

The Freshmen Issue and Newcomers Guide

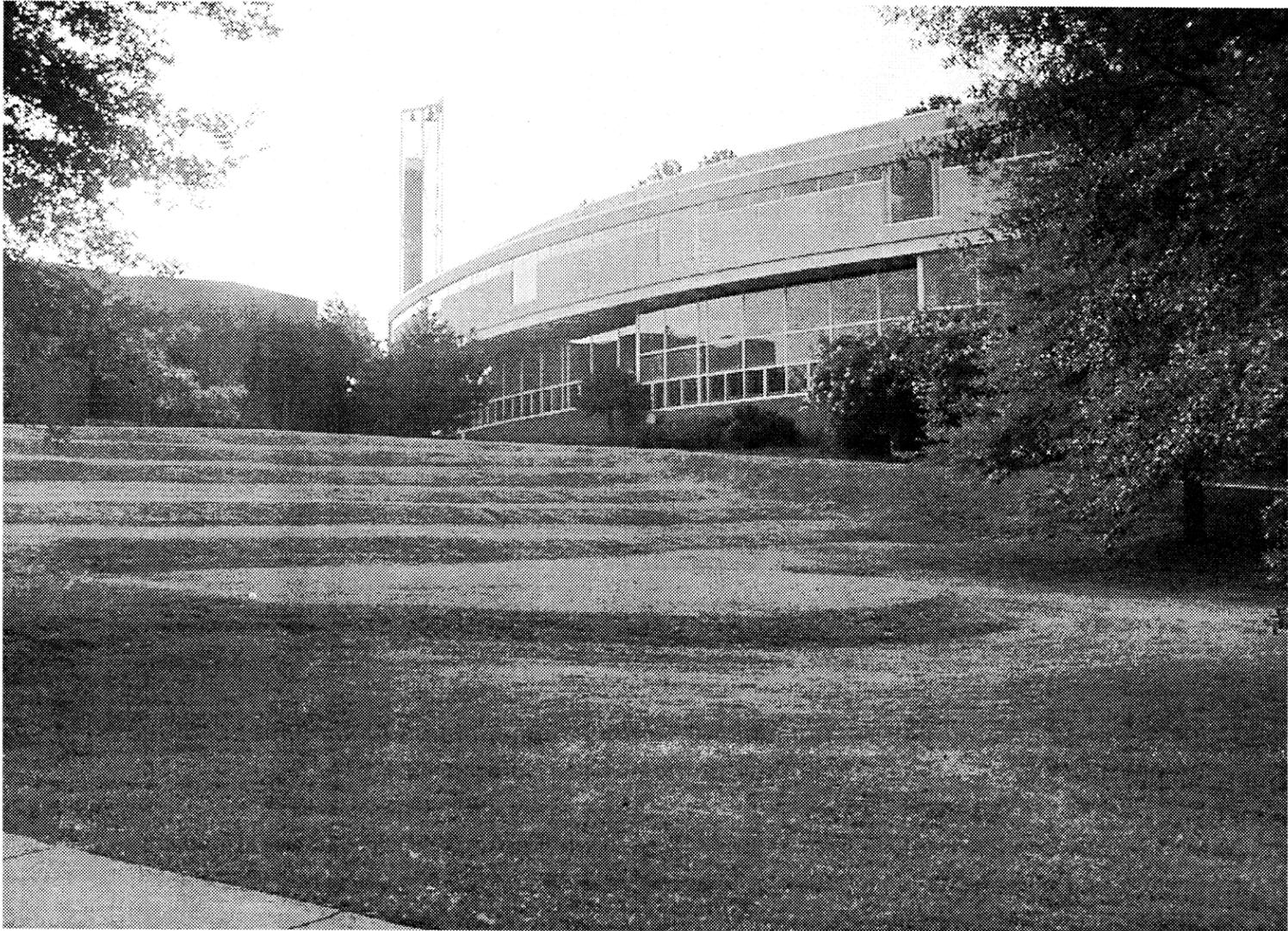
 SOUTHERN
POLYTECHNIC
STATE UNIVERSITY

The STING

*"Nothing Merely as a Tabloid."
- Randall Ware, SGA President*

Wednesday August 21, 2002

VOLUME 56, NUMBER 1



Welcome to Southern Polytechnic State University, where the gender inequality ratio is the highest in the University System of Georgia. The astonishing results show 79.4% men for fall 2001, which is nearly equal to 1 female for every 5 males. According to statistics from the Board of Regents, for the regional universities (13 of the 34 schools), SPSU accounts for 10.86% of the male enrollment and 1.76% of female enrollment. That is the 3rd highest male population amongst regional universities and the lowest female enrollment. We are the only regional university with less than 1,000 women!

We ask you to find more interesting facts inside the STING, such as...

...why the Student Government Association is spending \$13,459.84 on three free copies, one fax and a two minute phone call

...find how to protect your social security number on campus

...history of SPSU

...NEW!!!!!! NEW!!!!!! SGA attempts to censure newspaper

...the guide to college movies, budget games and more.

SGA Threatens to Revoke Newspaper Funds

Mark Campbell Sting Staff

The Student Government Association notified the Sting that the SGA would reallocate the campus newspaper's funds if the newspaper did not accede to SGA demands. The original memorandum, dated June 20th, called for the Sting to supply a copy of internal policies and procedures for subsequent revision by the SGA by 5:00 PM on Friday, June 21st. The Sting received the memorandum at 3:58 PM that Friday.

The SGA charged that the Sting had disrupted or interfered "with the orderly operation of the campus." According to the memo, "The SGA expects to see clearly outlined guidelines of Ethical Conduct that the Sting will operate under, as well as checks and balances to guard against printing discrediting, tainted 'facts' which can tarnish the image of Southern Polytechnic State University or any organization which represents the university. It must be emphasized that non compliance [sic] of the above requirement will result in total reallocation of funds budgeted to the Sting for 2002-2003."

Subsequent allegations by SGA members in several discussions over the summer included slander, racism, harassment, and sexual harassment. A second memo dated July 14th from the SGA claims that the Sting was in violation of the Student Life Regulations on charges of sexual

harassment and lewd, indecent or obscene conduct or expression.

The 2002-2003 budget for the Sting is \$16,000. The previous SGA had also set aside \$5,000 to match dollar-for-dollar any advertising revenue that the Sting raised during the year. The budget subsequently was approved by the Student Life Committee, a body comprised of faculty and students, as well as the university's president, Dr. Lisa Rossbacher.

Campus policy and procedure in the Student Handbook stipulates that the Student Life Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the internal policies and procedures of campus media, including the Sting and WGHR, the campus radio station. Both the policy and the Sting's constitution specify that the Student Life Committee is responsible for overseeing grievances against the newspaper, which are to be directed to the Dean of Students.

SPSU's policy on publications also states that the institution must provide both sufficient editorial freedom and financial autonomy for student media and publications. Media and publications are to be free of

harassment and advance approval of copy, with editors and managers free to develop their own editorial policies and news coverage.

The Sting refused to supply the requested policies and procedures to the Student Government Association, citing the campus policy concerning student media and publications. The newspaper indicated that it would be willing to supply such documents to the Student Life Committee at the committee's request.

"The only thing that we're asking is that they [the Sting] come up with policies and procedures, and if they don't – it's up to them," stated SGA President Randall Ware. "We can only recommend. But, the SGA Constitution says that the legislative council has the right to fund those organizations, or not, that are in violation of Student Life Regulations, which all organizations are required, under the article that I read."

Ware advised fellow student council members, "And keep in mind, legislative council members, that that is your right. Just like they have their right, you're under the moral right, is to follow the [SGA] constitution. Then, if

those things – not people, but the organization – is in violation of Student Life Regulations, that's where you get to handle the concerns of the students."

According to the SGA memos, the SGA had determined that the Sting had violated the Student Life Regulations. Although charges of nonacademic misconduct are to be brought to the attention of the Director of Judicial Programs, Ed Klein, the SGA refused to do so.

"My thing is we're going to bring everybody together, and there's going to be some accountability," stated Ware. "You know, because we cannot continue to support things that continually put the school in bad light."

"Because it's not academically fruitful for anybody; we've got twenty organizations that don't have money – that money could be used somewhere else," Ware cautioned. "If people start looking at our paper as nothing more than as a tabloid, then we got problems."

"For instance, and I'm not bashing, I'm just using the Sting as an example, or WGHR [the campus radio station]. If WGHR spent its time on the radio, and all they talked about was bad stuff

about folks, should – is that academically enriching the students?" Ware asked. "Should the student government allow them to use funds that way, when there's other organizations that can use that money?"

"If everybody had different missions – even though we have different organizations and clubs – there should be one, very central mission, that everybody has, and that should be to further the mission of the school, and to build up pride in Southern Polytech," stated Ware.

"When you cross those lines, then you become an organization that's antagonistic toward the institution who funds you, and the students fund you," declared Ware. "And, you know, as a whole you can't just think about the few people that read the newspaper, or the few people who come to SGA meetings, or the few people who listen to WGHR – you cannot think about them. If you're a responsible organization, you're thinking about the whole school – all thirty-five hundred people, and how do they feel, how does it affect them."

**Continued on Page 3,
See Sting Accused of
Bashing**

Identity Theft on Campus

Mercedes
Editor-In-Chief

Last year an article came out on campus telling student's that their financial information and SS# had been posted on the internet. Once again, it's the beginning of the semester and the new freshmen are handing out their social security numbers. Not only are the freshmen handing out their social security numbers, but also those of us who have been here for a while have our numbers floating around the school. Chances are you don't even know it. I'm here to inform you that you do not want your SS# running rampantly on campus.

Many of you will argue it's your student ID # and while that may be true there are many things you can do to protect it. The fact is your student ID number does not need to be plastered all over campus desks that students are running. You may not care, but I'm going to share a few stories with you that have happened on this campus.

I recently unpacked some boxes that belonged to a roommate of mine several years ago. Among those boxes I found a list that belonged to the housing department. The list contained students home addresses, their P.O. Box on campus, name, SS# and birthday. I

noticed that various names had been circled and it occurred to me these were names of people that my roommate did not particularly care for. After I tossed this paper work into my fireplace it occurred to me that the people who had their names circled had problems throughout the years- such as their class schedules had been dropped, classes had been changed and they were constantly missing mail in the dorms. I can tell you my former roommate was not the most honest person in the world, nor did my roommate ever work for the housing department. I recently confronted this person about how this list was obtained. I received a shocking reply, he said that he walked into the housing department and saw it lying on the desk. He took it and walked out the door.

I've also heard of two students on campus complaining that their credit was ruined after someone took their social security numbers and went to Blockbuster video. Both of these student's have almost \$400 in fees for each location (one student owing this much money at 9 different locations). The funny thing is both students have a blockbuster card in their wallet and blockbuster doesn't seem to

believe the situation. Blockbuster also refuses to close either students account and now their credit is ruined.

At the end of fall semester, I walked to my car. It seems like such a simple event, but behind the J building there were several containers containing white paper. The curiosity got to me and it turned out to be student files. The files contained student papers, student names, student social security numbers and student phone numbers. Some of them had addresses and some of them did not, but I wondered why our teachers think it is perfectly okay to throw away our files. Can the professors not shred the paperwork to protect the students?

First off, you need to contact the administration. It may be your student ID number, but does it need to be plastered all over campus desks that students are running?

For instance, the recreation center has a list of names and social security numbers for each student attending for the semester. I inquired in the admissions office about why the gym needed this information. It was simply stated that they probably don't need it, but there are 10 or so students that have

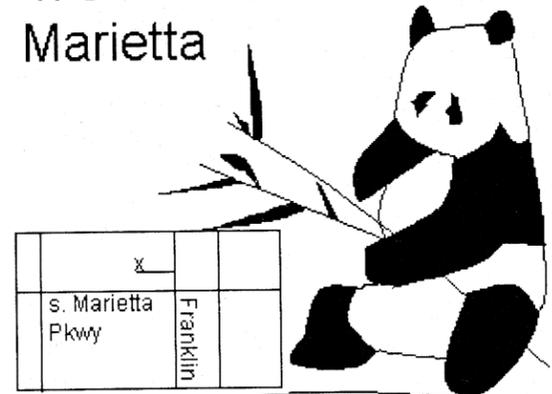
identical names. In the event that a student who has an identical name shows up at the gym, the desk personnel can determine if they are a current student. It seems to me if I had an identical name that I could show up with a paid receipt from the business office (just like I had to do for an ID at the police station) or they could just let these students slip through the cracks. I noticed they just asked for my student ID to identify me. I was not questioned

about my social security number. I also asked the administration office what happened to the student lists for the gym after the semester was over. They were not sure.

If you are afraid of identity theft or wish to protect yourself, you can request a confidentiality form from Steve Hamrick's office in the Administration building. The fact is, this is a real issue that plagues our campus.

...can it happen to you?

China Kitchen
470 Franklin Rd
Marietta



**Students:
Free Drink With College I.D.**

Steps to Preventing Identity Theft

Mercedes
Editor-In-Chief

The STING has provided a list on how to prevent identity theft. You can find additional resources from Clarkhoward.com.

Prevention Tips:

- o Do not carry a check book
- o Always pay by cash or credit card (CC's allow you to dispute charges)
- o Remember debit cards are not protected the same way as credit cards
- o Review your credit card statements
- o Never carry your SS card with you
- o Don't use your SSN for your drivers license number
- o Keep car registration in your trunk
- o Put a lock on your mail box
- o Minimize your junk mail
- o Do not send your SS# via chat lines, email, forum postings or in your online account.
- o Tell your financial institution that they can not sell your information

- o Stop credit card mailings by calling 1.888.5-opt-out

If you are a victim of identity theft, get a police report. Then call all three credit bureaus and ask them to place fraud alert on your credit report. You can also ask these bureaus to contact you before any companies can access your information to make sure it's legitimate. Do not throw these documents away! Be sure to keep ALL documents forever!!

We have also added a list on how to minimize junk mail, as many companies pretend you are a sweepstakes winner. Then, they ask for additional personal information. We have provided a list to make sure you are not a victim.

- o Do not enter sweepstakes.
- o You can also contact the Mail Preference Service (the-dma.org). When sending your name and address to MPS you are added to a list of people

who do not want to receive mail from major nationwide catalog and marketing companies.

- o If you fill out product warranty cards and product registration cards, only fill out your name, address and information about the product.
- o If you donate to organizations and charities, be sure to place in writing that you do not want your name sold or exchanged with other groups.
- o When dealing with music clubs, magazines, book/video clubs do not give them your social security number. Make sure you place in writing that you do not want your name sold.
- o Have an unlisted name and address in the phone book.
- o Loyalty Clubs- These are your Kroger saving

cards memberships and includes several other grocery stores. Don't join these for they track your purchases and send you junk mail based on these purchases. If you still wish to be a member of a loyalty club, put a different name and address on the information sheet. Often times, these companies do not bother to look at your ID.

If you have problems from putting your name on sweepstakes or have nagging telemarketers, we suggest writing to the Direct Marketing Association Telephone Preference Service at P.O. box 9014 Farmingdale, NY 11735-9014. Include your name, phone number and address to have your name placed on the "Do not call list."

Factoid:

Mary Kaye Ash, whose maiden name was Mary Kathlyn Wagner, founded the Mary Kaye Inc.

Sting Accused of Bashing

(continued from page 2)

SGA Council Member William Norris explained, "Randall is demanding accountability, but what Randall doesn't understand is that there are people that think that you should be able to publish whatever you want to publish. You can't publish porn on a school newspaper, or stuff like that."

"Basically, he wants to see the accountability for what is done as far as with each issue of the Sting. Which, I know probably how it works - I don't know exactly - but I'm sure you all just compile the different articles and look through them, and figure out what you want to put, where you want to put it," said Norris. "You put it, and it comes out. But he wants something written in place that says that there's a procedure there and everything."

"Randall [Ware] takes everything literally, and that's what I'm trying to tell you all," Norris said. "Randall may have disagreed with an article or two you all wrote, so he's going to take it as a literal criticism against him, because he's not mature enough to realize that since he's in a figure of position, no one kicks a dead dog."

"You're not going to sit there and say, 'Aw man, Joe Schmo was an idiot playing pool!' Of course you're all not going to write about that; you're going to

write about what Randall is doing. Because he's in power, and blah, blah, blah," added Norris.

Ware brought to the Sting's attention an article written by Dustin Grau. The article, which pointed out that the Association of Computing Machinery had received a 331.77% budget increase from the Student Government Association. Grau had alleged that Randall Ware was a member of the ACM student chapter. Grau later corrected the article, acknowledging that Ware was not a member of ACM chapter at SPSU.

Ironically, Grau had posted the article on his personal webpage. The article was never submitted to the Sting, nor published in the campus newspaper. Grau also served as the station manager for WGHR, the campus radio station.

Grau's article is now printed online in the Sting so that interested readers may refer to it in connection with this story.

Ware was a member of the ACM student chapter during the 2000-2001 academic year when the chapter briefly merged with GEAR [General Engineering of Autonomous Robots]. Ware was and remains the president of GEAR.

Ware also attended and served as the ACM chapter's e-mail contact person for an ACM conference on computer science education held in Covington, Kentucky late last February. Ware was SGA Vice-President and chair of the Student Council at the time.

Funds to attend the conference came from the Student Activities Fund Balance, which had just come under the control of the Student Government Association. The fund is the remainder of unused Student Activity Fee monies that accumulated at the end of previous fiscal years. In previous years, the fund was under the control of the Dean of Students.

Ware stated, "Even though one of your [the Sting's] members, Dustin Grau, is no longer a student, but an alumni member nonetheless of Southern Polytech State University, I continue to be harassed by this staff writer. Because the Sting still gives him information, even though he's not a student anymore."

"The lady who started the Mary Kay organization, that's just one of her philosophies - I can't remember the exact quote - she said she never, ever criticizes somebody without giving them a positive thing at the end," Ware stated.

"Because if you just criticize, then people just look at you, and they always think, we already know what this person is all about," said Ware. "If anybody had read Dustin [Grau's] articles, you can see where his mentality is."

"You're going to attack the wrong person," warned Kamisha Hammond, SGA Secretary/Treasurer. "And they're going to catch you behind the alley, and they're going to beat the snot out

of you - I'm just saying. They're going to beat the snot out of you. Students come here to learn, not to be attacked."

"There's plenty of good news out there besides slandering somebody's name and attacking a group," Hammond continued. "And if you can't find any better news, you're not looking."

Norris countered, stating, "You keep on talking about slandering individuals, but the Sting is not just going to go out there and find a random guy walking around on this campus, find out everything bad about him, and publish it just for the hell of it. They're not going to do that. If they did do that, they'd be fools for doing that. And even if they did, they'd be under the legal term for libel."

"They're not going to do that," said Norris. "You all are making up all these stories, and I don't know why you're doing it. Why are you making up all these situations and everything?"

Other Allegations

Hammond stated, "Shawn Hall had an article in there [the Sting], attacking African-Americans about something that the government policies that the government was going to implement. I went to the Dean of Students [Barry Birkhead], and I said, 'You know, this is degrading to African-Americans.' He told me to go to the Sting; I went to the Sting, and they did nothing."

Hall's editorial, titled "What's Pissing Me Off This Week... A lot

of Things," refers to a request by the U.S. Legislative Black Caucus for reparations for slavery from the U.S. Government. The editorial appeared in the Monday, August 20th, 2001 issue of the Sting. At the time, Hall was both a staff writer for the Sting and an SGA Council member. Hall did not agree with the request for reparations.

"All I'm saying is that there has to be a line," said Hammond. "This is not an express-my-opinion paper, this is not a paper where I can just write anything about anybody I want to. It's not a vent paper. It's a student organization paper for SPSU."

The SGA's July 14th memorandum alleges that the Sting is guilty of sexual harassment and lewd, indecent or obscene conduct or expression. The allegation refers to a sexual harassment case involving two former Sting staff members. Both individuals were terminated from the Sting.

In the case last fall semester, Sting web manager Daniel Henry was accused of sexually harassing Kamie McKoy, formerly known as Kamie Harkins. Henry was accused of using Sting resources to harass Harkins and others. Henry, who was determined to be guilty by the Director of Judicial Programs, was suspended from the university.

The SGA's original June 20th memo charged that the Sting

**Continued on Page 4,
See Sting Accused**

Continued from Page 3, Sting Accused

interfered with the orderly operation of the university. According to several people, the allegation was that an editorial piece written by Zach Jones about Computer Science accreditation interfered with enrollment.

"You all pissed off whoever is in charge of the CS degree," stated SGA Council Member William Norris. "Pretty much, you all pissed them off with an April article. You pissed them off, so now they have, in this pretty goo goo gah world, that Southern Poly is perfect, and that if you write something bad about Southern Poly, someone's not going to come here."

The School of Computer Science and Software Engineering is headed by Dean Dr. Michael Murphy. Murphy had sent an e-mail to Dean of Students Barry Birchead on April 19th. In the e-mail, Murphy states that while prior restraint is counterproductive, Sting writers should be warned to do reasonable research and avoid personal attacks or defaming organizations without a basis in fact.

A letter to the editor from Dean Murphy was published in the Friday, April 26th issue of the Sting. The letter clarifies the accreditation plans for the School of Computer Science and Software Engineering. The CS degree is not yet accredited by the Computing Accreditation Council of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

Norris continued, "Basically, some people think that that standard of the school - I'm not one of them that thinks that, because it's a fact. Because if you're a student and you don't know that, you're an idiot."

"The CS guy [Murphy] just e-mailed him [Ware], and said, 'I don't appreciate this, blah blah blah...' They think that just because you get student money, that you all should be you all should be happy daddy about like [this school]," added Norris.

SGA Concerns About Student Life

Hanratty apologized for the tone of the original letter, and added that Ware had apologized also. "He said that he was definitely out of line, and he won't ever do anything like that again."

SGA Council Member Nick Hanratty serves as the chair of the SGA Internal Affairs Committee. The committee is responsible for approving new student organizations as well as determining if organizations are inactive.

"Well, I mean, he [Ware] is our executive, and he has the power to execute the policies and procedures of our constitution," Hanratty explained.

"I'm coming from the aspect of when Randall [Ware] said that



Randall Ware and friend discuss issues on campus.

like, we can take your funding and things like that, I'm the person who would have to make that recommendation," stated Hanratty. "And so I'm the person who has to go talk to every organization about it, and make sure that they are going to comply."

"And you know the thing is, I'm not looking for trouble; I'm not interested in conflicts with anyone. I just want everyone to be safe, and I don't want anyone to get sued," added Hanratty.

Hanratty acknowledged that the campus policy and procedures guaranteed financial autonomy for student media and publications. "As I said, I don't want to do that [reallocate funds]. But at the same time like I just want, if everyone is in compliance with this, and everyone makes sure that all their members are aware, that yes there is such thing as sexual harassment, and you shouldn't do it, and things like that, you know, I think that that's a good thing."

Informed that the Student Life Committee oversees grievances as well as the internal policies and procedures of the Sting, Hanratty said, "The only problem with that is, the Student Life Committee doesn't know what they are doing. As a student organization, though, and as such you [the Sting] get our funding from Student Government. Basically we make recommendations for your budget and things like that - I don't want it to come to this - basically I don't really want to get into the whole politics of it, because I've got to go talk to the Student Life guy [Committee Chairman Dr. Lester Dollar], and like tell him all this stuff."

At the Student Life Committee meeting held late last Spring semester, SGA members substituted themselves for non-SGA student members of the committee prior to voting to approve the Student Activities Fee budget. The Student Life

Committee serves as an independent check on the budget decisions made by the SGA.

The Student Life Committee has not requested internal policies and procedures from the Sting since June, 2000. "The Sting's constitution still allows for the Student Life Committee to be able to address these new editors," added Ware.

"Over my past year, the editorship of the Sting has over gone different editors, and I don't remember not one time the editor coming before the Student Life Committee. So therefore, we need to look at the process," declared Ware, "So that way you would know who you have for your editor, and what type of morals they have."

Disagreement and Dissent

"I'll tell you this, I'll be completely honest with you guys. What Randall wants to see is it put back on the internet - the paper. That's what he wants," said SGA Council Member Rosanna Rennie. "He wants to cut the funding and put it back on the internet. That's what Randall wants. Hopefully Randall doesn't get his way," Rennie added. "That's the way it was last year, or the year before last."

Rennie continued, "I mean I think that's the thing - everything that's, slowly actually does happen on campus, like the movies down there - I think that was one of the best things we had, especially for commuter students. I personally never watched a movie in there, so obviously it's not a biased situation here."

"But I think, you know, we need things like that. That was something that actually, you know, you could look in there, and see five people in there," said Rennie. "Which is a rarity, you know, for things on campus."

"And the paper - I think we need things like that. And that's

slowly but surely, they're trickling away," Rennie said.

Norris referred to the renovation of the SGA offices, which totaled more than \$13,000. "I think you all's little opinion poll that you put on the website was cool," said Norris.

"I thought it was good - the one, 'What do you think SGA should spend \$13,000 on?' That's great, you know, there should be debate in this thing. The poll was brought up in a phone call that Randall made," Norris added.

"There are some people that - there's politics within politics - and there's a lot of people being assholes that I didn't know were being assholes until, like, the past week and a half, two weeks," explained Norris.

Corey Layton, then an SGA Council Member, added, "Basically, we're politicians that don't want to be politicians. Because we wanted to do something; we wanted to make a difference. There's a difference between that and being a politician."

Layton resigned from the Student Government Association on Tuesday, July 23d. Jae Ho Chang, who served last year as

the SGA Budget and Finance Chairman, was appointed by the council to fill the vacancy at an August 1st SGA meeting. Chang had declined to run for re-election last year.

Hanratty, the SGA's Internal Affairs Chair, said, "I mean, don't worry about printing or anything like that - don't change anything, because you don't need to. In the meeting that happened [on July 14th], I didn't even understand what was going on, because I thought we were talking about something completely different, and then it like exploded into stuff that I didn't understand."

"Everybody was talking about who was in charge of making sure that something doesn't get printed," Hanratty explained, "And I was like 'Nobody - it's not supposed to be. There's no one else [other than the editor] who like, has the right to say 'You can't print that.' And that's what I was trying to explain to them, was that there's not supposed to be."

"Randall [Ware] can't do anything about it, without me, and so there's nothing to worry about. I've talked to Randall, and we decided together that I was going to handle anything that had to do with this, and I don't see anything worth handling, so it's not even an issue. So I wouldn't even worry about it," added Hanratty.

Rennie stated, "Randall [Ware] is not running again next year, so I'm not worried, but I don't want to see this stuff happen. I hear so much negative about him every day, from the general student body."

"I mean, I asked somebody the other day, and it's like 'Do you know who Randall Ware is?'" said Rennie, "And I was expecting them not to know, you know, who he was, and they're like 'Yes! Oh gosh, yes.'"

"What I was about to tell you earlier is that, you're one of the smart ones. See, there's - especially people that are on the SGA - that are easily persuaded by his tactics, because he does have a way for words to a certain degree. But, you know, intelligent people can see that he's a conniving..." said Rennie.

Our Place Restaurant
940 S. Marietta Parkway
Marietta, Georgia
(770) 514-9885
Carry-Out and Call-Ahead
Orders Welcome! Now Serving
Monday-Friday
Breakfast 6:00 AM to 10:30 AM
Lunch 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM
Saturday
Breakfast 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Students Welcome!

Campus Forum

The following article is my opinion, however I am not alone in these feelings. Our SGA is out of control. Many students don't realize this fact, and many others don't seem to care. I have tried to stay aware of what they are doing the best I can. I have tried to work with them, and I have tried to understand their point of view. But, I have come to find that working with them is impossible. After reading Mr. Campbell's story about the \$16,000+ of the student's money that will refurbish the three rooms of the SGA office, I am upset. The SGA will be dumping money into rooms that are almost never open or even have the lights on. I just don't get it. So I decided to visit the SGA's webpage to determine what their plans for this money are. Log on to SGA.SPSU.EDU and you will find "Sorry, I do not have a page yet! Please check back at a later time." This is the same message that has been there for over two years. If the SGA wants to provide services to the students, they could finish their webpage. If they wanted benefit the students, they would provide for the maximum amount of students and make it easily accessible. They could finish the BBQ pit or clean up The Rock. They could even build a smoker's pavilion for the dorms. They could do dozens of other projects that will be cheaper and beneficial to more students.

The \$16,459.84, which will be used to do the work of a vacuum cleaner and a can of paint, is as large as most student organization's entire budget, if not larger. They didn't ask any other student organizations if they even want to use this room. The SGA decided to spend this money with no checks or balances. If the SGA officers receive new desks, they will have only benefited themselves. This SGA has repeatedly spent our student dollars contrary to the suggestion of their advisor. If they will foolishly appropriate money on things that will just benefit them, how can we trust them on anything? Don't stand idly by and let them spend our student activity fees.

William Burke

Sadly, these renovations have gone through. There are several things the SGA could have done with this money. Now they have little money and will have only benefited themselves. Randall claimed that there would be no backlash. I think he may have been slightly wrong. I am appalled to think that many SGA members stood by idly thinking the SGA shouldn't spend this money on a petty room. Yet, these same members voted to "abstain" from the proposal. Abstaining, as we all know, is a way of saying "I'm afraid to oppose you (the SGA president) and I'm afraid to say yes. So I have NO OPINION." I guess we need to remind our public officials that they are to vote based on STUDENT'S OPINIONS. This proposal will only cost students massive amounts of dollars in the future, especially when they hire someone to staff the room. Labor isn't cheap, free paper isn't cheap and an extra phone line isn't cheap. -M

Mercedes,

I was a very well connected member of the Student Body.

I also put myself thru school, and I attended Southern Tech off and on for 9 years. I commend you for taking the helm of the Sting, as I can only imagine what flak you are receiving from the current administration & SGA.

In my opinion, Randall is far outstepping the bounds of good taste on what I know of the SGA office deal. Why spend \$22,000 on a new office from outside vendors, when the school has its own Architecture and IS departments? The only expenditures should be for furniture (which the architecture students can build) or reasonable office equipment. For the money he is requesting, he could install several plasma screen monitors. Just where is all this money going? And what is his relation to the company who gave the bids?

I feel that the SGA was right in getting control of the "Dean's Fund" account, but I truly believe that Randall doesn't have the Students' interest as his top priority. It seems that Randall is all about Randall....Who else set's up his own inauguration?

Thanks,

Wished to be Unnamed Former Student

Dear Readers,

This is now my second issue and I have received a few comments from our readers. Unfortunately, I must tell you about our "Policies and Procedures" as recommended by the SGA. First off, all letters must be submitted before deadline. The next deadline is September 5, 2002. Secondly, you must give your name, phone number and address. This way we can verify who you are. We will not publish your name per your request. To understand more about our policies and procedures, please look at page 5.

I believe in giving any person the right to express themselves. I did not realize The Sting had this policy and I apologize for printing Dave Vulcano's letter without verification. I would have loved to print a series of irrational letters from a mysterious "Cynthia Wynman" who claimed I hated families with children and disliked Americans. Little would she know, I have a family of my own and a blue passport.

Allow me to tell you what I dislike. I dislike people who complain and do nothing about it. The reality is Americans are notorious for blaming other people/organizations for their problems. There are countless examples of this sort of thing. If you think it's realistic to sue the government for second hand smoke, you should be shot. If you think that suing a car manufacture because their seatbelts are too small and the seats aren't large enough, you need to be shot. If you believe suing fast food restaurants for your obesity is okay, you should be shot. We are at an engineering school for a reason. CHANGE THE SYSTEM!! This does not mean that you are to write to me complaining. My only response to you is join the STING and make your voice heard.

Mercedes

Consensus Editorial

We, the STING Staff, feel that women should bare their leg and armpit hair. If you have a moustache, bare it with pride! A hitsute woman is a woman we can all respect. They are the sort that can lead the university into the future.

We don't want clean-shaven women, like the ones at Kennesaw. We want our women pure and au naturel. We still appreciate femininity, we just ask you to braid. Razors are meant for men. Never let a delicate woman's skin touch the vile cold steel. The opinions are not necessarily the opinion of all STING staff; this opinion was established by the edict of the Editor-In-Chief/Princess.

Sting Staff
Mercedes, Editor-In-Chief

Staff:
Joe Gelblat
Zach Jones
Mark Campbell
Seth Bogo
Joshua Shannon
Ben Lee
Zach Biles
Willis Smith

The Sting is published monthly for the students, faculty and staff of Southern Polytechnic State University. *The Sting* is an official publication of Southern Polytechnic State University. The ideas expressed here in are those of the editor or of the individual authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of students, faculty or staff at Southern Polytechnic State University or the University System of Georgia. All material in *The Sting* is property of Southern Polytechnic State University and cannot be reproduced in any manner without the express written consent of *The Sting*. No advertisement in *The Sting* represents an endorsement of Southern Polytechnic State University or *The Sting*, and neither *The Sting* nor Southern Polytechnic State University is liable for any claims for products or services made in advertisements herein.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The local advertising rate of *The Sting* is five US dollars per column inch on paper; ad's on-line are determined by number of pixels. Ads for service and professional organizations on campus are free, but a run-date is not guaranteed on paper. To guarantee one, ad rates are one half the local advertising rate. Classified ads are \$25.00 for the first 25 words on paper; classified ad's online are \$12.00. Advertisements must be submitted by the deadline printed below. To reserve space or for more information, contact *The Sting* at 770.528.7310.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Sting welcomes letters praising or criticizing editorial policies or opinions. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double spaced and should not exceed three hundred words. Letters must include a name and address and phone number for verification purposes, but names will be withheld on request. Unsigned letters will not be printed. *The Sting* reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to *The Sting*, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta GA 30060-2896, or to *The Sting*, Campus Mail, or drop them in the box beside our door (A252), or e-mail sting@spsu.edu.

ORGANIZATION ARTICLES

Articles written by organizations to inform the campus of activities and events are welcome. Articles must be submitted by the deadline printed below and typed on a 3.5 inch 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 Sting*. We prefer creative students who have passed English 110. Come to our meetings Fridays at Noon, in room 252, upstairs in the student centre, or call 770.528.7310. *The Sting*: It's not just a job, because a real job pays more.

THE NEXT DEADLINE

All organization articles, letters-to-the-editor, advertisement request, and public service announcements must be turned into *The Sting* by September 5, 2002 to be considered for the September 13, 2002 issue.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions to *The Sting* are \$6 a semester or \$18 an academic year. All subscriptions start with the first issue of the succeeding quarter. Checks for subscriptions should be made payable to *The Sting*.

PRICE

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

Talking to the Tree's

Mercedes
Editor-In-Chief

Recently, I had the unfortunate experience of attending a funeral for my uncle. He really wasn't my uncle, he was my godfather, but I tended to call him Uncle John because he was very dear to me.

Uncle John had the patience of god. It's true. He didn't believe in driving on interstate parkways, so he would often take small rural highways or gravel roads. One time it took him 4 months to drive from Colorado to Atlanta, because he stopped in everyplace that wasn't on the map. In the mornings he would

smoke his pipe or cigarettes, as he walked in the woods "talking trees." This was his internal therapy to get him through the day, the year and the rest of his life. He spent time thinking and would find a way for him and others to resolve conflicts, even through it may take years. I think his greatest wish was to make sure we all got along.

So one would think at his funeral, some of us would resolve these issues for once and for all. One would think that old college friends who had the decency to show up and sympathize could at least greet each other tastefully... especially

when towards the end of his life he spent sharing his views with my old friends than with me. I couldn't help feeling bewilderment whilst watching one friend with tears streaming down his face. I knew my uncle John would be appalled by the childish behavior this person displayed at his funeral. After all, he never wanted hard feelings between him and anyone else, let alone among his friends. He would disapprove at the harsh words exchanged on one end and perhaps the lack of exchange on the other end. Unfortunately, not all of us understood the meanings of Uncle John's wisdom or his ranting at the trees, but I guess I will have to be patient, just like he would be.

What's Pissing Me Off This Week...

Shawn Hall
Alumni

I'm baaack!! But I fear I may be too late. *Your* SGA is doing very bad things, and either you have no idea or you just don't care. You should care. *You* care about how your money is spent, don't you? Let me drop some knowledge....

It appears that King Randall and the crew were trying to pull a few fast ones while the majority of the student population was away for the summer. First, they have succeeded in getting approval for over \$13,000 of renovations to the SGA office in the Student Center. This amount is much less than the \$22,000 that was asked for initially, but it is still a pretty hefty sum. *You*, as the student body who pays the bills, should be asking several serious questions to the SGA. What exactly do you plan to do with this \$13,000? What is the relationship of the remodeler to the SGA members? How many plasma screen TVs will the office have? (I'm joking on this one, but for that much money you could have them installed).

Why are *you* paying outsiders to do the remodeling, when SPSU has both a Construction and an Architecture department? It seems to me that these two departments could do the remodeling as class projects for a fraction of the cost. I have been wondering if the \$13,000 estimate includes funds to purchase a throne, which the SGA royalty can take turns sitting on. Aren't they the same people who

threw themselves an inauguration party? The delusions of grandeur continue...

The second issue that your bad SGA is trying to accomplish is the abolishment of *the STING*. The thin-skinned members of the SGA feel that the *STING* has degraded "to the standard of tabloid articles", and that the *STING* is in violation of the Student Life Regulation Policy. Apparently they feel that the *STING* has potentially slandered the university, such as to defer enrollment, and has provided impartial information to discredit the university and student groups on campus. Personally, I believe the SGA's stand to be a pile of shit. They are only angry that the *STING* writers have had the balls to exercise their First Amendment Right to Free Speech, and have exposed a lot of dirty little secrets on campus. SGA, HEAR ME! Do not fuck with the *STING*!!! If you do, I will

...Your S.G.A.

call in every favor at every media outlet I have connections with, and you will really experience "bad" publicity. I'm sure CNN, ABC, CBS and others would love to come to campus to do stories about how the SGA was trying to unconstitutionally censor a media outlet. You guys know me, and you know I will do this. If need be, I will even fund the *STING* while they sue to have their funds reinstated. Dr. Rossbacker and Dr. Koger, please corral your SGA royalty. Please don't make me get involved.

I am outraged by the actions on campus, and I have already graduated. Where is the voice of outrage from the student body? Is there nobody in the student population who will voice concerns? If you don't, you deserve what you get.

This is my two-cents worth....from a 2001 graduate...and an ex-SGA member.



The New SGA Room Stuffed With Leather Chairs and Bags of \$MONEY\$

SGA WANTS \$16,459.84 TO OFFER YOU THREE FREE COPIES, ONE FAX, AND A TWO MINUTE PHONE CALL.

Zachary Biles
Sting Staff

On Friday, June 7, the SGA proposed spending \$16,459.84 to renovate the SGA offices.

The renovations will allow the SGA President, Vice President, Judiciary, and Secretary to have functional offices. According to the SGA President, the current offices only allow one person to work in them, which limits the effectiveness they (the offices) were meant to serve.

Furthermore, the conference room will be decked out with a white board, computer workstation, and a projector. This conference room will only be made available to those at SPSU and not to outside organizations.

However, there is something that seems to be missing from this proposal. What in the hell are they spending all of that money on?

Seriously, they can get a good computer for around a grand. A good projector can be bought for a grand or less and a whiteboard certainly doesn't cost much.

Are they expanding the offices? I don't see how they could because of how little extra space there is.

Are they just buying new furniture? If they are just buying new furniture, then that doesn't do anything to help the initial problem the President stated in an email, which was, "In their original state only allows for one person to actually work in the offices."

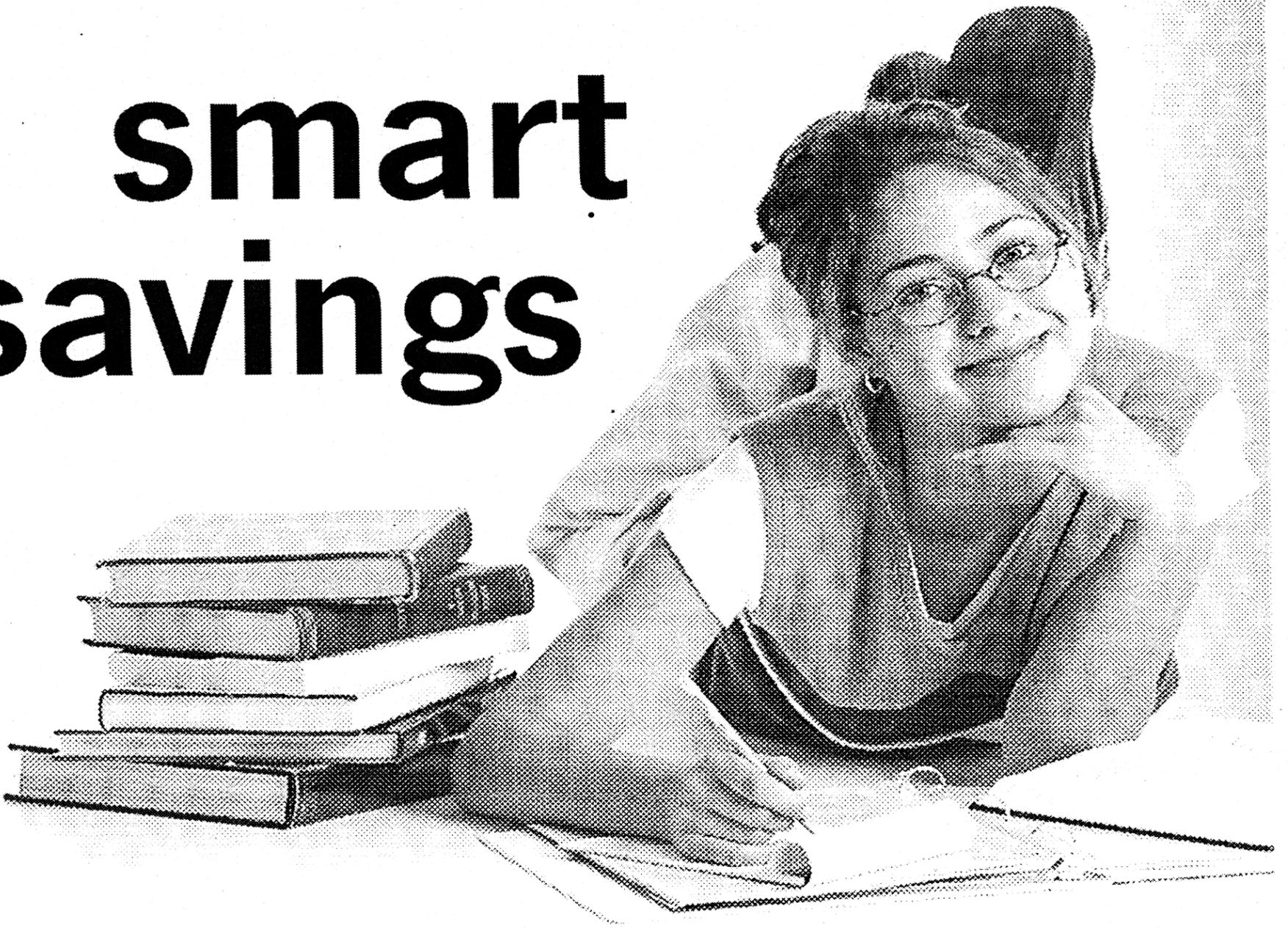
As part of these renovations, the SGA plans to provide the student body with the ability to send a local fax, receive at least three copies of whatever they need copied, and a telephone.

According to the SGA President, Randall Ware, "adding these new services will put additional work on the SGA." However, I fail to see how much work will come from these services. Why is that, you ask? For one, I think that most students on this campus have a cell phone that they can use to make calls. Number two, most students probably have a computer that has internet access upon, which they can use fax software to fax items. Students can also use their own computers, equipped with a scanner, to make copies. Thus, will it increase the amount of work on the SGA? Probably not. So why should we give \$16,459.84 for services we don't really need and for office renovations that jump around the details? We shouldn't.

So before we approve this deal, I think we should look closer at what exactly the SGA wants to do in these renovations and what problems they are solving by doing the renovations.

I have nothing against the SGA. However, I don't like the idea of student money going towards something that very few will benefit from. Sure, other organizations might want to use the SGA conference room. However, from a quick look around the student center, it is easy to see that most student organizations have their own offices.

smart savings



Looking to save more at the bookstore, here's how . . .

Buy **used textbooks** and save 25%

•

Reserve your textbooks in advance for the best selection of used books

•

Get money back for your used books at **buyback**

•

Spend your money wisely . . . a portion of your bookstore purchase goes to **support your school**

Southern Polytechnic State University

Bookstore

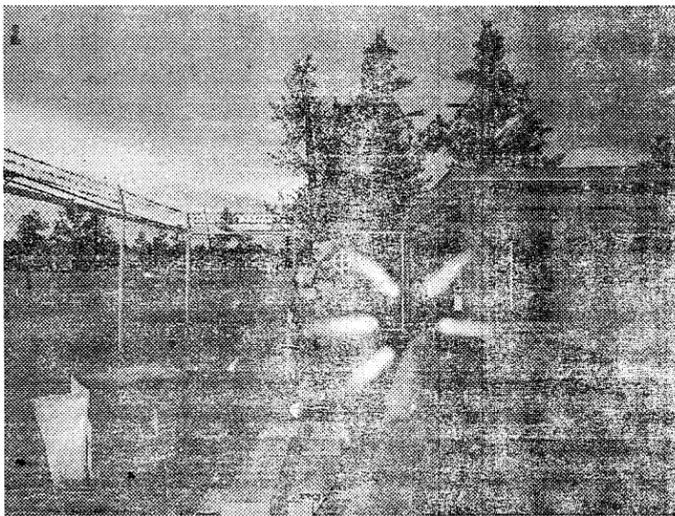
770-528-7355

Located in the Student Center

**GAMERS KORNER:
Speshul budget edition**

Dave Baktel
Sting Staff

Welcome to Gamer's Korner, the newest addition to your skool newspaper, *The Sting*. Today we review two games for those of us who are on a budget. Why is Korner spelled with a K? Because the sea on my keyboard is broken. Don't ask. I've been meaning to do something about that. Now on to the important stuff.



Return of The Incredible Machine: Contraptions
(Sierra/Dynamix, 2000)

I am cheap. I admit it. The last game I actually coughed up some money for was Red Alert 2 back in 2000. Recently, on Amazon.com, I came across a game that I hadn't played in six years. It was a remake of the classic game from Dynamix, *The Incredible Machine*. I had already qualified for free shipping by purchasing some books and for \$9.99 I wasn't out a lot of cash if it didn't live up to my expectations.

The game involves constructing various Rube Goldberg-like devices called contraptions. To solve the contraptions and advance to the next level, you are often required to call upon your knowledge of physics (think road runner and coyote with a good mix of $E=MC^2$). The 217 (yes two-hundred and seventeen) puzzles range from the normal - turning on light bulbs - to the outlandish -

shooting cats into outer space with a wide variety of lasers, dynamite, and rockets at your disposal. The nostalgia came rushing back as I clicked my way through the first 100 levels in two days while playing in my spare time, not even close to completing half the game (the puzzles become gradually harder as you advance toward the end).

This game also make a nice addition if you are already purchasing something offline for someone else or as a stocking stuffer for Christmas.

Rating: 5 out of 5 flying cats with laser beams shooting at them

Misc: Available from Amazon.com for \$9.99
Amazon.com Sales rank: 35

**America's Army:
Operations 'Recon'** (United States Army, 2002)

Have you ever wondered where 6.3 million dollars of your hard earned tax contribution went last year? It went into making what could possibly be the greatest Army recruitment tool of all time.

America's Army: Operations 'Recon' is a first person shooter, based on the Unreal Tournament engine and developed by... you guessed it, the Army. The single greatest thing about this game is the fact that it is 100% NO HOLDS BARRED NO MONEY DOWN, 0.00% APR FINANCE NOW THROUGH JULY 2003. Oh wait my mistake - that's Rooms to Go. What I meant to say is that its COMPLETELY FREE.

What sets this game apart from all others in its genere is that before you can compete online you are required to complete basic training in a virtual environment (modeled after the real Ft. Brenning, Georgia), and complete with a virtual Drill Sergeant. Your training involves

qualifying on a firing range with an M-16 raffle, training with other various weapons, completing an obstacle course, and urban assault combat training. Also, if you wanted to play as a specialist online - say a sniper - you have to go to Sniper school and complete training. I learned within 30 seconds of starting basic training that shooting the Drill Sergeant in the head will land you a trip to the brig, a nice touch.

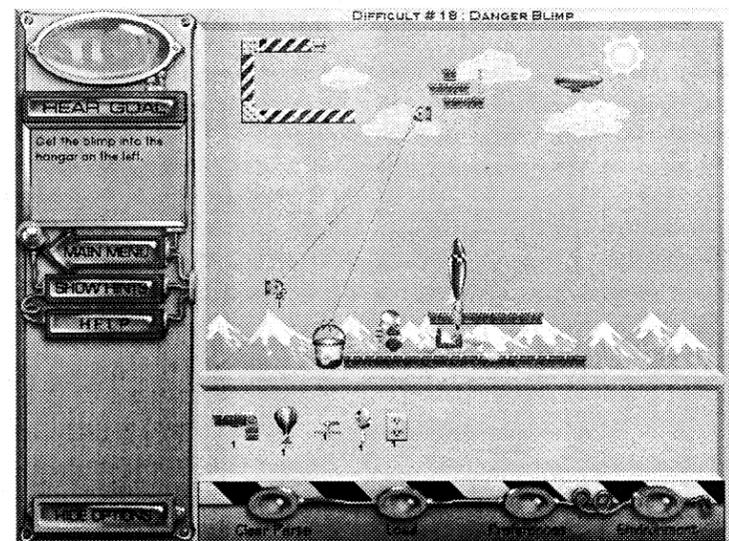
The biggest single complaint I have about the game is the Drill Sergeant. If you fire before you are told to do so, you are forced to start over and listen to his speeches all over again. Also, to improve the authenticity of the game, a patch should be released which includes words like "maggot" and "girly man" into the drill instructor's vocabulary.

Although somewhat buggy in its first release, America's Army offers a legitimate challenge to big boys of the first

person shooters world like Counter-Strike. The bad part is that it still a long way from being perfect. As of the writing of this article, the promised LAN server has not been released (although its release is slated for a few weeks from now), thus one only has the option to play a multi-player game through game-spy.

Whatever the cost to the taxpayer, having a video game instead of being constantly bombarded by "An Army of One" commercials definitely has its advantages. Everyone knows the "Be All that You Can Be" slogan was better!

Dave can be reached at dbachtel@spsu.edu or AIM: MrJoecoolin - Want to contribute to Game Korner? Drop a line to the Sting's editor at sting@spsu.edu



SUMMIT HEALTH CLINIC

770.313.9951
770.951.0080

Free initial consultation with appointment

Specializing in:

- Auto Accident/Work Injury
- Sports Injury
- Headaches/Sciatic/Arthritis
- Free Therapeutic Massage

Most Medical Insurance Accepted

In Franklin Plaza

At the corner of South Cobb Parkway and Franklin Road
1033 C Franklin Road Marietta, GA 30067



Dr. Vishwmitr

College Movies

Ben Lee
Sting Staff

Last weekend, Teddy, my perpetually depressed friend, surprised me when he sounded upbeat over the phone. I asked if he was sniffing shoe or was it something that rhymed with shoe! Teddy wanted me to have a beer with him and he wanted to show me his tan! It was shocking because Teddy hardly ventured outside his home because he claims that he needs to atone for his less than promising academic record. However, the clincher came when Teddy told me, in between sips of his Budweiser that he cannot wait to go back to college! I insisted on inspecting his medicine chest!

The 12 weeks Teddy stayed at home, he had found a new passion that had given him the drive to want to start life anew. That was when I thought he had an overdose on Anthony Robbins self-help videos! He laughed and told me that Robbins could not even make his obese dog walk to its food let alone make him walk over burning coal! Finally, he zealously divulged, in between spitting warm bud on my face, that the movies he has been watching were set on college life! He then proceeded to tell me about them...

Road Trip (2000)

(Comedy starring Breckin Meyer, Seann William Scott and Tom Green.)

Green (*Freddy Got Fingered*) plays a snake-feeding weirdo who tells the college's legendary adventure of 4 college mates who went on a road trip from Ithaca, NY, to Austin, TX to retrieve a videotape that was mistakenly mailed to his girlfriend. The video contained damning evidence of Josh's (Meyer) indiscretion. The humor in this comedy is tastelessly wicked and over the top but not slapstick. Despite its lack of originality and sometimes familiar (and even tripe) sequences, it is

Continued on Page 9,
See Road Trip

Correction!!!!

Correction: Officer Mihal Tarcan's name was omitted in connection with the "Theft Alleged in Facilities Management." The Sting regrets the omission.

(Continued From page 8, Road Trip)

entertaining without trying too hard. However, the gem in this comedy is when Scott (*American Pie*) discovered a new way to get his "rocks" blasted in a sperm bank! OUCH! B+

Legally Blonde (2001)

(Comedy starring Reese Witherspoon, Luke Wilson, Matthew Davis)
"Clueless" graduates and finds herself in Harvard Law School! Elle Woods (Witherspoon) ditched fashion school to pursue her high school boyfriend (Davis) who ditched her just because she is too "Prada" to help his political career. Contrivance is the main stay of this movie but what harm is there to suspend reality in exchange for some comic ingenuity! The movie comes dangerously close to a "Clueless" clone but it is a brilliant update as it addresses more grown up issues like at "assertion of rights", "sexual harassment" and "what to wear"! Legally Blonde lives up to its blondness when inspiration is found in hair perms and manicure parlors! (A)

Animal House (1978)

(Comedy starring John Belushi)
No line up of college based comedy can be complete without this classic! This is a screw ball

tale of 2 college fraternities – one smug they other low-life. Be prepared for a series of non-stop hilarity that is brilliantly directed by John Landis. (B+)

I credited Teddy for his excellent choices but I reminded him that college life is not just for laughs. Hence, me being the wet blanket asked him if he was setting himself up for a big let down. He politely reminded me that it was summer and he needed to unwind but having said that, he confessed to having shed a tear or two with...

Boys and Girls (2000)

(Romance starring Freddie Prinze Jr., Claire Forlani and Jason Biggs)

This post teenager romantic comedy is a gem! Ryan and Jennifer are the best of friends at UC Berkeley. They confide in each other especially their failed relationships with others. Tension mounts as they resisted the thought of dating each other, but one night they went to bed together. Ryan thought it was beautiful but Jennifer felt otherwise and proposed that they treated this like it never happened and that hurt Ryan real bad. Prinze (Scooby Doo) played hurt so well that he could rip any hardened

heart asunder! Although unfairly linked to "When Harry Met Sally", "Boys and Girls" is refreshing and the tension is overwhelming but believable.

Also, Jason Biggs (*American Pie*) takes the back seat on this one but he still stands out especially in the outtake where Biggs discovered why super models drown themselves in perfume! (A-)

Dead Poets' Society (1989)

(Drama starring Robin Williams, Robert Sean Leonard, Ethan Hawke)

In an upper crust, rigid and highly traditional high school, John Keating (Williams) returns to his alma mater and defies convention to teach his students poetry and to inspire them to "seize the day!" A group of students discover an underground society, the Dead Poets Society, where the students get to free their spirits from the straitlaced school life to recite and interpret poetry. The film uplifts spirits only to plunge it into depression! If you have been plagued with a "C" average, just have a good cry then "seize the day" and hit the books! (A+)

WAIT A MINUTE! Isn't Dead Poets' Society set in a high school? Teddy agreed but he was quick to argue that high school

based movies can be just as good and I suspected he contrived it to tell me about 3 foot-tapping musicals! Teddy? Musical?

Grease (1978)

(Musical starring John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John, Stockard Channing)

Clique rules! The T-Birds and the Pink Ladies comprised the coolest boys and girls in Rydell High. As such, when fate lent a hand and brought summer lovers Danny (Travolta), the T-Bird leader and Sandy (Newton-John) the "virgin", together, Danny had to deny it because a T-Bird can only date a Pink Lady. The kids (acted by 20 somethings – Stockard Channing was 28 years old when she played Rizzo) launched into a repertoire of beautifully written songs and brilliantly choreographed dance numbers, to tell you about their heartaches, joy and courtship! Try to spot Lorenzo Lamas (of *Renegade*, the TV Series fame) and Michael Biehn (the good guy sent from the future in "The Terminator"). (A)

Grease II (1982)

(Musical starring Maxwell Caulfield, Michelle Pfeiffer, Adrian Zmed)

This is a very lame sequel to *Grease!* Again set in Rydell High, this is the next batch. However, the two reasons to watch this sequel – some of the songs and Michelle Pfeiffer. You will be amazed at how well Pfeiffer had blossomed! (C+)

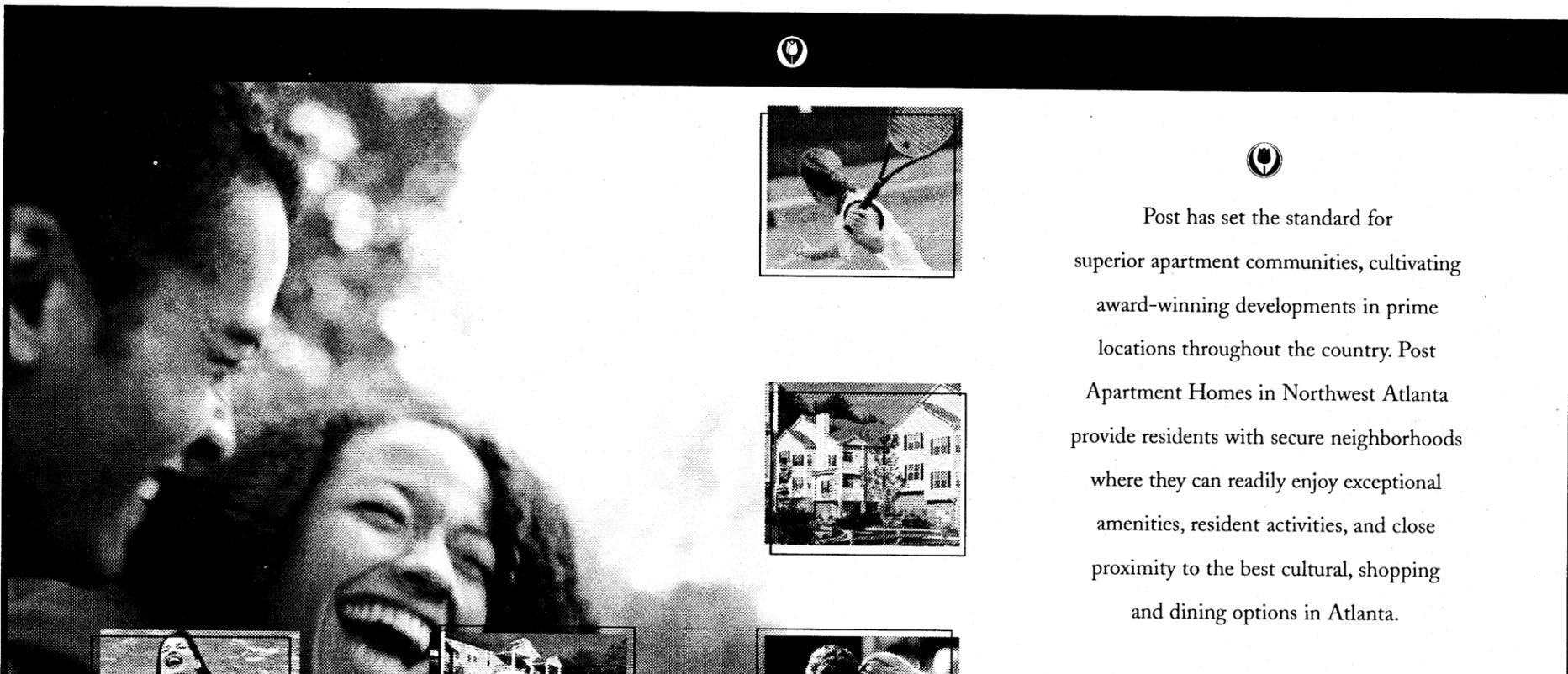
Fame (1980)

(Musical starring Irene Cara)

Fame traces the musical education career of 4 teenagers in the New York City High School for the Performing Arts. Although a musical this movie, is realistic as we follow through the kids' pressures to cope with their education, their disappointments and successes. The movie also contained traffic-stopping and crowded cafeteria choreographed dance sequences and of course, the Academy Award winning song "Fame!" and "Out Here On My Own" entrancingly belted by Irene Cara. (A-)

I criticized Teddy for his escapism, like as if the SPSU students would hop onto South Marietta Parkway, stop traffic and

Continued on Page 10, See Urban Legend



Northwest Atlanta Communities

- Post Spring™
3375 Spring Hill Parkway
Smyrna, GA 30080
770.444.3537
- Post Lane®
705 Powers Ferry Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30067
770.565.3234
- Post Mill®
1550 Terrell Mill Road
Marietta, Georgia 30067
770.951.8957

Post Valley®
4570 South Cobb Drive
Smyrna, Georgia 30082
770.432.3110

Post Bridge®
1560 Terrell Mill Road
Marietta, Georgia 30067
770.951.9548

Post Ridge®
3505 Windy Ridge Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
770.952.7722

Post Woods®
3200 Post Woods Drive NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
770.952.0848

Post Riverside™
4403 Northside Parkway
Atlanta, Georgia 30327
404.233.6310

Post Vinings®
3385 Atlanta Road
Smyrna, Georgia 30080
770.432.3818

Post Crest®
50 Adams Lake Blvd.
Atlanta, Georgia 30339
770.333.3000

Post Village®
2085 Lake Park Drive
Smyrna, Georgia 30080
770.436.1223

Post has set the standard for superior apartment communities, cultivating award-winning developments in prime locations throughout the country. Post Apartment Homes in Northwest Atlanta provide residents with secure neighborhoods where they can readily enjoy exceptional amenities, resident activities, and close proximity to the best cultural, shopping and dining options in Atlanta.

Visit one of our Northwest Atlanta area apartment homes today and *discover what our commitment to quality can mean for your quality of life.™*

QUALITY SHOWS®

POST
 APARTMENT HOMES
 Northwest Atlanta

WWW.POSTPROPERTIES.COM

Southern Technical News Gazette

Where There's A Will There's An "A": A Summary and Review

Benjamin Lee
Sting Staff

An "A" can mean a bigger paycheck, amongst other benefits. In competitive job markets, getting your dream job can be a matter of a transcript of "A"s. Above all, getting "A"s can give you the peace of mind that the hard work you have paid off

So how can you get the "A"? Spending hours on end studying in the library? Use a marker to highlight volume after volume of books? Prof. Claude Onley, developed and presented the "secrets" to getting "A"s in this 1988 video recording in the University of Arizona. Prof. Onley had toured the nation with his set of studying program that proved effective and practical.

This program is not a motivational tape. It is not one of those where he uses extensive vocal variety to spell bind you into walking over hot burning coal or enable you to see the inner beauty of a toad. This program gives you very practical tips. It does not just tell you what you already know with statements like, "you must review your work before the exam" or "you must have at least a good sleep before an exam". Instead this program gives you practical, specific and doable tips. These tips are "formulated" based on founded psychological or biological principles and some of them are educated assumptions that are logical.

This program introduces techniques to help you "study smart". After all, you get grades for the right answers and for the right things you do and not how much time you bury yourself behind the books. Some of these techniques can sound silly or incredulous but try them out anyway. After all, "no venture, no gain" and what harm can that do?

As this program was developed in the 80s, you might encounter out of vogue make-up and hairdo and archaic terms like "Word Processors" and "Erasable Pens". Despite that, the principles remain relevant. There are also some tips that border treacherously on "unethical behaviour". As such, use them with absolute caution.

The following are summaries of the techniques introduced in the video by Prof Onley:

Technique #1: College Is Big Business

Like big businesses, you need to do whatever it takes to succeed. In this case, packaging is essential. Similarly, appearance raises grades. Use a word processor (in other words have your work printed if possible instead of hand written) and write with an erasable pen (if they are still available)

Technique #2: Don't Let Hard Course Fool You

Choose courses that you like and do not let pompous sounding course titles intimidate you. Take them anyway and if they are really difficult, drop them or take them in another college because credits transfer and grades do not.

Technique #3: Test Professors Before They Test You

Imagine the professors are blind dates. Check them out before you go on those dates because a date from hell can make the best plans a horrendous experience. Likewise, select instructors as carefully as you select your courses. Create a file on professors by exchanging notes with other students who are currently taking the courses you intend to take.

Technique #4 - Read Text Books Early

There are some instructors who lecture directly from the book. As such, if you read your textbook early, you would be able to concentrate on reinforcing your learning, instead of

then have everyone leap into the air, twirl on top of cars without getting arrested or run over! Teddy was quick to add that he watched a few that really scared him and lifted him.

Continued from page 9

Urban Legend (1998)
(Horror starring Alicia Witt, Jared Leto)

This horror flick is worth the mention because it started with a promising storyline. Set in a New England University, the movie tried too hard to put in a "whodunit" element that was lame! However, it still provided some hair-raising entertainment. (C).

Good Will Hunting (1997)

(Drama, starring Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, Minnie Driver, Robin Williams)

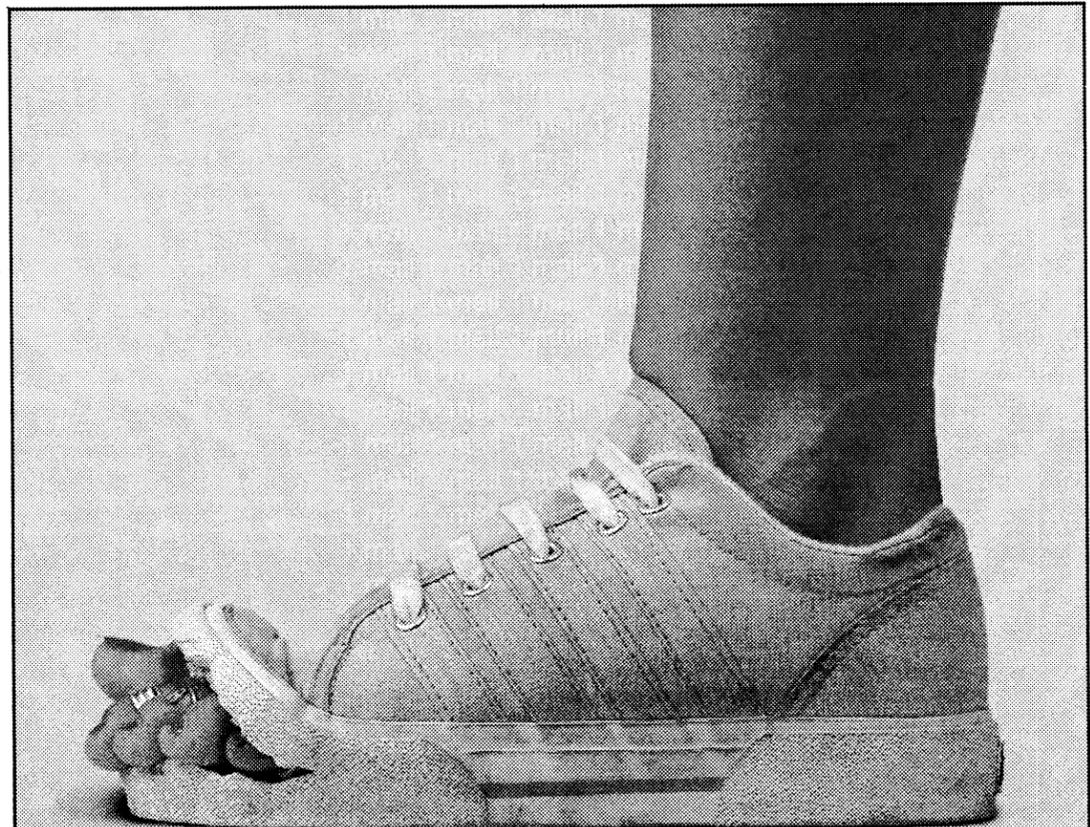
Lurking in the halls of MIT is a janitor (Damon) who is mathematically gifted. When discovered by the psychiatrist, played by Williams, Damon chose to remain true to his "blue collared ness". The idea was original and refreshing although the "under-dogness" was over played. Williams made a brilliant transformation from his usual typecast roles and he deservedly won an Oscar for this performance. (B+)

Patch Adams (1998)

(Drama, starring Robin Williams)
Based on the true story of Hunter "Patch" Adams (Williams), who uses humor to treat his patients. Considered a way that trivializes the medical profession, the academics in his medical school tries ways to expel Adams. However, he was highly respected

by the medical community. This is an inspirational movie and proves that trials and tribulations cannot wear the passion thin. The role fitted Williams like a hand in glove and it was a brilliant and convincing performance (A-)

Teddy was unstoppable and told me that these movies made him miss college and each of them in their own way has entertained, encouraged and enthused him. I was glad that Teddy spent his summer productively and I suppose, this explains where Teddy got his tan - his trips to the video rental store!



SIZE **5** SHOE

SIZE **9** FEET

1 MALL

They're not weeds. They're feet. But they grow about as fast. Good thing there's one place you can go to cover all your back-to-school needs, from head to toe. Plus during Georgia's Tax-free weekend on August 2nd and 3rd, you'll see something else grow, too. *The savings!*

Town Center at Cobb

What may we do for you today?



EXIT 269, BARRETT PKWY • SHOPPING LINE 770-424-9486 • SHOPSIMON.COM

Continued on Page 11,
See Study Tips

Continued from Page 10 Study Tips

feverishly taking notes only to find out later that you copied the entire textbook

Read the textbooks actively using a pen or pencil and then make your own notes in the margins or in a note pad as you read. Also, as you read, formulate your own questions and then answer them. This will internalise the material.

Technique #5 - Launch Full Massive Attack

Go full steam for 2 weeks from the start. After 2 weeks, you will find it difficult to slow down. Also by then, you would have done well in a test or two to be motivated to keep it that way.

Technique #6- Zero Absences

Some professors implement penalty points for absences. It has been shown that "A" Grade students have an average of 1/2 absences per semester while "C" students have an average of 4 1/2 absences per semester. Furthermore, credit points might also be given for participation and you lose your chance of getting them when you are not there! Hence, attend EVERY class.

Technique #7 - Extra Credit

Make getting extra credit compulsory because this can be the bridge between a "B" and an "A".

Technique #8 - Pre- Test Yourself

Build up a file of exams. Previous exam questions to some courses can be found in the library. You can also make up your own exams while reading. Chapter and section headings are good starting points where exam questions can be made up. Write the questions down and then practice them.

Technique #9 - Become an Expert Test Taker

This section gives you strategies for tackling the various types of questions.

For essay type questions, volume pays. However, break your thoughts into short paragraphs. Again, neatness raises grades.

For filling in the blanks and multiple-choice questions, go with initial hunches. Fill in everything even if you think it is wrong because your answer might be acceptable and it might earn you half the credit.

Use the whole period to complete your exam because there is a tendency for instructors to drop more conspicuous hints towards the end.

Use a "Lucky" Pen or anything that can give you a psychological edge. Although this sounds superstitious and silly but if notable sports personalities do that "for luck", the why don't you?

Technique #10 - The Key To Perfect Term Papers

Grading written works is a game of comparisons. In this section, Prof. Onley went at length to make this point. Some other tips you can try out include volunteering to edit a friend's paper. Again, first impression counts so make sure that the paper is neat and free of grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors, wine stains and ink blotches.

There are 5 steps to follow. Start with planning the essay outline, put topic sentences first and then fill in the material instead of writing it from start to end in that order. Complete the first draft; refine paragraphs and finally, proofread and correct errors.

Technique #11 - Registration Tricks

Prof. Onley purports that a class is "really never close". As such, never give up trying to get into a class.

Technique #12 - Learn To Use Your Memory

If you cannot remember anything, it is not because you have lesser brain cells than an average person but it is that you are not effective in recalling these memories.

There are 3 ways of memorizing. Firstly by rote method, which is repeating

and reviewing until it gets into your brains. Secondly, by recognition, which is linking one thought to another then make up a ridiculous story. Watch the video for a complete demonstration. Thirdly, by relearning, which is to repeat the material continually.

Do not take sleeping pills if you cannot go to sleep the night before as it reduces 5% of our recall ability.

Technique #13 - Scholarships and Jobs

I questioned the relevance of this section of getting an "A" but it does make sense if money is an issue for you and this can affect your ability to work on an "A".

Apply for scholarships because you may be more deserving than the people who got these scholarships.

When getting a job, get something you like and do not worry about the pay because the money will just flow. When you love your work you will keep at it.

Technique #14 - Post Cards And Phone Calls

Sometimes your grade is just a few decimal points shy of an "A". This section tells you how you can (possibly) get a grade change. However, this section contains strategies that can be construed as "unethical". Be forewarned!

Ask for grade changes before the grades are sent to the registrar's office because when it gets there, the instructor will have to go through a lot more hurdles to change the grade and he/she is less apt to do that.

Technique #15 - Night Owls and Early Birds

Night owls stay up late and sleep in late. Early birds go to bed early and wake up real early. As such, it will be more effective to study according to your biological clock. Also, train your roommates or the people you live with to accept that and make arrangements to accommodate you.

Technique #16 - Be Prepared To Bail Out

Do not be afraid to drop a course that is not working. When you register, sign up for extra hours then you can then be more willing to drop course that you are uncomfortable with.

Technique #17 - Build Your Own Library

The lesson learnt here is read what smart and wealthy people read and avoid what "stupid" people read! (I am merely stating what Prof. Onley suggested in his program; so do not take it out on me!)

Technique #18 - Use Your Imagination

In this section, Prof. Onley provides some tricks to help you get better grades. To eliminate stress on public speaking and make better presentations, utilize good props and put notes behind it. To position yourself better, change your name! For more tricks, view the video.

Use positive affirmations like "I'm going to make an "A" on this test" because if you think you are going to fail, you will!

To prepare for tests try to imagine success such as what happens when you do

the test successfully. In this way, you can condition your mind to it.

Technique #19 - Take Worthwhile Notes

Take notes in key words. Read actively by taking notes as you read and spend 5 minutes immediately after class to just review the notes. Review notes out loud because this will get to both spheres of your brain.

Use index cards to review notes. Make copies of all your notes because you do not want to be without them just before an exam or a test.

Technique #20 - Stay Mentally, Physically And Spiritually Fit

The lesson learnt in this final section is that top students are free of any bad habits. Well, you can surely figure this one out!

Prof. Onley in his presentation uses analogies and examples to explain the techniques and this can be more effectively learned if you watch the video. It can be borrowed from the Cobb County library. You can check out their website at <http://www.cobbcat.org>. There is also a High School Edition.

There's an "A" for everyone and it can be yours, just will it!

SOME TIPS FROM "Where There's A Will There's An "A"'"

Study Techniques

- Read material into a tape recorder and listen to it repeatedly
- Highlight portions of the text you do not know and review them until you know it
- Use index cards for review
- Study in short 15-minute bursts because first and last facts are always remembered best
- Sit in the front row because there are fewer distractions
- Crouch forward to "pounce" on the material

Notes Taking

- Record them with key words and not in complete sentences because we do not think in terms of sentences
- Abbreviate them (use acronyms if possible).

Backpacking Europe

Mercedes
Editor-In-Chief

Backpack Europe- Do it while your young, while your broke and before you get tied down to a house, 2 cars, 1/2 kid and a picket fence. That's what I suggest you to do before or after you graduate. Traveling is therapeutic, so why not do it?

I get sick of hearing people babble about traveling once they retire. I have no patience for these people. Here's why: The older you get, the more set in your ways you become. Not to mention you lose your taste buds; so you won't be able to taste fine French foods. Your sight starts to go; so you can't see the details of the Duomo in Florence. Your body is physically exhausted; so you can't walk far with a backpack. So backpack Europe while your young.

Learn about yourself. Take my word for it, employers look for well-traveled individuals. Why? The people who take long journey's to backpack Europe or Asia or Africa, gain knowledge. They gain acceptance, understanding, they learn about themselves and they come back instantly cultured. This means you will always have something to talk about with clients you don't know. You can talk about seeing Van Gogh's art, to being at the Beatle's museum, seeing the Pope, to picking grapes in Italy for wine to rating the most beautiful cities in the world. Backpacking Europe will change your life.

If you think your broke, think again. Tickets roundtrip to

Amsterdam are \$259 (check out Clarkhoward.com); it cost this much to fly to California.

So if I've convinced you, I suggest you to run over to the local bookstore and purchase A Rough Guide to Europe and Lonely Planet's Europe "On A Shoestring." Buy both if you are serious about doing the trip soon. If your still thinking about it buy the Rough Guide first; it covers detailed information about where you're going, the history and why it is important. The Shoestring guide, in my opinion, is better for practicalities and the cheap way to travel Europe; hence the name, a shoestring guide. It will tell you cheap places to stay and eat (which are generally fairly good), what days museums are free and how to get there without breaking your budget. Buy both, because the Shoestring guide is absolutely useless in telling about tourist attractions.

So once you have decided to go, start getting these documents ready.

1.Passport: \$40 If you do not have one, call your post office and see if they take pass port applications. You can run to Kinko's to get your passport photo. If you lack time or you have lost your passport, you can do an express service (around \$120). In an emergency, you can always drive to New Orleans and do a "walk through" at THE passport office. Once you receive your passport, photocopy the front and back, twice. Give one copy to a trusted friend or relative

(someone you can contact immediately) and keep the other in your backpack.

2.Insurance: start shopping around for insurance. You can get cheap travel insurance trough council travel or any student travel agency. Make sure it covers theft, medical treatment, emergency evacuation and personal liability. This is a must!

3.Rail Passes: The rail system is the only affordable way to travel. You really don't need to drive (not to mention it's much more costly and you need to obtain an international drivers permit) Check out raileurope.com, from here you can pick out the desired rail card needed. I suggest in one month to go for a 10 or 15 day inconsecutive pass costing \$644/\$914 for students under the age of 26.

4.Hostelling/Camping cards: useful, not necessary. If you wish to save money, I suggest getting one. Purchase the HI card (Hostelling International). This will knock off anywhere from \$1-7 a night and possibly get you free sheets.

5.Student Cards. The International Student Identification Card (ISIC) cost \$25 and can be purchased at Council Travel. Don't go without this. It is the ONLY widely known student card that is accepted. It takes money off of train rides, museum cost, saves on exchange rates and much more. It also gets you cheap tickets through airlines.

6.Visas: The rough guide and the shoestring guide both have a list of countries in which Europeans and American's need visas before

entering. If you wish to travel to one of these countries, try to get the visa before your trip. This way, you won't get ripped off or encounter "other taxes." The best way to get these is call that country's consulate.

Now with the paper work out of the way, it is time to start shopping for the necessary backpacking essentials.

1.Backpack/rucksack: Be sure to buy a quality backpack. I suggest one at REI for \$150 or above. Rucksacks are hard to come by when traveling, so it is essential that you find one that fits, has quality straps, and won't rip or tear easily. It also helps if it's waterproof. Females need to be very select in choosing the right pack. It needs to have additional hip and back support; ask a sales person at the store to guide you. Do not buy the largest pack available. Remember the bigger it is, the more likely you are to stuff additional unneeded items.

2.Footwear: Comfortable walking shoes are a must. Do not bring anything that you would not walk in for 2 miles, up 130 stairs with 30 pounds on your back. Leave your combat boots at home even if you have worn them for 3 years. I suggest a light pair of hiking boots/shoes or cross-training sneakers. In addition to these shoes, bring a pair of sandals. You can wear sandals on the beach, the days you want to casually stroll around town and in shower (unless you want foot fungus).

3.Long Pants: Do not bring jeans for they are heavy, take forever to dry and get dirty easily. Not to mention in

Europe, light blue jeans are generally a symbol of someone who is poorly dressed. Long, lightweight cotton pants are acceptable in churches/mosque, not to mention they dry quickly.

4.Sleeping bag: If you plan on camping, buy a sleeping bag according to the lowest temperature you will be in. Regardless, of camping or hostelling it, a sleeping bag is good to have. It will cushion your rides on the overnight trains and keep you from paying \$1-3 a day for sheets. Once again, I urge you to buy a top quality sleeping bag for they tend to be lightweight.

Now to the exciting part: plan your trip. Have a basic idea of where you want to go. It is also necessary to determine if a traveling companion is needed. If you stay in hostels and keep an open mind, you will encounter other students who are making the same journey. Chances are you will be traveling with them from city to city (who knows- you may meet a traveling partner in the first city you stop). If you plan to go with a friend or significant other, make sure you are willing to accept them for who they are (including their quirks, temper, disorganization, etc.) After a month of traveling you will KNOW that person; make sure you really want to know him.

This covers the beginnings of traveling in Europe. Check out the next issue for phase 1 and 2 of backpacking Europe.

Lets See London!

Mercedes
Editor-in-Chief

Hi guys! Remember me? I was the girl you met in Brixton wearing absolutely nothing except a feather boa. What an unforgettable evening.

It's time to be serious and continue backpacking across Europe. This time we start in London. It's perhaps one of my favorite cities in the world due to its reputation of "if you can't find it in London, you can't find it anywhere." Honestly, I have not toured London, but I can point out the highlights. There is certainly too much to cover in this old city that houses seven million people.

To begin with, London is the most expensive city on your trip. The cost to stay, eat and see a few sights is nearly \$75 dollars a day. Most likely, you will arrive in Heathrow or Gatwick, which both are roughly 12 miles away from central London. The cost from the airport is 3.60 pounds. Remember the tube does not accept the Eurorail. For further information on the London underground and



The Tower Bridge is one of London's amazing sights.

other transport services check out londontransport.co.uk.

Before arriving in London, I highly suggest you to make reservations BEFORE you get there. It is one of the top tourist destinations and finding a place to stay can be a disaster. If you wish to camp out, you can do so

on the outskirts of London for 4 pounds a day. If you stay in a hostel, it can cost between 5 to 10 pounds. Cheap hotels start at 40 pounds, but they are few and far in-between.

Some say the food in London is some of the best in the world...this is if you're not going

to pubs and are willing to spend quite a few bucks. Otherwise, you will be stuck with any type of meat in curry sauce, potatoes and marmalade. The other option is take away Chinese food which tends to all taste the same and be mushy. Your best bet is to eat Italian food, therefore guaranteeing that digestive repercussions from curry insults will not occur. Keep in mind, restaurants in London are expensive because service is included in your meal and you must pay 18% sales tax.

Where to Go!

I'm going to outline my favourite highlights in London. Keep in mind there is a million things to see and do in London. Walking around the city for a day is a blast in itself, if you don't mind walking in the rain. I left out some of the more obvious attractions such as parliament hill and big Ben.

St. Paul's Cathedral has the second largest dome in the world. It is second behind St. Peter's in Rome, Italy. This amazing structure sits on River Thames. A small fee will allow you to enter the cathedral.

Across from St. Paul's Cathedral is perhaps one of the

most embarrassing architectural engineering masterpieces designed for 2000. It's called the **millennium bridge**, which is a very attractive sculpture, but absolutely useless in the fact that you can't cross it. For two years, architects and engineers have been trying to determine what went wrong during the millennium celebration when the bridge suddenly started swaying. If you could walk across the bridge, it would lead you to the entrance of the Tate Museum (modern). Instead, you must walk a million miles in order to cross the river and go to the museum.

The Tate museum opened up two years ago. It was once an electrical physicality and obviously since been converted. This amazing structure houses the works of Picasso, Dali, Matisse, Pollock, Warhol and many others. I especially enjoy going to the top floor café to sit and have tea on fashionable leather seats. I also enjoy taking pictures of pure black paintings which accompany every modern art museum. The Tate is by far one of the better modern museums I have been in due to its

*Continued on Page 13,
See London*

(Continued From page 12, London)

large size and the enormous 3-story installations.

Tower Bridge is a spectacular view, not to mention a masterpiece of the time. It was built in the 1880's and features a roadway to ships, thus allowing further travel up the Thames. You can pay to go up the tower bridge; I just have never seen a reason to do so.

Tower of London houses the crown's treasures, armory and royal residence. The crown's treasures fascinated me for the silver and gold platters often times were larger than my dining room table. The Waterloo barracks house the three largest diamonds in the world. One can see them by taking the moving walkway and slowly pass by these jewels. Unfortunately, it gets rather

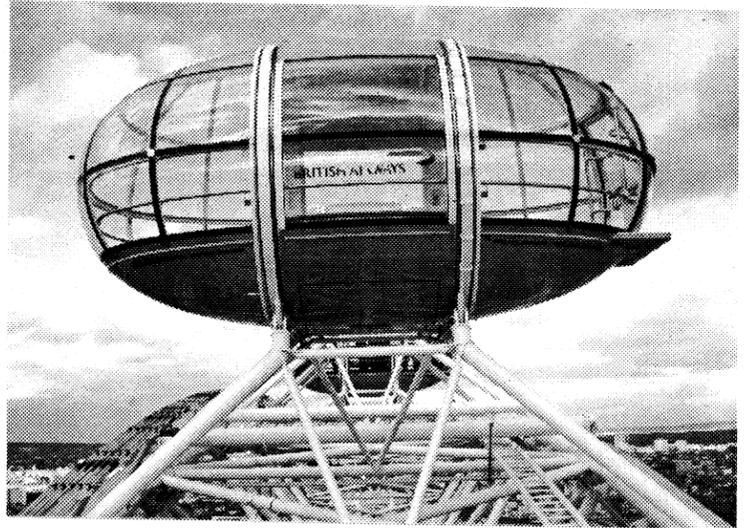


crowded in here due to the disbelief that a diamond can really be that big! The armory houses war time stories, guns, cannons and military outfits. The history here is quite extensive, so be careful not to spend several hours inside this section. The royal residence covers a story of two

boys who were kidnapped from the lawn and killed. It also shows where many men spend their days in jail. By far, the most interesting place to go is the crown's treasures.

London Eye is my favourite place of all, mainly due to how new it is to the city. It

The London Eye



provides a full view of London at 135 meters in the air. After waiting in the long line, you will be enclosed in a giant bubble Ferris wheel with 20 other people. From

here you can see the train station which is an architectural masterpiece, parliament hill, big Ben, a full view of the Thames and London's first skyscrapers (you can count all of them on your hand). This is defiantly worth the money for the view is absolutely amazing on a clear day.

As I said, there are a million other places to go. The reality is I can't cover them all in a article. Remember, London cost \$75 a day, per person in order to see the sights, stay in an okay place and eat decent food. The next travel destination is Paris!

www.gables.com

WOOD GREEN



1 Bedroom Starting at \$499
2 Bedroom Starting at \$610
3 Bedroom Starting at \$800

Call Today For Great Specials!

- Minutes from Life College, Southern Polytech, Lockheed, Cumberland, Galleria & Town Center Malls
- Excellent East Cobb school district • 1 mile access to I-75 • Beautifully landscaped grounds
- Jogging track • 24 hour maintenance guarantee • Cozy woodburning fireplaces
- Large pets welcome • Two pools • Two lighted tennis courts • State-of-the-art fitness center

WOOD GREEN

991 Wylie Rd.
Marietta, GA 30067

Call us
770-423-9029

Office Hours: M, T, Th, F (9-6)
Wed. (10-6) Sat. (10-6) Sun. (1-5)

Directions: Take I-75N, exit#263 towards Marietta. Go through 2 traffic lights & turn left on Wylie Rd. We're approx. one mile on the left.

GABLES
RESIDENTIAL
Taking Care of the Way People Live®

Professionally Managed by Gables Residential
© 2001 Gables Residential Trust. All Rights Reserved



COME JOIN IEEE!!

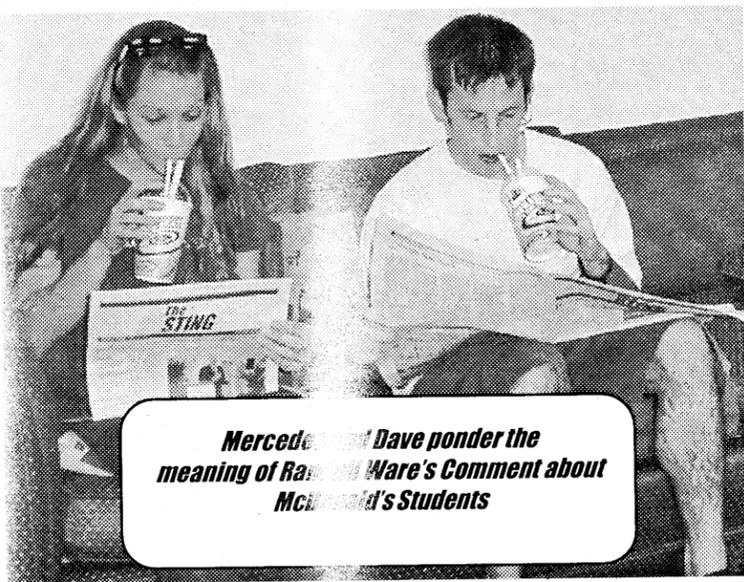


A little knowledge can be dangerous.

You may have noticed the STING looks a little different this year. We wanted to let you know, these changes are not permanent, but the Freshman Issue takes time and we wanted to add pictures for our students. You may be wondering who we are and what we do... Well, we are the people behind The STING, SPSU's official tabloid.

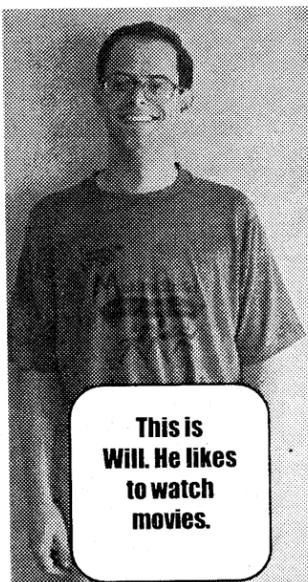
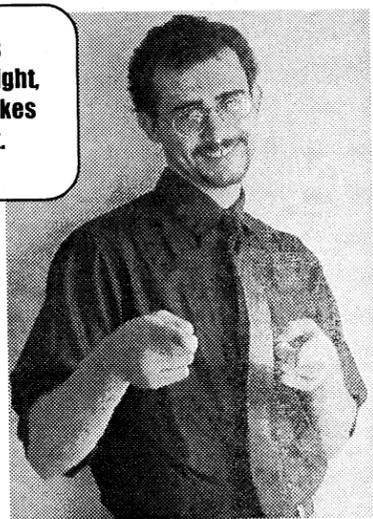
Our SGA President, Mr. Ware, thinks we are "nothing merely as a tabloid." (sic). Mr. Ware is very correct in his statement for we at the STING do run a "tabloid" newspaper. This means we print in tabloid style, which has often been claimed as "the language of the people" according to Keith Waterhouse. The reality is "Tabloid Style" is the style in which the news paper is laid out. Many newspapers around the world print in tabloid style, so we are informing our readers in this issue of the STING that we are truly a "tabloid" newspaper and proud of it! If you wish to learn more about newspaper style, pick up "On Newspaper Style" by Keith Waterhouse, of the United Kingdom.

Meet the Knowlege



Mercedez and Dave ponder the meaning of Raw and Ware's Comment about McDonald's Students

Joe is always right, and he likes to eat.



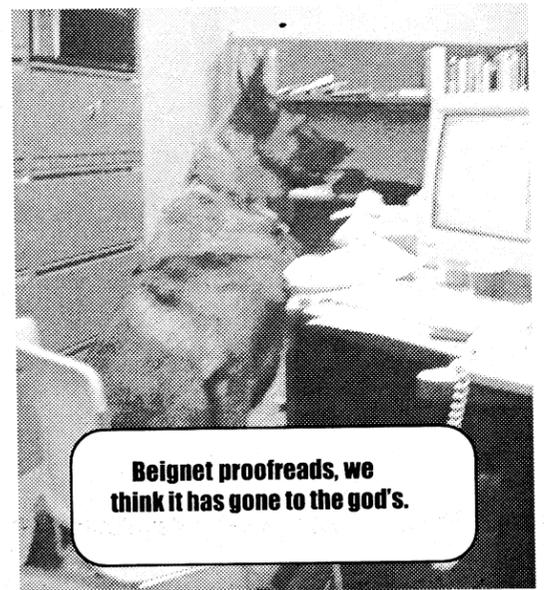
This is Will. He likes to watch movies.



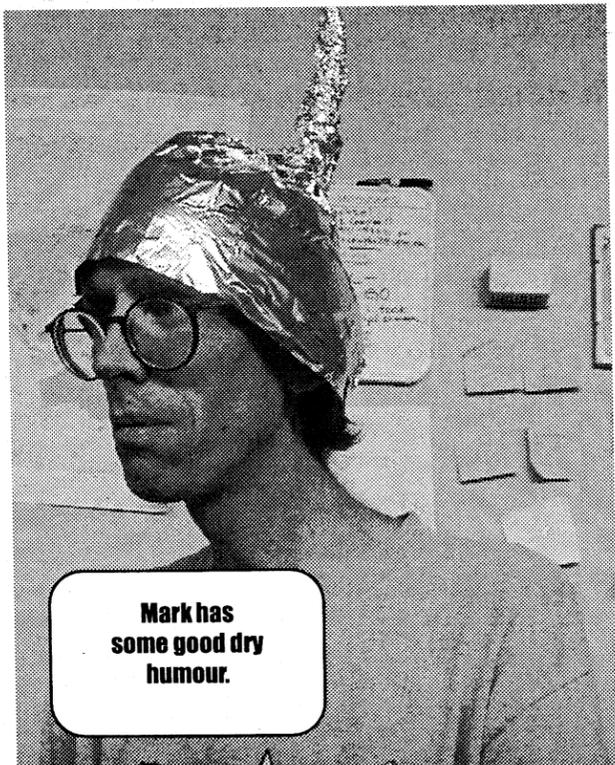
We don't really know Zach Biles. He just emails us stuff



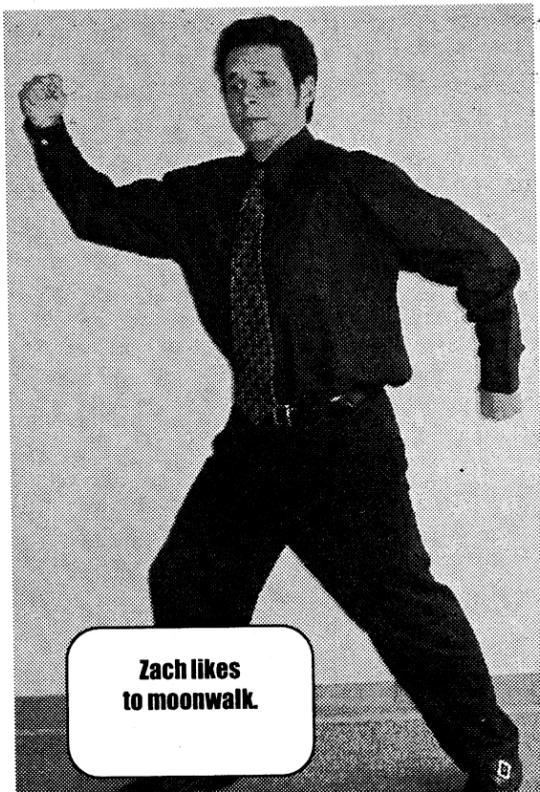
Ben is into Kung-Fu.



Beignet proofreads, we think it has gone to the god's.



Mark has some good dry humour.



Zach likes to moonwalk.



This is Jessie. He is a vegan.

The STING — Your Student Press and its History

Zachary Jones
Staff Writer

Where do we come from? We at the STING have a strong sense of tradition. Even when it seems as if we are broken, we continue on. The press at this school will never die forever. We as a student body are too opinionated to let the paper die. We don't take any shit. Moreover, we feel an obligation to the student body to inform.

Hence, let me describe a brief history of the STING. Perhaps it may inspire you to join, or at least admire the efforts of the STING.

The STING has been around as long as the school. For your information, the STING is an acronym (in fact, one that isn't relevant any-more) meaning Southern Technical Institute News Gazette. We still hold true to that name, though we know that the school no longer calls itself by that name (STI).

The story that I can describe begins with the early 90's (perhaps late 80's). The STING has never been a student organization that sits on its butt and waits for something to happen. Consider please the staff of the early 90's that started a STING tradition of Consensus Editorials. Consensus Editorials were often the method that the members of the STING use to promote change on campus. Perhaps at times they ended up being only humorous, however many times they reflected the true feelings of many students on campus. (For this reason, we publish the "Best of Past Consensus Editorials".) Moreover, though at times STING members were also SGA members, the STING never feared to check, monitor, criticize, and praise its school government. Today, the STING follows in such tradition and does not fear the threats of its Student Government to cut funding or to enforce regulation of its print. Many students have found such an attitude refreshing and have joined the STING because of such.

During the mid-1990's the STING was powerful on campus. The people who ran the STING were often the people that ran the Student Center (workers at the Info Desk, etc) and, hence, were very recognized around campus. The content of the paper was, to a large degree, substantially humorous. All picture captions were farces, and the general tone of the paper was quite funny. Students, to a large degree, read the paper to see where the staff would push the limit next. In 1996, the paper was so popular that the staff lobbied with the Atlanta Olympic Board to become the "Official Dilbert Newspaper of the Atlanta 1996 Olympics." (By the way, we, to this day, publish Dilbert comic strips, following tradition.)

The late 1990's provided a bit of trouble for the STING, however. In 1998, only a few issues were published all year long. In 1999, the STING practically died, due to the fact that it had no Editor. Hence, SGA voted to cut budget to the STING completely since it was practically non-functioning. Derrick Davis, then SGA President, decided against such a decision, however, and chose instead to cut the budget and put the paper completely online, with himself as Editor.

The paper, despite the valiant effort of Pres. Davis, floundered. The online version was established with the Information Technology Department on campus, but was updated only once or twice. (Here's where I came into the picture.) In late 1999/early 2000, I visited the STING site, only to be extremely disappointed that it was the same site that I had visited nearly 6 months earlier. Hence, I called Barry Birkhead, STING advisor, and asked him what I could do to help the STING. He told me, "Well, they don't have an Editor. You want to be the STING Editor?" I accepted, even though I was inexperienced. Along with the help of Ann Bartone, Dan Henry, and many of the other original members of the modern STING, I reorganized the STING to produce a paper every two weeks online from Summer 2000 until early 2002.

In June 2001, the STING finally made its return to a paper edition (supported by its regular online edition). Paper editions have followed monthly (except during Summer semester with limited coverage) up until this day.

In January 2002, I appointed Rich Meritt, a senior staff photographer, as Editor-in-Chief. His term as editor lasted only one semester, yet he continued many of the traditions established by myself.

In April 2002, Rich appointed as Editor, the current Editor-in-Chief/Princess, Mercedes. She has changed many of the policies I had established, and hence brought a new focus to the STING. Advertisement was emphasized as never before, and revenue increased for the STING. Though she has fought many times with the current SGA, she has stuck to her values and principles and the STING staff has flourished because of it. We as a staff admire her as Editor and enjoy working under her.

As Fall semester starts, look for your STING staff to cause the changes you look for on campus. If ever you have a problem, please do not fail to approach your student press, as it continues to fight for its readers.

Come Join Us!

The IEEE has been an integral part of Southern Polytechnic State University for decades...and we want you to help continue that tradition!

Join the IEEE in the first two weeks of the Fall semester and you will be placed in a drawing to win door prizes from various area merchants. For information on how to become a member visit the **Tech Shop in Building G** or email an officer (<http://ieee.spsu.edu/officers.php>).

If joining the IEEE is not right for you at this time, at least take advantage of the **IEEE Message Board** (<http://ieee.spsu.edu/phpBB2/>) to buy, sell, and trade your text books with other students.

ieee.spsu.edu

Look for IEEE Events throughout the school year. We look forward to seeing you there!

IEEE Student membership is open to undergraduate and graduate students who are enrolled in at least 50% of a normal, full-time course of study in electrical engineering, or computer science, in an allied branch of engineering technology, or in related arts and sciences.

The IEEE at SPSU. It's not just for ECET students anymore!



Southern Technical News Gazette

How The STING Is Made

Green Clovers Yellow Moons Red Stars

Famous STING brew-masters strive to keep the hot side hot and the cold side cold, and make sure that the ice doesn't mix with the dry or the lite.

The STING started as an experiment of mad scientist, Dr. Bob Roberts. Today, The STING is read by tens of people in one country all over the world.

Workers carefully take steps to ensure quality using exact specifications.

...but this guy really isn't doing that. He's on a wild acid trip.

Raw materials for The STING are mined from the backyards of college administrators under cover of night.

STING scientists make a really mean grape kool-aid.

Refining and filtering done by old, rusty, abandoned equipment found in the Colorado mountains gives The STING its unique brown coloring and mysterious flavor specs.

After all is said and done, The STING is ready for general consumption.

Blue Diamonds Orange Stars

Chemical Composition of the STING

We really know lots about pipes

Join the STING. Meetings are every Friday at noon. For more information, call 770.528.7310. Tons of positions available.

Freshman's Guide to Student Services

Zachary Jones Sting Staff

New students at Southern Polytechnic can feel overwhelmed as to what services are available to them, often at no charge. Here is a list of services that are available for student use.

Athletics: The Athletic Department is the home of the Southern Polytechnic Hornets basketball (men's and women's), baseball (men's), and tennis (men's) teams.

ATTIC: The ATTIC (Advising, Tutoring, Testing, International Student Center) represents the collaboration of student services at SPSU. Located in J 253, the ATTIC houses Joint Enrollment Advising, General Studies Advising, Tutoring, Testing, International Student Services and Disability Services. General operating hours are Mon-Fri 9am-4:30pm.

Bookstore: The Bookstore is located on the lower level of the Student Center. The Bookstore stocks books for all classes offered at SPSU.

Career and Counseling Center: Located near Student Activities in the Student Center, this department handles Cooperative Education and placement. Students who are looking for a job or Co-Op assignment can visit this office Mon-Fri 8am-5pm. Moreover, this department also provides a number of counseling services free of charge to SPSU. The counselors at the center offer assistance in areas of personal and career counseling as well as testing to evaluate personal and career goals.

(Cashier) Business Office: The Business Office is located on the ground floor of Norton Hall. Here students pay their fees and pick up financial aid, stipend, and paychecks. Hours of normal operation are Mon-Thur 8am-6pm, Fri 8am-4pm.

Center for Instructional Technology: Here you will find perhaps the best computers on campus. Multimedia authoring com-

puters give you access to scanners, cameras, and many other resources. Hours of operation vary. Check for updated hours at the bottom of the J building.

Financial Aid: The financial aid office is responsible for helping students receive financial aid from federal, state, and local agencies. All campus-based financial aid is also administered through this office. Short-term loans can be arranged through Financial Aid. The office is located next to the Business Office on the ground floor of Norton Dormitory.

Food Service: Southern Polytechnic offers food service in the Student Center on the lower level. Meal plans are available for purchase at the Business office. New to this semester is the addition of Chik-Fil-A.

Health Services (Clinic): The school nurse is on duty daily in the clinic in the Recreation and Wellness Center. Students with a physical disability are urged to introduce themselves to the nurse at the beginning of their first term at Southern Polytechnic State University. The nurse is available daily from Monday-Friday 8:30am-5:00 PM.

International Student Services: Students from foreign countries that require assistance can get it at this office, located on the second floor of the J building.

Library: The Library was named after the First Director of the Southern Technical Institute, Lawrence Virgil Johnson in 1998. The collection consists of approximately 105,000 volumes and 60,000 non-book items, including microforms, recordings, and U.S. Geological Survey maps for Georgia. The Library also subscribes to over 2,000 periodical & serial titles. Most library materials are immediately accessible to the student who needs them, shelved in open stacks where they may be examined at leisure. Library hours are Mon-Thur 8am-10pm, Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 11am-6pm, Sun 2pm-

9pm.

Multicultural Affairs: The mission of the OMA (Office of Multicultural Affairs) is to provide leadership and direction for the continuous improvement of university-wide efforts to create and sustain a more diverse and inclusive community of learners; to work collaboratively with other

Or take special classes offered throughout the semester such as Yoga and Aerobics. Recreational and intramural sports are also handled in the Recreation and Wellness Center. The Recreation and Wellness Center is open Mon-Thur 6:30am-10pm; Fri 6:30-7pm; Sat 12noon-4pm; and Sun 4pm-10pm.



university units to build a capacity to recognize and value differences, encourage and support positive interactions between and among diverse populations, and maximize the benefits of a multicultural perspective. The office is located in the basement of Howell Hall, bldg S.

Post Office: Located next to the bookstore on the lower level of the Student Center, this is a full service post office for the SPSU campus. Students can also rent a post office box for \$8 a semester. Hours are Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

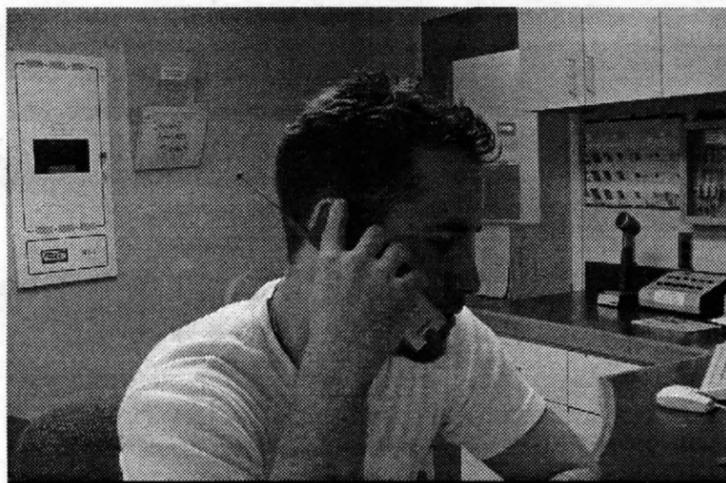
Public Safety: Public Safety is located at the bottom of the Norton Dormitory. University Police ensure that students, faculty, and staff have a safe environment. Moreover, they are responsible for the issuance of traffic and parking tickets. All vehicles on campus are required to have a parking sticker to park on campus. Any crimes should be reported to Public Safety by calling (770)528-5555 or simply x5555 on campus.

Recreation and Wellness Center: Come here to work out in the gymnasium, swim in the pool, or play basketball and racquetball.

Registrar: This office is responsible for all academic transactions. This office handles the adding and dropping of classes as well as admissions. The registrar is located in the Administration Building (B), across from the Student Center.

Student Center: The Student Center is the focal point of the campus, and provides offices for a number of student organizational offices, such as WGHR Radio, The STING, Student Government, Fraternities/Sororities, and many others. The Student Center also provides a recreation area with pool tables, table tennis, and video games. A big screen television is also available downstairs. The Bookstore, Post Office, Food Service, Student Activities, Career and Counseling Center, and many other services are located in the Student Center.

This article has been researched, written, edited, changed, tested, and lovingly hand-crafted in finest pewter by STING staff members from past and present years. It has been rehashed, reheated, refried, and rewarmed for this Freshman Issue. "Put it in Tupperware!"



As seen here, this information attendant is hard at work.

The Bookstore also sells other school supplies such as calculators, pens, pencils, and paper. In addition to the normal school supplies, the Bookstore also stocks back-packs, clothing, and health and beauty-aids. The Bookstore's normal hours are Mon and Thur 8:30am-6pm, Tues and Wed 8:30am-7pm, Fri 8:30am-4pm. During the first and last two weeks, the Bookstore is open extended hours.

puters give you access to scanners, cameras, and many other resources. Hours of operation vary. Check for updated hours at the bottom of the J building.

Disabled Student Services: The Disability Services Coordinator, who is a counselor in the Counseling Services Office, coordinates academic support services for students who have a permanent or temporary disability. Individuals eligible for

Freshman Survival List

Joseph Gelblat
Sting Staff

In strip clubs, the more money you put into your stay, the more enjoyment you receive. However, do not try to enjoy yourself too much, because trying to explain a withdrawal of 200 dollars from a Topper's ATM to your parents will be almost as thrilling as that champagne room dance with a nice girl named Mandy.

The Student center in my opinion is not a very good place to study, but I know some people will disagree with me. I think the best place to study is the privacy of your own home or the library. The only reason I don't study in the library is that the musty book smell gives me a horrid headache.

A person's dorm room is their castle, and it's a sacred thing. You should respect other people's dorm rooms when you're in them, because they already have a rough enough time keeping it clean without other people leaving their beer cans and ramen bowls in there.

If you want to take your date to a movie not intending on watching the movie, but the drive in theater is simply too far away, you can go to a lousy movie that nobody goes to in a regular theater (Batman and Robin comes to mind), and just simply sit in the top row, and let your imagination take over.

I understand that the quality of the meal plan ranks on par with the 3 dollar "Super China Seafood Buffet," and probably did just as well on the health inspections, but you have to pay for them anyway. So, my suggestion is to invest in "illegal appliances" and cook your own food. In my experience, the Foreman Grill is the best appliance for cooking food in a dorm room ever.

Now that you have invested in your Foreman Grill, the best things to cook on them are thin, for example hamburger patties, chicken filets, strip steaks, lamb chops, etc. Keep the window open and your dorm room closed- this is to prevent moochers from wandering in at a bad moment. If you want to keep that "Waffle House" smell out of your room, just get a cheap window or box fan from Sam's Club or Wal-Mart.

After having a hearty meal of hamburgers, chips, and beer, do not forget to wrap your leftover uncooked meat in the fridge, and dispose of leftovers in the dumpster. Spoiled meat will foul a room up faster than beer farts.

If you want to "defunkify" your dorm room real quick, first remove the source of the offensive odors (if it's your roommate then you're just SOL), then Febreeze the hell out of the room, open the window, close the door, and enjoy a nice meal at one of our recommended restaurants while the Febreeze works its magic.

Elaine Boring
Operator



Chick-fil-A at Marietta Trade Center
170 Cobb Parkway South
Marietta, GA 30060
Telephone 770-427-4885
Fax 770-428-1230

Chick-fil-A is on your campus in two locations:
1. The Student Union Cafeteria
2. J Building Lobby

Chick-fil-A at the Marietta Trade Center
College Night is Thursday after 4pm.
Buy a combo, and get a second sandwich FREE,
with student ID at Chick-fil-A store ONLY.

Catering and Fundraising for a Fraternity, Sorority, and Organization Functions

Ask About Student Discounts!!!



Collision Center



Welcome to Marietta Pontiac Collision Center. We are now on the Web @ www.hurtcar.com where you can check the status of your vehicle 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Using the Auto Watch system, we update the progress of your vehicle every weekday so the information you are after is always at your fingertips.

The best part is, you get to see the whole process, from start to finish. So sit back, relax, and see your vehicle live again as we bring it back to life before your eyes!

Here at Marietta Pontiac Collision Center, we truly hope you will never have an accident, but if you do, we are confident that we can provide you with the most reliable, quickest and finest service available anywhere.

www.hurtcar.com



Phone: (770) 980-6771 Fax: (770) 618-7129
2150 Cobb Parkway
Smyrna, Ga. 30080
M-F 8:00am to 6:00pm
Sat 8:00am to 1:00pm

Contact: Gilbert Simpson, Collision Center Director

Welcome to Hell

Mercedes
Editor-in-Chief



You have just become a part of "Georgia's Technology University," Southern Polytechnic State University. This means you have been condemned to a stiff regimen of pain for the next 4 to 37 years. (If you're majoring in Architecture, you may need a calculator to determine your total duration of enrollment.) The work will be grueling and you will be treated like a second-class citizen through most of your collegiate career. If you don't believe us, just wait until your first experience with SPSU's world-class Business Office.

free-wheeling new lifestyle is doomed to crumble beneath your feet. Going back home to your parents with shattered scholarships, no HOPE, and a horrible GPA to boot, is not the best position from which to beg for money.

3. The absence of your parents doesn't justify acting like an idiot. The effect that college will have on you is not unlike the effect that a controlled substance has on the human body. There's a virtual "high" from having no authority figure around. We know its exhilarating going to the Amoco at 4:30 in the morning for candy and porno just because you can. What you fail to realize is that now you are the "authority figure." If you fail to keep yourself in check (the true challenge of young adulthood), the price to be paid can range from bad grades to horrendous, tragic death (not a joke).

4. The computer, the game console, and the television are a trio of a foul temptresses. You will find that with the presence of a large network, a black hole of sorts will pull all gamers into long and vigorous battles that have been known to last for days. Consoles and televisions have also been known to lull students into an abusively passive mode. The important thing to remember about these distractions is that they are first and foremost, recreation. They may be the reason you're here (we're not trying to lie), but they don't facilitate you being here. Never forget that.

5. In the Residence Halls, sound is to be heard and not felt. One of the most common complaints

about freshmen is the loud fucking noise. At all hours of the day, you guys seem to believe it's time to test the foundation of the fifty-year-old Army barracks that's been converted into your humble living quarters by simultaneously pumping five rap songs, four rock songs, three horrible personal guitar solos, 2 DVD's and an obnoxious soundtrack of a Nintendo game into the cement until a thoroughly disturbed RL/RA charges you all fifty dollars in an effort to prevent the other part of the student body from forming a lynch mob to unleash hot justice on your fragile persons. Keep the volume DOWN.

6. Eat healthy foods. Given the school's current food service provider, this task is daunting, if not just highly difficult; we'll provide you with a few pointers. If it has sprinkles, stay the hell away from it. Foods that are aromatic can be a two-edged sword; proceed with caution. Entrées often resurrect themselves in the forms of more broken down or complex dishes. To avoid being a victim of culinary foul-play, remember what was served yesterday, and be sure to ask what is in the mystery casserole today. Casseroles that are covered in cheese are at the end of their life-cycle, so eating them is typically out of the question. Contrary to popular opinion, you cannot use Moh's

Hardness Scale to accurately measure the quality of our fluffy biscuits, rolls and cake slices. In our experience, they almost always score 7 (likeness to Quartz), which provides little if any distinction at all.

7. Get plenty of exercise. There are times when you should push your keyboard back into your desk, propel yourself outdoors until you see daylight, and run around for a while. Play Frisbee, football, soccer, baseball ... cricket or petanque. Go lift weights, swim or run/jog/walk. Go outside.

8. If it's over 2-proof, it's not for you; unless it's Listerine. Alcohol can be the source of many incidents in your college career. Keeping these experiences to a minimum will be in your best interest. Everybody likes drinking - in fact, some of the most interesting nights in the STING Office involved alcohol in one way or another (not to specifically implicate this or any previous staff specifically) - and within tolerable limits, it's OK. But remember that even though you're an adult now, they can still nail you for underage drinking, mind you, it's simply not worth your future to get drunk, do stupid things (refer to Commandment 3), and "write the check your body can't cash."

9. If you have to go out to the woods to have fun, re-evaluate the legality of the scheduled activities. College is full of bad influences, and some of them can take on the form of fellow students, selling drugs. Chef [from South Park] said, "There's a time for everything, and it's called

college." To be honest, if you want to try drugs at any college in this state, or in this country, it's easy enough and unlikely that you'll be stopped, unless you're smart enough to stop yourself. Along with alcohol, drugs are the only things that are more likely than not to put a stop to your academic progress, get you arrested, in trouble with your parents, or even get you killed. It's serious. It's not a joke. It can happen to you.

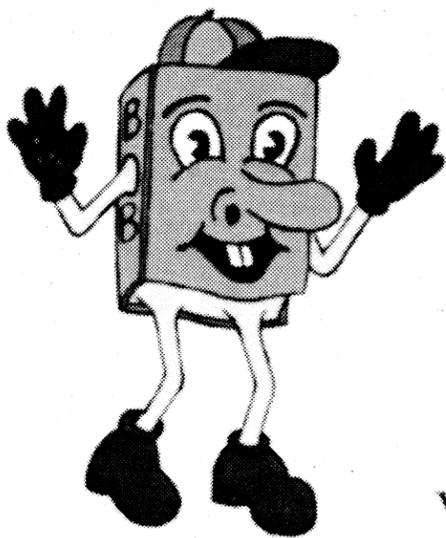
10. Look around at your freshman friends; about one out of every pair of you won't be here next year. This school has a freshman retention rate of a little over 50%. That means that just barely half of you will live to tell the tale. Think of your best friends, think of your hall mates. They will start to drop, one by one, until there are little more than a handful of your original acquaintances left by the end of your sophomore year. Take care to listen to instructors and do well in class. Get help from your RA/RL and attend FYRE events as often as possible. Don't be afraid to go see a counselor, or to ask for help from your fellow classmates. Everything you can do to improve your odds will truly be worth ten fold your effort. Because dropping out of college can be the most depressing event of your early adult life, fight for the privilege to stay and you will be rewarded with timeless moments of laughter, epiphany and happiness.

Don't get us wrong. Because of the people you meet, college will be the most wonderful, enlightening and unrestrained part of your life, almost guaranteed. For some of you, this is the time you will think of the rest of your life as the pinnacle of your existence. But college is fragile; a paradise easily lost and difficult to regain. Try to have fun, live in the moment, and take it just seriously enough to make the grade.

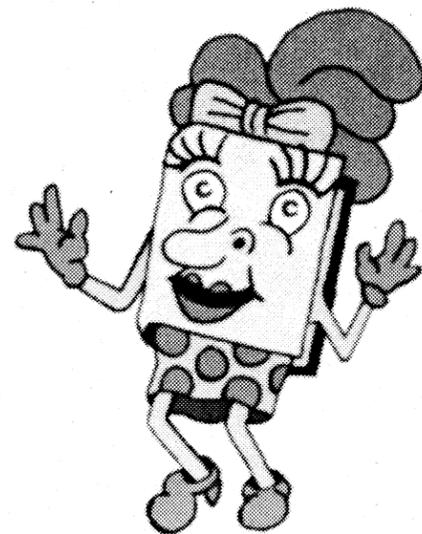
Don't despair though, you can survive. You can rely on the garnered experience and holy wisdom of your fellow students at The STING. We have drafted, for you freshmen, these Ten Commandments that shall guide you through your first year of torment here at Rossbacher's House of Agony. Read them over a couple of times, take them to heart, and they shall not fail you.

1. Get up in the morning, and go to bed at night. Keeping your schedule regular is perhaps the easiest way of steering clear of trouble. No one says you need to wake-up with Grandma at 5:30, but make sure you can get up in time to attend early classes and ensure that you can get your academic business done during the day. Other students you work with that commute will be able to work with you more easily because they are generally on campus only during normal business hours. Avoid any temptation that will lead to a late night.

2. If you're too good for class, then a diploma is too good for you. You will soon find out how insanely boring some of the dribble is that emanates through our classrooms today - exponentially more prevalent as the days pass by. However, class is by far the most important thing in your day. It is your purpose. If you stop going to class, your



Bunches of Books!



WWW.BUNCHESOFBOOKS.COM

NO LINES, NO HASSLE, JUST BOOKS

We specialize in USED COLLEGE TEXTBOOKS

To place an order visit our site or phone 1-800-691-8288.

The Positive Roommate Story

Joseph Gelbat
Sting Staff

I don't know how it happened, perhaps it was just good luck, maybe it was a blessed karma, or it just so happened that the all mighty dorm godz were smiling that day, but I happened to have a good roommate my Freshman year.

Stan and I got along fairly well from the start, and we did not have that bullshit roomie policy of this is my stuff and this is your stuff and the twain shall never meet. If he needed something of mine, he just asked or let me know in some way that he used it, and I was the same way. We also made an effort to collectively maintain the food supplies (especially when that FUBAR called ABL rolled around), because we basically lived off of boxed food, soda, red meat (I would erect an idol to the person who invented the Foreman Grill), and Waffle House (when we had money...).

One thing that helped out immensely, if Stan or I had a problem even if it was something small or trivial; we tried to stuff the problem before it festered. I know of a lot of neighbors and roommates who have gotten into a lot of shit slinging over just a bunch of little trivial stuff. The majority of the stuff that other neighbors and their roommates got into fights over should have either been talked out or just shrugged off. I think at least 75% of the people in my area changed roommates at least once, while Stan and I stayed roommates the entire year (although all those neighbors seemed to stay in our room more than theirs).

I think the number one reason why we stayed roomies, and kept civil was because we both had very similar "trains of thought" so to speak. We were also both computer gamers that were about as lazy as doped up three toed sloths. Strangely enough, we kept the room relatively clean (considering the fact that we had more people going in and out of our room than Waffle House during the graveyard shift.) and odor free. We kind of instinctually knew when to "defunkify" to room (to bad most of the smell came from my laundry).

Stan and I got along great with regards to keeping quiet while studying, because we rarely studied (that made for a harsh sophomore year). When we did study though, we generally did not care about noise and if we did then a trip to Waffle House was in short order.

Our sleeping habits were more or less the same; we were more or less nocturnal. Thankfully I had all night classes so I could get away with that, but Stan wasn't so lucky. I tried to take a morning course, but I could never rouse myself to go to class. It was a literature class however, so I e-mailed my essays to the professor (E-mail is such a blessed thing), and made an effort to go to the class at least once a week (stay up all night).

The only real problem I had when I was with my roommate was that some of the visitors I received in my room weren't, shall we say, the best specimens of humanity on god's green earth (of course one evolved and another devolved, if those people are reading this then you know which).

Well there was another problem, and it was just as much my fault as my roomie, we didn't rouse ourselves to even remotely try to have a study schedule, and in hindsight we really should have. If we had, we would probably been a lot better off GPA wise that we are now.

In general, I had a very positive roommate experience when I was living in the dormitories. With my new roommate in the apartment I currently live in, I hope to have another positive roommate experience.

My First Roommate was a Psycho

Nicole Berezcki
Sting Staff

Kathy informed me after my session of hysterics that there was only one floor in one of the dorm buildings that housed females, and was a smoking roommate okay?? "Perfect," I said. My parents wouldn't be thrilled about a smoking roommate, but she was a Junior in the CS Dept. and had just transferred from another local college. Her name was MaryAnne. She would probably be more mature than another freshman, I told myself, and if things didn't work out, perhaps I could switch out with someone else on the floor.

So I went up to the room to meet MaryAnne. She was all of something shy of 5 feet and half-Vietnamese. I introduced myself and informed her that I would be her new roommate. We said goodbye and I started my decent to ground level from the 4th floor in Howell. In my mind, I think, 'At least she seems halfway normal. No space alien-like behavior. No signs of strange cooking apparatus supporting habitual cooking of live soft-shell crabs in the dorm room. I didn't see any Metallica or Guns'N'Roses albums, so maybe she is an alien - hopefully not the brain-sucking, nocturnal type.'

So I move in, and everything is going swimmingly for the larger portion of the quarter, when all of a sudden things take a turn for the weird. Two weeks before the quarter ends and Christmas interim begins (of which I had already signed up to stay during) MaryAnne says to me in a gleeful tone, "Hey, Nicole, guess what?!?! I don't need to take my medications anymore!" as she is pointing to some amber-colored bottles in the trash. "Well, that's cool, MaryAnne. Good for you! I really have to go meet someone downstairs right now, but I'll see you later, okay?"

In the name of God and love why did I not check the type of prescription meds she was on? I went away for the weekend and came back to find MaryAnne packing items she intended to take on a trip with her into all the small trashcans we had in our room on top of the fact that she and her boyfriend had broken up. She was talking about visiting a girlfriend in Huntsville, AL. I talked to her ex-boyfriend later that week and he told me of how he and his roommate had to go get MaryAnne because her car broke down 75mi. away while she was en route, apparently, to Huntsville, AL. He went on to say that she had run out of gas sometime earlier on in her trip and had just about beat the gas station attendant to death with rolls of wrapping paper that she wanted to trade for gasoline because she had no money. I was beginning to wonder if the girlfriend in Huntsville actually existed.

The weekend after finals, I had four of my friends from Athens and my boyfriend at the time stay over after a night of furious binge drinking in the room. In the middle of the night my ex-boyfriend and I were awakened to the sound of a bear snoring on the opposite bunk where MaryAnne was sleeping. Instead of yelling at her and risk waking up the other four people asleep on the floor, I threw a towel at her head to try to subtly wake her so we could go back to sleep. Unfortunately, it had the opposite effect. She came catapulting out of the bunk screaming like a banshee and almost killed my drunken guests on the floor. If that wasn't enough, she then starts screaming about how she can't breathe and lifts a guy off the floor that outweighed MaryAnne by 150lbs and just about threw him out the window.

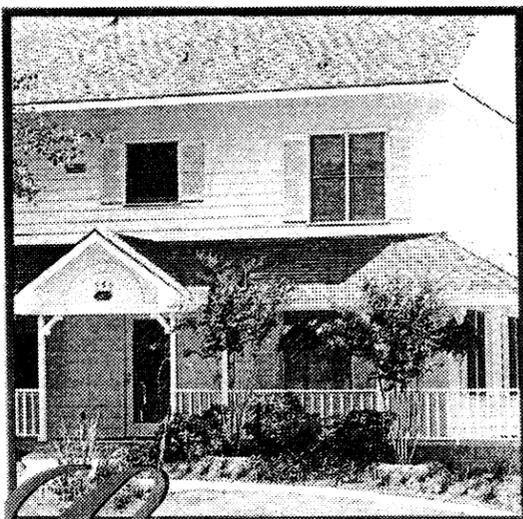
All this might be slightly alarming, but not near as alarming as finding your roommate's heels, negligee, and various other items in the stairwell and your roommate is nowhere to be seen; later being informed that she has told all the guys in the dorms that they are gay because they won't sleep with her when she sneaks into their beds naked and waits for them. One such situation arose with her ex-boyfriend's roommate, who had to call the campus police on her to get her out of their room.

After that episode, later that week I walk into the dorm room to find that it looked like MaryAnne might have gone home for a few days. 'Oh, thank God!' I think. 'Maybe I can get a break from the craziness for a few days so I can assess how to tell Kathy what the hell is going on.' I finish this thought as I am walking to the bathroom. I open the door to a most bizarre spectacle. I see a lot of laundry stuffed into and underneath the kitchen sinks, I hear eerie-sounding music echoing off the bathroom walls and I smell cigarette smoke. I press on towards a commode because that's what I came in here for, when I hear a scratchy little voice say "Nicole!" at which time I just about piss myself as I turn to see it: MaryAnne is sitting on the shower-room floor in a black t-shirt and her underwear, painting her nails, and smoking cigarettes with her James Dean/Marilyn Monroe poster she had put up next to her and that she is talking to with bright fuchsia lipstick all over her face.

That was it. I told Kathy and the police about what was going on and MaryAnne was apprehended, put in a white straight jacket and taken away in a padded ambulance.



"Welcome To Your Home Away From Home"



Campus Walk

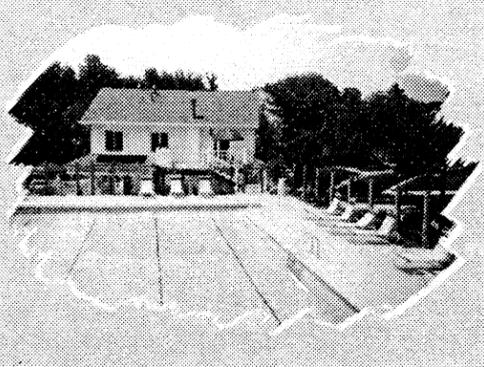
"Atlanta's Only Affordable Alternative To Dormitory Living"

"The Ultimate in College Living!"

Campus Walk Apartments, located 1 1/2 miles West of I-75 in Marietta, is the ideal housing option for the Atlanta college or university student. Our diverse group of residents, from all over the country and the world, enjoy affordable, yet private surroundings that allow them time to study and time for fun.

Amenities:

- ❖ Convenient to I-75, Cobb Parkway (Hwy 41), CCT Public Transportation and access to all major Atlanta streets and highways
- ❖ All Units are Fully Furnished
- ❖ Very Flexible Leases (6,9, 12 month)
- ❖ Free Cable TV and Partial Utilities
- ❖ Picnic Area
- ❖ Swimming Pool, Basketball and Volleyball Courts
- ❖ Laundry Center
- ❖ Only 30 Minutes from Hartsfield International Airport



Where to Eat...?

Joseph Geblat
Sting Staff

All of us have to eat sometime; now where we eat depends on how many greenbacks we have to spend and our tastes. This is a modest list of different places to eat, what they generally serve, price and quality.

- Our Place: This is a very small restaurant that only serves breakfast and lunch that's right next to the campus (back exit near the Student Center). It is an excellent place to eat for the price, and is generally southern style food. The cost is around 3-5\$ and its excellent portions.
- A Taste of New York: This place serves subs and Italian food (including damn good pizza). The subs are definitely a few notches above Subway, but are a little bit more expensive. The pizzas are also very good, and are on par with All Stars in terms of price, but it's also a different style of pizza. Basically, this place has tasty subs, good pizzas, and on average 5-6 dollars a meal. The restaurant is located on Highway 41 about a block off the right side of the intersection of 120 Loop and Highway 41.
- Marietta Diner: One of the best places to eat for several reasons, first off its 24/7, second the variety of the menu is bar none, third you can either eat cheap there or go all out (3-25 dollars), and fourth the food is superb. The place is located about a block to the left from the intersection of 120 and 41 (just look for the bright neon lights and shiny metallic building.). Oh, if you get the 25 dollar meals you will have leftovers for the next 3 days it is literally a seven course meal.
- There are several restaurant chains in the area that are good to eat at, Chili's, Applebee's, Ryan's, Longhorn's, etc. All of them are more or less the same price, and Ryan's of course is all you can eat.
- We have a bunch of fast food joints in the area that are more or less standard, McDonalds (nice soy burgers), Wendy's (w00t to the 99 cent super value menu), Arby's (love that 5 for 5 deal), KFC (The Big Chicken, they take major credit cards), Chick-Fil-A (great food, but not that filling), Checkers (they used to be the best, but got VERY slack), and Hardees (Never been there, might be good).

**Are you tired of the long commute?
Are you looking for a fully furnished apartment at and affordable price?
Would you like student living, but not the dorm life?**

If so, check out University Commons conveniently located on campus across from SPSU's Howell Dormitory.

We offer 2 bedrooms/2 baths and 4 bedrooms/4 baths.

**If Interested contact:
University Commons
1150 South Marietta Parkway
Marietta, GA 30060
770. 792.8246
770. 792.8853**

Tribute to Dr. Charles Weeks

Zachary Jones
Sting Staff



As Charles Weeks, Program Head of SIS, retires this semester, it is appropriate to look back at his faithful service here at SPSU.

Having worked here at SPSU for 20 years (5 of which he served as SIS Dept/Program Head), Dr. Weeks earned a reputation as a fine and knowledgeable professor. As Program Head, he ran and coordinated all social sciences (except Economics which is under Management), STS, and language courses. Moreover, he was coordinator for the SIS minor, transfer credit in SIS, and the Associates degree of General Studies. Further, he proudly watched as recently the school approved a new 4-year degree in International Studies, revolutionary in its focus on Global Technology.

"I just want to be remembered as a good teacher," he said without hesitation when asked what he wanted to be remembered for as he retires. "There have been many projects, but that's what I started this for." His true concern for his students has been made evident to many in his time here, hence he will be missed.

Though the incoming freshman may not be able to taste first-hand his teaching or help, as he leaves, he gives this advice to incoming freshman, "Whatever course you're taking, try to do your best on the first test. It is almost always the one that will pull you down."



A letter from the President

Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher



I am pleased to join the faculty and staff in welcoming all students to campus for the fall semester 2002 at Southern Polytechnic State University. Whether you are a new or returning student, you'll find lots of new and exciting things happening on campus.

As we start this new academic year, we have a new Architecture Building, renovated physics labs, and plans for new signage all over campus. We also have three brand-new academic programs, with majors in Biology and International Studies: Global Technology and a new MBA program.

Over the summer, our student teams were strongly competitive in such areas as supermileage vehicles, aerial robotics, steel bridge building, and the concrete bowling ball. Not surprisingly, SPSU teams came home with "best design" awards for both the supermileage car and the aerial robot. The students in the Architecture Design-Build Studio received an award of excellence from the Atlanta Urban Design Commission.

Another new activity this year at Southern Polytechnic is women's intercollegiate sports, with a new women's basketball team. Please put November 4 on your calendar — that evening will be the opening game (at home) for both the women's and the men's basketball teams. I hope you'll join

me that evening in cheering for all the Runnin' Hornets!

Southern Polytechnic is a world-class university, helping superior students learn how to apply technology to solve problems in the worlds of business, science, architecture, government, communications, engineering, and education. Thanks for joining us this fall —

I look forward to a great year!



Best Inn Marietta
1255 Franklin Road
(770) 955-0004

Directions

Go East on South Cobb Drive
South Cobb Drive becomes Delk Road
Turn right onto Franklin Road
Turn left right behind Cracker Barrel

the friendliest hotels are always BEST!

- Less than 10 minutes from campus
- Rates starting at \$39.99
- Free Breakfast Bar
- Free local Phone Calls
- Outdoor Pool

We are within One mile of Southern Polytechnic University! One block off of the Marietta Square! Join us in our beautiful courtyard for coffee and dessert.

In September, show your student ID and get 20% off all coffee drinks, food and merchandise!

Drink selections include: Fresh roasted coffee, espresso, latte, cappuccino and mocha cappuccino's.

Non-coffee beverages like: Hot chocolate, frozen granitas, chai tea, assorted

herbal tea's and many others. Too Many Cakes and Cheesecakes to mention.

Live acoustic music on the weekends.

Get 20% off all coffee, drinks, food, and merchandise in September with your Student ID.



The Stings's Favorite Past Consensus Editorials

Consensus Editorial
October 5, 1993

Last year, about this time, The Sting ran a Consensus Editorial requesting lower admission standards for women and bikini shots for female applicants. While admittedly sexist, we (at least the male persons on staff) have noticed an improvement in, how shall I say... the visual quality of women on campus this fall.

For this consensus editorial we would like to thank whomever the powers that be are for increasing the number, and dare we say, quality of the female population of Southern Tech. Now don't get us wrong, there was nothing particularly wrong with the females prior to this current influx, but let's say Southern Tech is a lot more pleasant to look at. The "Babe Factor" at this school has increased greatly and we truly appreciate it. Thank you for helping to keep Southern Tech the most beautiful campus in the area. Also, the landscaping was a big help too.

Consensus Editorial
February 2, 1993

We, the editorial staff of The Sting, would like to object about the fact that the results of teacher evaluations are kept totally secret.

Just letting the professor know what his students think of him is insufficient. At the very least, department heads need to know. We can't think of another job where your boss doesn't have access to what the customers think of you. What are the professors afraid of? That someone will find out just how rotten a teacher they are?

In fact, the results of teacher evaluations should be published so that everyone will know which professors couldn't teach swimming to a fish. The usual objection to this suggestion is that the classes of good professors will be overcrowded, and the classes of bad professors will be avoided like the plague. So what? Any professor who can't keep enough students in his classes to justify his salary should be fired and replaced by a professor who can teach. That's what we're paying them for, after all.

Consensus Editorial
October 19, 1993

The other day, whilst our layout staff was busy taking time out of their day to show some eager children just how a newspaper is put together and planning this year's Thanksgiving basket for the needy, an agent of the evil and dark oppressive forces of the universe approached one of our young and impressionable members and said, "Be careful, they'll stab you in the back when they get the chance." Interpreted as the "they" meaning us and the "you" meaning "him."

We find it ironic that this serpent of scurrilous means, squalid ways, and sordid company slithered up while our conscious was turned toward charity to others and said, "Be careful, they'll stab you in the back when they get the chance." Sting motto for the day: "Beware the sardonic soliloquy of the serpent."

Consensus Editorial
November 2, 1993

We, the Sting staff, want to know why the last Miss Southern Tech did not receive a crown. Is the college so poor that it can not afford to buy cheap custom jeweled crown for its queen? What ever happened to good old days when the queen got her crown? The idea of "political correctness" does not justify changing the tradition, since anyone who would be offended by a crown doesn't deserve to have one. If Miss America can get a damn crown, why can't Miss Southern Tech?

We say give the woman her crown, because she worked hard getting the votes. You might say to yourself, she didn't parade around in a swim suit like Miss America to show she deserved her crown. That's true; however, she had to endure the torture of answering questions that didn't amount to a hill of beans. We say give Shanna Fernandez her crown.

**Be a Stinger, Work
for the Sting!
GET PAID! HAVE FUN!
Drop by room A252**

The Pet Guide: Dog, Cat or a Fish

Mercedes
Editor-in-Chief

Many college students each year decide they need a pet to fulfill their college experience. Not all students take a sufficient amount of time to determine the type of pet they need versus the type they desire and they often times end up purchasing an unwanted pet in the long run. One must consider all the options before buying or adopting a pet, and that's why the STING has provided this handy pet guide for you.

DOGS

When considering a dog, there are many factors to take into consideration. First off, you should determine if you are willing to take care of it for 10-15 years. Once this is determined, you must think about the time constraints of getting home, leaving work and juggling your social life. Dogs take time, and giving up your social life will become apart of your daily routine. Decide if you're willing to give up after-work drinks?

Secondly, you must consider housetraining. This is a timely task! Not to mention, are you going to freak out when Spot makes a mark on your beloved Persian rug that was brought to this country with great grand-ma. Another question to ask yourself is how will you tolerate its manners? Will you freak out when Spot tackles your fragile mother

when she greets him at the door? Or do you have visitors that are not dog-friendly? Living space is also a main concern of dog owners. Be sure to choose a dog based on its size and activity level. Other considerations when choosing a dog, concern its coat type, health problems, ease of training, need for exercise, behavior, temperament and attitude.

A coat type is a very important consideration when choosing the proper dog. Some dogs require daily grooming, so make sure you have the time and are willing to groom a dog. Some dogs have double coats and when shedding leave tufts of hair floating in the air. Others have oily coats which lead to unpleasant smells and allergy concerns.

Purebred breeds and medium to large dogs have more health problems than a mixed breed, smaller dogs. Be sure to research the health problems of the dog you intend to purchase. Health problems include skin diseases, eye problems, joint problems, loose kneecaps, hip/elbow dysphasia, and breathing problems.

Some dogs are easier to train than others based on breed. Make sure you are willing to spend time reinforcing positive behavior or are will to pay for obedience training. If you don't have the time or don't want to train a dog, you may want to consider getting

an older breed. The human society has plenty of purebred dogs that are trained.

Last of all, you need to decide how much exercise you are willing to do with your dog. If you are a couch potato, then choose a dog like yourself. If you are an outgoing energetic ball of fire, then consider an active dog that enhances your routine.

CATS

Cats are wonderful pets for the busy person. Again, with a pet you may want to consider how long you are willing to have the pet in your life. Indoor cats generally live 15-20 years which may not be the length of time you are willing to obligate yourself to an animal.

Cats are costly animals, for they generally cost \$500 or more a year between food, litter and shots. Different cat breeds produce different amounts of hair, so you may want to choose a short haired cat to prevent excessive hairballs.

If you decide you want a kitten, keep in mind they are cute to begin with, but in time your house will be a playground. Your curtains, mattresses, clothes, baseboards and more will be considered a toy and an equal opportunity scratching ground. Kitten proofing your house is a more difficult task than puppy proofing. Kittens and cats will jump from counters, to

refrigerators, to kitchen tables, desk and any surface considered worth investigating.

The size of your house may also determine if you wish to have a cat or not. Consider where you want to keep the litter box. If you keep the litter box in your bedroom, will you be okay with your cat jumping on your bed? Or, if you keep the litter box close to the kitchen or dining room, are you going to be okay with Frow-meow doing his duties and jumping on your counter. Some people are appalled by cats and litter boxes, so make sure your guest are okay with your pet.

If you are not too keen on a litter box, there is another option which most cat owners overlook- this would be toilet training your cat. The idea seems silly, but many cat owners are now looking into this option as a way to reduce cost and avoid the litter box. You can search for online toilet training guides or you can buy a toilet training kit from Petsmart.

FISH

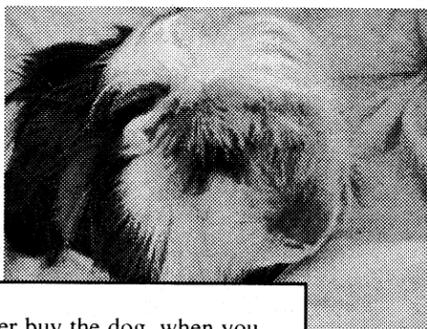
Fish are probably the easiest option for a poor college student like yourself. Aquariums can cost from \$5.00 to thousands pending on size, shape and taste. Fish can be cheap pets for they start at 10 cents and rise in price to several hundred dollars. Determine how much you want to spend on the fish and then take in account how

much the aquarium, water filter, plants, gravel, toys and food will cost. Then, determine if it fits your budget.

With any pet, one must consider the time and



Why bother buy the dog, when you can buy this extra large guinea pig?

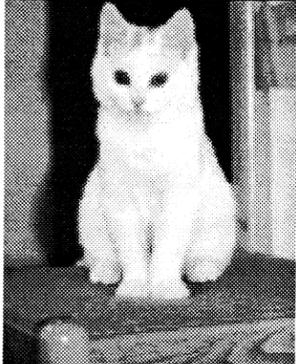


He may be big and beautiful, but is the victim of a double layer coat and long hair. You may want to stuff him in the closet if your girlfriend is allergic to him. NOTE: for the males attending SPSU, you have no girlfriends.

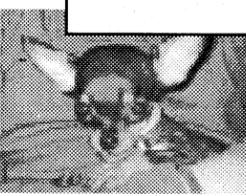


When considering a large dog, you may want to opt for the miniature horse instead. It's actually smaller than this Irishwolfhound.

This cat is priming itself for toilet training



Buy this dog and watch a Bald Eagle eat it.



Southern Polytechnic — Its History

Zachary Jones

Sting Staff

Classes at what is now Southern Polytechnic State University began on March 24, 1948. The 116 students enrolled attended the first site of the school located at the Naval Air Station in Chamblee. Yet, the concept for the school did not start that day. The term "technician" was new to the age and few understood the concept — a person to bridge the "gap between the craftsman and the research-trained engineer" (Bennett, 1). At the end of the 1940's, Dr. Van Leer, Georgia Tech president, created Southern Tech to produce the much needed post-World War II "technicians."

As Southern Tech enrollment continued to grow, similar schools formed throughout the South, many with the aid of Southern Tech itself. The original program offered lasted 18 months with classes 6 days a week. Industry soon became accustomed to the new "technician" graduating from schools around the South, such as Southern Tech.

Due to a relocation of the Naval Air Station in 1958, Southern Tech was forced to move its location. In 1961, Southern Tech offered its first semester on the current campus (though somewhat delayed for Fall). A whopping 5000 student enrollment (this is even more than the current enrollment today) was predicted for 1970! Hence, the two dormitories, the gym, and library were built throughout the 1960's to accommodate the incoming students. However, with increased industry specialization and the Vietnam War of the late 1960's, enrollment dropped by almost one-third. Many chose to attend the four-year programs of other schools instead of the Southern Tech two-year program.

In 1970, as a response to the drop in enrollment, Southern Tech began offering a four-year program of study, though still a branch of GA Tech. Following such a change, due to differences in direction, problems developed between Southern Tech and GA Tech. In 1979, Southern Tech separated from GA Tech and began operation as an autonomous unit.

In 1986, Southern Tech changed its name to Southern College of Technology. The name change reflected a reorganization of curricula, as well as the addition of graduate degrees. The name change did not stick among many residents of the community and the school often continued to be referred to as "Southern Tech," as still continues among some today. In 1996, the school changed its name once again to the current "Southern Polytechnic State University."

Southern Polytechnic now carries more than 50 years of education and continues to work to provide industry and business with high quality graduates ready for work and prepared with real world experience.

(This brief history is a summary of Richard Bennett's book, "Southern Polytechnic — The History")

Apology to Organizations:

In light of recent events we were not able to cover all organizations for this issue. Therefore, we are coming out with Freshman Issue 2 in September. This issue will cover Organizations, more about Marietta, and more funny and ridiculous stuff you don't care to hear about. Thanks again, The Sting Staff

throughout, located in est. neighborhood on cul-de-sac, tasteful new paint in all rooms
Call 678.612.4569

SMYRNA/VININGS ROOM FOR RENT: looking to share a 3 BD 2 BA home in Smyrna/Vinings, 3 miles from 75/285. Includes own room furnished or unfurnished room to a quiet student professional male or female OR prefer someone quiet, who travels with job—for low rent of \$375 per month (plus deposit), 1/2 utilities. Flexible month to month leases, own bedroom and bathroom. Share the rest of the house, including kitchen and laundry room. Need to have own phone, please. No pets, No smoking. Available now! Contact Theresa Wicker at Theresa.wicker@cingular.com or 770.436.1135

For Rent- Houses/Apartments near campus. Mature Adults, no large pets. Cent. Heating and air, appliances, leases. Call 770.427.7695 or e-mail hrpackaging@worldnet.att.net

MOVING: Bed for sale: queen size wire bed for sale + BRAND NEW mattress \$250. Single mattress, brand new, \$75.00 microwave \$20.00 404.210.2314

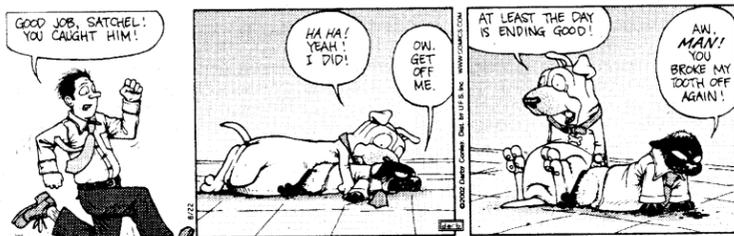
HOME FOR LEASE IN ROSWELL/ALPHARETTA \$1,350 A MONTH. 3 BD/2 full BA, 3/4" pickled oak hardwoods throughout main area, vaulted ceilings, and ceiling fans throughout. New berber carpet in bedrooms, tiled floors, showers, laundry, new 12' X 12' screened porch and 12' X 24' bilevel deck, gallery style kitchen with tons of counter space and new appliances, Jacuzzi garden tub in master bath with separate shower, fenced in back yard (cedar) & remote controlled 2 car garage, new custom roman blinds, sidewalks throughout upscale neighborhood and newly installed walks to Alpharetta sq., 3 min walk to jog/bike trail, Olympic pool and tennis @ wills park. Call 770.619.3279

Books and cars for sale: math 1113 Precalculus Algebra and Trigonometry with analytic geometry \$49.99 + Solutions manual \$19.99//English 1102 English Composition II-Literature and the writing process 6th Ed \$40.00//The little brown compact handbook \$22.95//Physics 1111k Introductory Physics I-Physics textbook vol. 2 in shrink wrap \$49.99//Geography 1101- Human Geography \$50.00//GOODE's World Atlas-Rand McNally \$21.00//Psychology 1101- Introduction to Psychology 6th Ed \$45.00//Math2253- the best calculus solutions book: Rea's Problem Solvers \$19.00//1987 TOYOTA COROLLA fx hatchback automatic 122,000 miles \$1895 new tires, battery, timing belt, all belts and hoses replaced recently, rebuilt engine//1989 FORD TEMPO 5 speed \$1195.00 Call Steve 770.435.8535 in Smyrna

1986 LINCOLN TOWN CAR: 90,000 MILES, OWNED BY GRANDMA. Recently I took 4 road trips, totaling 10,000 miles and the car ran smoothly. Power everything, A/C, cruise control, plush seats, fits six people+ \$1,500 404.210.2314

International Competition: Aerial Robotics Team Finishes 3rd

"SPSU's Aerial Robotics Team has just returned from the 2002 International Aerial Robotics competition, which was held in Calgary Olympic Park, in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Attending were eight teams from the U.S. and Canada. SPSU's Team finished with 3rd place overall with awards in "Best Vehicle Design" and "Best T-shirt Design". There was also honorable mention in "Best Presentation" as well as "Best Vision System". Other teams such as GA Tech, Rose-Hullman University, Waterloo University and Devry Calgary were in attendance. In addition to the SPSU team being published in the AUVSI (association for unmanned vehicle systems, international) journal, the team's equipment and members were covered in three TV programs. The Discovery Channel is producing a program on the competition that includes footage of SPSU's Team. Also, two Calgary TV stations interviewed the team's members. The SPSU Team would like to give sincere thanks to it's sponsors like the SGA, Alumni Assoc., SPSU Foundation as well as it's corporate sponsors like Novatel Inc. and Watson Inc. Please see the Team's website at: <http://a-robotics.spsu.edu> for more information."



Classifieds

Place your ad in the Sting by calling 770-528-7310. We can also fax you our rates, make ads, and more.

HOME FOR LEASE IN HISTORIC COVERED BRIDGE AREA (SMYRNA): \$1,500 a month (1 mo. Returned deposit &/or pet dep.) Amenities include: 6 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 kitchens! Bedrooms on each of 3 levels (2 on bottom floor; full in-law suite), new berber carpet throughout, eat-in kitchen w/ sep dining room, deck overlooking SILVER COMET TRAIL (right in back yard), brick and oak fireplace in living room, walk in closets