Portal Project Presented

MARK CAMPBELL

Architects hired by the University presented the new Portal Project to select alumni at a meeting in the student center ballroom on Tuesday, October 8th. The Portal Project is a renovation of the main entrance of the campus along South Marietta Parkway, estimated to cost $2.6 million. Alumni were asked to help raise $1.5 million for the project. The remaining $1.1 million would come from state funds, pending approval by Governor Roy Barnes or his successor, and the Georgia General Assembly next year.

Architect Jordan Williams of Plexus+4 explained the need for a new entrance. "The first challenge is trying to identify an entry point," said Williams. "We wanted to try and create some dissimetry - the initial moment where you recognize you've approached the campus."

Williams continued, "And so that is when we decided a tower would be an appropriate element of this plan, because from that intersection it allows you to see a point space."

The plan for the portal includes a seventy foot tower lighted by fiber-optics. In addition, three lightning pylons, each fifty feet tall, would light a lawn paralleling South Marietta Parkway. The new structures would be aligned with the existing Georgia Power high-voltage tower.

Patricia Garrett, Director of the Office of Advancement, explained why the university was turning to the alumni for funding. "There's not a law, there's not a policy, but it's just an unwritten rule now that, in order to get state funding on any project, you have to bring private dollars to the table."

"So we agreed to raise $1.5 million for this project from the private sector," Garrett stated. An additional $1.1 million in state funds for the portal project is part of a $5 million minor capital outlay that the university hopes is approved by the General Assembly. Anchored to the new portal project are funds for a $1.11 million engineering competition teams laboratory, $1.38 million to bury power lines, and almost half a million dollars to remodel the exterior of the Physics, Chemistry and Biology labs.

Garrett also appealed to those with access to corporate funds. "The tower can be sold," she said. "The fiber-optic panels on the tower could be easily reprogrammed to provide a variety of messages and images to motorists along South Marietta Parkway."

Changes would also affect Student Center parking near the

Library Changes Fines Process

MARK CAMPBELL

The method of collecting fines at the Lawrence V. Johnson library is set to change soon, in a customer-service move promulgated by the Office of Fiscal Affairs. While library staff at the circulation desk will still be able to tell students what items are overdue, and for how long, they will be unable to collect fees while the Business Office is closed, staff at the library's circulation desk will be able to collect fines.

The move is part of the administration's effort to improve customer service to students. The intent is to provide students with one central location to handle financial matters with the university. Students will then be able to pay all dues and fees at one location and clear any holds on their records or registration after paying the fees.

Fines collected overnight and those fines will be taken by the Business Office. If a student disputes a library fee, then the student may discuss the matter with the library. If the dispute is settled in the students favor, then the Business Office will be notified and a check will be issued to reimburse the student for the fine.

"As of December 1st, we will be transferring all of the fines for those students currently enrolled into the Banner computer system; and those fines will be collected during registration time, including the beginning of the new semester in January," stated Dr. Joyce Mills, the library director.

Mills also attended the Regents Academic Committee on Libraries meeting in early November. One of the items that had been slated for discussion was the position university libraries might take with regards to the U.S. Patriot Act enacted by Congress last year.

One provision of the act permits federal authorities to subpoena the patron records of library users. The law also provides for stiff penalties for library staff that disclose the existence of such subpoenas. A number of library systems outside of the University System of Georgia are

New Co-op Head

BRANDON TUTMAN

Bridgette McDonald recently took over as Co-op Program Head, replacing Brittany Glasure. Prior to nesting here at Southern Poly, McDonald held positions at the University of Alabama, including multiple years as Co-op Program Head.

Soon after taking the position, McDonald emphasized that she plans on "giving it 110%," especially in interning with the students in the classroom and on campus. McDonald further stated plans to post flyers to keep the students updated on the program and its opportunities so as to increase the amount of student participation.

"I'm pleased to see that the students are energetic and enthusiastic about taking charge of their career future," she said regarding the current students in co-op programs.

McDonald further

continued on page 5
New Paintball Club
KAREN ASAY

Next semester, paintball might be added to the list of clubs at SPSU. The person behind the creation of this club is sophomore Greg Miller, who has been working most of this semester to get it started.

Miller has lots of plans for the club. To start off, the club will have no fees and be just for recreation, though fees probably will be added later.

“If in the future there are fees, they will all directly benefit the members,” said Miller. In addition to playing for recreation, he eventually wants to compete in tournaments.

Two things that fees might pay for in the future are storage costs and field fees. Storage costs will come into play since the paintball guns are not allowed on campus, hence the guns would have to be stored in off-campus storage.

Further fees may be incurred as the team attempts to make a deal with Arkenstone paintball field to make it the club’s home field.

Paintball is the fourth most popular extreme sport; believe it or not, some involved in the club deem it “even safer than bowling.” It was started in the early 80’s and is now played all around the world.

For those that are interested in trying paintballing out, the average walk on player pays around $44 for a day of paintballing. This price will cover field fees, CO2, a gun, and paintballs; however, it is advised to bring extra money should more paintballs be needed.

Miller tries to get a group together to go paintballing at least once a month. If you would like to play or want more information, you can email Greg Miller at gregm7001@hotmail.com.

Recognition Of SPSU Authors Reception
MARK A. KIRKLEY
Circulation Assistant/Library

On Wednesday, October 16, 2002 from 12 noon – 1:00 p.m., Lawrence V. Johnson Library sponsored its fourth annual SPSU Authors Reception in the Library Rotunda. The Authors Reception is held every year in recognition of faculty, staff, and students that have published publications or articles. Along with acknowledging the accomplishments of all the writers by giving out ribbons for first time being recognized and pins for authors of the past, there were refreshments where everyone got to eat, drink, and get to know one another.

There are 30 authors on campus that have written publications. There are 33 new publications, in which five were written by students; and 13 authors were acknowledged for the first time.

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Robert Glenn Allen wrote Reflect 3, and Juan Guzman published Text Categorization.

According to Dr. Mills, “Rubbing shoulders with colleagues is important.” This was stated when she made note to the importance of young student writers getting their foot into the door early. “These publications are calling cards,” she emphasized.

There were familiar faces at this years reception, as well as first time attendees, and both came together as authors. A time has not been set for next year’s Authors Reception, but keep an eye out for the time and place.
New Jersey Ratifies Amendments
MARK CAMPBELL (OLD NEWS ARTICLE)
Trenton, New Jersey (November 20, 1789) - Legislators in the New Jersey State House today approved eleven amendments to the two-year-old Constitution of the United States. The twelve amendments have been referred to as the Bill of Rights, and were submitted to the state houses by the Congress which convened the fourth of March last.

According to William Livingston, the presiding officer, state legislators voted nay on approving the second amendment. The amendment had stated that no law varying the compensation of senators or representatives may take effect without an intervening election. No explanation was given as to why this sensible amendment was so causally dismissed.

The first amendment fixed the number of representatives in proportion to population, with at least one representative per thirty thousand, until the population attains 3 million persons. Thereafter, there shall be at least one hundred representatives, with one per forty thousand persons, until the United States have eight million persons. Should the nation exceed that number, then Congress shall have two hundred representatives or more, with each representing at least fifty thousand persons.

The third amendment serves to separate the government from infringing the free practice of religion, and prohibits the passage of laws abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or of the right of the people to peaceably assemble or petition the government for redress of grievances.

New Jersey legislators also approved of the right of the people to keep and bear arms, as well as a prohibition against the quartering of troops in any house, except as prescribed during times of war. Property, persons, and effects were also protected against unreasonable search and seizure, and the power of warrants were also limited. These were delineated in the fourth through sixth amendments.

The seventh and eighth amendments guaranteed citizens an impartial jury trial, with no one put at jeopardy twice, nor called upon to testify against oneself. Any person accused of a crime has the right to counsel, to confront witnesses, to be informed of the nature of charges, and the authority to compel others to testify in their behalf. Likewise, private property was protected from wanton public use without compensation.

Constitutional changes would also permit jury trials for suits exceeding twenty dollars. In a cause championed by Alexander Hamilton, excessive bail was not permitted, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

All other rights are reserved to the people, according to the final amendment. Powers not specifically delegated to the United States by the Constitution are reserved to the states, or the people, respectively, according to the final amendment.

It is widely believed, if the wars at the Blazing Star Tavern here in Trenton are to be believed, that the Second Amendment was originally intended to approve of the amendments, which were tendered by President Washington. If, so we can only hope other states also agree, with haste and yet with proper deliberation, this Bill of Rights.

Harvard Editor Resigns
MARK CAMPBELL

Intimidated by senior administration officials at the Harvard Business School, the editor of the HarBus newspaper resigned on November 6th. Nick Will, the student editor, wrote in his resignation letter that he was threatened with disciplinary action by Harvard’s MBA Executive Director Steve Nelson at a Monday morning meeting on November 4th. Administrators were critical of a cartoon that had run in the October 28th issue of the HarBus.

The cartoon appeared in the online edition, and was critical of Career Link, a software package used by the Harvard Business School’s Career Services to assist Harvard students seeking jobs. The cartoon featured pop-up windows that included inane messages. One such message referred to "incompetent morons," and it was this message that the school’s officials found objectionable.

The Career Link software had reportedly caused numerous problems, from erroneously scheduling students for job interviews that they were unaware of, to failing to schedule interviews that were desired.

Staff within the career services department found the cartoon offensive, and brought the matter before senior administrators. Referring to the campus "community standards" code, the deans decided that Nelson would confront the editor about the issue.

Community standards at the Harvard Business School call for students to have "respect for the rights, differences and dignity of others," to interact with honesty and integrity, and to be personally accountable.

Harvard University has not previously used the "community standards" code to restrict editorial content.

Harvard officials have said that it was not their intent to censor the newspaper. According to the HarBus, the cartoon was meant to be a satire critical of the computing system and not of any individuals. The issue has started discussions of free speech in an academic environment nationwide.

According to staff at the newspaper, Sports Editor Derek Mendez will take over as acting editor-in-chief. The HarBus began publication in 1937 and serves as a forum for students of the Harvard School of Business.

Associate Professor to Present Research
SPSU PUBLIC RELATIONS

Julie Newell, Associate Professor of History at Southern Polytechnic State University, presented her research on history of geology at the Geological Society of America's annual meeting October 27-30 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, Colorado.

Titled "To See and Be Seen: Transatlantic Relations in Antebellum American Geology," Dr. Newell will present her findings on how the American geological community struggled to define itself in the 1830s and 1840s in both the American context and within international science.

Dr. Newell received her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison where her dissertation was "American Geologists and Their Geology: The Formation of the American Geological Community, 1780-1865." She is an Associate Professor of History at Southern Polytechnic State University, where she has been teaching since 1993. She also coordinates the University's Science, Technology, and Society program.

SGA President Certified
STING STAFF

San Diego, CA - October 28, 2002, Randall Ware was awarded the designation of Certified Student Government Leader during the National Conference on Student Services held in San Diego, CA. Ware was one of only 31 students in the nation to earn this award by scoring sufficiently high on an examination given upon completion of a course of study in four key areas. These include meeting skills/parliamentary procedure, ethics/diversity, conflict resolution/communications, and publicity and promotion. This training gives Ware advanced skills in crucial areas required for taking a leadership role on today's college campus.

Randall Ware is presently serving as Student Government President at Los Angeles Mission College where he also serves on the board of directors for the Los Angeles Mission College Foundation.

New Challenge

The challenge this semester is to build an autonomous submarine using systems engineering principles for entry into the AVSI International Autonomous Underwater Vehicle Competition in California.

ECET 3904

New Class

ECET 3904 is a four credit special topics systems engineering course. The course is open to all students who have an interest in robotics development. CS, MET, and ECET majors are encouraged to join.

ECET 3904

Visit http://www.avsi.org/competitions/water.cfm for more details

New Challenge

ECET 3904 CRN # 2392

Local Commercial Real Estate company looking for energetic hardworking individual to work appx 20hrs per week in a clerical capacity. Flexible hours. Possible full time. Please fax resume to (770) 955-7606 or email to Denise@riverwoodproperties.com.
Portal Project
Continued from Page 1
main entrance. “The idea there is to try and create more of a transition between the interior spaces and the exterior, so that you get people involved, studying outside, taking advantage of the exterior environment,” explained Williams. “We have a push-pull system,” added fellow architect Eric Lewitt. “On the left you’re seeing the campus pushed into Marietta, with the community coming in on that lawn. You have the university pushing itself to the edge.”

In order to clarify what Eric said, we started by saying that this is the edge of the campus, so that should be a wall. And then we wanted to develop that kind of ying-yang between the community of Marietta and the university.

The grove of trees just north of the student center would remain, but the current parking area would be replaced with a plaza. At night, trees in the plaza would be lit from underneath, creating new views of the campus designed to engage motorists and visitors at all hours.

The architects also explained how students would fit into the active edge for the new portal project. “The campus edge wants to have spaces where people can walk together,” explained Williams. “It’s not just a tower. It’s actually a space where the students and faculty can have a class outside in the spring when the weather is great, or where students can come and play between classes. People driving by would be able to see the campus edge activated by people studying, and having fun.”

In creating an active edge, Williams explained how the current trees would become a new study area. “What we propose is developing a network of seats that are all under the canopy of the trees,” said Williams. “These seats are a series of cast concrete platforms that have electricity and data jacks, which will mean that anyone could come out of the student center if the wanted to study and be able to access the internet.”

Additional technology would include two ATM-like terminals for visitors, and a terminal on the main driveway. At the terminals, motorists could type in the name of their destination on campus. A printer would supply the visitor with a customized map to guide them.

Williams also explained that future students could enhance their education by learning to program the fiber-optic skin of the new tower. “What we propose is that the tower have a certain amount of fiber-optic skin, that the university would actually be able to use as a laboratory. Early on, we found out that it’s easier to get funding for projects when they’re classroom based, and not just identity pieces,” Williams said.

Also included in the proposal would be a technology walk. A walkway would lead from the new Cobb County Transit bus stop close to the Greyhound station to the student center. Situated behind the open space the university would present to the community, it would include technology milestones. Each milestone would highlight a more recent advance as pedestrians approached the student center.

New Co-op Head
Continued from Page 1
stressed that co-op is very competitive. “Companies would like to see a 3.0 GPA or better,” he said.

On the other hand, McDonald said she will due everything in her power to help SPSU students into the programs.

Library Fines
Continued from Page 1
now deleting patron records much more frequently in order to protect the privacy of their customers. “Traditionally libraries have always been in the freedom to read,” Mills said. “And that meant that no one should have access to one’s reading record, so that they could make implications, or what other actions they might take.”

SPSU’s library is also considering the larger trend where libraries are transferring records. “Right now, they have been kept in perpetuity,” Mills stated. “As of December first, we may have new guidelines, because we will have to consider those items that will be transferred to Banner for payment by the students.”

Such policies adopted by other libraries have raised the ire of those arguing for greater homeland security, saying that if any person has to hide, then a search of one’s library records should not cause concern.

“We have a Bill of Rights,” added Mills. “We could transfer that to other aspects of the Bill of Rights. We could talk about whether a person should be licensed to have a gun, if they don’t intend to do any damage. And yet there are people who stand up very strongly for the right to own a gun.”

Mills returned to the stance that many libraries have taken. “We believe in the freedom to read, and that people should have access to libraries. Libraries should buy books that are controversial, so to speak, so that they are available to those people who want to research the topic, or do casual reading, or talk for whatever purpose.”

Oct-Sober-Fest Festival
WILLIS SMITH
On Wednesday October 23rd, College Activities Board and the Wellness Center celebrated the Campus Alcohol Awareness Week by having an Oct-Sober-Festival outside the Student Center. National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week is designed to remind students the danger of drinking and to drink alcohol responsibly.

The Festival I was amazed that the average student spends nine hundred dollars on alcohol alone.

CAB members as farmers served hot apple cider and chocolate to drink in the chilling afternoon. Students played few fall-season games from ‘Leaf Blower Bowling’ to ‘Rural Ring Toss.’ Spooky music played through the speakers surrounded by hay and stuffed scarecrows.

Facts brought out during the festival I was amazed that the average student spends nine hundred dollars on alcohol alone.

Campus Announcements
STEVEM HAMRICK
As you’ve noticed by now, Thanksgiving is the 27th through the 29th. Sorry for the confusion. The best laid plans of mice and men and all that...

I’d like to remind you of some important dates and deadlines that approach with the holiday season now.

There will be no classes from 27 through 29 November as we celebrate the holiday. The staff will be on campus early on the 29th to serve you, but most offices will close early that day.

The advanced registration period has just begun and will continue until December 9th. If you register for classes during advanced registration, you must pay for the classes by the December 6th. If you do not pay for them by then, your schedule will be removed from the computer and you will be required to re-register.

The final exams begin on the 7th of December and continue through the 11th.

The fall term will end on December 11th. Graduation ceremonies are scheduled for the 14th.

I will reopen registration on December 11th and it will remain open through the drop/add period (January 10th). You will be free to make adjustments to your schedule all through the holidays, but remember, there will be no staff or faculty on campus between December 24th and January 1st. The staff will return to work on the 2nd.

There is some confusion among many of you about the difference between dropping a class and withdrawing from a class. You are free to drop and add classes while registration is open. When registration closes on the 10th of January, you can no longer drop a class. From that point on, you can only withdraw from a class and you have to pay for classes you withdraw from (unless you completely withdraw from all classes; then you would get a pro-rated refund based on the number of days you spent in class). If you withdraw from only part of your classes, you get no refund. So, it is very important that you drop before the last day to drop if you do not want to pay for a class.

Finally, I wish to thank you for choosing SPSU for your education needs, and to wish you a pleasant and relaxing holiday season. We look forward to seeing you in the spring.

Are you seeking a safe, affordable home? OR Do you have an extra bedroom in your home that you want to rent?

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Contact Lynne Dyckman, Housing Counselor Cobb County at Tel 770/578-7526 Fax 770/565-2780
Mr. Happy Squirrel says, "Go nuts this holiday season, and have a ball."

The Sting Says, "Wear a hat, it's cold outside."
Thanksgiving was established Early Europeans celebrated the winter solstice and the coming of longer days for centuries before winter solstice and the coming of longer days as a time of celebration. Thanksgiving started in 1621 when the Pilgrims had their big feast to honor Saturn. During this time, there was plenty of food and drink because this was when farms would slaughter their cattle and most of the beer and wine made during the year was finally ready to drink. Another part of the celebration was that Rome’s social order was turned upside-down: slaves became the masters and peasants commanded the city.

First century Christians did not celebrate the birth of Christ. In 336, the church decided the birth of Christ should be celebrated. Since the Bible does not say when Christ was born, the church decided to celebrate it on December 25. People believe that Christmas was assigned to this day so that people would be more willing to embrace the holiday. The Church’s plan worked, and by the 500s, all of Europe celebrated Christmas.

Unfortunately, by having Christmas at the same time as Saturnalia, the church gave up the right to decide how it was to be celebrated. In these days, people would go to church on Christmas, but afterwards celebrate with a drunken, carnival-like atmosphere similar to modern-day Mardi Gras. That is how Christmas was celebrated until 1645, when the Puritans took over that responsibility. In 1651, Christmas returned when Charles II ascended to the throne.

In early America, New England did not celebrate Christmas at all, and in 1659 to 1661, it was even outlawed in Boston. On the other hand, Jamestown celebrated Christmas. Also, after the American Revolution, most Americans did not want to celebrate English customs and that included Christmas. It was not until the 1800s that people really started to accept Christmas. People accepted Christmas because it helped stop the gang riots that were occurring between social classes, and it gave families the ability to lavish attention and gifts on their children without appearing to spoil them. "Good will toward men and family time," this Christmas sounds very different to the Mardi Gras once celebrated before.

Hanukkah

Kwanzaa

The Anti-Holiday Season

VINCENT MIGLIORE

It is that time once again to celebrate the holidays and get in the so-called "Holiday Spirit." What exactly is this holiday spirit? According to the proprieties in the mall the holiday spirit is putting up your green and red garland all over your store two weeks into September, and cutting your prices faster than the store in the mall down the street. I like how they actually try to convince you that they are doing you a favor by getting ready for the season early. They throw around such phrases as "Get your holiday shopping done early" and "Beat the Christmas rush!" Well of course your going to beat the Christmas rush when you shop ten months early for Christmas presents. If they are so concerned about this holiday spirit nonsense then why don’t they stop decorating for Thanksgiving and go straight to Christmas? Oh wait, its because you don’t get presents on Thanksgiving. They don’t actually care about this so-called "goodwill towards men" and "being thankful for what you have" nonsense. What they care about is the green in your pocket and the plastic in your wallet.

Something I want to know about is this unwritten rule that you have to be happy around the holidays. You’re actually expected to look past all the bad things that have happened to you over the year and sip a cup of eggnog while you watch the surplus of radio shack commercials in between showings of A Christmas Story and It’s a Wonderful Life. So three members of your family died, you lost your job, a bunch of cars got crashed in an alley, and all members of the opposite sex hate you. It’s all okay because Teri Hatcher and Howie Long are going to dress up as Santa and Elves on TV and sell their souls in order to get you to buy some 5 in 1 gadget months before Christmas. Don’t worry about your job because just for the holiday season we are going to, out of the kindness of our hearts, not require any payments until January? It’s ok that your grandfather let you buy we can you keep his memory alive forever with our holiday picture frames. Maybe you aren’t having any luck with the ladies because you aren’t dressing cool enough. Well for a limited time offer you can update your wardrobe at half of low holiday prices, but act now because the holiday season will be over in a matter of months.

My favorite part about all of this is that if you don’t decorate the house, don’t wear the big red sweaters that have Rudolph on them with the jingle bell for a nose, and don’t sit around watching holiday movies, then you’ve considered a scarecrow. Well screw that. You know what Christmas movies I watch every year? Thats right, Die Hard. Don’t you dare tell me it’s not a Holiday movie ‘cause it sure as hell is to me. It takes place during Christmas therefore it’s a Christmas movie.

Needless to say my advice to you is to not fall into this holiday spirit. Remember there is no rule that says the Holiday spirit must live in all of us. If you have nothing to be happy about this holiday season, then don’t force happiness. As my mom used to say when I was in the bathroom crying after Christmas dinner, "Just relax. You’ll hurt yourself if you force it."

The History of "X-Mas"

KAREN ASAY

How well do you know your holidays? Do you know what happened on the first Thanksgiving? Do you know when the church started celebrating the birth of Christ? Do you know why Hanukkah is an eight day holiday? Or do you know when Kwanzaa first became a holiday? All these questions can be answered if you look at each holiday’s origin.

Most people believe that Thanksgiving started in 1621 when the Pilgrims had their big feast to celebrate the harvest, but that isn’t where it started. Our Thanksgiving is based on the Puritan Thanksgiving, which took place on November 30th this year. Hanukkah celebrates the miracle that one day’s oil was left to light the Temple, but it lasted eight days. The story behind this event starts with the Jews successfully kicking the Syrian-Greeks out of Jerusalem and restoring the Temple. However, after the Temple was cleansed and the Priest were ready to light the Temple menorah, there was only one day’s worth of oil left to light it and it would take seven days to get more. The oil burned for the eight days needed, and that is why Hanukkah is an eight day holiday.

Kwanzaa is a non-religious African-American holiday which celebrates family, community, and culture. It is a seven day holiday celebrated from December 26 to January 1. It was created by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966. After the Watts riots in Los Angeles, he was trying to find a way to bring African-Americans together as a community, and Kwanzaa was his solution.

At this point, African-American celebrations often included songs, dances, African drums, storytelling, poetry reading, and a large meal. Also, on each of the seven nights, the family would gather and light one of the candles on the Kinara (candleholder), and then discuss one of the seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, and faith. These principles are values of the African cultural which contribute to building and reinforcing community among African-Americans.

When many people use the term “X-Mas,” they think they are using a secular term which has nothing to do with Jesus and yet still has to do with Christmas (As we all know, the term “X” has little to do with each other). However, using “X-Mas” in this manner is actually incorrect. The word “Christmas” is actually short for “Mass of Christ” or “Christmass.” The word was later shortened in Europe during the 1500’s by taking the first letter of the Greek word “Xristos,” which means Christ, and adding it to the suffix “Mass” to create the new word “X-Mass.” This, of course, was later shortened into the more popular form, “X-Mas,” which many non-Christians use today. So next time you’re writing down “X-Mass” to save precious seconds, don’t feel bad. It’s just as correct as the original form.
How to Throw the Perfect Holiday Party

BAILEY HUMPHRIES

Now for me, the holidays aren't about lighting candles for eight days in a row, new years resolutions, kindliness to your fellow man, the birth of Jesus Christ, or even presents for you. For me, the holidays are about parties! A question commonly asked of me is, "What are you doing in my house?" Then during the holiday season that question tends to turn to, "I want to throw a holiday party, but how do I do it?" The answer is confusing and complex. So, it is best to break down the three major aspects of parties, which are as follows: food, because everybody wants to eat and the holidays are full of good food (this includes beverages); of course, dancing because it's fun to get your body moving; and women, because nobody wants to dance in a room full of guys and no girls, unless you're a gay male stripper. Now let's elaborate on these topics.

Food is a great thing, and even greater during the holidays. Now this is a holiday party and not a Christmas party. Christmas parties died out with Jesus. So every holiday party should have a diverse selection of foods. Now one great dish is Egg Nog, I mean, it isn't a holiday party without Egg Nog. I like a little more nog than egg myself, but those of you who are under the ripe age of 21 should substitute Everclear instead of brandy, because Everclear has less smell and more bang for your buck. If you aren't one for Egg Nog, and want a drink with a little less lactose, there's always the ever-popular Punch. Punch is a universal drink and can be made easily, but to spice things up for the holidays, try mixing in some Ginger ale maybe, and serving it in a giant bowl with a ladle for serving. Your guests will be surprised at your creativity when preparing drinks, and they will reward you with bouquets of compliments. Another great holiday dish, and my personal favorite, is ham. I love a slowly cooked glazed ham that's just drenched in salty goodness. For those of you that can't cook because they're too busy with other things, (you selfish bastards shouldn't be throwing a holiday party anyways, jerks!) you can always go to the nearest honey baked ham store and buy a fine lump ham that's warm and ready to be served.

Once you got the guests inside and eating, now what? Well you need some music to keep them there. Some great holiday hits are "Noel Noel!" by Eve, "Christmas is the time to say I love you" by SR-71, or my personal fav "Run Rudolph Run" by Hanson. But you may be asking yourself, "What about the Jews?" Well there's always Adam Sandler's "Chanukah Song," or that other song about Jews. Then again holiday parties aren't about religion, they're about the holidays based on religion! So it's always good to throw in some songs that are just plain fun. "Baby Got Back" by Sir-Mis-Alex, "Heat of the Moment" by Asia, "Dancing Queen" by Abba, and "Hooker With a Penis" by Fools. All music is worthless though if you can't dance, which brings me to my next topic.

So nobody wants to dance amidst a giant sausage party, so you need members of the opposite sex. And if you're reading this article, you most likely go to Southern Polytech and chances are you aren't one of the illogical six girls who go to this fine institute of learning so we're assuming you're a guy. Now guys, how do you get women to come to your holiday party? Besides hitting them on the back of the heel and dragging them to your van of course.

The ladies love decorations, so it's always good to put up holiday lights all around the house. I don't mean Christmas lights, I mean those lights on a chain that look like little chili peppers, you know the ones I'm talking about. Lastly, ladies love guys who are very aggressive, demanding, and persistent about things. So after you invite a girl to your holiday party, follow her for a few hours repeatedly asking if she's going to come and telling her about your great CD collection, then at night call her at least every other hour to see "what's up" and if she's thinking about you.

Now that you got the ladies, and you fixed the food, and there's funk comin' out your speakers there's only one last thing to remember, and that is to have a good time. Because the holidays aren't about petty crap like goodwill towards man, they're about partying. So party it up and remember what Hanson says, "Where's the love?"

Why I Love Christmas

SATAN

Oh, don't look so surprised. You had to at least suspect that Satan wrote for The STING. How else do you think they've remained published for so long? Anyway, X-mas time is around again and I'm here to explain why I love, that's right, love this holiday.

First off, there are, of course, the massive amounts of greed. Even children are being brought up right, wanting everything they can get their hands on. Most of the time, people always end up with something they never use and eventually throw it into a closet until next X-mas. Of course, there are the lucky few who can always just give the gifts away again, but such cases are rare. Giving a crappy gift $5 Giving an expensive gift $20. Using money to buy a gift when that money could have gone to keep children from starving: Priceless.

Speaking of starving, I love X-mas parties. A time when everyone gets drunk and eats all they can. Almost as if it's a contest to commit all the "deadly" sins in one go. "Hey Jim, I can be more greedy than you!" "You're on!" Ha ha. Beautiful.

My absolute favorite part of this time of year is Santa Claus. Wouldn't you be happy if you had such a beloved symbol based on love? It's a great big fat joke.

Continued on Page 8

Note: The STING clearly and obviously does not condone violence. Nor is it misogynistic, anti-gay, pro-gay, Bengay, anti-Semitic, pro-Semitic, anti-Hamitic, anti-Japethetic, anti-Christian, pro-Christian, anti-religion, religious-oriented, or bigoted. This article is a work of comedy. Before you take violence on the writer or the editor or other random member of The STING, think of all the movies you love to watch that have similar comments. Moreover, if this article offends you, then don't read twice (seeing it that you've made it this far).
Why I Love Christmas
Continued from Page 7

yourself? Just think about it... Santa... Satan... they're practically the same word! Not only that, Santa is a man who only works one night a year. That type of sloth-like behavior is exactly what I live for! To make things better, he's a gluttonous man who always dresses in RED! And he's said to have magic powers, something you people have always blamed on me. Come on now, you can't really think your own monotheistic god doesn't have a bit of magic of his own, now do you? I guess the only problem with this season is those cheesy X-mas movies. After 700 times, a clay Rudolph just loses its appeal. But hey, why should I complain? It's X-mas time! Now let's all go out and party! Oh yeah, and it's too freakin' cold during this time of year. How about this - you just go ahead and die, and I'll show you a place that is always nice and warm, no matter what part of the year. And after we're done touring Mexico, then I'll take you down to my place and show you around there as well.

Death by Homeland Security

At a burning plane crash site, the FAA determined Santa Claus was shot down by Homeland Security air forces. FAA claimed they were justified in shooting down Santa Claus. "We kept receiving a random sleigh blimp on radar screens. That blimp had no identifying marks and all we got were holiday greetings from the blimp. Considering recent events, we had no choice but to call in authorized forces to bring it down by whatever means. Children and parents around the world have started demanding the dismantling of Homeland Security. Santa Claus is survived by his wife Mrs. Claus, twelve reindeers and a thousand elf employees at his workshop. The funeral services will be held in Arctic Circle Funeral Home at the North Pole on the day after Christmas.

Fraternities - Sororities

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New Years Resolutions

BAILEY HUMPHRIES & VINCENT MIGLIORE

New Years resolutions were invented back in the year 1224 when King Henry VIII drank so much liquor on New Years Eve that he woke up the next day and made a resolution to never drink again. Consequently King Henry also invented the hangover on the very same day. Alas! So that's all just a big lie. But all we do know is that New Years resolutions are like a hymen, they're meant to be broken. Sit back and let us tell you about some of our encounters with these New Years Resolutions.

The year was 1977 and we had just graduated from Amherst College with honors. Still, even with bachelor's in Arts and Sciences, we felt unfulfilled. New Years Eve was coming up and we realized what we had to do. We needed a change, we needed a new years resolution that would make us better men. We decided to quit smoking, and as we didn't smoke we figured it'd be easy.

Well let me tell you, quitting smoking was the third hardest thing we've ever done. We went to the local pharmacy and bought two cases of Nicorette gum and a box of those patch things that taste like gum. The Nicorette tasted salty and we didn't really like it much so we decided to just chew a few pieces at a time to get rid of the box quicker. After sticking those four or five little tablets in our mouths we felt nauseous and dizzyer than that time we ate acid in the park and went down the slide. We figured the dizziness was a sign that we were well on our way to quitting. The next day we began to crave the nicotine gum more and more until we were finally out and we were forced to cover our nipples with patches to calm our shakes. Once the patches ran out we spent a few days in our room clanging to the wall by our pimponimails and toes. Finally we broke down and bought four cases of Marlboro Lights and we've been smoking ever since.

If you thought your smoking New Years Resolution was the worst it could get, wait until you hear of our exploits in weight loss. In 1982 our diet consisted purely of cheetos, easy-mac, and orange nicorette gum. To say the least 1983 would be the year of dieting and exercise. What would be the best way to jump-start us into becoming fitness freaks? That's right: a good ol' New Years Resolution. First we decided that we needed a real job because selling our sperm on Ebay just wasn't cutting it anymore. We needed a job where we were constantly on the move. After looking through numerous want ads, we found the perfect positions. We were now officially the two newest members of the Aushenbergs Papa Johns make line. After only a few short months of rigorous training we were ready to begin our new job. Sure it was hard handling all that cheese, but whatever fell off the pizza was fair game. Plus they gave us as much free pizza as we wanted. After seeing that pesky Jared of Subway-diet fame, we decided to make up our own diet. It would be called the pepperoni, sausage, ham, mushrooms, bacon, and pineapple pizza diet. For 5 meals a day for the rest of our lives we would eat nothing but pizza. If Jared can do it by eating sandwiches, surely we could do it with pizza. Needless to say, 3 months and 240 combined gained pounds later we found ourselves fired from Papa Johns for stealing too many pizzas, and back on the couch eating cheetos and orange nicorette gum. But sit back because our worst resolution story has yet to come.

Our worst resolution to date was back in 1986, the year of the kitten. After so many failed attempts at changing our lives for the better in the name of the new year, we decided to redeem ourselves by succeeding where so many have failed; the dreaded goal of changing career paths. This resolution would be our tour de force. We would of course begin by moving to a different country. I don't know why we chose Sweden, but we ended up searching for jobs in the land of blondes and lederhosen.

After a long day of job hunting we ended up in a park that people kept telling us was called Needle Park. We didn't know what they meant, but you know what they said about spending time in Rome. So when hot blonde missing a few teeth handed us a needle we decided we might as well. Hell, for all we know she could have been the president of Sweden. Needless to say this was the worst choice we ever made and within a few weeks we were broke and out of needles. The joke was on us once again when somebody told us the needles didn't even have heroin in them, instead, they actually just had water. Those darned Swedes hosed us and we didn't have a ticket home. We ended up having to sell our bodies and our proverbial souls in the Red Light District. When we got back home to the good old US of A we had lost 200 pounds each, stopped smoking, and our only hope was to get a job working at the Blimpie over by our parents' house.

New Years Resolutions are a great way to dream about self-improvement, but don't place too much importance on the outcome because it rarely works out the way you've planned. We can only hope that you can learn from our mistakes. It goes to show that it's not worth changing your lives in the first place, just be happy with who you are. You are fat slob who smoke too much and doesn't make very much money in your dead end job, but hey, at least all your appendages function properly.

Gifts for the Family

Mother: Stress ball (A berserk mom is scary.)
Father: Pack of Condoms (I don't know about you but I don't want another sibling.)
Brother: A Brain (You know he needs one.)
Sister: Duct Tape (Everyone needs duct tape.)
Grandfather: Viagra (You know he needs the help.)
Grandmother: Duct tape (Everyone needs it.)
Cousins: Socks (Hey, it's the thought that counts.)
Aunt and Uncle: Nothing (You spent all the money on socks.)
Nephew and Niece: Socks (The thought still counts.)
Boyfriend: Leash (That one is self explanatory.)
Girlfriend: Lingerie (You might get to see her in it.)
Friends: Nothing (They know you are broke, so they won't mind.)

Top Ten SPSU Male "Wish" List

1. A hot girlfriend
2. Ferrari 360 Modena Berlinetta F1
3. A hot girlfriend
4. Ferrari 360 Modena Berlinetta F1
5. A hot girlfriend
6. Ferrari 360 Modena Berlinetta F1
7. A hot girlfriend
8. Ferrari 360 Modena Berlinetta F1
9. A hot girlfriend
10. Year's supply of condoms (2)
11. My CS Major Accreditation

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Retailers Won't See A Big Holiday Push

ASSOCIATED PRESS

According to the annual Holiday Spending Survey by Myvesta, Americans are planning to spend slightly less on holiday purchases this year. The average holiday shopper will spend $722 this year, down from $773 in 2001. Forty-two percent of shoppers plan on spending under $500.

"With people uncertain about the economy and job security, their mindset is to hold onto more of their hard earned cash," said Steven Rhode, president and co-founder of Myvesta, a financial health center. "Even though our economy has shown some slight growth in the third quarter, it's not making a difference to your average consumer."

Although many people are planning to cut back on their spending, they often get home to a much larger bill than they had originally anticipated.

Although the average projection of spending by consumers was $722 this year, almost 20 percent of those surveyed said they didn't have any idea of how much there were going to spend. "Those who don't have a dollar figure in their mind for their holiday purchases are going to be the most surprised when they end up tallying the total for their gifts," Rhode said. "Having a plan and sticking with it can save hundreds of dollars, giving you a more enjoyable and less stressful holiday season."

Some holiday shopping tips from Myvesta include:
- Carry only two cards when shopping. Use one with a zero balance for purchases you will pay off in full. Use the other, low-interest-rate card for purchases you will pay off over three to six months.
- Record all of your purchases in your checkbook register. Even if you don't write a check, subtract the amount of the purchase. That way, when the bill arrives, the money will be in your checking account to pay the bill in full.
- Avoid "skip payment" offers that cause you to pay more interest and face larger bills.
- Avoid "buy now and pay later" offers, which encourage you to spend money you don't have.
- Use a low-rate, major credit card instead of high-rate department store cards.

Do not apply for department store cards just to get a one-time discount.

The annual Myvesta Holiday Survey was conducted October 25-27, 2002. Some other survey results include:
- Those aged 35-44 planning on spending $977 on holiday gifts, the most of any age group.
- Men plan on spending almost 22 percent more on holiday gifts than women. Men will spend $795 and women will spend $633.
- Those who are married plan on spending 52 percent more than single people.
- Married individuals will spend $839 and singles will spend $551.
- Men plan on spending the most on holiday purchases this year, averaging $780 per person. Those in the Midwest will spend at least with an average of $648. People in the Northeast will spend $743 and those in the South plan on spending $721.

New Web Site Helps College Students Avoid Costly Career Mistakes

TONY SCIBELLI

Lear Communications President Tony Scibelli has always believed in the motto "Mistakes aren't bad...if you learn from them." And now, Scibelli is helping college students learn from the mistakes of others through his new Web site - Learnfrommymistakes.com.

Launched on September 23, Learnfrommymistakes.com interviews successful Americans in a variety of fields to find out what mistakes they made early in their careers and, more importantly, what they learned from them.

"Hopefully with this information, college students, young professionals and high school students can avoid these same mistakes as they start their careers," Scibelli said.

Scibelli, who graduated from Kent State University in 1998 with a Bachelor's of Arts in English, has gotten some big name support for the site.

"I've interviewed some really interesting people," Scibelli explained. "Our site currently features interviews with Olympic gold medal gymnast Dominique Moceanu, radio and game show legend Wink Martindale, best selling business author Michael Gerber, fitness expert Joyce Vedral and many more."

A major foundation of the Learnfrommymistakes.com Web strategy revolves around the concept of free user access.

"We make it really easy for people to access our information," Scibelli explains. "There are no charges, and no registration or login is necessary. People can just type in the URL and start exploring our site."

Scibelli will begin conducting educational "Learn From My Mistakes" seminars in the next few months. Later in 2003, you will find Learnfrommymistakes.com books, videos, CD-ROMs and audio CDs at area bookstores.

As for the site, Scibelli knows to live up to its potential, Learnfrommymistakes.com will have to offer more than just interview transcripts.

"The multimedia potential for a site like this is limitless," Scibelli said. "We are going to add audio, video and interactive chat features to the site by year's end."
Travel: Savannah
BRANDON TUTMAN

Annually, fall adventure seekers travel to North Georgia to see the changing of the leaves, to get away from the townhouse mini-van drivers undulating through traffic and to escape the 9-5's that seem to somehow break restraints and become 9-whatever time it pleases. Recently, several Architecture students managed to steal away, but not to our north, but south to Savannah breaking conform with most fall vacations. Of course, this was not just a vacation with a group of Architecture students; it was a vacation with architecture in mind, to be studied visually and analyzed. Such a trip is well worth taking by anyone genre of people not just architecture connoisseurs. As known by many, the architecture in Savannah is far more impressive than that of Marietta. Being the oldest city in Georgia, Savannah has much to offer so when looking to avoid repetitive boring road trips to watch the leaves change and fall one by one in North Georgia, scoot down to Savannah for something little more enjoyable. Most importantly, do not forget a camera.

As known by many, the architecture in Savannah is far more impressive than that of Marietta. Being the oldest city in Georgia, Savannah has much to offer so when looking to avoid repetitive boring road trips to watch the leaves change and fall one by one in North Georgia, scoot down to Savannah for something little more enjoyable. Most importantly, do not forget a camera.

Walking on the stone paved streets from original settlement. River Street is filled with multiple shops, restaurants and hotels, as well as multiple sites great for people watching. Also take advantage of the Market District's great urban night life scene where you can enjoy live music and bars. Get a feel for Savannah's after life by taking a Ghost Tour (best if taken at night). Forsyth Park is known for strolling through with its world famous Forsyth Park Fountain. As you travel through the streets, see if you can spot any scenes from movies such as Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil or Forest Gump! Savannah has much to offer so when looking to avoid repetitive boring road trips to watch the leaves change and fall one by one in North Georgia, scoot down to Savannah for something little more enjoyable. Most importantly, do not forget a camera.

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The North end of the island is designated wilderness. That means machines, bicycles, and motor vehicles may not be used, with the exception of National Park vehicles. On the far North end of the island is an abandoned lighthouse that Georgia seriously considered using as a place to put lightships to guide ocean-going ships in the early 1830s.

The First African Baptist Church, the only remaining church on the island, is where JFK Jr. was married. Only a few miles from the First African Baptist Church is a closed-off roadpath where the remains of the Cumberland Island wharf is still standing. This particular place is where James Ogelthorpe, founder of Georgia, used cannons to defend the island from Spanish invasions. In the fall, the National Park Services provides tour guides to the African-American settlement and the First African Baptist Church site.

From the boat docks, campers can rest and prepare for the four-mile hike journey to the Sea Islands. It is an island of beauty and wilderness. The island is rich with history, both ancient and modern. First of all, it is a National Seashore. Part of it is official wilderness. The geography of the town is classic example of America's first urban design planning. The wide streets accommodate horse and buggy, and the elongated drives and avenues net together forming the geographics of the town. Also take note at some of the city's iron work which is just as impressive as the architecture. Due to durability, some of the storefronts are crafted of iron. Each picturesque square is circumscribed by huge historic homes, some owned by the state and some owned privately. Several of the squares are used for multiple functions, from weddings to Girl Scout conventions.

While in Savannah, it is best to begin with a trolley tour to see all the historic sites and learn a brief history to get a feel for the city. Later, spend time on classic River Street and pretend to be one of the colony's first settlers while enjoying live music and bars. Get a feel for Savannah's after life by taking a Ghost Tour (best if taken at night). Forsyth Park is known for strolling through with its world famous Forsyth Park Fountain. As you travel through the streets, see if you can spot any scenes from movies such as Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil or Forest Gump! Savannah has much to offer so when looking to avoid repetitive boring road trips to watch the leaves change and fall one by one in North Georgia, scoot down the leaves change and fall one by one in North Georgia, scoot down to Savannah for something little more enjoyable. Most importantly, do not forget a camera.
Iraq Poses New Threat

ZACHARY BILES

The news has shown the current threats that terrorist nations pose. Botulinum Toxin and Anthrax are just a few of numerous weapons available. Just last year, the United States was hit in multiple locations with letters filled with Anthrax. Scientists have shown that the devastation to society would be huge if terrorists were able to discretely attack the general public (i.e. using a crop duster to spread biological weapons over a city). So, what could possibly pose an even greater threat than biological weapons?

Earlier in the week, the media leaked confidential documents obtained from Iraq. These documents described a new onslaught with the capability of crippling and/or killing millions of people. The Iraqis plan is to attack the general public with numerous weapons i.e. using crop duster to spread biological weapons or killing millions of people. The news has shown earlier in the week that super sized, B??. The crowd then performed several more standing ovations. **Please note that this article was written for pure entertainment, there is nothing factual in the above statements.**

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MERRY MENTAL CHRISTMAS!

Last weekend, Teddy, my perpetually depressed friend did not call me! For that matter he had not called me for almost 2 weeks! Strangely so, neither did TULSA! It was a much-needed break from Teddy’s world of vengeance. I decided to spend the afternoon by the pool basking in some attention, armed with my profound book, “Abstract Geometry in Multi-Dimensions”, of which I absolutely have no clue about! That was the best way to gain attention, the way walking a dog does before. After “A Beautiful Mind” hit the silver screen, the Mathematicians suddenly become desirable...

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO’S NEST (1975)

A Bautiful Mind (2001)

The FISHER KING (1991)

The mental hospital on 34th street was bustling with activities! The patients were basking in the glory of the Christmas party. Some were getting patients into the hall and a number of busy male nurses, who looked like off-duty discothèque bouncers, were running after an-opiates patients and hauling them to the common hall. No one on the staff was able to talk with me, except for one very verbose doctor who was later led away by one of the male nurses.

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET (1947)

One frivolous remark from Jack Lucas (Bridges), a popular radio DJ led to the listener’s shooting cum suicide at the restaurant where Parry’s (Williams) wife was killed. This led to Parry’s insanity and Lucas’s suicidal tendencies. Both Parry and Lucas were haunted by that single event and the only redemption was getting the “Holy Grail” to bring Teddy back...

The FISHER KING

This is a classic case of out of the frying pan and into the fire. Randle (Nicholson) thought that he could have an easier life by serving his prison time in a mental institution on 34th Street. However, the FBI agent believed that TULSA was pretending to avoid arrest...

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO’S NEST

TULSA was pretending to avoid arrest. They were both warded in the mental institution on 34th Street. However, the FBI agent believed that TULSA was pretending to avoid arrest...
**Tekken 4 Review**

**NICHOLAS INGHAM**

The series know as "Tekken," produced byNamco, has developed greatly over all of its previous installments. Recently Tekken 4 was released in America, and these very developments in graphics, gameplay, and other categories are evident in this fighting game.

Greg one, you'll need to look at the system specs. However, all three systems are capable of nearly the same graphics, and on most games you'd probably have a hard time telling the difference. When looking at speed, Xbox wins out once again. With a 733 MHz processor, it far outscores the PlayStation 2 and Gamecube, respectively. Still, speed isn't a very good factor to base your decision on as the PlayStation 2's 300 MHz is enough to play any of the games out there, and should be enough for some time to come. This is another time where you would have a hard time telling the difference in game play.

**In the Market for a Game System?**

**CJ SHRADER**

OK, so you're done buying Christmas gifts for those Christmas presents for distant and non-too-distant relations. A package of pencils for Little Susie, some cream cheese for Jim. Maybe some socks for Uncle Earl and an old issue of *The STING* for that crazy lady with thervine cat who lives down the street. Let's face it, we're college students and don't really have much money to buy more than one "good" gift a year.

Well then, what do you buy? What's that one thing everyone needs? That's right! Gaming systems! And with only three good ones out there - the PlayStation 2, and Microsoft Xbox - it should be a cinch to find the one you want right.

Wrong.

These three systems are phenomenally different. When comparing graphics, you'd never go wrong if you look at the system specs. However, all three systems are capable of nearly the same graphics, and on most games you'd probably have a hard time telling the difference. When looking at speed, Xbox wins out once again. With a 733 MHz processor, it far outscores the PlayStation 2 and Gamecube, respectively. Still, speed isn't a very good factor to base your decision on as the PlayStation 2's 300 MHz is enough to play any of the games out there, and should be enough for some time to come. This is another time where you would have a hard time telling the difference in game play.

So what on earth do you look for in these systems then? Well, let me throw you a couple of tips to consider.

**For the Student Budget**

Many people will buy it. The PlayStation 2 boasts 250 games in comparison this isn't the case but it can be annoying to know that might be the extreme thing. The Xbox 360 has a vast amount of new moves to date. Nintendo does have some rights to well-known games such as Mario, Metroid, Star Fox, and even Pokémon. It turns out that of the few games they have, most tend to try to guard low to give them a bit of a challenge. Xbox weighs in at over 400 games, a decent Xbox Nothing. Xbox is Microsoft's first system, so they don't have many well-known titles, but games like HALO have done well for them, especially if the hardware is top-notch. The big daddy of all gaming systems, though, is the PlayStation 2. Due to its backward compatibility with the original PlayStation, as well as the fact that it is a year older than the other two systems, the PlayStation 2 boasts the most games out there for you to choose from. Until quite recently, the PlayStation was the only system to have the very popular Final Fantasy series, and some people buy them simply for these games. Other people buy themselves a new system and use the PlayStation and PS2 were Resident Evil, Tony Hawk: Pro Skater, as well as many, many others.

**For the Budget**

What about the cost, man? What about the cost? If you have $200+ tax, then you have to pick up one of these three systems. As for overall value, though, you'll want the Xbox, which comes with a two controller for $199. Gamecube comes with two controllers and a memory card for $199, while PS2 comes with a merely one controller for $199. If you look at all three systems overall, Xbox is the clear winner in speed, value, graphics, and in multiplayer. However, when you're looking for a good system for that special someone this holiday season, I would personally recommend the PlayStation 2. The amount of games available and the many well-known titles make sure that there will be a game that is sure to peak everyone's interest. The DVD player is nice too.

Well, now that you know everything about the system you want, all that's left is to figure out whom to get it for. Of course, maybe you could just pick it up for yourself and instead get your mom a friend/dog/boyfriend/best friend/whomever one of those nifty personalized calculators at Wal-Mart this year...

**Tekken 4 powered by the latest equilibrium system,**

Tekken force mode may be fun for a while, but you will eventually want to play someone with a brain.

Overall, Tekken 4 is really still a great game and is the same. Namco did good job with the new move lists for the Tekken 4 players one. One last thing to know about the game is that it is a game that neutral low guard is no longer an option. This is due to the Mario-Brothers system in which just pressing or holding up or down d ates now. You will have to hit down-back-in order to win any of these hindrances. Tekken 4 is still a game that will keep you from studying and sleeping. Though "What about the cost, man? What about the cost?" If you have $200+ tax, then you have to pick up one of these three systems. As for overall value, though, you'll want the Xbox, which comes with a two controller for $199. Gamecube comes with two controllers and a memory card for $199, while PS2 comes with a merely one controller for $199. If you look at all three systems overall, Xbox is the clear winner in speed, value, graphics, and in multiplayer. However, when you're looking for a good system for that special someone this holiday season, I would personally recommend the PlayStation 2. The amount of games available and the many well-known titles make sure that there will be a game that is sure to peak everyone's interest. The DVD player is nice too.

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Comics

HELM-O-O-O, TED. I'M THE GUARDIAN OF LAYOFFS.

HELM-O-O-O, CAROL. CAN YOU SHOW ME WHERE TED SITS?

IF THERE'S ANY LAY I CAN MAKE THIS EXPERIENCE MORE HUMILIATING, DON'T HESITATE TO ASK.

WHY. WHY ME? I'LL TAP A LIST OF YOUR DEFECTS TO YOUR OLD CHAIR.

ASK, TAKE THESE PROJECT SUMMARIES AND SUMMARIZE THEM INTO ONE SUMMARY.

AND WHEN YOU'RE DONE, TAKE THAT SUMMARY AND SUMMARIZE IT.

WHAT IS A SHORTER WORD FOR DOOMED?

I'M GONNA GO OVER IT IN MORE DETAIL.

SO I TOLD HIM TO STOP MAKING MOTOR NOISES WITH HIS LIPS.

GET THE SCORPION KING ACTION FIGURE FROM YOUR SISTER'S BASEMENT!!!

NOW SHE'S ALSO TYPING A PERSONAL MESSAGE WITH HER NOSE! IT'S A TRIFECTA!

I NEED YOU TO DO TED'S JOB AND YOUR OWN JOB UNTIL WE HIRE SOMEONE.

IF I DO WELL, YOU'LL MAKE ME SO TWO YEAR PERM. IF I DO POORLY, I'LL GET NO RAISE.

I CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING, BUT THERE MIGHT BE SOME VERBAL PRAISE DOWN THE ROAD.

I'M GONNA DO OVER IT TO HIM SOME TIME.

I'M GONNA OPEN THE WATER BOTTLE ON HIS HEAD.

GET THE SCORPION KING ACTION FIGURE FROM YOUR SISTER'S BASEMENT!!!

NOW SHE'S ALSO TYPING A PERSONAL MESSAGE WITH HER NOSE! IT'S A TRIFECTA!

I NEED YOU TO DO TED'S JOB AND YOUR OWN JOB UNTIL WE HIRE SOMEONE.

IF I DO WELL, YOU'LL MAKE ME SO TWO YEAR PERM. IF I DO POORLY, I'LL GET NO RAISE.

I CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING, BUT THERE MIGHT BE SOME VERBAL PRAISE DOWN THE ROAD.

THE PLAN... SHOULD I GIVE THEM A REASON, OR IS THIS PART OF YOUR MASTER PLAN TO REMOVE ALL JOY FROM THE UNIVERSE?

THEY KNOW ABOUT YOU AND THE PLAN. FOOL, I TOLD YOU TO BLAME OUR INSURANCE CARRIER!
Comedian Movie Review

BAILEY HUMPHRIES

Imagine that you are Jerry Seinfeld and you just quit your multi-million-dollar job, becoming one of the greatest sitcoms of all time. The only place you have to go is down, but who cares you have enough money to live the rest of your life like many wish they could. So where do you go from here? Where does the plot go from here? It's got to be something that will get you back right up all over again. This isn't the sitcom that puts you in the life of Jerry Seinfeld.

While writing this movie, the entire plot was changed leading to the film 'Vulgar' being one of the most anticipated movies of the year. The audience was written into the movie, allowing them to experience the story through the eyes of the characters. This makes the movie even more personal and relatable, drawing the audience closer to the characters and making us feel like we are part of the story. This is a wonderful piece of writing that will leave you wanting more.

The movie 'Vulgar' is about Jerry Seinfeld post-Seinfeld and post-'I'm Telling You For the Last Time', where he gave up all his old material. It's a documentary about a man standing all over again. Seinfeld is a clone and personal story that lets you into the life of Jerry Seinfeld. While watching this documentary, midway through the film a bunch of people walk out. I got the impression that most of the crowd had no idea what they were getting into. Comedian is a good documentary, as far as documentaries go. It's not Seinfeld, but don't expect it to be a well-made and interesting documentary about the comedy club that allows you to see how everything is really done.

Not only were there scenes of the audience cheering, but the film also contained a lot of behind-the-scenes footage that gave us a glimpse into how the show was put together. The film ends with Seinfeld standing in front of the camera, speaking directly to the audience. It was a powerful moment that left a lasting impression.

In conclusion, 'Vulgar' was a wonderful documentary that gave us a unique look at the life of Jerry Seinfeld. It was entertaining, informative, and a real treat for any comedy fan. If you are a fan of Seinfeld, or just want to see a unique perspective on the world of comedy, then you should definitely check out 'Vulgar'.

Vulgar Movie Review

BAILEY HUMPHRIES

Vulgar, written by Bryan Johnson, and produced by Kevin Smith isn’t a comedy like expected. Vulgar is in fact drama and it’s obvious Kevin Smith isn’t comedy like expected. It has the heart of a drama and it’s obvious he’s trying to make a serious point. It’s got great acting, the acting is still real and you can feel the emotions with the characters. The dialogue is what was expecting but it certainly gets slightly above average. You can check out review on this band at www.psinwewebworld.com.

Music Gift Ideas

ZACHARY JONES

So, you’re looking for the proverbial “gift thatkeepers giving” for a friend. Too, you want to be sure that you get a gift that someone else already given them? You want to be unique. If this is you, worry no more. Check out these indie artists for your solution.

Artist: Ixemel Album: Manhattan Project Genre: Southern Rap Rating: B This rap duo, Cedric Sheffield and Rodney Johnson, is not unknown to many SPSU students (as Cedric is SPSU alum) has created an impressive first album. Their beats are very club-worthy, and their lyricism is superb for an indie album. With their last show here in the SPSU gymnasium for Pi Kappa Phi, as well as the street release of their album on Nov 7, be sure to check this CD out. With the creation of their label as well as Chillin’ Big Production, the two are busy, but they will be on campus Nov 22 to promote the record. You can also pick up this CD at Supersound music and the Funk Shop downtown.

Insomnia Keeps Audience Awake

WILL SMITH

Al Pacino plays a veteran detective who is sent to a small Alaskan town to investigate the murder of a teenage girl. Upon studying the body, he finds that the killer will kill once again without pinching. The officer and his partner stake out a potential crime scene and when a suspect arrives, the man runs. During the chase, the officer makes a mistake that could ruin his career and destroy his life. He decides to cover his mistake and goes to extremely lengths to frame the mistake on the prime suspect. The prime suspect is revealed as author (Robin Williams) who knows the truth about that foggy chase.

Williams plays a chilling role as a suspect who takes advantage of Pacino’s weak state. He taunts the exhausted detective about his mistake with this lines “We are alike, two people who didn’t mean to do it, but we have to live with the consequences of our actions.” In the middle of the movie, the author and detective start outwitting each other.

The interrogation scene is one mind-twisting scene to watch as two enemies try to catch each other in lies. The veteran cop feels so guilty about his actions and behind the awesome vocals lead singer, J, make a powerful combination. The sound isn’t ’90s pressed and molded either. Their live performances are dynamic, powerful, and personal (hence the “go to show” suggestion). See them while you still can see them in small venues around Atlanta.

Invitation to My Big Fat Greek Wedding

WILLIS SMITH

“Yes, men are the head of the house but we, women, are the necks. The neck is connected to the head and controls which way the head moves in.”

That is one of the best lines I have heard in the film “My Big Fat Greek Wedding.” That quote also shows how hilarious this movie is as it reveals the subtle secrets and troubles in finding love and preparing for weddings.

Nia Vardalos plays a 30-year-old lonely heart that grew up in a family emphasizing their Greek heritage. So proud her family is of their Greek heritage; most of the family works in the family business, the Greek diner. She grew up learning Greek and listening to her father ramble about Greek history.

It is hilarious hearing the father break down any English word to its Greek origin. The daughter becomes tired of the fatherly demand that Greek women must marry Greek men so they can have many Greek children. From the wandering grandmother to her fairy sprying Windex on everything she has to, this is a fun and funny movie. The father runsacking his home with his leg of something year old sons. Then when he tries to leave, he’s forced to stay and get video taped. Then the father and son make hate to him, anally. If you think that’s what was expecting but it certainly gets slightly above average. You can check out review on this band at www.psinwewebworld.com.

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Entertainment

Insomnia Keeps Audience Awake
Continued from Page 16

Hilary Swank plays a rookie officer who admires Pacino but becomes suspicious when she begins to piece together what really happened that afternoon.

This is a drama thriller movie where there are no clear good versus evil. It is a movie that reflects on life itself. It is worth renting it although your mind might be in a daze at the end.

Travel Within Georgia: Cumberland Island
Continued from Page 11

Cumberland Island is backcountry, a little farther. There are other camping locations like Yankee Paradise and Brick Hill Bluff farther north above Sea Camp.

A family with children or students intent on camping can drive from Atlanta down to St. Mary's. St. Mary's town is the only place in Georgia where you can catch the "Cumberland Queen", the ferry to Cumberland Island. The best times to visit Cumberland Island are during the Fall when it is cool and less visitors travel to the island.

Reservations are recommended for a camping permit and the ferry ride. Call the National Park Service at 912-882-4335. The price for the ferry ride and the National Park Services fee is $16 for an adult and $12 per child. Cumberland Island is a wonderful Georgia wilderness to travel for a weekend vacation for under twenty dollars.

Help Wanted
Bartender trainees needed
$250 a day potential
Local positions
1-800-293-3985, ext. 854

More Comics!!!

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Join the STING
The Rule of Law
JOSHUA SHANNON
The rule of law is the most important idea in our country. Through the rule of law, our justice system functions. Without our justice system, society is upheld, and we maintain order. Should the rule of law fail, eventually society will crumble because the idea behind it no longer would be able to uphold it.

When the criminal is captured and convicted, the rule of law punishes him. When the innocent man is acquitted, it is because the rule of law functions. Even though the rule of law does not always work this way, ideally it works most of the time. There are occasions when the rule of law does not function as it should, and in those times the justice system does need to pay recompense. While these situations are tragic and excusable, the rule of law is still upheld because the people in charge of upholding the rule of law recognize that they made a mistake and then compensate the person as best they can.

The rule of law must be maintained, even in the most inconvenient of times. If it is not maintained, then it just becomes an empty standard, as worthless as the hypocritical priest. Also, it must be maintained by everybody, even by those it inconveniences the most.

Have People Lost the Concept of Walking as Exercise?
WILLIS SMITH
I usually exercise in the evening by walking around the campus baseball fields and its practice fields. I enjoy walking at nights, seeing the buildings’ lights bright up the campus. Many nights you can see people walking, jogging, or driving around the school. There are many things I get to watch that only occur at nights, like the freebee team playing tag, the school robotic team test flying their helicopter, and the soccer teams practicing their kicks.

The only thing that spoils the mood is when drivers slow down and ask to drive me home. I ask you this, why would a person walking on campus take a ride from a stranger? For that matter, what could compel a driver to slow down and ask a stranger if he needs a ride home? I can not really see well in the dark without the streetlights over my head. I often can not hear well over the cars’ engines. So why would I accept a ride if I were walking for exercise? Do the students see me in trouble or am I waving my arms at them for attention? Are the drivers taking pity on me because I am walking back to campus without any transportation but my feet?

Now, I am sure the drivers are considerate and polite in offering me a ride; I accept that possibility but why are their heads shaking as they drive past me? Do those drivers not know they are missing out on beauty only seen during night walks? Rabbis leap across the parking lots into the shadowy forests with squirrels following their tails. Many unused pens are left lying across parking lots. Now, I walk to keep my mind sharp and active. Many health experts often declare just thirty minutes of walking a day is enough to relieve stress, lose calories, sleep less, and live longer. I walk to keep my brain and body healthy. So why do drivers still ask me to ride with them? Why don’t the drivers try walking once in a while? If you don’t have time to walk at night, then walk on campus during the day to classes. You may see the campus in a different way under the moon and with an active mind.

A New Year’s Resolution: Quit Smoking
KAREN ASAY
This is the time of year when many people start picking their New Year’s resolutions. What do you think yours should be? Some people will decide to try to lose weight, yet more, study longer, or get a better job. If you smoke, I would advise quitting being your resolution. Many people don’t want to hear that smoking is the cause of more than 400,000 deaths a year from various diseases, that it is the leading preventable cause of death, or that is causes more deaths than AIDS, murders, suicides, and fires combined. We just don’t want to look that far ahead, or think, “I’m going to die anyway, let’s just take a look at how it affects you now.”

Let’s start with how smoking affects your looks. Everyone nowadays wants that wonderful white, beautiful smile; however, anyone that smokes can’t get that wonderful smile without special products made to whiten your teeth. Another thing smoking does is it darkens your skin and makes you older. Everyone that smokes is going to get wrinkles earlier than you would if you didn’t.

Smoking also affects your ability to play sports and basic everyday things. First off, there are many ways that smoking declines your body’s ability to function as it should and in extreme situations, that it is the leading preventable cause of death, or that is causes more deaths than AIDS, murders, suicides, and fires combined. We just don’t want to look that far ahead, or think, “I’m going to die anyway, let’s just take a look at how it affects you now.”

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Consensus Editorial

We, The STING staff, would like to thank the squirrel for returning for another issue. He is always welcome, and we hope that he comes by to see us more often. This is the last issue that the students of SPSU will see until January; but the STING staff is sure that when all come back we will be able to get right into the swing of things and have a good issue out in no time. The STING would also like to thank all of the new writers that have joined us recently, and we hope to have all of the names to have a proper staff list before the next issue. If you know of anything that may be news worthy, or you just want to vent, please send all comments to either the stungs email (sting@spusu.edu) or stop by and let someone know. If there is nobody there, feel free to slip us a note under the door with your thoughts. That pretty much wraps things up. Have a safe and fantastic holiday weekend, and the STING will see you in the spring!
The Student Question

"What are you thankful for?"

The students of SPSU share their thoughts with the STING. Late at night before we do layout, we look for people, then ask them random things!

"Salvation."
Nick Coleman,
MET Sophomore

"Godly parents!"
Jenny Kimbell,
Missionary Teaching Soph (Transfering)

"My family and good health."
Jestin Fultrell,
Architecture Junior

"All hot women."
Nermal Sahadevan, MET Freshman

"Opportunities."
Michael Saul,
CpET Senior

"Ice."
Ashley Little,
Business Management (said with a sigh) Freshman

"Being away from my parents."
Niki McBryar,
ECET (soon to be childhood education) Sophomore

"Nicotine."
Chris Bennett, CS Freshman

Next Month: We have no idea yet, but we may do a Teacher Question!