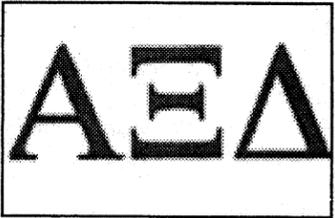




QUICK NEWS



Ron Koger explains potential Athletic fee increase. (pg 2).

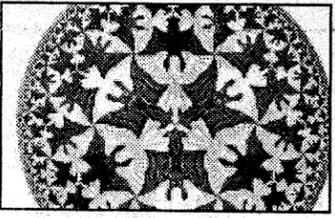


Alpha Xi Delta sorority: the organization and its potential effects on campus life. (pag 12).

QUICK FEATURES



Sting writer shows the true colors of the day of hearts and roses. (pg 14).



The impossibilities of Escher come to Atlanta's Skot Foreman Studio. (pg 14).



Two ambitious Sting critics set out to conquer the World of Coca-Cola in the name of The Sting (pg 4).

QUICK OPINION

Mark Campbell questions President Bush's absence from memorial services for our troops. (pg 5).

Alumni Marlana Compton shares some of her tools in the job searching trade. (pg 5)

Freedom of religion or freedom from it? A letter to the editor addresses this controversial subject. (pg 5)

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Goodbye, Professor Guy

MIRANDA BENNETT

The late Dr. Barry Flannery, associate professor in the Mathematics Department, was remembered fondly last Thursday. Family, friends, students, and colleagues gathered in the Library Rotunda for a memorial that inspired laughs, sobs, and moments of quiet contemplation.

Dr. Flannery had passed away on January 16th following liver failure. A private family gathering was held that weekend, but no funeral, as the late Flannery had requested cremation.

"I am so richly blessed by the presence of all of you here today and the expression of affection for a man I got to call beloved," said Michele Flannery, Dr. Flannery's widow. Mrs. Flannery shared stories of their life and love, poignant moments, unique memories.

She told of a trip to the local animal shelter, where Dr. Flannery demanded to know which dog was next to be put to sleep. That day, Dr. Flannery adopted four dogs to add to the four dogs that already shared his home. She told of her continued desire to buy gifts for her late husband every time she goes shopping, admitting that during their marriage she fed his eccentricities.



Barry R. Flannery, associate professor in the Mathematics Department, passed away on January 16th following an extended battle with liver disease. Dr. Flannery had hoped to return to teaching this summer. His memorial was held last Thursday in the Library Rotunda. Flannery is shown dealing blackjack, which he frequently volunteered to do, during Cab's annual Casino Night. This photo was taken from the 1996 edition of The Log.

"He overcame a lot to tell me that he wanted to love me for the rest of my life," said Mrs. Flannery, who asserted that she was prompted by God to love her late husband. She shared the beginnings of their union - a four hour conversation between her-

self and the man she described as a "bachelor for life." She described looking into his eyes and seeing a heart bigger than any she had ever seen before, summing up - "it shone in him."

The subject of Flannery's notoriously messy office was mentioned

by more than one speaker - each reference drawing laughter. "He was always immersed in his subject, both mentally and physically," said *The Sting's* Editor Emeritus, Zachary Jones, in an email read by

Continued on Page 3

SGA Schedule Elections and Budgeting

MIRANDA BENNETT

The SGA is gearing up for elections and budgeting this semester. Leaders met January 27 for an executive decision to discuss scheduling.

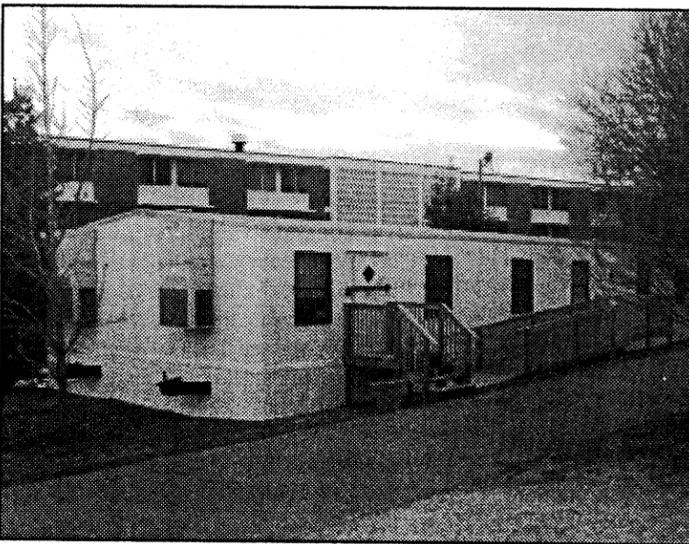
The current constitution makes organization budgets due this week, during the 4th week of the spring semester. However, Vice President Laura Payan suggested changing the constitution to the 4th week after the first SGA meeting of spring semester. She also suggested adjusting the Budget and Finance Committees deadline for submitting the completed budget to the SGA to the 8th week after the first meeting.

According to the Budget and Finance Committee Chair, Marvin Broaddus, budgeting packets should have been distributed this past Monday. Organizations will have until February 13th to submit their budgets for the 2004/2005 school year.

Elections Committee Chair, Karen Asay, has marked February 20 as the deadline for applications. She plans to hold orientation for candidates on February 24 and 25. Orientation on the 24th will be held at 7:30 p.m. and at Noon on the 25th at the SGA office in the Student Center. Campaign weeks are currently slated to be happen March 2 - 5 and

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Smooth Sailing for Housing Construction



Residence Life is temporarily being housed in this doublewide trailer behind Norton Hall dormitory. Residence Life gave up its place in Howell Hall to accommodate other offices, such as Business and Financial Aid, which were temporarily moved to Howell.

DOUG LACHER

Everything is still on schedule for the new apartments, according to Ed Klein, director of Residence Life. SPSU expects to have not only the new building complete and ready for occupancy for the fall 2004 semester, but also Norton Hall's renovations should be complete by that time, too. The only "glitch," as Mr. Klein put it, in the construction of the new apartments is that the road that was closed off will have to remain closed throughout the construction. The original plans called for this

road to be re-opened after some time, but due to the close proximity of the road to the construction site, traffic won't be allowed through there.

The renovations on Norton are going well, albeit noisy. Currently Norton Hall's center stair well is closed off (and has been for most of the semester) while construction crews install an elevator. So far, the construction crew has jack-hammered the whole concrete staircase into oblivion. Additional renovations will be performed on Norton Hall over the summer to expand it

Continued on Page 2

IT Begins Critical Upgrades

MICAH ROWLAND

Manager of the Computer Science Lab, Mr. Ray Walker, recently informed me that there are many issues that are causing delays in connecting to the university intranet in the Computer Science and IT labs. According to Director of IT Ron Skopitz, President Lisa Rossbacher recently provided the IT department with the funds to upgrade operations-critical components of the university network.

Phase I of this upgrade began after January 23, accompanied by "black outs" in Internet connectivity. According to Skopitz, concerns were expressed for problems in university email, like sheer volume and speed of networking devices, implementation of Microsoft Active Directory, the proliferation of viruses and worms due to the exploitation of Microsoft vulnerabilities, and the introduction of wireless hotspots.

Delays will be experienced throughout the entire semester. IT staff will work on individual terminals, preparing IT equipment to be integrated into the implementation of this networking infrastructure.

The CS lab staff has already begun upgrading software and other components of the CS lab

Continued on Page 2

SPSU to Propose Higher Fees

MIRANDA BENNETT

The Technology fee and Athletics will be raised, if SPSU can gain approval from the Board or Regents. President Lisa Rossbacher met with students at the end of last semester to outline the university's plans to ask for a combined \$38 to be added to the current fees.

According to Chief Information Officer Bill Gruska, SPSU will again propose a \$50 Technology fee, a \$12 rise from the current \$38 fee. Gruska explained that SPSU had asked for \$50 the first time they approached the Board of Regents concerning the fee. He pointed out that research universities, which SPSU aligned itself with during the tuition raises throughout the university system last fall, are allowed to charge \$75 in tech fees. Since 2001, SPSU has raised \$1.2 million in technology fees. However, Gruska stated that requests for tech fee moneys since 2001 were \$3 million. One student raised concerns that the additional money collected from a higher Technology fee would get wrapped up in overhead. Gruska alleviated that concern by pointing

out that money from the Technology fee could not be spent on salaries.

Ron Koger fielded questions over the proposed \$26 raise in the Athletics fee. The fee is currently \$68 and will rise to \$94. Of the additional \$26, \$20 is slated to pay for a men's and women's soccer team, \$1 will go to tennis, and the remaining \$5 will go towards operating costs like salaries and office expenses. Koger explained that the university intends to offer 12 scholarships total for soccer – 6 for the men's team and 6 for the women's team.

According to President Rossbacher, official requests for fee raises are historically made in April. Issues connected to the higher fees include concerns that the Hope scholarship may no longer cover mandatory fees and that should the acquisition of Life University's campus fall through, SPSU will need to raise enough money from private donors to build a practice field and/or stadium for its new soccer teams.

Free Georgia Student Financial Aid Chat Night Scheduled February 24

Are you worried about where you'll get the money to pay tuition and buy books for the next semester or your next year of college? Each year, Georgia offers a Chat Night on student financial aid, giving you an opportunity to ask questions anonymously via the Internet or telephone. The Sixth Annual Georgia Student Financial Aid Chat Night will be Feb. 24 from 6 p.m. till 9 p.m.

The live three-hour interactive session has student financial aid professionals available to answer questions about Georgia's financial aid programs as well as federal financial aid programs, and participation is free.

Information will be available on Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC) student loans, grants, military scholarships, work-study programs, and Georgia's HOPE Scholarship Program. Participants can receive instructions about how to complete the Free

Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which is used for both state and federal financial aid programs.

Information also will be available about Georgia's unique service-cancelable loans, which allow graduates to repay these loans by working in critical shortage fields, including health care and education.

The Chat Night is sponsored by the Georgia Student Finance Commission (GSFC), the Georgia Association of School Financial Aid Administrators (GASFAA), and Mapping Your Future. You can participate by logging on to www.gsfc.org, or by calling toll-free 1-800-505-GSFC.

More information about student financial aid or about the Georgia Chat Night is available now by logging on to www.gsfc.org or by calling 1-800-505-GSFC.

Housing Construction

Continued from Front Page

from 135 living spaces to 145 living spaces.

The offices that previously occupied Norton Hall's bottom floor have been moved or are in the process of being moved to Howell Hall's ground floor. These offices will occupy the areas that Residence Life previously occupied on the east end of the building and a portion of the center section of the building. The police station currently occupies one of the student lounges in the center portion of Howell's ground floor. Residence Life's offices are currently located in a large white trailer that sits between Norton

Hall, the library and the administration building. Klein says the construction's emphasis is going to be on the student housing and the offices will be a secondary priority. This is to help ensure that all residence buildings are ready to go for the fall 2004 semester.

Unfortunately, with these new renovations in Norton comes the elimination of single-occupancy rooms. Klein says that single rooms will no longer be available in the dorm buildings (Howell and Norton Halls), and students who wish to have one or require a single room for medical reasons will have to live in the apartments if they want to live on campus. Freshmen will not have

New Sorority on Campus: Alpha Xi Delta



CJ SHRADER

A new sorority is colonizing Southern Polytechnic State University's campus, hoping to attract some of the approximately 750 female students into its folds. This new sorority is Alpha Xi Delta, a 111 year-old sorority originally founded at Lombard College in Galesburg, Illinois.

According to the Alpha Xi Delta website (www.alphaxidelta.org), Alpha Xi Delta currently has 120,000 initiated members in 110 separate institutions, three of which are located in Georgia.

Sean Thomas, Assistant Director for Student Activities and also Greek Advisor, has been informing Alpha Xi Delta of the policies, cul-

ture and practices that currently exist at SPSU and how Alpha Xi Delta can best fit in.

Thomas believes that the new sorority can be a boost to the school's less-than-average female population, stating, "I believe that any way that we can show potential female students that there are experiences for them where they can prove their leadership capabilities and establish strong connections to other female students will attract more female students to Southern Polytechnic."

"There is plenty of support and opportunities for female students to be successful at Southern Poly and adding another all-female organization like Alpha Xi Delta

helps to demonstrate that to potential students."

Thomas mentions that, in his experience, a new organization will increase the number of students involved in all organizations at SPSU. Thomas's view for the future of SPSU is extremely positive, saying, "Southern Poly is going through so many new, exciting changes, that I believe we will see a whole new campus environment as early as next fall."

"It is a great time to be a student here."

Students interested in joining Alpha Xi Delta are invited to e-mail Raquel Jackson at rjackson@alphaxidelta.org.

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Announces First National Graduate Scholarship Competition

Nominees may include Southern Polytechnic State University students and recent alumni with financial need.

LANSDOWNE, VA - The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, which runs one of the country's most competitive private scholarship programs, has opened its Graduate Scholarship Program to graduating seniors and recent alumni from any accredited college or university in the U.S. Until now, the competition was open only to students from or attending school in Virginia, Maryland, and DC. With the change, college seniors at more than 2,000 accredited institutions in America, and alumni who have graduated from those institutions since May 1999, may compete for the scholarships, which can total as much as \$50,000 per year for up to six years.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate financial need. "We are looking for a select number of exceptional students and recent alumni who might otherwise be burdened with staggering debt, if they could afford graduate school

at all," said Dr. Matthew J. Quinn, the Foundation's Executive Director. "It is important not only for these individuals, but also for the leadership they will bring to their professions and communities that the costs of graduate school not deter them from pursuing their boldest dreams."

The Foundation plans to award as many as 35 scholarships in summer of 2004 for use during the 2004-2005 academic year, and will renew each award in subsequent years based on performance. A panel of national experts will assist the Foundation in selecting scholars. Candidates for the scholarship must be nominated by the faculty representative at their undergraduate institution. The list of faculty representatives and application materials are available on the Foundation's website, www.jackkentcookefoundation.org, or by calling 1-800-498-6478.

The Foundation is a private, independent foundation established in 2000 by the estate of Jack Kent Cooke to help young people of exceptional promise reach their

full potential through education. It focuses, in particular, on individuals with financial need.



Promotional Poster from www.jackcookefoundation.org

The Foundation began awarding graduate scholarships in 2001 and now funds 93 recipients with awards totaling more than \$2 million annually. The Foundation has received approximately 900 applications for these awards each year, and expects that number to grow substantially now that institutions across the country can nominate candidates.

IT Updates

Continued from Front Page

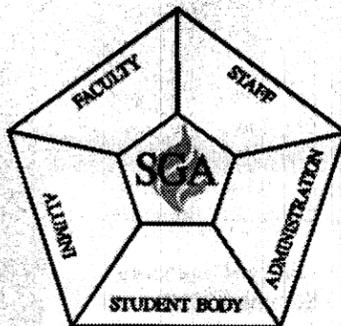
like installing newer versions of operating systems Windows XP on many of the CS Lab workstations. Ray Walker and Nancy Chang have

worked to keep students connected to CS lab accounts. Walker and Chang have also informed the lab assistants and students about the current condition of operations of CS lab equipment.

SGA

Continued from Front Page

March 16-19, with Spring Break falling in between the two campaigning weeks. Elections will be held on March 22 - 25. According to Asay, she is considering paper ballots again this year, but discussion leaned towards having only one station for voting with only one master list of voters this year.



Goodbye

Continued from Front Page

Dr. Joel Fowler, director of the Mathematics Department. Fowler echoed that sentiment saying, "We'll even miss the interior of his office, which never failed to startle."

Director of Humanities and Technical Communications Dr. Mark Stevens gave Dr. Flannery credit for making him a better teacher, saying that the late professor had taught him the value of an open door policy with students.

Dr. Jack Pace, an associate professor in the Mathematics Department recalled humorous dialogues with his late colleague. "We would talk about the strange behavior of our students and even stranger behavior of some administrators," he said.

Dean of Students Barry Birkhead recalled his and the late Dr. Flannery's mutual enjoyment at yelling "Hey Barry," to one another in passing. Birkhead noted the genuine interest for student needs that the late professor had evidenced throughout his service on the Student Life Committee.

Former WGHR Manager Dustin Grau recalled his discovery that Dr. Flannery worked as a DJ at GA Tech and SPSU. Grau reminisced about Flannery's joking nature coming through on his show, Professor Guy. "He always seemed to enjoy himself at WGHR—it was his 'excuse to keep his music collection organized,'" said Grau.

Speakers and comments were abundant—colleagues, students, neighbors, even a student from Reinhart College attended the memorial to depict Flannery's impact as an adjunct professor. Fowler even read student comments from teacher evaluations that spoke to the professor's dedication to student learning.

"I waited 45 years to find the right man...then I met this incredible human being....Barry became my best friend, my favorite companion, my lover, my husband, my teacher..." Michele Flannery asserted in closing to a captivated audience.

A course may pass away with the late Dr. Flannery—Society and Statistics. According to Associate Professor Julie Newell, Dr. Flannery had initiated the class and offered it every summer.

Dr. Barry Flannery, a native of Cobb County, came to SPSU in the



Widow Michele Flannery gave friends, colleagues, and students an intimate understanding of her late husband, even demonstrating his outlandish method for calling strikes. She admits learning about her one of her husband's passions, baseball, by simply watching him at games as an umpire and, at home, as an armchair umpire.

fall of 1991. He taught Probability and Statistics, Calculus, Trigonometry, Algebra, and Statistics and Society. In addition to his teaching duties, he served as the faculty advisor for WGHR and acted as a DJ for the station. He volunteered yearly as a dealer during Cab Casino Night, and worked the concession stand at Hornet Games. According to Director Fowler, Flannery worked on the faculty development program at GA Tech during the 1999/2000 academic year.

Dr. Flannery earned his Bachelors of Science in Mathematics from Georgia State University in 1977. He earned his Masters in Statistics from UC Berkley in 1981, where he went on to earn his Ph.D. in Statistics in 1986.

Michele Flannery asked that donations be made to the Bartow County Animal Shelter in lieu of flowers. Bartow County Animal Shelter is located at 1410 Burnt Hickory Rd SW, Cartersville, GA 30120. The shelter's phone number is 770-387-5153 and their contact email is gentryt@bartowga.org.

According to Fowler, the Dr. Barry Flannery Memorial Fund has been established by the Foundation. For more information about the fund, such as how to contribute, contact Ann Watson, director of Marketing & Public Relations at 770-528-7340 or at awatson@spsu.edu.

Mike Griffin – Six Sigma Black Belt

Mike Griffin, a student within SPSU's Master of Science in Quality Assurance (MSQA) program, received his ASQ Six Sigma Black Belt certification in October after taking the "Six Sigma Black Belt Concepts" course with Dr. Mary McShane Vaughn summer semester 2003.

Mike stated that he "would definitely recommend that students take the exam when they are properly prepared". Mike feels that all classes he has taken within the MSQA program helped in preparing him for the exam. These include:
 •QA 6602 – Total Quality,
 •QA 6611 – Advanced Statistical Techniques,
 •QA 6612 – Advanced Experimental Design,
 •QA 6650 – Quality System Design, and
 •QA 6904 – Special Topics: Six Sigma Black Belt Concepts (now replaced by QA 6660)

Mike prepared for the exam by reviewing the questions within the CSSBB primer. He recommends that students answer as many practice questions as possible to prepare. "This way they will be familiar with

how to quickly look up answers in the book", Mike said. As the exam is open book, he brought to the exam the CSSBB primer and his QA 6611 text (because he is more familiar with the Normal table layout in this book). He also brought his own notes with formulas and a handout from Dr. Vaughn that displays the relationships of all of the probability distributions. He felt that all of the items he brought with him were helpful for the test.

In addition to passing the ASQ CSSBB Exam, you also must complete a project. The project that Mike chose to submit as his black belt project began in December 2000 and was totally implemented by August 2001. Below is the text from the ASQ CSSBB Affidavit, which provides a brief description of Mike's project:

Purpose and objective of project:

The level of returned goods processed by Siemens Energy & Automation was too high. In particular, there appeared to be significant weaknesses within the Returned Goods system resulting in excessive credits being issued.

Brief summary of project:

Analyzed the Returned Goods processing system in detail (Process Map). Developed several reporting metrics (dollars credits issued by product group and type of return). Interfaced with several organizations within SE&A (Sales, Manufacturing, Distribution, IT, Credit & Collections) in order to get the required changes implemented.

Implementation results:

The implementation of the system changes spearheaded by Mike resulted in the reduction of credits issued for customer returns in the amount of \$3.3 million during the year following this project implementation.

Mike is currently the Quality Manager at the Siemens facility in Canton Georgia where they are in the development phase of implementation of Six Sigma. He received his B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Mississippi State in 1979 and plans to graduate this May with his MS in Quality Assurance from Southern Polytechnic State University.

Letter To the Editor: Freedom of Religion

DEAR EDITOR,

Last month, I read an article about the Ten Commandments. I must say that I was quite disappointed with the scholarship of the article. I mean, it's nice to have an opinion, but opinions should always be based on fact, right? If not, then racism and sexism are totally acceptable because there is no way to prove them wrong. Well, if this is not the case, and opinions should be based on fact, I think it is imperative that the readers of *The Sting* know all sides of the story. There were many things said in the article that were disturbingly incorrect. I shall do my best to show you why.

"It's illegal to put their religious propaganda in public courthouses." I fail to see why it is illegal. First off, the Constitution provides for a form of separation of church and state in the First Amendment. It does not, however, prevent the state from endorsing a specific religion. The constitution allows for a freedom of religion, not freedom from it. The founding fathers had a radically different view of separation of church and state. They feared an oppressive government forcing people to worship in a form the government chose. Ben Franklin actually had bible readings and daily prayer put into school in Massachusetts. The first act of congress after the completion of the capitol building in Washington was to declare the building a church as well as government office. The building was actually one of the largest churches in America, with over 2000 people coming to church every Sunday. Jefferson, an opponent of the Supreme Court, wrote to a friend that "if America is to be destroyed, it will be from the judiciary." And who is the biggest proponent of this idea so foreign to the founding fathers? None other than the Supreme Court Jefferson feared. So where is this

separation of church and state that the founding fathers asked for today? It has expanded into an idea that they never had.

"No religion could be excluded legally from this privilege. In order not to have a single wall cluttered with religious displays, courthouses would need to have 22-sided lobbies to accommodate one religious doctrine per wall for each of the world's 22 major religions." ("Ten Commandments? Thanks but I'm Trying to Cut Down," Chris Davis) Again, this is simply not true. The constitution is meant to serve the people, correct? The constitution was left as flexible as it is so that it could continue to serve the people as times changed. Well, if the majority of people in Alabama wished for the Ten Commandments to be displayed in their courthouses, then there is nothing constitutionally incorrect with that. It does not, however, mean that every religion would have to be put in to "keep things even" so to say. It means that the people could take a vote to decide what they wanted. That's the beauty of democracy.

"A primary argument Christians make for displaying the Ten Commandments in courthouses is that they're the basis for the U.S. Constitution. This is a complete lie, which I believe violates one of the commandments. Christians should be ashamed of themselves for making this claim. If it were true, the authors of the Constitution would have written in the Ten Commandments verbatim. Nobody would've said it was unconstitutional to write the Ten Commandments into the Constitution because had they been written in there it would've been constitutional! The Commandments were not written into the Constitution, though, because they're not the basis for our system of law." ("Ten Commandments? Thanks but I'm Trying to Cut Down," Chris Davis) Why would they have had

to write them verbatim? They had the bible; therefore, there was no need to repeat what everyone already knew. The constitution is not solely based on the Ten Commandments, but rather on biblical concepts of freedom of choice and equality. You cannot convince me that the founding fathers (who were indeed Christians, not deists and atheists) would do something as major as the constitution without using the bible, a cornerstone of the Christian life (a life which they adhered to). Jefferson within the last two years of his life confided in all of his friends that he considered himself an orthodox Christian. Ben Franklin actually proposed that the government pay chaplains to work in the newly finished capitol building and perform prayer before every meeting. George Washington regularly laid hands on friends and family while praying for them. These men were Christians. How could the Constitution not reflect the attitudes of its shapers?

All in all, the article was poorly researched and incorrect. While, yes, it does seem odd that the judge would do what he did at night, that does not make it wrong. Instead of condemning Christians all of the time for trying to put God back into things, try to understand where they come from and where the country comes from. One historian said that looking at the history of America without looking at its religious element is like "reading Moby Dick without the whale." Do your research. Form your opinions on fact, not blind emotion or public sentiment.

~Derrick Bowles

This letter was written in response to "Ten Commandments? Thanks but I'm Trying to Cut Down," by Chris Davis, which was published on October 30, 2003 in Volume 58, Issue 4 of *The Sting*.

THE EQUATION

I was one.
 Then I met you.
 Didn't understand that
 one and one makes one.
 In math we learn this:
 one and one makes two.
 And then I met you.
 Then I realized that
 one and one
 makes the right one.

~Barry R. Flannery
 Summer, 2003



Absent Without Legitimacy

MARK CAMPBELL

Dear Mr. David E. Crockett:

Your son, Ricky Leon Crockett, is dead. He was the 496th U. S. military casualty in Iraq when he was killed by a bomb on Sunday, January 11th.

I learned about your son's death on Martin Luther King's birthday, January 15th. That same day I received in the mail a solicitation from the Bush-Cheney '04, Inc., campaign. And while you and your family were grieving, President Bush made a brief, obligatory appearance at the crypt of Martin Luther King, Jr., before heading to a campaign fundraiser for his re-election at Atlanta's World Congress Center.

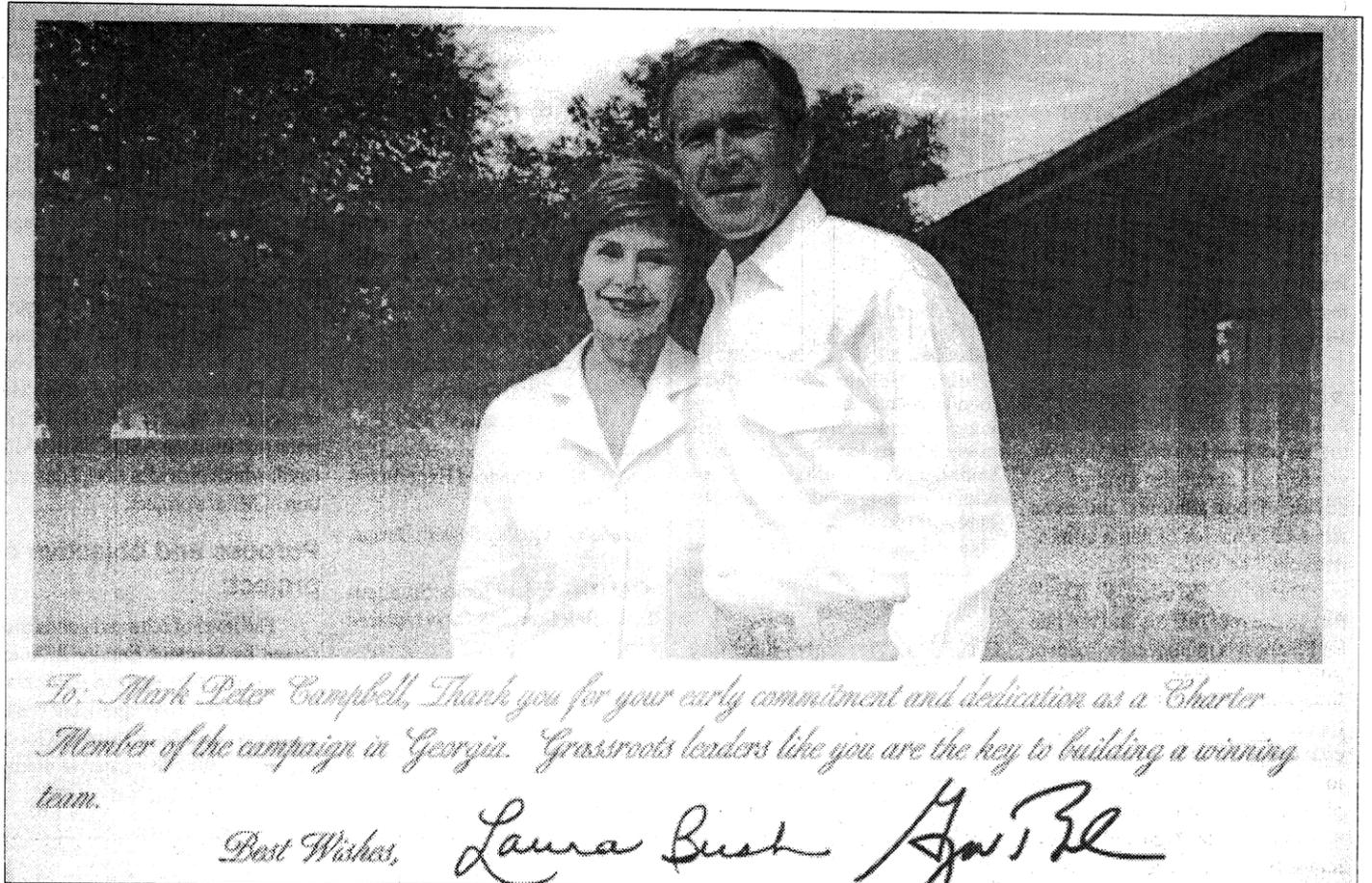
As President Bush laid a wreath at Dr. King's tomb, they blocked protesters from view with public transit busses.

Anyway, I'm writing to you personally, in my own hand, because although I've never met you, or your son, I do care. I'm sure you miss your son deeply, and you are going to experience a number of emotions as time goes on.

It will sink in that Ricky is indeed gone, and at some point that will anger you. Later, you will wish to be left alone. Eventually, you'll come to wish that you could have sacrificed your life to save his, or feel some guilt that you are alive and your son is dead. But eventually you'll come to accept that Ricky lived a good life, and he is gone.

I can't really help you through the trying times ahead. But I will be praying for you and your family, and I believe God can provide you with that comfort, at the time of His choosing.

But, although it may anger you, I won't dishonor your son with a moment of silence. As best as I can discern it, your son was killed in Iraq for no good reason,



either by the Iraqi insurgents who planted the bomb, or the Commander-in-Chief who sent many sons, including yours, to occupy Iraq.

I'm no longer certain why our troops are in Iraq. We were told that Iraq was an imminent threat to our country because they possessed weapons of mass destruction. We were told that the Iraqi intelligence service had strong ties to al-Qaeda. We were told that Iraq was in violation of United Nations resolutions, having expelled U. N. inspectors in December 1998. We were told that inspections, sanctions and old-style diplomacy do not work. We were told that Saddam was pure evil, universally despised by his people, who would welcome us with open arms. We were told that this wasn't about regime

change, that the territorial integrity of Iraq would be preserved, that this was about freedom and peace.

But, our own government has systematically lied and distorted the truth to sell us this war in Iraq. Even Saddam Hussein's worst excesses, shelling his own citizens with gas, occurred with our government's knowledge and indirect assistance, and defended at the time by some of the same American officials who orchestrated our patriotic fervor for war a year ago.

Iraq's leading Shi'ite cleric has called for direct elections, his position directly supported by the former Iraqi ambassador to the United Nations, a Sunni. I know our country has the means to quickly gather a census and establish voter registration rolls that

would permit such direct elections to be held, as Iraqis queue up for rations, welfare payments, and currency exchanges.

Yet our government drafts reports instead about how an Iraqi civil war is imminent, while drawing up plans to divide Iraq into three zones along factional lines. We're told that U.S. troops will be needed to secure Iraq for years, and the Pentagon is quietly calling for older patriotic volunteers to help fill the draft boards, abandoned after the Vietnam War. We're told that we can't trust Iraqis to govern themselves, though tens of thousands of them marched peaceably in their call for direct elections.

I can't explain why this White House is so opposed to legitimate democratic government. I would like our government to give free-

dom a try in Iraq. I honestly think it would lead to peace.

But instead your son is dead.

I'm sending you the photograph that President Bush sent me. I think he actually wanted me to help him get re-elected, but I pledge to you that I'm not going to do so. Since the President didn't attend your son's homecoming, I hope you'll accept his photo in his stead.

I wish President Bush would have been there that Saturday as you buried your son in the Broxton City Cemetery. Perhaps he could have explained why your son is dead. But he didn't attend the services for the 495 American troops who preceded your son in death. Our president was absent. It's up to him to explain why.

Secret Weapons in the Job Search



CONTRIBUTING ALUMNI
MARLENA COMPTON

So. What is it that happens after graduation? It can easily seem as though you will be sucked into a vortex and end up on the other side as a fry cook at Wendy's. I have passed through the vortex and landed, and while I do not have a permanent job yet, I am not

a fry cook at Wendy's. (I intend to keep it that way.) Over the rest of the semester, I will be writing about what happens to those of us who have graduated.

Job fairs, professional meetings, networking – how will you possibly keep track of it all? There are some resources outside of SPSU's career services that have really helped me out. I call them my secret weapons, and they've made me feel much more confident about my job search.

Women for Hire: The Ultimate Guide to Getting a Job by Tory Johnson et al.

This book has helped me so many times that it has become my primary source of information. If I need to email someone and I don't know what to say or if I feel stuck with a contact, I pull out this book and it

always helps me take the next step. Boys: you can benefit from this book too... seriously.

Job Search Organizer.

If you think having some resumes in a manila envelope is all you have to do, think again. I found a Job Search Organizer made by Dayrunner at Office Depot and it has given me a place to put business cards, printouts from jobs I've applied for and all sorts of other things. Everything I've done is documented and in one place. You don't have to buy one of these, a notebook with pocket folders inside will do, but plunking down the money for something that looks nice can be a good confidence builder.

Calendar

If you are networking the way you

should when looking for a job, you will have to be able to keep track of your meetings and appointments. Not having classes anymore has a funny way of really messing with your sense of what day it is. Just take it for granted that you will get your days mixed up. A calendar will help you keep them straight.

Google

That's right. But I don't mean in the sense of googling for a job. I mean googling for information such as technical interview questions, professional societies and example resumes. When you are looking for a job, you have to go out and find opportunities for yourself. Using google to find out what is going on and what you need to know how to do will give you more focus.

The AJC Business Section.

This is my mother's tip. Reading the business section of the paper and keeping up with business news will help you find out who is hiring and what is going on in the job market place. For example, I know to refresh my resume on IBM's web-site because I read that they will be hiring over 4,000 more workers. The paper will also give you something to talk about at networking functions. Trust me, you will feel naked if you don't know what's going on in the news.

Give these tips a try and it might help you feel better about the inevitable paranoia we all have to face. At this point when people express their sympathy for the fact that I am looking for a job in the tech sector, I can look them straight in the eye and say, "I'm not worried. I have secret weapons."

Racial Prejudice Is . . .

CONTRIBUTED BY CHRISTIAAN FUNKHOUSER

What is racial prejudice? I consider it racism. Racism is defined as "discriminating against, or hating individuals or groups because of their race, creed, or national origin."

I believe, racism occurs when people treat someone different because of his race or ethnic background, good or bad. Racial prejudice is a problem in America, not because Americans have a problem discriminating against people of different ethnic backgrounds. Instead, racism is alive in America because affirmative action gives minorities advantages in the work place, in education, and in exclusive clubs for specific minorities.

Affirmative Action gives the advantage to a person simply because of his race or ethnic background. If two people are going for the same job, because of affirmative action, there is a much greater chance of the minority getting the job. Likewise, if two students apply to the same college even if the non-minority has higher grades the minority has a greater chance of being accepted, even though he may have two full letter grades less. Not only is there a better chance that the minority will get accepted; the minority has a better chance of being awarded financial aid.

Supporters of affirmative action say that it "supports diversity" and helps "diversify" businesses. They say it helps minorities have a chance since they are, after all, minorities. What constitutes a minority? Some say that a group is a minority when it comprises less than twenty percent of the population.

Asian-Americans comprise only four percent of the total population, but they don't qualify for affirmative action. Is that because on average Asian-Americans make more money than any other American group? Could it be that more Asian-Americans have a bachelor degrees by age twenty-five than any other American group? Is it because Asian-Americans have better family stability and cause less crime? If the reason for affirmative action is to diversify the work and college population, why are Asian-

Americans not a part of it?

Those who oppose affirmative action say it supports reverse discrimination by rewarding people because they belong to a particular minority group. Radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh believes affirmative action basically tells minorities "You can't do it without my help. You can't go where you want to unless I give you an advantage. You just don't have what it takes. I'm gonna give you a little bit of a head start. That's what affirmative action is. The liberals get away with it because they do it under the guise of compassion and ultimately it's a bunch of white liberal men saying, 'I love you man, but you can't make it on your own.'"

To protest affirmative action, different conservative groups illustrated the unfairness by holding an *Affirmative Action Bake Sale*. If one were Black, Indian, or a Latino woman, one only paid .25 cents for a cookie. If one were a male in those minorities, one paid .50 cents, a white woman \$1.00, and a white male \$2.00. Incidentally, Asian men and women had to pay the same as their white counterparts for the same cookie.

What did the school say about it? To summarize, Walter E. Williams said, "...selling cookies on campus is OK, but it's a despicable, mean practice to treat people differently just because they're members of one race or sex or another."

So, that begs to question: if racial preferences in terms of cookie sales are wrong and offensive, wouldn't it also be wrong in all other aspects? After all, it is promoting diversity in cookie ownership.

In regards to special loans/scholarships for people of certain ethnic background, I present myself as an example. I, a white male, asked the financial aid department if there were any scholarships available. I was told there were scholarships only open for Black women and Latino men; however, scholarships that could be given to white males had to be open to all. The scholarships had to be awarded to an equal share of white and minority men and women, yet men of

Latino decent could only fill the scholarship for Latino men.

I ask the reader: does that show racial equality? Does it illustrate ignoring racial boundaries and acceptance of everyone regardless of race and sex? To me, those scholarships and loans focus on it! For instance, the black female scholarship says, "You can only get this money if you're a black woman." How is that different than in the 60's when it was "You can only go into this store if you're a white man?"

Lastly, if we're trying to be color blind, and not focus on color or race, why do we need groups and organizations such as the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA), the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), or lastly the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). How do names like that support diversity? If we're all trying to get rid of racism or racial prejudice, then why do we have associations for the ADVANCEMENT of colored people? Why not, as Glenn Beck says, have NAAH, the National Association for the Advancement of Humans. Why is it ok to have organizations like the NAACP that focus on race but the Caucasian Club is racist?

I think we should forget Affirmative Action. Martin Luther King Jr. was a brave and brilliant leader. I believe we should follow his words when he said, "I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

Not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character... such true words need to be heeded now. Until that happens, there will never be an end to racism. Until we get rid of Affirmative Action, which judges people by the color of their skin, until we get rid of all these racially focused groups, loans, benefits, and judge people by the content of their character, racial prejudice will be a part of our culture.

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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, address, and phone number for verification purposes, but names can be withheld upon request. Unsigned or unverified 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 Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our office in A252, or email sting@spsu.edu.

ORGANIZATIONS

Articles written by organizations to inform the campus of activities and events are welcome. Articles must be submitted in electronic format (email, disk) by the deadline printed below. Please limit articles to two hundred words. All such articles are subject to editing for style, content and size, and are run on a space-available basis.

JOINING *The Sting*

Any student paying Activity Fees is eligible to join *The Sting*, though final decision is made by the Editor-in-Chief. We prefer creative students who have passed English 1101. Come to our meetings Friday at 2 p.m. in A252, upstairs in the student center, or call 770.528.7310. This includes YOU, all you so-called members that never attend. *The Sting*: It's not a job, 'cause a real job pays more.

DEADLINE

Deadline for the next issue is February 18, 2004. The issue will be released January 28, 2004.

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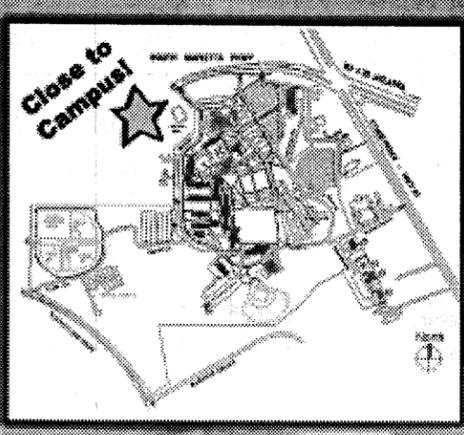
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Our Place

Students Get \$1 Off!!!

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Marietta, GA 30060
Phone/Fax 770-514-9885



Bob Barr Visits SPSU



Photo taken from <http://www.worldnetdaily.com>

SUBMITTED BY TAU KAPPA EPSILON

January 29th will be a special day for our campus and Greek organizations alike. Special guest Bob Barr will be visiting our campus to talk to our student body on how Greek life has helped him in life and in business. Robert L. "Bob" Barr, Jr. became a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity at the Beta-Sigma chapter located at the University of Southern California. The experience and excitement that he gained through TKE has allowed him to excel in many ways throughout his life. Most people recognize most of his success through government, having held the position of a congressman of the United States. This is a free event sponsored by our campus's Inner Greek Council, so come out the evening of January 29th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and see Bob Barr speak in the Student Center auditorium. After the event, there will be free food and refreshments. Everyone is invited, so come see what Greek life could do for you!

Spring 2004 Cultural Series

All Tickets can be purchased at the Student Center Information Desk

The Undiscovered Richard Meier: The Architect as Designer and Artist Now until April 2, High Museum Tickets on sale now for \$1.00 On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of its landmark building designed by Richard Meier, the High Museum of Art will present The Undiscovered Richard Meier: The Architect as Designer and Artist, an exhibition of more than 300 works revealing Meier's range as an artist and designer. Renowned for his modernist designs, Meier has made significant contributions to architecture around the world. His best known works include The Getty Center in Los Angeles, the Museum for Applied Art in Frankfurt, the Museum of Contemporary Art in Barcelona, and the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. This exhibition will highlight a lesser-known side of Meier's design talents, encompassing functional pieces of his modern design, including furniture, lamps, tableware and jewelry, as well as fine art objects of collage and sculpture

Taiwanese Film Festival

January 29th & 30th
9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Student Center TV Room
Watch four award-winning Taiwanese films shown continually throughout the day.

Boys Choir of Harlem w/ the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra

February 16th
8:00 p.m., Woodruff Arts Center
Tickets will go on sell for students with SPSU ID's on Feb. 2 for \$10.00
The Boys Choir of Harlem is "a testa-

ment to discipline, high standards, and commitment"- New York Times. Share the celebration of gifted young people joyously embracing their music as the renowned vocal ensemble makes a rare appearance in Atlanta.

Art Show Competition

February 25th-27th
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Student Center Lobby
An exhibition of SPSU student's art projects, which will be judged by a panel for cash prizes.

Music Under the Sycamores

March 3rd
Noon, Sycamore Grove
The SPSU Jazz Ensemble and Concert Band will perform in the sycamore grove for an enlightening afternoon of food and music. Bring a "brown bag lunch" and enjoy the success that our new SPSU music program has accomplished this year. Desert will be provided.

Peachtree Battle

March 4th
8:00 p.m.
Peachtree Playhouse (Midtown)
Tickets will be \$10.00 for SPSU students and will go on sell on Feb. 16. Atlanta's longest running play, beating "Driving Miss Daisy" this year. Audiences and critics have raved about this hilarious play about a Buckhead family alike. Star 94 says, "It's Like Married With Children Set in the South" and Bob from the 99X The Bob Report claims, "Best Play I've Seen All Year." In 2002, Atlanta Magazine voted it Atlanta's Best Theatrical Phenom and Creative Loafing recognized Peachtree Battle as "Best Word-of-Mouth Phenom."

Sankofa: African-American Museum on Wheels

March 22nd
10:00am to 2:00pm
Student Center Ballroom
Come and see a fascinating exhibit of inventions by African-Americans throughout history. Over 450 inventions will be on display. It is an excellent learning opportunity for Georgia's Technology University.

Indigo Girls and the Atlanta Ballet: Shed Your Skin Project

March 26th
8:00 p.m.
The Fox Theatre
Tickets will be \$10.00 and will go on sale March 3rd. A thrilling, throw-down that inspires and transforms, Shed Your Skin is not refined and exact-it's sweaty, sexy and vibrant. It makes you want to move and it lifts you up. If you missed it before, this is your lucky day. If you were there, you understand what all the excitement is about. Presented for one weekend only in 2001, this world premiere was one of the most talked-about offerings in Atlanta.

Georgia Tech Orchestra and Jazz Ensemble

April 6th
7:30 p.m.
Student Center Theatre
The 75-piece Georgia Tech Orchestra and 20-piece Georgia Tech Jazz Ensemble will perform at Southern Polytechnic State University. The concert will offer a sample of earlier spring season performances, offering Latin-inspired classical and jazz works as well as World War II film and concert works marking 2004 as the 60th anniversary of D-Day. The romance of Spanish and South American concert works will con-

trast with music from such films as "Saving Private Ryan" and "The Longest Day" in this eclectic program. Directors Ron Mendola (trumpet) and Sam Skelton (tenor sax) will also be featured.

The Producers: the New Mel Brooks Musical

April 16th
8:00pm
The Fox Theatre
Tickets will be \$15.00 and will go on sale March 29
Based on Mr. Brooks' Academy Award-winning 1968 film of the same name, THE PRODUCERS, the new MEL BROOKS musical is the story of down-on-his-luck theatrical producer Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom, a mousy accountant. Together they hatch the ultimate scam: raise more money than you need for a sure-fire Broadway flop and pocket the difference. Their "sure-fire" theatrical fiasco? . . . None other than the musical Springtime for Hitler. THE PRODUCERS, the new MEL BROOKS musical, has set a record, receiving 12 Tony Awards, more than any other production in the history of the awards.

Southern Polytechnic Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble

April 22nd
7:30 p.m.
Student Center Theatre
Spend the evening listening to Southern Poly's new concert band and jazz ensemble first campus concert. All support of our new music program would be appreciated. Light refreshments will be provided.
For more info, contact Sean Thomas, assistant director for Student Activities. tel 770.528.7374, fax 770.528.7409, or email at sthomas6@spsu.edu

Annual Ms. Black & Gold Held at SPSU

MICAH ROWLAND AND JORDAN JACOBS

Early this academic year, The Tau Zeta Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. held the Annual Ms. Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant. This honorable and prestigious event was held in the Joe Mack Student Center Theatre at Southern Polytechnic State University. Due to the fantastic efforts by its president, William Saddler, and the help of other individuals like William Sherman Vice President. I am able to bring you brief accounts of these events.

On November 13, 8:06 p.m., four beautiful contestants competed in hopes of obtaining the prestigious reputation of being held Ms. Black and Gold—to begin a tradition in success, and Alpha Phi Alpha excellence for many years to come. The event was conducted by Brandon L. Weaver of SPSU and Knatokie M. Ford, a Sister of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. at Clark Atlanta University. The judges for the event included respected individuals in the professional community a Jennifer B. Turner, vice president of the Rho Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., Lorenzo Gonzalez, president of Omicron Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Bonita D. Powell, active member of

Delta Sigma Theta, E. Leon Weaver, and FloJuane Christina Griffin of the "Sweet" Mu Pi Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. at Spelman College. The contest included seven categories with maximum points of 130 to be Ms. Black and Gold. The highest of these seven categories being Scholarship with 30 points—each contestant must include a college transcript with index of current cumulative gpa; Opening Fanfare with 10 Points—each contestant must display charisma, impressive personal traits, and demeanor; Business with 15 Points—each contestant must display intellect, and the ability to communicate eloquently and professionally; Swim Wear—each contestant must display form, figure, and outstanding physique; Creative and performing arts with 30 points—this is the talent part of the contest; Formal Expression, Poise, and Appearance with 15 points—stature and sex appeal; and lastly Extemporaneous speaking competition with 20 points—each contestant must display excellent magnetism, sense of well-being, and natural quick expression of knowledgeable ideas.

There were also individual awards supplementing the overall Ms. Black and Gold Awards. These were The Spirit Award, sponsored by Omicron Mu Lambda Chapter, The Ms.

Congeniality Award, sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters, The Talent Award, sponsored by SPSU, The People's Choice Award, and The Queen's Trophy sponsored by Tau Zeta Chapter.

The Contestants for the 2003 Tau Zeta Chapter Ms. Black and Gold Scholarship Pageant were comprised of five extraordinary women. Stefanie Lauren Ivy of Chicago Illinois, SPSU, Donna V. Stoudemire of Columbus, Georgia, SPSU, Kaneal K. Oliver of Baltimore Maryland, SPSU, Shannon Glass of Kennesaw State University, and Stephanie Turner of Clark Atlanta University.

The contest was a memorable event with promising results. Donna V. Stoudemire acquired the Spirit Award, 2nd Runner up. Stefanie Lauren Ivy acquired the People's Choice Award, 1st Runner up. Miss Congeniality and Miss Black and Gold 2003 was Clark Atlanta University's Stephanie Turner, who also acquired The Best Talent Award. The Tau Zeta Chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, in coordination with SPSU, hopes that this will be the first of many great Miss Black and Gold Scholarship Pageants here at this University and hopes that many other great young women would like to participate in the annual scholarship competition.

Free Health & Wellness Educational Workshop

When: Tuesday, February 10th at 12:00 p.m.

Where: SPSU Student Center Ballroom

Each participant will receive their own workshop packet and "I Will Be Well" resource kit. These workshops empower individuals who are interested in being proactive and maintaining a healthy and rewarding lifestyle.

Assess Your Own Health Risk Factors (information concerning abdominal aortic aneurysms, coronary artery disease, etc...) Learn About the Warning Signs of

Strokes & Vascular Disease Find Out Ways You Can Help Reduce Your Stroke Risk Discover the Facts About Osteoporosis That Effect both Men & Women

THERE WILL BE A DRAWING FOR ONE FREE HEALTH SCREENING!

Presented By: Kathleen Elmiger, Health Service Coordinator Life Line Screening (800) 897-9177 ext. 969 Pre-registration is required for your own personal screening Please call 1-800-643-6075. Protect your health. Protect your life.

"I Will Be Well" Educational Workshop

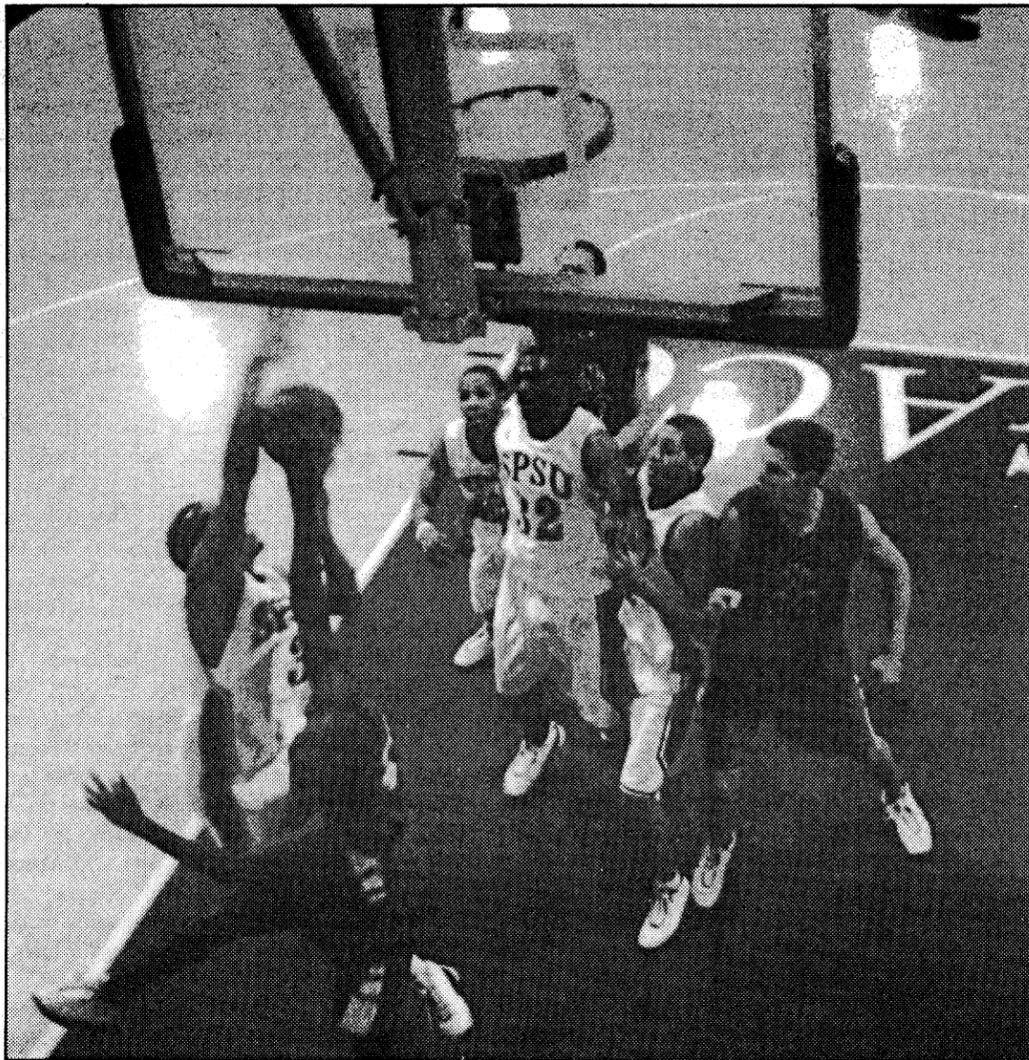
On Tuesday, February 10 at 12:00 a.m., Kathleen Elmiger, Senior Health Service Coordinator for Life Line Screening, will be presenting an educational program on your options for prevention, early detection, and lifestyle management. Life Line Screening is the nation's leading provider of mobile health screenings and they help to educate people about the prevention of strokes, abdominal aortic aneurysms, peripheral arterial disease, and osteoporosis. This program will allow you to ask questions about the Life Line Screening event that will take place at Southern Polytechnic State University on March 29, 2004. Come join us for an informative session and possibly help save a life! There will also be a drawing for one free health screening!

First Home Games of the Semester

KAREN ASAY

On January 15 the Hornets' men's and women's basketball team played their first home game of the semester against North Georgia. Both the men's and women's team tried to take away North Georgia's favorite tactics. Both games were played well, but, unfortunately, the Lady Hornets' didn't end the game

throws North Georgia were able to make, the gap between the scores got bigger. Also, by the end of the game, Shirley Adrien, #40, and Elisha Howell, #34, had both fouled out. Coach Staude commented that her team had played well, but not their greatest. She also said that the team was not trying to foul so that really



on top with a score of 57-76 North Georgia.

The Lady Hornets' played hard. The guards work relentlessly to make themselves visible to the post, and the team tried to rebound the ball as much as possible so they could get second and third shoots. The Lady Hornets' did a great job of getting the ball in the paint with 24 points from there. Unfortunately, the Lady Hornets' hard work wasn't enough to keep North Georgia from pulling ahead, especially since the Lady Hornets' had many fouls. With all the free

hurt them. The high scorer and lead rebounder for the Lady Hornets' this game was Shirley Adrien, #40.

The men's teams started the game extremely strong, taking the lead almost immediately. In the first few minutes, the Hornets had almost three times the score of North Georgia. North Georgia, eventually, was able to start closing the gap but never completely did so. The Hornets kept North Georgia from making breaks and forced them to work for every inch going up court. The Hornets also kept the ball away from North Georgia with 43 rebounds and

15 steals. During the last nine minutes of the game, the Hornets had a motion burst that helped them separate the score by 16 points, which ended the game with the score 83-67 Hornets. Assistant Coach Meister congratulated the team on there last motion burst and commented on how much better the team has gotten at taking advan-

tage of free throws. The Hornets made 14 out of their 18 possible free throws. Meister also commented that Marc Reece, #44, has been giving the team a good boost off the bench and also gets many offensive rebounds and 2nd chance shots. The high scorer for the game was Chris Jackson, #12, and lead

rebounder was Maurice Vaughn, #23.

The next home game for both the men's and women's team is February 5 against Emmanuel. The women's game starts at 5:30 p.m. and the men's starts at 7:30 p.m. Come out and support our SPSU Hornets!

HORNETS' HOME GAMES:		
Nov. 4	Allen Uni.	W 84-70
Nov. 7	Kendall	W 81-74
Nov. 8	Cumberland	L 73-75
Nov. 15	Berry	W 99-89
Nov. 18	Martin Methodist	L 60-67
Nov. 21	Florida Mem.	W 89-66
Nov. 22	Barber Scotia	L 60-71
Nov. 25	Clafflin	L 58-63
Dec. 5	Athen State	W 105-92
Dec. 6	Martin Methodist	W 77-58
Dec. 16	Berry	W 90-77
Dec. 17	Flagler	W 76-72
Jan. 8	Faulkner*	W 78-74
Jan. 10	Ga. Southwestern*	W 94-92
Jan. 12	Allen Uni.	W 2-0 (Forfeit)
Jan. 15	North Georgia*	W 83-67
Jan. 17	Reinhardt*	W 88-77
Jan. 22	Shorter*	W 98-92
Jan. 24	AMU*	W 86-64
Jan. 27	Clafflin	TBA
Jan. 29	So. Wesleyan*	W 96-88
Jan. 31	Brewton-Parker*	W 92-82
Feb. 5	Emmanuel*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 12	Ga. Southwestern*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 19	Reinhardt*	7:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	So. Wesleyan*	4:00 p.m.
Mar. 4	Brewton-Parker*	7:30 p.m.

*- Denotes GACC Games

LADY HORNETS' HOME GAMES:		
Nov. 4	Allen Uni.	W 77-40
Nov. 7	Spring Hill	L 47-71
Nov. 8	Mobile	L 61-80
Nov. 11	Clafflin	L 66-77
Nov. 12	Montreat	W 76-70
Nov. 18	Berry	L 53-78
Nov. 25	Bryan	L 70-80
Dec. 3	Berry	L 53-78
Dec. 13	Cumberland	L 43-83
Dec. 15	Valdosta State	L 43-69
Dec. 20	Savannah Art/Design	L 60-83
Dec. 21	Hillsdale	L 57-99
Dec. 30	Campbellsville	L 50-88
Jan. 3	Cumberland	L 53-76
Jan. 7	Converse	W 71-62
Jan. 10	Ga. Southwestern*	L 51-62
Jan. 15	North Georgia*	L 57-76
Jan. 17	Reinhardt*	L 49-78
Jan. 22	Shorter*	L 41-65
Jan. 24	AMU*	L 41-68
Jan. 29	So. Wesleyan*	L 57-72
Jan. 31	Brewton-Parker*	TBA
Feb. 5	Emmanuel*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 9	Brewton-Parker*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 12	Ga. Southwestern*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 19	Reinhardt*	5:30 p.m.
Feb. 28	So. Wesleyan*	2:00 p.m.

*- Denotes GACC Games

Two New Teams

KAREN ASAY

Berry College of Rome, Georgia and Lee University of Cleveland, Tennessee became members of the Georgia Alabama Carolina Athletic Conference earlier this month, which raises the number of teams to 13 in the conference. The conference voted to accept them into the conference by a mail vote conducted by Lisa Rossbacher, the membership chairperson. These institutions will not be added to schedules until the 2004-05 school year.

Both institutions were previously part of the TransSouth Athletic Conference which consists of Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas. They both bring six men's and six women's sports to the conference. Berry brings men's baseball, basketball, golf, cross country running, soccer, tennis, women's basketball and volleyball. Lee has the same setup as Berry, except that Lee has women's softball instead of golf.



SPSU Hornets vs Emmanuel Lions

Thursday, February 5

Women at 5:30pm, Men at 7:30pm

Recreation and Wellness Center Varsity Soccer

KAREN ASAY

Hey, new students, returning students, faculty, and staff don't forget about our Recreation Center! It has the same equipment as a fitness gym; however, it is much cheaper, even for alumni. Students can use it for free, faculty/staff have to pay \$30 a semester and alumni (that are apart of the Alumni Association) pay only \$45. You are also allowed to bring a guest (must be 16 or older) for only \$5.

The Rec. Center has a weight room with free weights, selectorized equipment and cardiovascular equipment. It also has a multipurpose gym, which includes basketball, volleyball, badminton courts and a jogging/walking path around the perimeter. There are two racquetball courts as well as locker rooms and a pool with an outdoor sunbathing area.

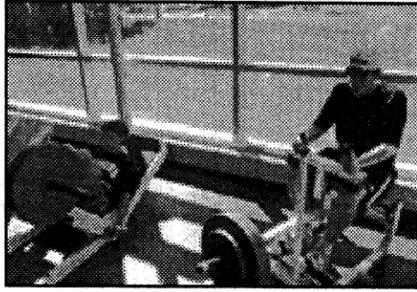
The Recreation Center is open:
 Mon-Thur 6:30 am - 10:00 pm
 Fri 6:30 am - 8:00 pm
 Sat 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
 Sun 4:00 pm - 10:00 pm

The pool is open:
 Mon-Thur 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
 Fri 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
 Sat & Sun CLOSED

The campus nurse, Julie Scala, is also located in the Rec Center. Her hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can reach her at (770) 528-7366.

There are also outdoor recreation complexes. The road that leads to the Southern Poly entrance on

South Cobb Drive goes by these facilities. There are three softball fields,



one of which has lights. There is a multipurpose field that is used for flag football, soccer and ultimate Frisbee. There are also nine tennis courts and a half-mile jogging/running track. These facilities can be used at any time.

Besides for all the equipment and courts, the Rec. Center offers classes and activities. They offer classes Monday through Thursday. On Mondays, the classes offered are Abs Only and Beginning Yoga at 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. On Tuesdays, Total Body, Yoga I-II and Step & Sculpt meet at 12:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. On Wednesday, the Rec. Center has Yoga I-II and Easy-Does-It. Lastly, on Thursday, Open Yoga Review, Target Zone and Cardio Challenge are offered at 4:30 p.m., 5:00 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. Here are the descriptions of the different classes.

Abs Only: This is a 22 minute abdominal workout. It will help increase flexibility, raise body awareness, and start the work on a six pack.

Beginning Yoga: This class is the beginning level class and introduces the principles of flexibility and yoga. You

aren't required to have any skill: only the willingness to learn. This class is required for beginner yoga students.

Total Body: This program is for body-strengthening. It will increase both muscle endurance and flexibility.

Yoga I-II: This class is for yoga students that have master the basics and want to expand their ability.

Easy-Does-It: This class mixes basic step, floor aerobics and body sculpting.

Open Yoga Review: This is a 30-minute practice session for all skill levels.

Target Zone: This class is designed to "target" upper and lower body zones.

Cardio Challenge: This program uses plyometric (power training) moves, cardio sequences and strength training.

Intramural Sports are also organized by the Rec. Center. These sport games allow teams, made up of groups of friends, organization members, or fraternity/sorority members, to play and compete. This semester there is a basketball, ultimate Frisbee, and softball season and a racquetball, soccer, golf, and volleyball tournament.

The Recreation Center is a great faculty so take advantage of it, especially if you are a student because you have already paid for it. Students get the most for your money.

Activity	Entry Period	Begins
Basketball	Jan 7 - 20	Jan 21
Racquetball	Jan 12 - 30	Feb 2
Ultimate Soccer	Feb 2 - 20 Feb 9 - 23	Feb 23 Mar 1

KAREN ASAY

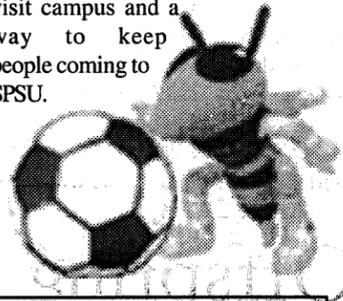
Southern Polytechnic is trying to start a men's and women's varsity soccer team. Professor Richard Hahn has been the main faculty member trying to gather information and support for this new varsity sport to come to campus. He has been asking organizations to write letters of support, and so far the Student Government Association, International Student Association, Society of Hispanic Engineers, and the Inter-Geek Council have written such letters.

According to Hahn, starting a varsity soccer program would be quite easy for SPSU to do for four basic reasons. One, there are already ten colleges (including Berry College and Lee University that just joined) in the GACC, that have a soccer team. All the colleges have both men's and women's soccer teams, except Brenau, who have only a women's team. This fact will make it easy to make a schedule. Two, in the beginning, SPSU would only need one full-time coach for both the men's and women's team, and a part-time coach for both teams. This method is used at more than 100 small colleges. Three, it would be easy to recruit a team. There are 273 high schools in Georgia that have boys' and girls' soccer teams with over 15,000 soccer players. Also, there are 80,000 students in the Georgia Youth Soccer Association, and over 11,000 of them live in Cobb County. Another rea-

son recruitment would be easy is that few colleges in the metro area have teams. The only public colleges, in the area, that have soccer are Georgia State (men's and women's), UGA (women's), and Kennesaw (women's). Four, when and if SPSU gets the Life University campus, it will also get a soccer stadium and two practice fields.

The addition of another varsity sport is obviously going to raise athletic fees, and it is predicted to be around \$20. The raise in fees will go to paying the coaches, buying equipment and uniforms, and for scholarships for players. The raise in the athletic fee, however, has to be approved by the Board of Regents before SPSU can in-state it. Because of this, and the time it would take to hire coaches and recruit, the earliest varsity soccer would start would be in 2005.

Hahn points out that Varsity soccer may cost students a little more, but it will also draw new students to SPSU. It would be another opportunity to get prospective student to visit campus and a way to keep people coming to SPSU.



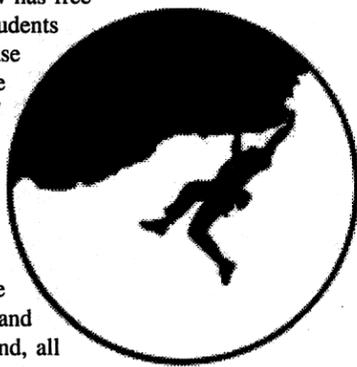
**Mens' Team GACC 8-0
1 in Conference**

SPSU Rock Climbing Club Quiz

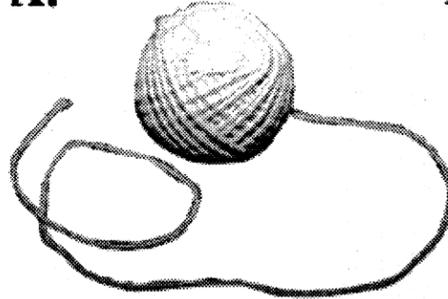
We would like to announce that the Southern Polytech's Rock climbing Club now has free basic climbing/safety classes for students or faculty. If you are interested please contact spsurcc@yahoo.com for more info, or log on to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SPSU-RCC>.

Here are some basic example questions so that you could see where you stand.

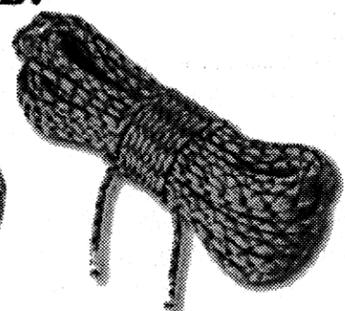
All joking aside, if you would like to learn how to climb or want to try and challenging sport please try to attend, all are welcome.



A.



B.



Which rope would you use while climbing?

A.

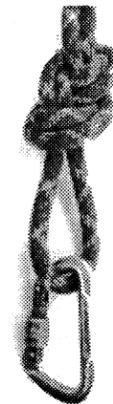


B.

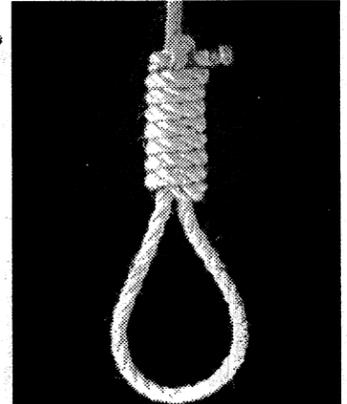


Which is the recommended method of getting to the bottom of a rock?

A.



B.



Which one of these is a proper way to tie a climbing knot?

Soul Calibur 2 Tournament

CJ SHRADER

On Friday, January 23 at 7:30 pm the Campus Activity Board (CAB) hosted a Soul Calibur 2 tournament for the Playstation 2. The tournament, organized by Matthew Levy, was a success with 16 people signing up to compete, including this reporter.

It began with a warm-up for anyone interested, where I proceeded to get the crap beat out of me.

After the warm-up, Matt explained the rules. The tournament was double-elimination, meaning that even if you lost, you were put into a loser's bracket for another try to reclaim your fame. All characters were allowed, and all stages were open. Each set consisted of 3 rounds, and each round consisted of 3 matches, so best two out of three rounds was declared the winner of each set.

Warm-ups ended around 7:45 pm, and the official tournament started. It was as exciting as watching video games can be (This isn't sarcasm, it *can* be pretty exciting). Your usual nerd jokes abounded, such as people yelling "Head shot!" whenever someone was hit in the face with a sword, or "Ultra kill!" when someone did very well. Unreal Tournament, what would humor be with-

out you?

In my own first round, I proceeded to get the crap beat out of me. Again. I attempted to go with good ol' Sophitia, who failed me. I then chose Seung Mina, and heard much mutterings of "Seung Mina" in that I'm-an-expert-at-Soul-Calibur-2-and-I-can't-believe-this-newb-just-chose-Seung-Mina tone of voice.

Oh well, off to the loser's bracket. In my first set of the loser's bracket, I proceeded to get...the win, actually. I was as surprised as anyone. In my second round, I actually had to turn to the side and ask how to block. I was playing hardcore now.

Victory is fleeting, however. In my next set, I proceeded to thoroughly be shown that I suck at Soul Calibur 2. Oh well...I probably shouldn't have signed up as it was only my second time ever playing the game.

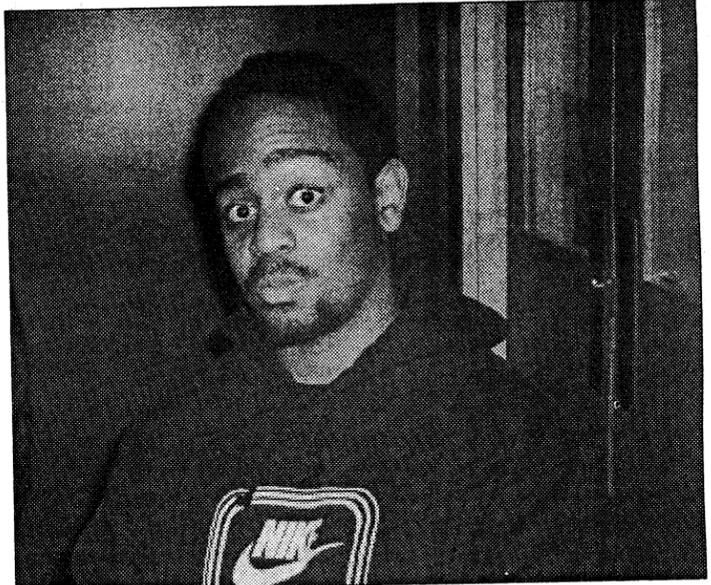
My story isn't probably what you're interested in. The final match came down to an epic battle between Nick Ingham, winner of the Winner's Bracket, and Luke Mateen, winner of the Loser's Bracket. This is slightly confusing, but since Nick was yet to be eliminated, and Luke had been eliminated once, in order to win, Luke had to eliminate Nick twice.

Meaning, Luke had to win two sets. Here's a break down of the final two sets:

- Set 1:
- 1st Match: Yunsung (Luke) v. Mitsurugi (Nick) Winner: Luke
 - 2nd Match: Raphael (Luke) v. Raphael (Nick) Winner: Nick
 - 3rd Match: Cassandra (Luke) v. Nightmare (Nick) Winner: Luke
- Set 2:
- 1st Match: Sophitia (Luke) v. Maxi (Nick) Winner: Luke
 - Tournament Match:

The final match was an interesting one to watch. Both players were very skilled at the game to have gotten this far, but only one could ultimately win. Luke chose Cassandra, one of his better players, while Nick chose Lizardman, an interesting choice since Lizardman is practically a clone of Sophitia. The matches were well fought, but Luke eventually came out victorious, all the way from the Loser Bracket. Luke was awarded a \$20 Best Buy gift certificate for his achievement, compliments of CAB.

The tournament lasted a full three hours, which got slightly re-



Luke Mateen emerged from the Losers' Bracket to be the tournament's champion.

petitive but was still fun. There was talk afterwards about having other tournaments held, some for prizes and others not. I heard games like Super Smash Brothers Melee, MarioKart Double Dash, and HALO being thrown out as possible ideas for the next tournament. If there ever are any new tournaments, I'd definitely suggest going, as I had a good time and most everyone there seemed to as well.



Offspring Release Seventh Album "Splinter"

KENNETH WHITE

The Offspring—do you know them? I'll bet you do. If you know me personally, I can guarantee you do. Or else, you can return this copy of The Sting for your money back. You see, The Offspring have been around for quite some time. They have even sold a few albums. Oddly enough for all that, people don't know much about them. You're in luck then, you're soon to be a well-informed Offspring guru. Okay, maybe not that, but you will know some interesting facts that will come in handy at your next Tupperware party or while fonduing with friends.

The Offspring, who have just released their seventh album, Splinter, have sold over 32 million albums worldwide. As high school buddies, Dexter Holland (born in 1966 as

Bryan Holland) and Noodles (born in 1963 as Kevin Wasserman in Orange County Ca), they were denied access to a concert, so they decided to form a band—two problems with that; they didn't have instruments and they didn't know how to play. If you're wondering where Dexter got his nickname, it's because he was the Valedictorian of his class. Now, I guess we should call him Doctor Dexter Holland since he has a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology. From there on out they became the best Punk Rock band ever. Okay, I made that up, but they should be. It wasn't until 1994 their break-through single "Come out and Play," and "Self Esteem" helped push their third album, *Smash* to the bestselling independent record of all time (nine million plus). It was that album that caught my attention as

well and converted me into a devoted fan of The Offspring.

Their albums are (from oldest to newest), *The Offspring*, *Ignition*, *Smash*, *Lnay on the Hombre*, *American*, *Conspiracy of One*, and the album released last December *Splinter*.

Splinter was a second choice for the title of the album. They ran into problems when they tried to name it Chinese Democracy—Axl Rose wanted that for his yet-to-be-completed new album. So, I now consider Guns N' Roses to be in the same category as Metallica when it comes to making a big deal out of nothing. The album was recorded in two cities, L.A. and Atlanta. Atlanta, to think they were actually in Atlanta for once and I didn't know it... honestly. They seem to have a problem with touring overseas, that problem is "they are always there!" Man! You can record in Atlanta, but you're too good to play in Atlanta. Psh. Ok, better now.

The only song that has been released on the radio (at the time of me writing this) is "Hit That." It is also now a video on MTV. According to their website, <http://www.offspring.com/history.html>, "Hit That," "effortlessly updates the band's characteristic feel for potent hook-filled melodies and anthem-like choruses, recounting the tale of a family broken up by sexual infidelity and gamesmanship." That seemed like a lot of good, big words.

Other tracks of the 12 on the album include "Neocon," which shouldn't even be a song because it's kind of dumb, and short. It's got a good meaning to it, but honestly, a 1:05 long song.

Next is "The Noose," this track is one of my favorites. It's really catchy and if you don't listen to the

lyrics, you could mistake it for a happy song, but once you pay attention, you hear "well our visions of glory have spiraled down the drain, the best of our intentions comes crashing down in flames."

If that's not inspiring I'm not sure what is. Next up is "Long Way Home."—this track starts out good, but then they get to a part where they repeat the same line a few times and that's kind of annoying, but once again if you listen to the lyrics you hear the ironic humor that Dexter is so well known for.

Track 4 is "Hit That," you know normally I get sick of hearing the first track they release on the radio, but not in this case. I like this song.

Then we have "Race against Myself," here again we have the depressing lyrics wrapped up in the punk/long note/don't-pay-attention-to-the-lyrics/down-right-good song.

The next track, "Head Around You" is just a typical Offspring song. If you like Offspring, you will like this song.

Now we have "The Worst Hangover Ever." I like this song. It's got a lot of quirky sounds and cool noises, and its just good. However, it's not fast or all that punk, but it's good. My favorite verse is, "It hurts so bad that I'm never gonna drink again, I'll probably never drink again, I may not ever drink again, at least not til' next weekend." Ha! I love it, good good, genius at work there.

Now we have my favorite song off the album, bar none. Its fast, motion-invoking beats make you want to mosh, mosh man, mosh. And it's good too. Mosh.

Next track is "Lightning Rod." Also a good song and just as fast as the last—they kind of feed into each other. This one has more of a tradi-

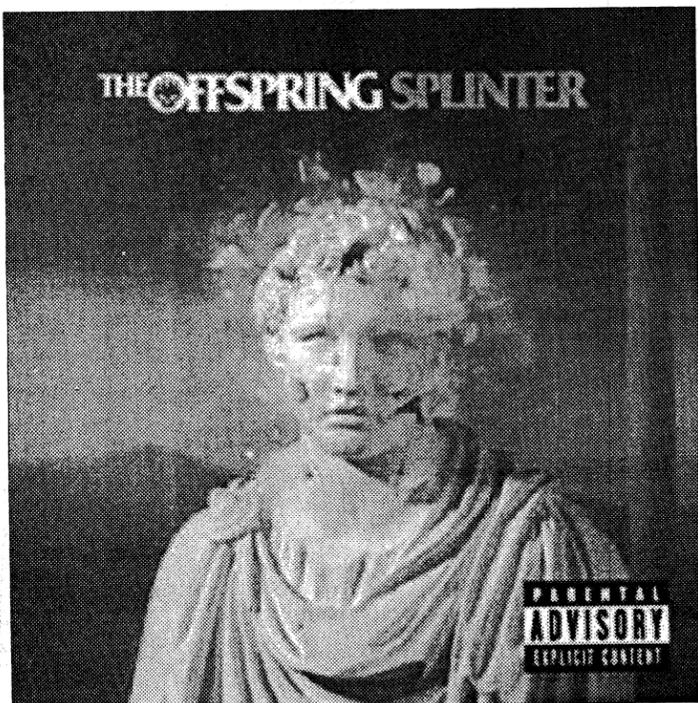
tional Offspring flare though.

"Spare me the Details" would be the next track. I like the fact that in this song they refer to a girlfriend as a donut. I personally just find that funny. Good song though—one of those story line songs.

The next song is one of the shortest, but one of the best. It's about the "Da Hui," the group's tribute to the original native Hawaiian surf brotherhood on the North Shore of Oahu. According to Dexter "Da Hui (pronounced Da Hooley) are a group of tough, but fair, native Hawaiian surfers. If you're gonna surf the North Shore, you gotta give 'em props, cause you're surfing their backyard. If you're respectful of them and stay out of their way, they're cool, but if you're not, you'll probably get a beating." Dexter and Noodles, surfers themselves, went to the Island to shoot a video riding the waves with Da Hui. I don't know if this video will be released on TV, but it's a funny video on the CD.

The last and final song is called "When You're in Prison." It's a '30s-style falsetto croon of Dexter on the album-closing anomaly, "When You're In Prison," which suggest not turning your back or bending over for a bar of soap. Good advice for Poly and the Dorms in general.

Having sold more than 32 million albums worldwide, one would wonder what continues to drive The Offspring... "We're just happy to be at the party," says Dexter, who continues to follow his original principle of empowering another generation of young people trying to find their identity in a conformist world. I have yet to find my identity so if you know who I am, please let me know so I can end the search.



A Journey into the World of Coca-Cola

KENNETH WHITE

Here we go—a quick review of the experiences of the world of Coke. After parking at a parking deck, literally across the street, you venture to this large mass of a building with a glass column, shaped like a Coke bottle, and a giant globe under the overhang of the entrance. Once inside, in the lobby, you can look up to all the floors because there is a cross shaped multi-story lobby. Your next stop would be the ticket counter where it's cheap—cheap enough for college students, even \$6-8 price range.

So now you have paid and you go through the turn stiles to the elevator, up to the 3rd floor, where you begin your journey. In the first room you enter, you will find a giant never-ending Coke machine—all the little Cokes are having fun on a roller coaster. This room also has a small theater space that gives an extremely brief, but interesting, history of coke. As any museum does, there's also a lot of stuff to look at. This room houses the oldest Coke memorabilia. The next room has more cases of history and also a small soda fountain shop from the days of ole. Here you can get an authentic soda drink served to you like it would have been long ago, before it was bottled. The next area is the Coke history theater, which shows a movie all about Coke as well. Who would have thought a movie in the coke museum was about coke? Anyway... you next loop downstairs under the theater you were just in to see more current years of coke, the years that I remember, the most recent, how-

ever, is 1996.

After viewing all this history you may find your self wishing you had a coke, well, you're in luck because the next room features a lot of lights, and bright colors, leaping fluids, elephants and soda. Soda as far as the eye can see, which is across the room cause there's a wall there. Anywho... you have just entered the Coke of America's room where you can try all kinds of sodas served and sold throughout America (see our reviews for the kinds). There's a bathroom here too, which is good when you are stupid enough to sit and drink 40 or so kinds of sodas in less than an hour (we highly suggest not doing that on a regular basis).

After you get tired of America, leave, and go to another country, or you could just walk into the next room where you can try cokes from all over the world. Let me just say, I'm glad to live in America where the Coke is good. There are some very interesting sodas in this room and fun will ensue. After this room, you proceed down the stairs and into a gift shop, imagine that! I think it's a law that all museums end with a gift shop you must walk through to get out. However, if you're looking for Coke stuff, this is where you would find it. They literally devote about ¾ of the first floor to the gift shop—lots of stuff to touch, shiny things too.

Anyhow...after this, you have just learned all there is to learn about coke. You venture back to your car and return home, or perhaps you would like to explore underground while you are there, since the coke



museum is right across the street. Parking cost us \$6 and we were there a good 2-3 hours, so it's not too bad. You can find street parking sometimes and there are other lots further away that you can park in as well. Over all, I'd say the museum was great. For those of you who have never gone, you would enjoy it, I think. Make a day of it, hit the varsity on the way back, stroll through underground, visit the capitol, ok, maybe not the capitol, that's too much like a high school field trip. We do however suggest that you go about 12-1 p.m. because at that hour, many of the school kids are departing and that makes the museum much quieter and less busy.

Some Interesting Facts about Coke

- Coke has a convention every year in Atlanta, where people come to shop for vintage Coke memorabilia, swap stories and just have a good time.
- One couple loves Coke so much that they actually had their wedding in the Coke museum on the day of the convention.
- The original formula for Coke is in the Trust Company Bank in Atlanta.
- Pemberton's son tried to create his own drink when he saw the success of his father. It was called Yum-Yum. It was a flop. I can't imagine why.
- For all those of you who ever wondered where Santa came from, well... Coke made up Santa too. Ok, well not Santa himself, but the jolly, jelly-filled Santa with the rosy red cheeks and the bright red suit... yeah, they made that part up. That's right! A while back, they wanted to boost sales in the winter of Coke and hired an artist to create the Santa that still graces every Christmas can. The model that the artist used to create this Santa was none other than himself.
- "You know the President drinks Coke, Liz Taylor drinks Coke, and just think, you can drink Coke too! A Coke is a Coke and no amount of money can get you a better Coke... All the Cokes are the same and all Cokes are good." —Andy Warhol, 1975

The Many Flavors of Coke - from Nestea to Beverly

KENNY WHITE & DAN PERRY

Ok, so I'm sure you have drunk Coke before, and most likely Mr. Pibb, some kind of Fanta, Nestea, or Sprite, but what about Beverly or Stoney Ginger Root? Well after reading this review of all the sodas offered at the museum, I'm not sure you will want to, but you may take yourself there to try them yourselves. The following is a review of the sodas. K: being myself, Kenny White, and D: being Dan Perry. Ratings are listed as (Kenny's/Dan's).

Club Coca Cola Room

Southern Style Nestea (10/10)
K: Why is that not served everywhere I want that piped into my room, what about you Dan?



D: Oh hell yeah! They actually got it right! Why do I keep finding that regular Nestea everywhere instead of this stuff?

K: I don't know. They always insist on shoveling lemons in the can. Why?

Hi-C Poppin Pink Lemonade (1/2)

K: Well for lemonade it was alright, but I'd say that it needs shaved ice to be good, shaved ice and some novocaine.

D: Ew...there's grapefruit in my lemonade!

K: I'll bet it's harder to get a grapefruit into a can that it is a lemon.

Powerade Lemon-Lime (3/3)

K: Hmm...it's like Gatorade, good like limey water.

D: Watery and bland, sounds

like a sports drink to me.

K: You know, I'll bet it's about as easy to get a lime into it as it is a lemon.

Hi-C Flashin Fruit Punch (4/3)

K: Man that's good! It's like melted jolly ranchers.

D: Melted Jolly Ranchers? Maybe if you doubled the sugar content. Way too sweet!

K: You know, but I'll bet it's really easy to get a Jolly Rancher into a can.

Minute Maid Lemonade (1/1)

K: Ahh lemons again, whoever figured out how to get that lemon in a can should be shot.

D: Lemon? Seems more like urine to me, yellow and bad tasting.

K: Ahh yes, it's certainly easy to get urine into your lemonade when you look away.

Nestea Sweetened Peach (3/3)

K: Like a fresh squeezed peach, good

D: It's good, but it's more peach than tea.

K: At least it's better than a lemon, although I'm not sure how they get a peach in a can either.

D: Can you even squeeze a peach?

K: I think you can. I think you can indeed.

Minute Maid Orange (4/3)

K: Great. Like I didn't know I already liked it. I think I drank some this morning.

D: They actually managed to make an orange soda that's not sickeningly sweet. I can't believe it's not lemon.

K: Well of course it's not lemon, because it's orange, not lemon

Coke Classic (5/4)

K: It gets an A. It's the monkey's uncle.

D: Well, I've never tasted the monkey's uncle, but I'm sure our readers already know what Coke tastes like.

K: I'm sure they do, but for those of you that don't know, monkeys' uncles have a lemon twang to them—it's really quite invigorating

Barq's Root Beer (4/4)

K: That's definitely Barq's—I feel like I just got bitten.

D: While the soda gave me no such oral contact, I liked it anyway.

K: If you didn't get bitten it wasn't Barq's.

Diet Coke (1/5)

K: It's like drinking Elmers Glue
D: Maybe the wood glue that tastes better than the regular kind.

K: I actually prefer the varnish-flavored soft drinks better than the glue-like ones, so I guess you're the connoisseur in that department.

D: Glue is our friend.

K: Unless you're a cow.

Caffeine Free Coke (3/2)

K: It's like Coke without the caffeine, that's odd, who would have thunk it.

D: Yes, it is like Coke, Coke that's sat open somewhere a week or so.

Sprite (5/3)

K: Yeah, that's Sprite. This time they managed to get a lemon and a lime into the same can.

D: Yep, it's Sprite, alright. Lemons and limes, though, that's just heresy.

Mello Yellow (2/3)

K: Drinking this makes me think of that movie Days of Thunder; you know this tastes a spot like Mountain Dew.

D: Mellow is good, but my granddad used to brew that Mountain Dew stuff, and it doesn't taste a thing like this.

K: As long as the moonshine isn't yellow cause then you've got the wrong bottle.



Mountain Blast Powerade (2/2)

K: Yeah it's blue and taste bad too, kind of like that blue drink in the port-a-johns.

D: Portapotty Powerade? Don't they serve that at ABL?

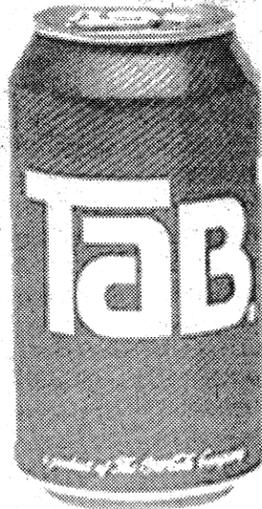
K: That's wrong man—the drinks are self serve.

Vanilla Coke (3/3)

K: It's like Coke with Vanilla, that's odd, who would have thunk it.

D: Yep, it definitely smells like vanilla. Too bad they couldn't make it taste like vanilla too.

K: Hey but at least it's in the name.



Pibb Xtra (5/4)

K: What's this "Extra?" I'd rather just drink a Dr. Pepper. At least I know what's in it.

D: I'm not sure I want to know what sort of "Xtra's" they've been adding. It tastes the same as regular Mr. Pibb to me.

K: As long as they don't add lemons I'll be alright

Cherry Coke (1/2)

K: Never liked cherries in my Coke—it's like having cherries in your Coke. No cherries please.

D: I hear you there 100 percent. Just be thankful it's cherries and not

lemons.

K: Why do you keep bringing up the lemons?

D: Because they're easier to put in a can than cherries.

K: Really? One might be inclined to think that because of the cherries' small size that they fit into a can easier, but perhaps on a rainy day, in July, in the small town of Rigamarow...lemons are easier to fit into a can.

Fanta Grape (1/1)

K: I'm speechless, why would they even bother bottling grapes?

D: Well, I've always heard that lemons don't make good wine. This stuff is like that grape cough syrup you had as a kid, but mixed with soda water instead of just being sold in a pharmacy. I know that Coke started as some sort of cough syrup too, but no.

K: So that's what wine is made out of, I've always wondered.

World of Coke Room

Lilt-Pineapple Grapefruit—Great Britain (3/3)

K: Yeah, they did an amazing job of fitting a pineapple and a grapefruit in the same can. That's a good combination, no matter what country you're in.

D: Yeah, it's kinda like Fresca, but different. The Brits didn't screw this one up too badly.

Fanta Orange—China (1/2)

K: You can make this at home kiddies. Get a blender, some Flintstones vitamins, Gatorade, and lots of water. Mix thoroughly and you have your very own Fanta Orange.

D: Except, with that recipe it would have a decent amount of orange taste, whereas this does not.

only good to this soda is suckering unsuspecting people into drinking it and watching their reactions. Try this one at home, kiddies!

K: Yeah, like I said it was nasty

Fanta Mandarin—Germany (3/3)

K: It's like orange with mandarin, or is that mandarin orange, either way it is a pretty neutral drink.

D: Mmm... Orangy. Anything's good after Beverly, though.

K: Yeah, even ABL would be good after Beverly.

Kin Cider—Lemon Lime—Korea (5/4)

K: This was a good drink; it should be sold in America.

D: Yeah, it's like Sprite, but better.

Fanta Kolita—Tutti Frutti—Costa Rica (4/4)

K: Part Robitussin/ part Kool Aid, not too shabby.

D: Looks peachy, but tastes fruity and creamy. Not bad.

K: Yes I once heard them use the term peachy on the Christopher Lowell show.

D: Watching Christopher Lowell—one of those long lonely nights in your tent again? Keep me out of those fantasies.

K: First off, your just jealous because my tent is bigger than your entire apartment. Secondly, why do you think my room looks so good? My dogg, Chris, is the man. In fact, he's a mans, manman. And fourth, my fantasies don't involve you, even though I bet you wish they did—on this campus there's enough guys during the day man, no room for them in the tent.

D: Um... alright. Next?

Lychee Mello—Lychee Nut—Thailand (4/3)

K: This is like that time an M&M melted in my hand not in my mouth. You see, the yellow M&M reminded me that I liked Skittles and so then I had to get some Skittles, which, as you know, also contain the yellow flavor, and this drink is like a melted yellow Skittle.

D: Well, I don't really think the drink has anything to do with M & M's or Skittles, but it's still not too bad.

K: You know, I'll bet the yellow Skittles are supposed to be lemon flavored. Perhaps the folks at Coke use Skittles instead of squeezing the real fruit into all these fruity drinks.

Mezzo Mix—Orange Soda—Germany (1/2)

K: Nasty orange drink, like drinking rotted oranges.

D: Maybe it had something to do with the big ORANGE on the label, but I expected an orange soda, like Minute Maid Orange... boy was I wrong! This isn't anything like orange soda. This really sucks.

Beverly—Bitter Aperitif—Italy (-8/-1)

K: Indescribably nasty man, hang on, ::pukes:: ok, I'm good now.

D: OMF... Soda should not be this bitter and wrong! The

When I tried this stuff, I thought something was wrong with the spicy tasting soda, but then the burning started. Soda shouldn't burn. The people who made it should.

K: Yes and I also hear that gas burns pretty well itself, so perhaps this stuff could help on those campouts that require a fire.

Krest—Ginger Ale—Mozambique (1/3)

K: Wow! I didn't know Krest came in a drink as well. I have only used it as toothpaste before. However, this stuff wouldn't even be good for that. It really just tastes like carbonated water.

D: I don't know; the light taste is pretty refreshing. It washes that Stoney down well.

Fanta Lemon—Lemon—Israel (1/1)

K: Wow. I didn't think anything could be worse than lemonade. I guess the "ade" in lemonade actually helps, because this stuff was really nasty. Fanta's bottled lemons should not be sold in the American market

D: But did they use lemons or lemon Skittles? At any rate, it is pretty good... for me to poop on!

Fanta Tropical—Citrus—Kenya (2/2)

K: Ummm, its tag just said Citrus. They're not even sure what they squeezed into this can. They just take

random fruit and smash them all together, pouring what comes out into a giant vat—this vat is then set in the sun for 14 days and 14 nights, at which time they offer a sacrifice to the citrus god and drink and be merry.

D: Isn't Kenya one of those places where they drink their own urine? Or did they just give the citrus god a bad offering this time? What exactly is in this stuff? These mysteries may never be solved, but one thing is for sure. This sucks.

Smart—Watermelon—China (4/5)

K: Wow you're always hearing about the technologies that are developed all the time in China, but never of new drinks. I think this drink could bring peace to the world. We should all sit and enjoy some watermelon Smart.

D: Those Chinese folks might be years behind in the space race, but I think they've got us beat with

this watermelon soda idea.

Fanta Raspberry—Raspberry—New Guinea (1/3)

K: Wow raspberry, interesting...
D: Yep, it's raspberry. Not lemon. Raspberry.

Fanta Fruit Punch—Central America (3/4)

K: I'm personally getting sick of this Fanta thing. Why so many Fantas? This drink was good, but its orange, and fruit punch, as you know, is red. So, this is like drinking green milk—it's odd. I do not like green milk and spam, I do not like them Sam I Am (Dr Seuss Rocks, go see Cat in the Hat)

D: The Fanta thing isn't all that bad, so long as we don't see Fanta Bitter Aperitif or Fanta Ginger Beer. At any rate, it's kinda like red cream soda, and that's ok.

K: I'm just saying that they should change the name, even just one letter, like "Santa."

D: You know, Coke already made Santa.

K: ...and Coke can take him away, so to all of you who still believe in Santa like me, you had better start drinking Coke.

Kuat—Guerana—Brazil (3/3)

K: Interesting—oddly fruity, in an odd way.

D: I was a little disappointed. I thought something named Kuat would taste like...

nevermind. Anyway, it was fruity, just like your man Christopher Lowell.

K: Hey I already told you, he's not my man, man; he's everyone's man...man.

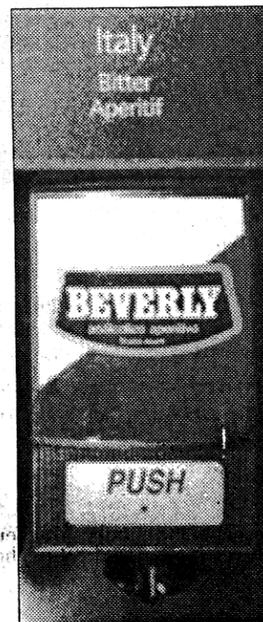
D: So, since you're in the set (everyone), he's your man, right?

Vegita-Beta—Apricot—Japan (1/2)

K: Ok, at this point if your still reading, your either in class, or your just really bored, or maybe in class and bored, but the point is, you stuck in there. So, now you have the knowledge of 39 different sodas, and this is the 40th. This drink tastes like sour Gatorade, I recommend it to no-one.

D: Yeh, Vegita si teh sux0r.

K: I'll bet it's easier to get a lemon into a can than it is an apricot.



The Embittered Guide to Valentines Day



VINCENT MIGLIORE

For a lot of us, becoming disenfranchised with Valentines Day starts at an early age. Remember in 2nd grade when you had to fill out Valentines Day cards for all your classmates? You would spend the day making a pretty heart shaped envelope for everyone to put these lovely cards in. You must also remember getting stuck with the crappy valentines like Winnie the Pooh eating a pot of honey by himself and the text saying "Happy Valentines Day", but under that was crappy handwriting that said "The teacher made me give this to you. You are a pathetic loser and no one likes you." Never once did you score the jackpot of Mickey and Minnie holding hands and the text saying, "I choose you." Fast-forward about 15 years and now you're getting cards that say "I'm sleeping with your brother and I want a divorce." Giving up on this holiday has become the only option for a lot of us, but there is so much more that you can do on this day. The following steps have been proven to make Valentines Day a much more enjoyable day for us embittered folk, so take some notes and enjoy.

The first step of having a truly embittered Valentines Day is knowing the mantra of embitterment, which in this case is "Valentines Day is a bullshit holiday." You'll

probably get a bunch of people that question this mantra of yours, so I have two options in case of this.

The first question will be from the people who are more pathetic than all of us and this is the group that actually expects something manufactured or sold by the dozen for Valentines Day. These people are what I like to call shallow. These shallow people will most likely ask you, "Why?" At this point you just explain that Al Capone slaughtering all of "Bugs" Moran's gang back in the 20's is no reason to give someone a box of chocolates.

The second question you'll get will be "Why are you so bitter?" These people fail to realize that it doesn't take much of a reason to be bitter, and it's really much easier to be bitter than not. Take the liberty of telling any story that will make them cry, and add half-truths to it if you must. Making up a story isn't what is important here, what's important is to make the person asking the question feel like a schmuck, and then apologize for their transgression.

The second step is to ruin Valentines Day for everyone who isn't in our club of embitterment. This can be done many ways and is quite satisfying. Let's say you see someone who has a dozen roses. You should comment that you saw a sale on roses at Kroger \$4 for a dozen.

Perhaps you see someone who has some other type of flower, you can make mention that those are a good choice because roses show too much commitment.

Maybe a lovely couple is going out for a Valentines Day dinner. It is your job at all costs to get invited to join them. This will be tricky, but it is very possible with a good sob story. Say how your car broke down and you have no food and have no way to get dinner. I find this one works the best, but you can use anything there as long as the end result is a dinner for three instead of a dinner for two. At this point starting conversations about the people's ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend is highly appropriate. The end result is a table with an uncomfortable couple whose relationship is in jeopardy; pat yourself on the back kiddo!

Finally the most important step into having an embittered Valentines Day is to buy a copy of *Strangeways, Here We Come* by The Smiths, a pint of Ben & Jerry's ice cream, and sit in your room with the lights off while crying into your quickly vanishing pint while listening to "Last Night I Dreamt That Somebody Loved Me." If by any chance someone catches you in this moment of self-pity your only recourse is to kill them and hide the body. Happy Valentines Day!

Escher Was Here!!

KENNETH WHITE

He was, and still is, considered one of the best — his work admired today as a wonderful fantasy mixture of shapes and colors. If you have ever read an art textbook, chances are you have seen his work. If you are looking to see art that has more of a simpleton's appeal, he's your man. The complex patterns are displayed as though they took only minutes to make. So astoundingly accurate, it appears a computer has done the work. Who am I talking about? M. C. Escher, of course.

I'm not exactly sure the first time I saw his work; I believe it was in an optical illusions book in 5th grade. Escher has since appealed to me. I was in art appreciation last

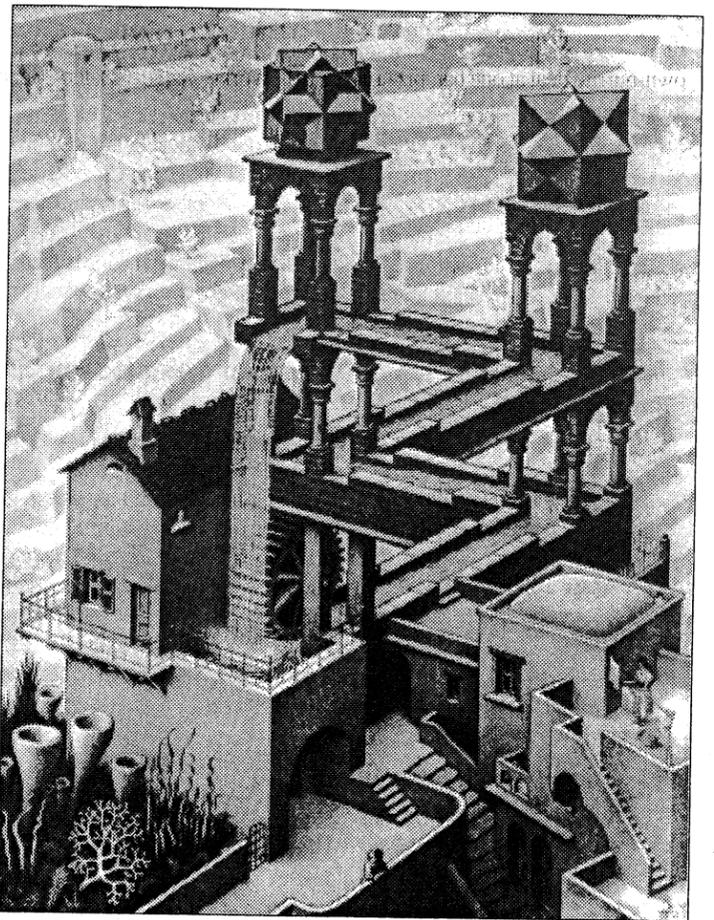
semester and although the class was over, I still found myself at an art museum/studio. However, this was no normal museum per say. You see, I actually liked the work I was viewing—its geometry calls to you to look closer, the illusions are not immediately visible, once again, calling you to examine in-depth. I was in art one day when Mrs. Betty Oliver/Seabolt announced that there was a show at the Skot Foreman Fine Art Studio. I almost brushed the announcement off until I heard who it was. While I was not able to attend during the semester for extra credit, I found my self there anyway.

The studio space itself is located in the Castleberry Hill Arts District, between Turner Field, and

Atlanta—it's a close drive from our school for a visit. The district itself has been undergoing a huge revitalization in recent years. The area grew up in the 19th century to service the railroads nearby. This meant the buildings located there were either warehouse/manufacturing plants, saloons, or brothels for the most part. The art industry is trying to turn that around. Two gallery spaces already exist, with more on the way, as well as an open air market.

The Skot Foreman Fine Art studio is located where Peters and Walker Streets meet. It actually occupies 2 old spaces, one a century-old bank building with a grand marble & granite façade, as well as a wedge-shaped former luncheonette on the corner. I met with Mr. Foreman, and by that I mean he greeted me when I walked in, explained the art on exhibit, introduced me to his dogs and told me to enjoy the show. He was the same for anyone else who came in. His energy rubs off, it's contagious—it makes you want to see more art. It was really great. So often when you go to a museum or an art exhibition, it has cold blank walls with no personality. This place is not that sort. I'm planning to go back again, in fact, for the next show.

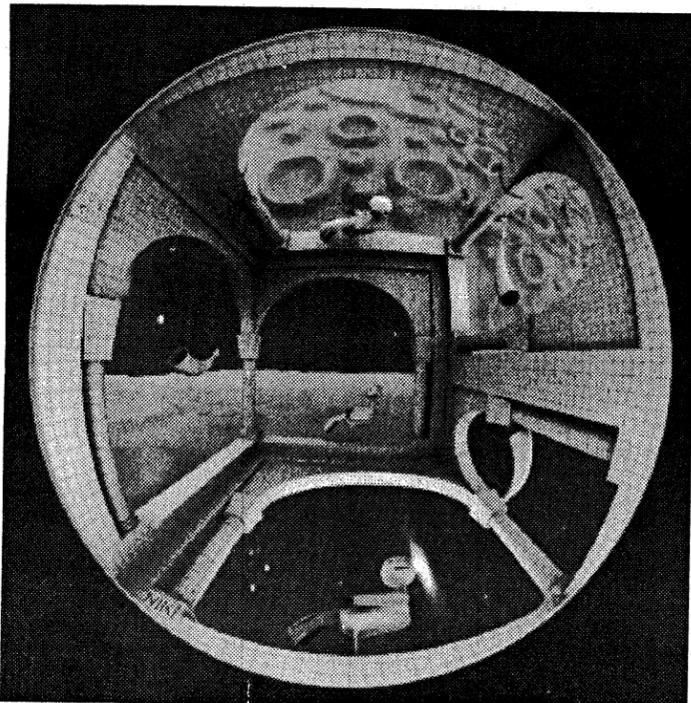
Escher, whose full name is Maurits Cornelis Eshcher, (1898-1972) was born in Holland. He took a walkabout in Italy to get his mind straight and figure out what he wanted to do with his life. This walkabout ended up being 14 years long. If you look at many of his works, there is an Italian flare to it,



especially his earliest works. Many of his early works look like those sketches drawn in art student's pad. However, his later illusions and tessellations are really unparalleled to this day, I believe. The show featured works that predate his illusionist period, which began around 1938. He was also known for his elaborate woodcuts and graphic illustration for various books and publications. The exhibit also showcased the early building blocks that prefigured his later, unforgettable prints of impossible structures. I got to see them all, however, I didn't purchase,

although I wish I had the means to do so.

I recommend The Skot Foreman Fine Art to anyone interested in art, use it to expand your horizons or perhaps as extra credit for those art classes. The next exhibit will be Warhol, Haring, and Finster, ending on Feb 29, 2004. You can get more information about upcoming shows, all kinds of art images and read reviews of the studio from *Creative Loafing* and the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* at www.skotforeman.com.



The Pros and Pros of West GA Food Service

KENNETH WHITE

Wow! What a great break—a time of good food and merry holiday treats. Now it's back to that "treat" of eating ABL for a long time. My only resolution this year was to try not to get sick off the food. Over the break I found myself at West Georgia State University—a school larger than SPSU, with about 10,000 students enrolled. It has a beautiful campus located in Carrollton. Really, it's a nice place. But, the thing that impressed me the most was the food service.

Since I was there, I decided to do some secret shopper-type tests of their food service. The staff, for the most part, did very well. The staff members who interacted with the students were knowledgeable, in that they knew what food they were serving and they seemed to enjoy their job.

Before I go into the food and my thoughts on that, I'm going to explain the system they use, it's actually revolutionary, it's called "self serve." You see, they just remodeled the entire dining facility last August. The design is that of a coffee shop in some areas, and of a cafeteria in others. They have many separate islands for the different meals. There were three salad bars with different dishes, salads of course, but also things like chicken salad and noodle casserole stuff. They have six to seven hot food bars, and on all these, there is a different meal. They had a create-your-own-burrito deal at one bar, pizza at another, hamburgers, veggie-burgers, chicken (fried & baked) and sandwiches. They also had a Philly steak sandwich line. I say line, but I don't mean line, because there was no line. I don't remember having to wait once to get anything. Not even my drinks. Notice I said drinks; this is because they have multiple types of drinks, not just soda and Kool Aid. You see, they have multiple kinds of real juice, 3 soda machines (that aren't right next to each other causing a pile up, there's a novel idea), they have a coffee bar, with 3 different types of coffee, and they had milk (fresh too).

The food on a whole was not all that much better, although I didn't get sick once after eating there till I was stuffed 3 times. The food was about the same as ours as far as quality goes. The thing that made it better was the fact that I had nothing cold, everything was hot—the fries actually burnt my tongue. The salad was fresh and I think a big part of it was that you could serve yourself, not just get

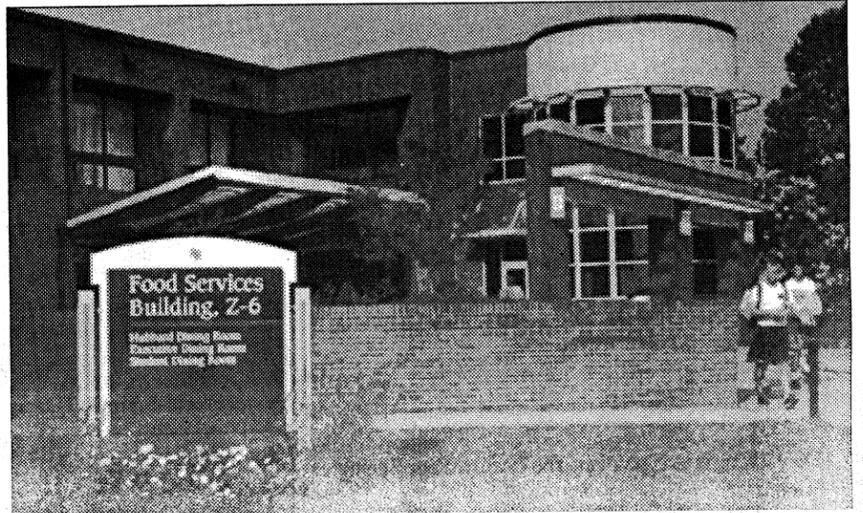
the small portion of porridge like at Poly. This is directly off their website, regarding the main food service cafeteria "...serves you unlimited seconds for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The residential restaurant is open non-stop between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Come watch as our culinary team creates and customize your cuisine. This will be an action packed experience that is hard to beat anywhere in Carrollton!" And they are right. This deal was only \$5, or \$5.25, I can't remember, but its about the same price as Poly.

I guess I should tell you who provides the food service, it certainly is not ABL, nope it's Aramark. Three cheers for Aramark. You know what, the meal plan at West GA is not mandatory, except for freshman year (if you're in the dorms), yet the place was always packed. They are doing a program called RFOC or Real Food on Campus. And they are open all day, from 7-7 Monday -Thursday, 7-6 on Friday. Closed on the weekends.

I'd also like to throw in here that there is a lot of other food available close to the school, so there are other choices available. In fact, McDonald's actually borders the school's property line. Anyhow, you know how we have the food cart in the J building? Well... they have the same kind of set up. However, the food offered is a little more impressive. They have (take a breath before reading) Chick-Fila, Grill Works, Salad Garden, Bene Pizza, Tortilla fresca, Quiznos, Starbucks, and Java City (more coffee carts in 2 other places). These places for the most part are open all day as well—they are not on the meal plan as far as I know, but the fact that they have these places on the campus is a far cry from what we currently are offered. Another excerpt from there website is "ARAMARK focuses on what students have told us what they want." Hmmm. Ok I have to admit that the meal plan has improved since I have been at Ppoly, it really has, and they do try. I'm not really sure where the problem is in fact, if it's funding or if they are stuck with a contract with ABL, I don't know, but perhaps they should research another company. The problem is, and I think everyone in the dorms has thought about this, is that because the meal plan is mandatory, they don't have to change. Do you see what I'm saying? Right now, because we have already paid for the year's food, they don't have to care what they serve. If it were student's choice,

they would be run out. This is why we can't boycott, what good would it do? They have their money. It's like not going to classes, you already paid, why should the school care? I have a friend who is a freshman at West GA; she lives in the dorm and thus has the mandatory meal plan for the freshmen. She acts like we do towards our food, doesn't really like it, and doesn't eat all her meals. You know, the same thing we do. I will give her the benefit of the doubt. The campus is so big they have a bus that runs around. The distance from the dorm to the food building is probably from our student center to the life property line, that's a good few-minute walk. So, I give her that it is further away. But still, it's odd that for the people who don't eat it everyday it is good.

Here's the run down on their fees and meal plans. If you are a resident freshman, you have to pick one for the following two options, The Unlimited and The Brave. The Unlimited plan cost \$943 and \$100 of that is for you to use at any of the places they serve food on campus, the other \$843 gets you unlimited meals, Monday breakfast through Friday dinner. The second plan option is The Brave. It costs \$882.00 and \$150 of that is to be used at any of the places they serve food on campus, the other \$732 gets you 10 meals weekly. The upper classmen have multiple options which I think our school should experiment with. They can have the Budget Plan which is \$439, \$100 of that to be used at any of the places



they serve food on campus the other \$339 gets you 5 meals weekly. You could get the 100 Plan or 100 meals per semester for \$415, the 50 Plan or 50 meals a semester for \$223, a 20 Plan for \$95.00 or the Debit Plan for \$200.00, the debit plan works like it says, you have \$200 to spend anywhere on campus (those prices are from the WG website on Jan 4, 2004).

In closing I'd like to thank the staff and employees of West GA for being so awesome. The people that work there are who I would ac-

tually consider hanging out with if I weren't a student—they have better personalities, and like I said before, enjoy what they are doing. This goes for all employees I met at West GA. They were all extremely friendly to students, strangers like me...everyone. It really makes an impression. So, if you're getting tired of the food here at Poly, just jump in your car for the short drive to West GA. The food alone is worth the trip.



Making Things Happen The Migliore Way

VINCENT MIGLIORE

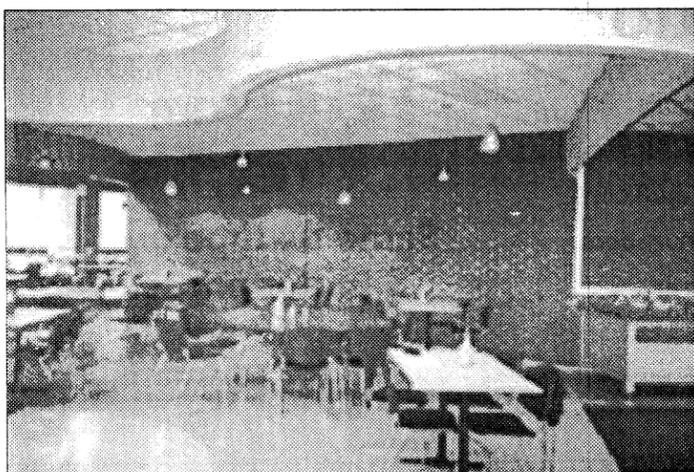
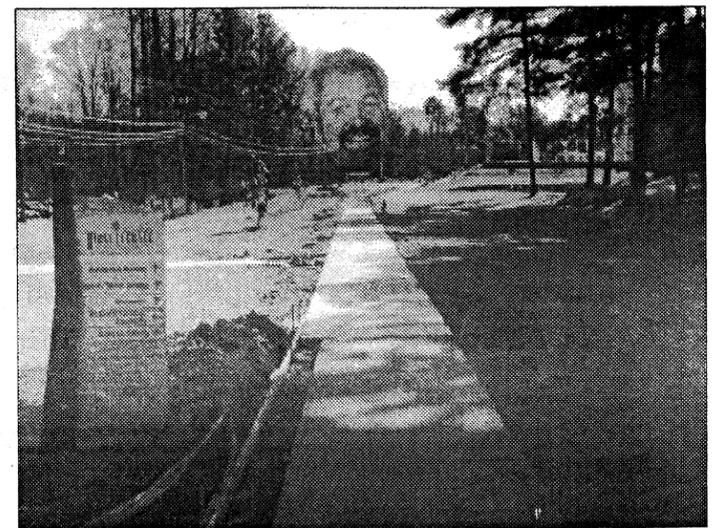
In some October issue of The Sting last semester, I "reported" on a major problem that I noticed here on campus. The sidewalk that once led to the new architecture building had gone missing and in its place was left open trails of mud for students to get their shoes dirty on. I thought that by reporting this tragedy in the highly respected and award-winning publication, The Sting, it would be enough to invoke some change; but evidentially it wasn't enough.

Weeks went by without sign of any progress, and when I thought all hope was lost, I saw a Sears' commercial on TV with Bob Vila. Bob Vila is a man of great character, and I knew that he wouldn't let something like this happen at his local Polytechnic University. Mr. Vila would not sit idly by while countless numbers of students get their shoes dirty. The great Bob would not stand for dirty golf carts when the maintenance men, and other assorted faculty members would have to make the long and treacherous drive across the muddy

plain. So, I did what Sir Bob would want me to do, and that is to spend every waking hour on the problem until it got rectified.

Innumerable phone calls were made, and 10 pots of coffee were consumed as the sleepless nights of work waged on. Finally, after being given the runaround, I decided to call the man himself, Joseph Aspdin. Now you might be asking yourself, who the hell is Jo-

seph Aspdin? Well I'll tell you who he is, the man I called to get this problem fixed. So after a marathon 26.2-hour conference call, an agreement was made, and the project was ready to commence. As you can see if you have walked by that way at all, great strides have already been made towards completion of the path. All I have to say is, you're welcome!



The Four W's to February Concert Going: Who, Where, When, & How Much

Kid Rock
Where: Gwinnett Civic Center Arena
When: 2/7/04 at 8:00pm
Price: \$33.00

Professional Muder Music, Crooked
Where: Masquerade
When: 2/7/04 at 8:00pm
Price: \$6 advance/ \$8 day-of-show

Mushroomhead, Dope, 40 Below Summer
Where: Masquerade
When: 2/9/04 at 8:00pm
Price: \$13 advance/ \$15 day-of-show

The Dillinger Escape Plan, The Locust, Your Enemy's Friend
Where: Masquerade
When: 2/11/04 at 8:00pm
Price: \$10 advance

Sunday School presents, Wheats, Hey Mercedes
Where: Cotton Club
When: 2/13/04 at 9:00pm
Price: \$10 advance/ \$12 day-of-show

Dexter Freebish, Boxelder
Where: Vinyl
When: 2/13/04 at 9:00pm
Price: \$8.00 21+, \$10 under 21

MXPX, Sugarcult, Billy Talent
Where: Tabernacle
When: 2/14/04 at 7:00pm
Price: \$17.50 advanced/ \$19 day-of-show

The Zombies, Avalanche
Where: Masquerade
When: 2/15/04 at 8:00pm
Price: \$20 advance/ \$25 day-of-show

Life of Agony, Flaw, Scrape, End the Fall
Where: Masquerade
When: 2/17/04 at
Price: \$14 advance/ \$16 day-of-show



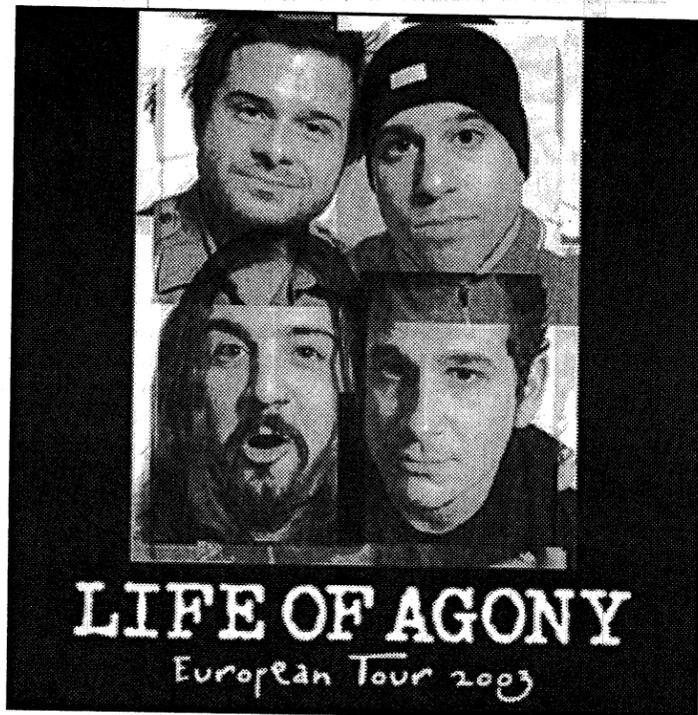
Dexter Freebish, Vinyl's February 13 performer



The Tabernacle welcomes MXPX February 14



Mushroomhead will be playing the Masquerade on February 9.



China Kitchen

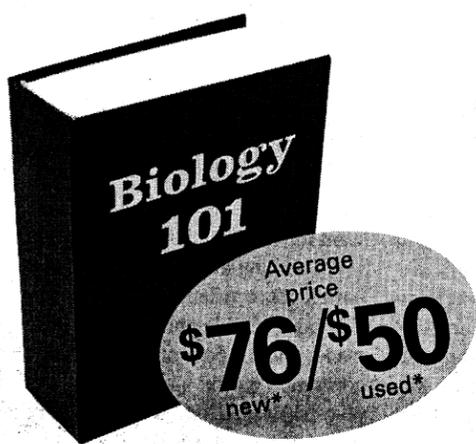
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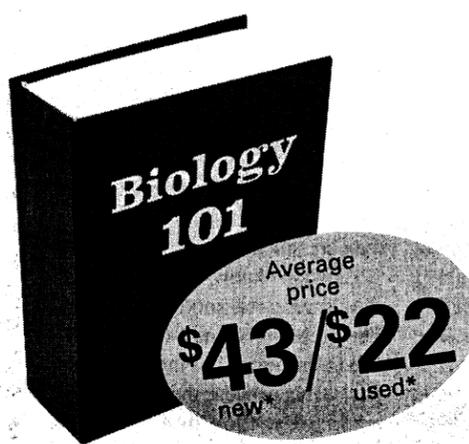


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The Sting's Free Valentine's

All Natural
BEN & JERRY'S
VERMONT'S FINEST.

The Emergency Valentine's Date

Rose's are Red
Violets are Dead
You Don't Have a Date
Cuz You're Messed Up
In the Head

Be Mine

All Mine...

Bling Bling
From The Sting
Happy Valentine's

**THIS
V-DAY
WHIP IT
GOOD!**

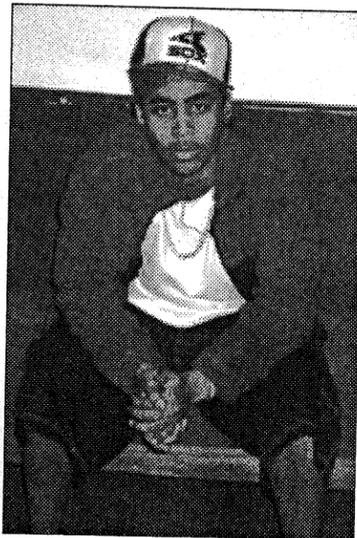
happy valentine's
you Legomaniac!

SCREW
YOU

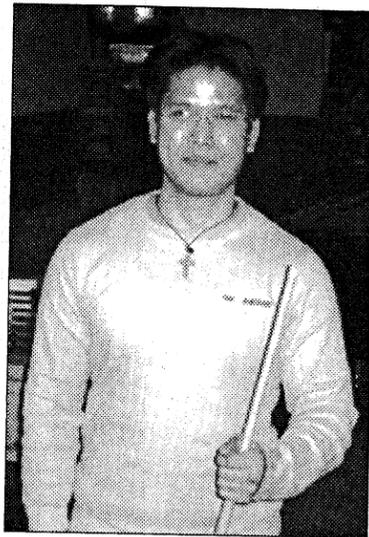
Student Question: What would you do if The Sting beat you up?



"I'd call the police."
- Stephanie Warner



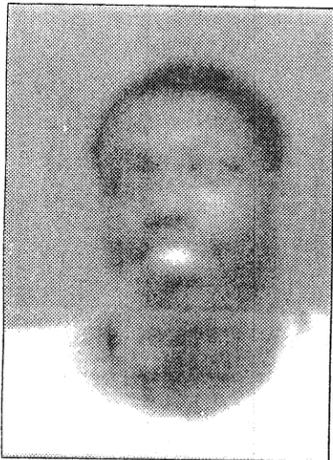
"I'd call my posse,
ODZ Mafia."
- Sean Olatayo



"Write an article
attacking it."
- Phong Nguyen



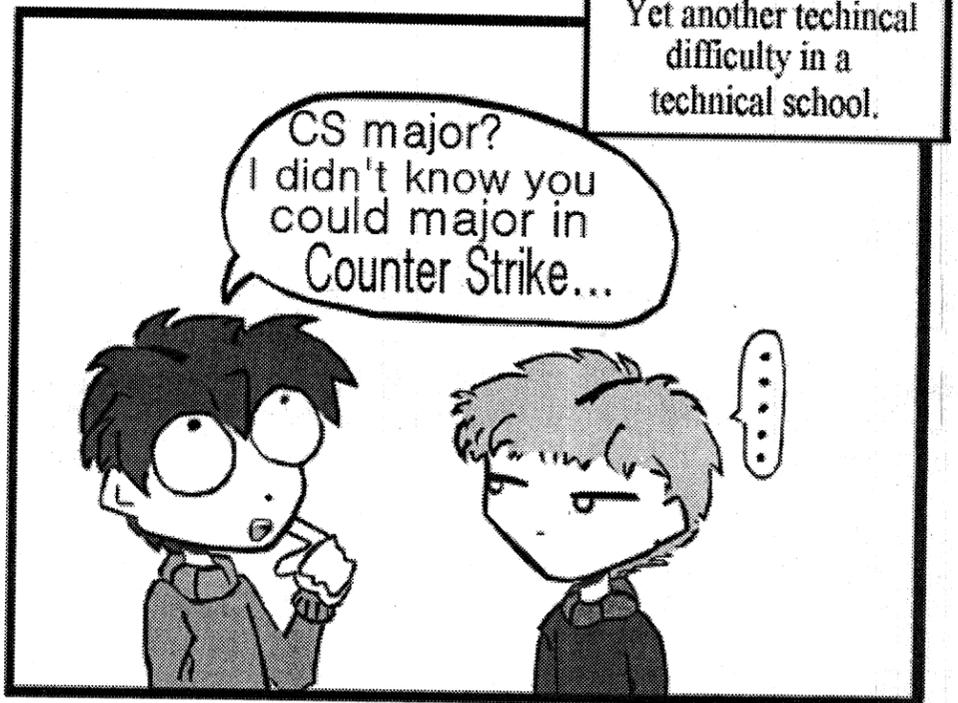
"I'd press charges."
- Natara Thomas



"I'm gonna call
my momma."
- DeMarco Steed



"Call Fox 5
News"
- Andy Nguyen



Crossword puzzle:

1. Across
2. Down

Can you help the mouse get the cheese?

Unscramble THESE words:

1. Calednar
2. Msart
3. Brain
4. Airplnae
5. Calednar

wordSearch:
find these words!

F	D	O	G
C	O	X	I
A	Q	O	S
T	Z	A	D

1. I
2. A
3. At
4. Z
5. Dog
6. Cat
7. Gas
8. Teal
9. Goat
10. Food
11. Encyclopedia

Optical Illusion:
Stare at this dot.

connect The dots!

How Many Words Can You Spell with These Letters?

ABCDEFGHIJKLMN O P Q R
STUVWXYZ