO NOT agree with what those doctors do for a living, I am in no position to take their lives away from them. And neither are these religious fanatics.

But now that the DEMONcrats are the majority, more and more women out there will have the opportunity to rid themselves of the unwanted bodies of innocent children that they have produced inside them. Actions were incrementally taking place a few weeks ago about passing a bill that the House Committee was weighing that makes harming a fetus a crime. Hopefully the Tom Daschles and Dick Gephardt's out there will see the error of their previous ways and support such a bill.

How can we stop these murders from happening? For one thing don't vote for a candidate that condones these killings. And the next time you are having sex think about the consequences that might occur due to your harlotry. Maybe then you might abstain from "getting it on." It may save a baby's life. Do you disagree/agree with me? Please let me know what you think. I now have a radio show every Tuesday on WGHR 102.5 FM from 4-6 pm. You can also listen to me on the internet at wghr.spsu.edu so call me up (770-528-7300) and let me know what you think, if you dare.

Have you ever heard of partial birth abortions? During the 2000 Presidential Campaign Al Gore was a supporter of these legalized forms of killings. What is it exactly? It allows a woman to dispose of their baby at any time during the pregnancy. The mother, if she "chose" to, could have her child murdered inside of her at 2 months, 5 months, even 8

months into the pregnancy. How can this not be killing? How can people want to get this done? This is sick.



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