



# THE STING

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March 3, 2003

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

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## QUICK NEWS

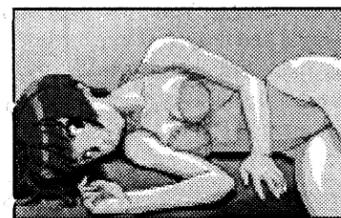


Miss final drop date? Chris Aiken tells you what to do in *Punching Out Without Punishment: It's Never Too Late* (pg 3).

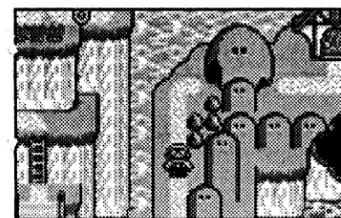


Internet coffee cafe, CoffeNet, announces its upcoming grand opening (pg 4).

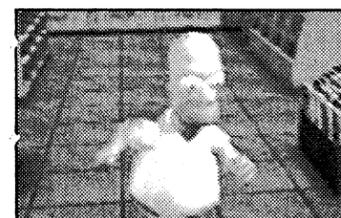
## QUICK FEATURES



Tom Green gives the romantic anime comedy, *Ai Yori Aoshi the O.K.*, at least season one. (pg 12).



Mario 2 scores high for Sting critic Deven Gallo (pg 11).



If it's not already obvious what's hot and what's crap in gaming, read *Games You Should Want to Play* (pag 12).

## QUICK OPINION

Letter to the Editor: Fire the Entire Career Placement Office Please!!! (pg 5).

Driving & Crying evaluates the related topics of traffic congestion, insurance policies, terrorism, and of course - fly rides (pg 6).

The SGA-Greek Elections? takes note of the prevalence of fraternity and sorority members on the SGA ballot this election (pg 5).

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# Costly Digits Dumped!

DOUG LACHER

A decision was made recently by the IT department that the school must change its local telephone service provider. The current telephone service provider, Georgia Technology Authority (GTA), has dramatically increased the cost of local telephone service over the last month by almost \$60,000 per year. The IT department was notified about the middle of January that the cost of service would increase, retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. It was at this time that alternative solutions had to be examined in order to maintain a reasonable cost of keeping local telephone service.

### The Price Breakdown

Up until this past January, the school had been paying about \$14,000/month for the local phone service from GTA. This included two PRIs, which are the physical lines that run from SPSU to the rest of the world. Each PRI can sustain up to 23 simultaneous calls plus one line reserved for metadata, such as caller ID. In all, the school can currently handle 46 simultaneous campus-to-off-campus phone calls. SPSU has far more than just 46 phone numbers, though.

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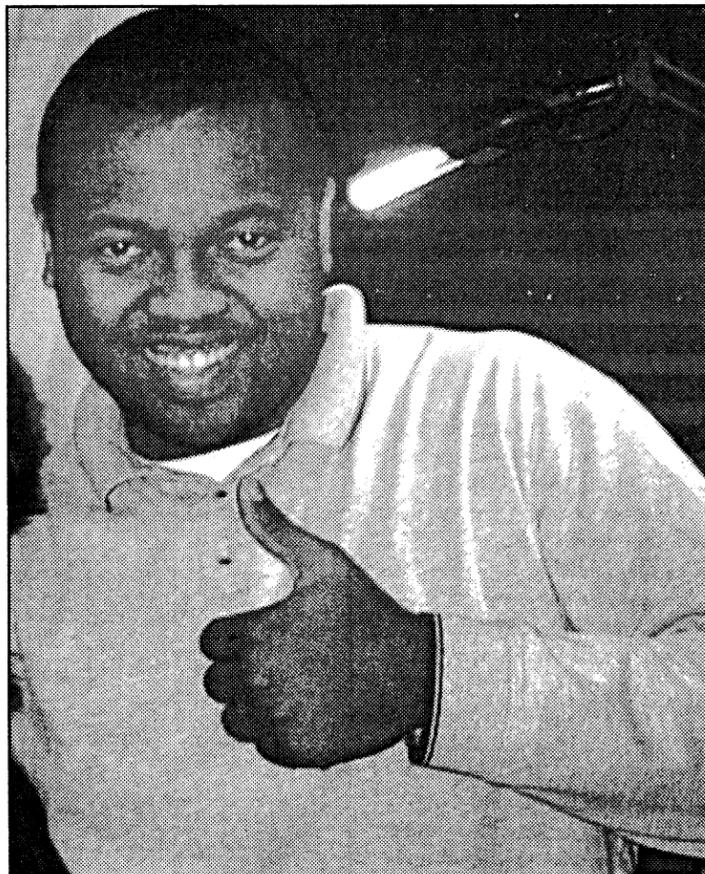
SPSU held the groundbreaking celebration for the new University Courtyard Apartments last Tuesday. University System of Georgia Chancellor Thomas E. Meredith was in attendance and SPSU's new pep band entertained the crowd prior to the groundbreaking. SPSU will reveal more details about construction and renovations at the Housing Information Session planned for Thursday. The session will take place at noon and again at 5:30 p.m. in the Joe Mack Wilson Student Center Ballroom.

## University Commons Networked Via WiFi

DOUG LACHER

The hardwired, 10 Megabit per second link that used to connect the University Commons apartments network to SPSU's campus network had to be severed due to the construction that is transforming the landscape around the apartments. SPSU's IT department was called in to replace the link, but they were instructed to do it with \$0, essentially using only hardware they already had. Due to the construction digging around and posing a threat to any physical wires, the decision was made to use a wireless medium. IT setup a spare 802.11b (aka WiFi) access point in Howell Hall and another one in the University Commons Office. The link between the two can theoretically hit 11 Megabits per second, but due to the distance between the two points, it's much slower than that. The speed of the link can be easily observed by performing any sort of file transfer between the SPSU network and the University Commons network. The WiFi link should be temporary, and a permanent solution will be implemented when the construction around the area is complete.

## WGHR's Back!



WGHR General Manager William Burke gives the thumbs up on the stations return to Internet broadcasting.

MIRANDA BENNETT

WGHR is finally making a comeback, through the Internet! After over a year of silence, the station is once again broadcasting its eclectic blend of urban, techno, punk, acid jazz, and other progressive genres representative of the diverse student body and culture

at SPSU.

SPSU's radio station announced that it was ceasing broadcasting on January 15, 2003. The decision was made in response to pressure from a local commercial radio station citing bleed over. Burke explained that FM stations must be at least two frequen-

*Continued on Page 2*

## Rossbacher Addresses Fate of Life Campus

DANIEL PERRY

What does a school do with 89 acres of land and 430,000 square feet of new building space? How does a school pay for this acquisition? SPSU President Lisa Rossbacher and two representatives from the Sizemore Group addressed these questions during an open meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Rossbacher opened the meeting with the background of this deal. Five years ago, the Master Plan analysis which laid out the development of SPSU's campus revealed a major problem which stood in the way of the campus's growth—after the construction of the University Courtyard apartments, the university would be out of building space.

The upcoming lack of space meant one of two things, demolishing existing buildings for newer and larger facilities, or expansion. However, an analysis of the surrounding land showed only small business parcels. In 2002, a loss of accreditation dealt a crippling blow to Life University. This cost them over half their student body in less than a year's time and left them with a debt of \$31 million. It also opened a new door for SPSU's expansion.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Engineering? Get Real!

MARK CAMPBELL

Rudolf "Rudy" Duvnjak, a senior in Electrical Engineering Technology, is looking for a few volunteers. Motivated by an editorial in *The Sting* ("Close Southern Polytechnic," Oct. 30, 2003), Duvnjak is attempting to organize a petition drive to persuade the Board of Regents to permit Southern Polytechnic to offer undergraduate engineering degrees. Duvnjak is seeking others who would help him gather signatures from interested students and faculty.

"It would be great if all the students from all the departments participated, because this would benefit the university as a whole, not just the departments," explained Duvnjak. He emphasized that he didn't wish to get rid of the engineering technology programs, but just wished to add engineering

programs to Southern Polytechnic's mix of programs.

Duvnjak stated that he was motivated by an opinion piece in *The Sting* that recommended closing SPSU and establishing an engineering campus under the auspices of the University of Georgia at Lawrenceville in Gwinnett County.

Recent news of SPSU's pending acquisition of the Life University campus has emboldened Duvnjak "If you are getting the Life University (campus), no one can justify that we don't have room to grow," he said.

Students interested in helping Duvnjak gather signatures in a petition drive can contact him by e-mail at [rduvnjak@spsu.edu](mailto:rduvnjak@spsu.edu).

Mark Campbell is the staff writer who wrote the editorial "Close Southern Polytechnic" in the Oct. 30, 2003 issue of *The Sting*.

### Fate of Life

*Continued from Front Page*

The SPSU Foundation, a private group which supports the university, approached the Life University trustees to strike a deal. Life proposed that we rent the buildings from them, and the Foundation quickly refused, offering to buy the campus instead. If this deal is successful, the Foundation will take over Life's debt and pay it off at a rate of \$3 million per year. As the campus has been appraised at \$52 million, the deal is a bargain.

Especially with the construction of the new apartments, SPSU is not entirely in the financial situation to buy the campus. The university still needs funding to pay the Foundation for the purchase. The Georgia Public Library considered renting one building for the storage of books for the blind; however the location would add too much to their workers commute. As a result, SPSU is still seeking out organizations, especially in the public sector, that might be interested in renting space.

Lily Berrios, AIA and Ben Darmer, FAIA represented the Sizemore Group at the meeting. The Sizemore Group is an architectural firm involved with the Life purchase. Berrios and Darmer outlined the details of the deal and just what SPSU stands to gain from it.

Life University will lease back five buildings in the northeast area of their campus for classroom, administration, and library space. While this does amount to 250,000 square feet, over half the building space, SPSU would be getting the Human Performance Center, the largest and best quality building on Life's campus, with over 100,000 square feet. The Human Performance Center would house our athletic services department as well as our smaller facilities such as continuing education and Georgia Youth Science & Technology Centers. The focus of this move is to get departments out of trailers and to centralize the more traditional student services on the main campus. Dr. Rossbacher summed it up, "I think we could absorb a hundred thousand square feet like that," as she snapped her fingers.

The purchase also includes

Life's athletic fields. Life University has a lighted soccer field, a track, and a practice field. The practice field can be converted into a baseball field, opening the current baseball field for building space closer to our current campus. Life's basketball gym is also larger, which could open the SPSU gymnasium for more architecture studio space.

In addition to classroom space and athletic facilities, SPSU would also acquire Life's Tree House. The Tree House, after quite a bit of renovation, could serve as an alumni center. Sean Thomas, assistant director of Student Activities, mentioned that it might even be useful as a second student center.

The annexation of Life's campus also brings challenges for transportation. An existing road near the Facilities building would only require about 40 feet of paving to connect the two campuses. Additionally, the Sizemore Group suggests building footpaths through the woods. According to a Sizemore projection presented at the meeting, the Hands on Life's campus are within a 10 minute walking distance of SPSU's Globe.

Transportation is not the only challenge SPSU will face in this deal. Security will become a major issue as SPSU's police department spreads to encompass the new area. The Wildwood Marietta City Park that borders Life's campus provides green space, which is an asset; however it is also a security risk, as it is a known hangout for vagabonds and other miscreants. The SPSU police force will also provide security to the areas leased by Life University at a cost.

The deal would be a major change not only for SPSU but for Life University as well. During the meeting, Dr. Rossbacher mentioned the possibilities for Life at the end of its five-year lease. Life will have the option to buy back the five buildings it leases from SPSU, but Rossbacher pointed out that by that point, they might want to consider other options. If they wish to grow, they will need to seek another site on which to develop a larger campus, and if they wish to find somewhere smaller or less expensive, they will still need to analyze other options.

## SPSU Career Fair 2004

TONY PEREZ

SPSU's Career and Counseling Center held its Annual Career Networking Fair on Wednesday, February 25 in the Student Center Ballroom. About 50 exhibitors were present, each having a table with display boards, stacks of brochures, business cards, and at some, complimentary candy and pens. The tables were arranged down four aisles and both end aisles. For most of the tables, there were two or three representatives present to explain what the company does, the kind of employment they were recruiting for and to take resumes. There were a wide range of companies present from the U.S. Marine Corps to Budget Rent-A-Car.

The most common industries that the companies were

representing are Construction, and Civil Engineering followed by Architecture and Drafting. There were only a couple of tables that seemed interested in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology students and they were looking for specific skills and qualifications. At one table, the representative was quizzing students on the spot with questions such as "What are the six headers on a TCP/IP packet?" and "What are the differences between TCP and UDP?" The representative stated that they were looking for students with that level of knowledge.

Although the event was scheduled from 12:30pm to 5:30pm, some companies started packing up and leaving

at 3:30. By 4:30, the crowded aisles that were in the ballroom were now easily passable.

Outside of the ballroom, the Career Services had a table set up for attendees to sign in and pick up a nametag. There were also evaluation forms available for the attendees to rate the value of the career fair to them. The SPSU Alumni Association also had a display in the lobby to provide information and allow past students to sign up.

Career Networking 2004 is one of several events that were planned to recognize February as Career Month. Other events that took place in February were the Interviewing Skills Workshop, Resume Critique Day, and How To Work A Career Fair.

### WGHR

*Continued from Front Page*

cies apart to prevent bleeding into each other's airwaves. Separation must sometimes be even greater between AM stations, depending on the distance between the two broadcasts. The local commercial station had bought an FM frequency only one step away from WGHR - effectively pushing the small college station off the air.

For several months, WGHR searched the dial for a new frequency, but found the airwaves in Atlanta saturated—no room for that needed separation (on FM or AM). According to Burke, only a

handful of Class D (non-commercial) radio stations are left in the United States. The FCC no longer issues Class D licenses, but most other non-commercials are in safe locations - outside the threat of crowded airwaves and too-close commercial neighbors. After months of stalling, the FCC finally conceded that, for the first time, there was no way to save a non-commercial. WGHR became the first non-commercial to be closed because it had no where to go - over air, that is.

After months of research and testing, the station launched their new Internet feed on February 20<sup>th</sup>.

Currently, the Internet feed can only be accessed off campus—the local network is not capable of handling an on-campus feed. However, Burke stated that the IT department has expressed confidence that the issue can be resolved sometime this summer, allowing on-campus broadcasts.

Listeners may go to <http://wghr.spsu.edu> and click one of the three URLs provided in the station's latest news update. Or, visitors can also access the Internet stream from the Interact page at <http://wghr.spsu.edu/content/listeners/interact.php>.

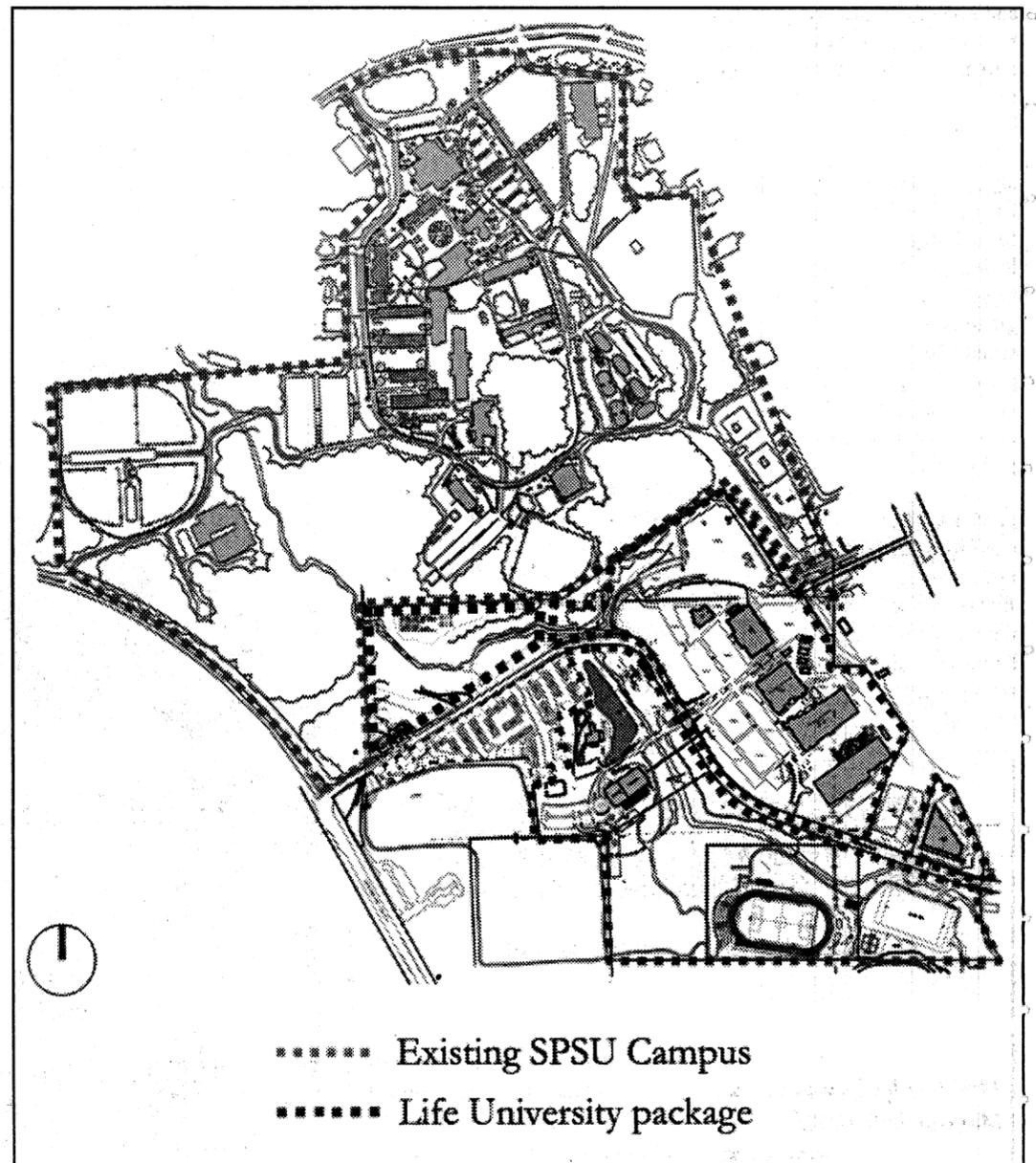


Diagram courtesy of the Sizemore Group

# Punching Out Without Punishment: It's Never Too Late

CHRISTOPHER AIKEN

## Post Withdrawal Date Help

So you've made it through the first half of the semester. You've survived through the final day to withdraw. You've kept the classes that you are doing well in, and the rest of the semester is looking up.

But like always, something and anything happens in life, everything gets screwed up, and life gets hard again. Soon you feel like you can't make it anymore, you need to get out of school, or maybe just a class or two. Or maybe you just need a little more time to finish that rough assignment you were taken away from during the class next semester.

### Maybe:

- something small happened: like your car died and you missed a week or two of class.
- your computer hard drive failed and you lost all your code for that important program.
- your home county has summoned you to jury duty, or you are a witness in a case and are required to appear in court.
- your manager has screwed you over, and changed your hours at work; even with the knowledge of your availability and that you have classes.
- you become sequestered to bed because of pregnancy (for you few women on campus; it *could* happen at SPSU, *maybe*).
- something catastrophic has happened (hopefully, we wish, it hasn't), like a family member has passed, or you required a major surgery and you need to get away from stress and school and just recuperate.
- your reserve unit has been called into action, and you won't be here for a semester or two (hopefully, no more than a year)

Whatever the reasons, which are quite vague in the Academic Catalog and Course Bulletin (good for us! we can get creative to find leniency), you need help. You need to get out. You need to save that grade and your GPA. You need a second chance to finish that missed project and get the grade you would have earned before life screwed you out of your ability to attend class or perform well.

So for your benefit, I've compiled 4 brief ways to get out if you need to; 4 different ways to save face, or money, or just a single grade. Just remember, you have to have a non-academic reason to get out, being lazy after the drop date, or acting stupid and mismanaging your time will not cut it.

## Attempt 1. Going All Out, Saving Everything You've Got: The Hardship Refund

I'll go ahead here and assume the worst has happened. A catastrophe has completely interrupted your life and the ability to think clearly or operate. You'll be gone for way too long to get caught up, or you're not going to want to be here. Or you've been called to duty and are leaving American soil, or you're bed ridden and just can't come to school for a while. Or maybe there's just a serious issue you don't want the school to know because of privacy or sensitive reasons.

Still sound vague? The only documented valid reasons for any of these processes are found in the Spring 2004 Course Bulletin, and for a Hardship Refund they are:

- serious injury
- serious illness or non-elective surgery for self or members of the immediate family
- death of a member of the immediate family
- loss of job
- change in job work schedule or job assignment (relocation or hours)
- family-care or child-care dependency crisis
- legal action of a non-criminal nature causing serious emotional stress or mandatory court appearances

The Hardship Refund allows you to leave school for the remainder of the semester, and gives you a full erasure of your attendance and classes. This process is very helpful. Your transcript will appear as you didn't come to SPSU during the hard semester, and none of you attempted hours will be used up!

If you paid for tuition from your personal funds, you will be reimbursed fully. Likewise, if you live in SPSU campus housing or have a meal plan, a partial refund determined by the Housing Department will be given for the remaining time of the semester. However, you should be aware that if you used a loan or grant to pay for tuition, you are expected to pay that tuition amount back to the school, in FULL!

You can ask for a Hardship Refund by contacting our Dean of Students, Mr. Barry Birckhead, in the Student Activities Office in the Student Center, Room A228. Talk to Barry, explain your hardship, and supply him documented proof of your situation (death certificate, medical documentation, notarized legal summons, deployment papers,

etc...), and ask for help or permission to leave school if you need to. He can write directly to the office of the registrar in lieu of visiting them, with only brief explanation of the situation to safeguard your privacy, and ask that they clear your transcript.

## Attempt 2. Going All Out, Saving Your GPA: The Hardship Withdrawal

The hardship withdrawal is nearly the same as the hardship refund, with a few differences.

The hardship withdrawal also allows you to leave the campus, and to get out of all of your classes without academic punishment. The process grants you with 'W's in all of your courses. Which is great, because if you just left school you'd probably either fail, or get 'WF's, which are treated exactly like an 'F' in calculating your GPA.

You should ask for a hardship withdrawal if you used money other than your own to pay for tuition. A hardship withdrawal after the final withdrawal date will not reimburse any of your tuition money at all, but you don't have to pay the loan or grant back entirely either. A percentage of any loans that were not applied to tuition may still have to be paid back to the business office. However, if you live in SPSU campus housing, or have a meal plan, you can still receive a partial refund from the Housing Department based on how many days are left in the semester.

It is very important to realize that the hardship withdrawal process still counts and adds all of your classes as attempted credit hours on your transcript. Therefore, if you have previously withdrawn from a lot of courses, you still run the risk of falling under Satisfactory Academic Progress through the Financial Aid Office. This happens when you do not complete the minimal hours that you have attempted. When this happens, you cannot receive financial aid until you rise above the minimal completed percentage.

The same reasons that apply for a hardship refund also apply for

a hardship withdrawal. The process is the same, and you have to supply documentation with the Dean of Students (Barry Birckhead) and work out the details with him. Once again, he can write to the Office of the Registrar as a representative of the student and have the withdrawal processed.

## Attempt 3. Saving Your GPA: Requesting a 'W' after Withdrawal Date

Alright, you've been lucky and nothing catastrophic has happened, or maybe you don't want to leave school completely. You'll persevere and decide to drop only one or two classes after the drop date and want 'W's for those. Maybe you're doing well in a course after the withdrawal date, but your work schedule changed, or some smaller hardship has prevented you from doing well in one or two courses. You're not going to get any tuition money back, and it's still going to count towards your attempted credit hours, but you can still save your GPA.

You've got creative room here for reasons to ask for a 'W' after drop date directly from the Office of the Registrar (it beats a 'WF', which is an 'F' in calculating your GPA).

One can assume the reasons include the ones for a hardship refund or withdrawal. Additionally, the 2003-2004 Academic Catalog (a publication of the Office of the Registrar) describes acceptable reasons that could grant a 'W' after withdrawal date as "non-academic" reasons beyond the student's control and "extenuating circumstances as approved by the faculty" (p79). You could assume anything not related to your academic progress that prevents you from performing well in a course for a part or the remainder of the semester could grant you a 'W.' Of course, you cannot ask for a 'W' just because you don't understand the material, or were too lazy to study after withdrawal date, and your grade has started to slip: poor time management is not an excuse. There has to be a documentable reason that kept you from going to class or finishing a project.

To petition for a 'W' after withdrawal date, swing by the Office of the Registrar, and pick up a 'Petition to the Faculty Form' for each class that you wish to withdraw from. Fill out each form. Then get your course professor's signature, the department head for the course's signature, the department head for your major's signature, and a representative of the Office of the Registrar's signature on each form. Then attach copies of documentation for your reason of your 'W' request to each form. Return the completed forms to the SPSU Office of the Registrar and await their decision. Award or denial of a 'W' after withdrawal date will be given to you in writing from the Office of the Registrar. If you do not receive a 'W' and still feel you have reason to, appeal it with the appeals form through the Registrar's Office with perhaps more documentation.

## Attempt 4. Saving Your GPA and Attempted Credit Hours: Requesting an 'I'

Probably the most confusing process to understand, requesting an 'I' can be the most rewarding, or most detrimental. If correctly used, it saves your grade and your attempted hours!

Now assume something small has happened; your computer destroyed a paper or some program code. Maybe for one week you were sick with the flu. Maybe your car was struck by a high school driver speeding to school and you missed an exam. Maybe a tree fell on your leg and you were in the hospital and were unable to finish a report due that week. You've got creative room for your reasons, but whatever the circumstances, a request is best suited when bad things happen near the end of the semester and you miss class, and you still want the grade you deserve.

In such a case, request an 'I' for the class. The 'I' stands for 'incomplete' and is a contract created between the student and professor.

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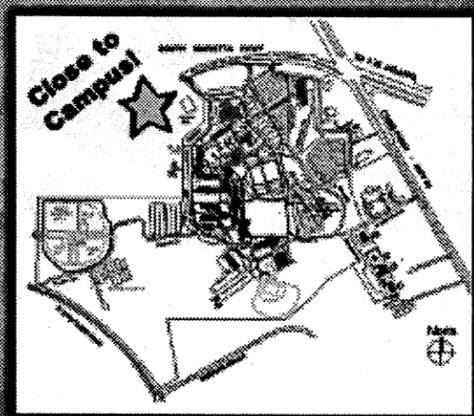
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**Digits**

*Continued from Front Page*

The school currently has in the neighborhood of 650 DIDs (Directed Inward Dialers), which tell our telephone switch what telephone number to direct the incoming calls to or what phone number the outgoing calls are coming from. Each DID is representative of a logical phone number, so the school therefore has about 650 phone numbers to maintain. In the past, the school hasn't been billed for the DIDs, but now GTA will be charging the school on a per-DID basis on top of the current charges. GTA plans to introduce SPSU at a \$1.50 per DID per month rate, and increase the school to \$7.00 per DID per month as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. At \$7.00 per DID per month, the extra charge for the 650 DIDs will add \$4,550/month. This adds up to an additional \$54,600/year.

These numbers are only for DIDs the school currently has. They do not include any quantity increases from the new housing or from the acquisition of Life's campus. IT is also planning to purchase a third PRI to cover the load of the additional housing and other campus demands, so that means even greater monthly charges.

**The Plan**

SPSU's IT department has been working on a plan of action with the goal of reducing our telecommunications costs. Over the course of the past year, the IT department has been converting the campus over from the old telephone system to a new Voice over IP (VoIP) telephone system using equipment from Shoreline. This change to a VoIP telephone system will already save the school a lot of money. However, according to an email sent out by Bill Gruszka, CIO, the abrupt "pricing changes by the Georgia Technology Authority (GTA) has threatened to erode the majority of the savings we have realized."

The bottom line is the increase in charges is so high that the school must change its local telephone service provider, and this change will require most phone numbers on campus to change too. Ron Skopitz, Director of Information Technology, says "It is not something we want to do" but "we have no choice." Normally, the Federal Communications Commission's mandate on landline number portability from the

Telecommunications Act of 1996 would allow the school to maintain its telephone numbers, but there is a loophole in number portability. Number portability is at the discretion of the owner of the phone number. GTA, not the school, owns the phone numbers, so the portability of the school's numbers is up to GTA. GTA also would bear the cost of porting the numbers from the school over to the new provider, so there is no incentive for GTA to port the school's numbers to the new provider.

The school will keep certain, necessary phone numbers. Not all of them have been picked yet, but the main line, (770) 528-7200, and the police line, (770) 528-7348, are already known keepers. IT is currently selecting phone numbers that will be kept, but they are trying to keep that number to a minimum. There is a monthly charge for porting the old numbers to a different provider.

SPSU currently has a Request for Proposal out for new bidders. No specific provider has been chosen yet. At the time of this writing, it is unknown if any responses have been made to the RFP.

In the email sent out by Gruszka, IT asked that faculty cease ordering stationary, business cards, and other items with phone numbers printed on them. Many faculty members are curious about the time frame of this change. Mr. Skopitz says that the absolute earliest anything could happen is the middle of April, but Skopitz says that is considered highly unlikely. Skopitz says that generic stationary and other business prints should be used if the need to re-order arises.

The ball is just starting to roll on this development, so plenty is left undetermined for now. More information will come as it's available.

**About GTA**

GTA is the mandatory telephone provider for most of the state government funded agencies, including but not limited to the University System of Georgia. They are responsible for all telecommunications purchasing for the state government. GTA also provides the data networking and Internet access for the rest of the state agencies outside of the USG. PeachNet is the USG's Internet service provider.

# CoffeeNet Announces Grand Opening

SMYRNA, GA – Smyrna has a new coffeehouse in the neighborhood. To celebrate the opening on March 27, 2004, festivities will include free drip coffee, an appearance by Smyrna's mayor, balloons for kids, prize giveaways, and entertainment in the evening. There will also be a "Guess the Number of Chocolate Covered Coffee Beans in the Jar" contest. CoffeeNet is located at 3100 Highlands Parkway, near the intersection of South Cobb Drive and Highlands Parkway.

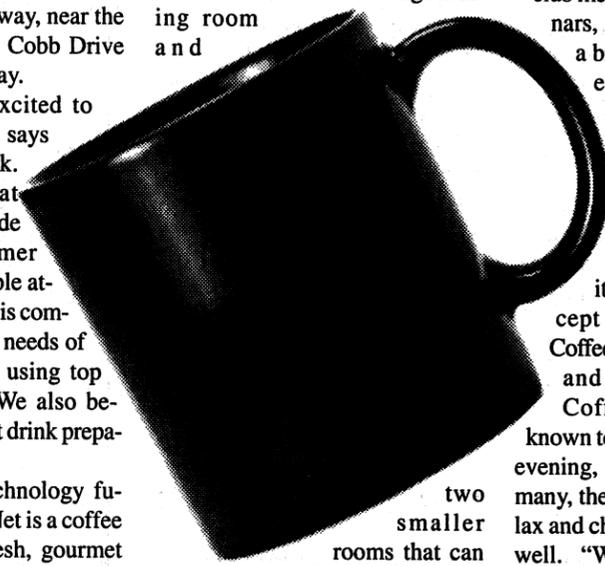
"We are very excited to open our first store," says co-owner Gayle Link. "Our goal here at CoffeeNet is to provide inspirational customer service in a comfortable atmosphere. CoffeeNet is committed to meeting the needs of our customers while using top quality ingredients. We also believe in fast, consistent drink preparation."

A coffee and technology fusion concept, CoffeeNet is a coffee shop that features fresh, gourmet coffee as well as a business productivity center. Patrons can surf the Internet for free or check email while sipping on a latte or eating a delicious piece of cake. You can bring in your own laptop or utilize CoffeeNet's computers. On the menu are several coffee varieties, including fair trade, organic coffees, espresso-based beverages such as

lattes and cappuccinos, flavored coffees, teas, smoothies and bakery items such as cookies, cakes, and muffins. "In addition to surfing the Internet, customers can utilize many other services. They can make color copies, order business cards and stationary, use our mailbox services, work on a document in Microsoft Word or send a fax. CoffeeNet also has a large training room and

seating options. Towards the back of the shop are two rooms that offer privacy for patrons seeking to have a small private meeting, or perhaps lounge and read a book while enjoying a French roast. Behind those rooms are the main computer room and the large training room. The training room is the perfect size for many different types of events – club meetings, Bible studies, seminars, lectures, classes, or even a bridal shower or tea or poetry reading. "We really look forward to serving Smyrna and the metro Atlanta area and hosting events at our shop," says Link. The coffee and business productivity combination was a concept that came naturally to CoffeeNet's owners, Gayle Link and Panya Lei Yarber. CoffeeNet's owners were known to drink coffee late into the evening, while working. But like many, they were also known to relax and chat over a cup of coffee as well. "We hope that people will come here to work, but also to unwind, play and socialize."

CoffeeNet is privately held. Founded in 2003, CoffeeNet is a coffee and technology fusion concept in the metro Atlanta area. For more information about CoffeeNet, call 404-794-7744 or visit <http://www.coffee-net.net/>



two smaller rooms that can be used for meetings. Or, you can just sit back and relax while enjoying your coffee," says Link.

CoffeeNet is not your typical coffeehouse. Housed in a new shopping center on Highlands Parkway, right off of South Cobb Drive, the main dining room features warm, subdued lighting, tables and chairs, as well as other comfortable

**Punching Out**

*Continued from Page 3*

You're not going to get any tuition money back, but you can save your GPA and attempted credit hours.

To request an 'I' approach the professor with your good reason for missing a class or not turning in an assignment. Some form of documentation, even if unofficial will be nice, but is not absolutely required. A good example is a doctor's note for sickness, or a copy of a police report. Once again, like the 'W' after deadline request, it still has to be a pretty good reason that the professor will accept. Feeling unprepared to take a test or not understanding the material, not finishing a project on time because you had another project due the same day for another class, or traffic was bad, are not acceptable. Computer failure can be though!

If your professor accepts your reason, or feels sympathy for your situation, the two of you can decide on how long you have to complete the work that you missed. There is no set time, but no more than a full extra enrolled semester is given. The professor will write to the department head informing that the student will receive an 'I' for the course and how long the student has to complete the work.

Now here's where it gets tricky!

An 'I' will always and forever show up on your transcript for the semester it is given, but how you complete your agreement with your professor affects your grade.

The first step is **DO NOT REGISTER FOR THE CLASS NEXT SEMESTER YOU ARE ENROLLED!** Don't waste your attempted hours.

You have the ability to take whatever courses you need next. It is already assumed by the department and the professor that you are going to finish the work.

The safest route is to complete the work the next term that you are enrolled (yes, you can be off for one semester in between) and take it back to your professor. If you fulfill the contract in time, your work will be graded and averaged with the other course assignments and tests. The final grade produced will appear on your transcript the semester you complete the work. It will appear with the same course number as the course you took the 'I' in and the grade will be noted with a '-'. (Assume you made an 'A': it will appear as an 'A-'). Whatever attempted hours there were for the 'I' will be erased and added to your new grade as attempted and completed successfully.

If you fail to complete the work in the agreed time in your next enrolled semester, an 'F' will appear on your transcript with the same course number as the 'I'. Your 'I' will become an 'F', YES AN 'F'! Your GPA will be severely harmed and you can never regain those attempted credit hours. You will have to register for the class again and use up more attempted hours. So don't fail to complete the work (unless you get an extension to finish).

However, if you fail to complete the work from new circumstances, or lingering original circumstances, you can petition for a time extension to finish the work (there's always a way out). The petition form that you can use to request a 'W' after withdrawal date

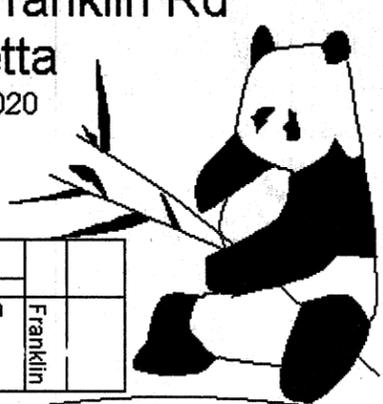
can also be used to request more time to finish the work for an 'I'. Only a maximum of 2 extensions (3 semesters after the 'I') are allowed to finish the work. The process to ask for more time is the same as requesting a single 'W', and if the Office of the Registrar denies the time extension then you can appeal it.

A final situation can occur if you don't return to school the next 2 consecutive semesters after the 'I' is given. That is, your 'I' becomes permanent. You can not make up the work for it. It remains an 'I' on your transcript, you don't get your attempted hours back. Thankfully, it does not become a failing grade, so kudos for your GPA, but now you do have to register for the class again. **YOU HAVE TO REPEAT THE ENTIRE CLASS**, using more attempted hours. This prevents you from forgetting the material, or letting an 'I' linger that you need to get to work on. So don't wait for an entire year to return to school after taking an 'I'.

So yes, we can't always stop bad things happening in our life, and they will affect our ability to come to class and perform well. But there are venues and a lot of people who will help out to keep your grades up. Don't be afraid to ask for help, or swing by the Dean of Students or the Office of the Registrar for advice. If you cannot control something after withdrawal date that keeps you down and hurts you, you don't have to suffer or just take a loss. Use these methods to help you take care of your problems and keep your head, **AND GRADES**, up at SPSU.

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# The SGA Greek Elections?

MIRANDA BENNETT

With SGA elections close approaching, *The Sting* has noticed a strange, Greek trend in the list of candidates. Of the 16 applicants running for positions on the SGA, *The Sting* has confirmed that at least 7 belong to Greek fraternities or sororities. Two Greeks are running for executive positions, and there are 5 Greek candidates running for the 10 council positions.

Erica Appleby, a member of the newly formed Alpha Xi Delta, is running uncontested for the Treasurer/Secretary position, which automatically makes her member of the Budget and Finance Committee. Melanie Bogart, president of Gamma Phi Beta is running for the non-voting, but still influential, po-

sition of vice president—her competition is the current SGA secretary, Kamisha Hammond.

At least 4 positions will assuredly be held by Greeks. However, Greek candidates are likely to gain backing not only from their chapters, but from like-minded Greeks across campus. What could this mean for the future of SPSU? — Increased funding for Greek organizations, including funding for conferences, which was recently denied by the SGA.

Greek organizations first became officially eligible for funds from Student Activities during the FY04 budget, under a new SGA policy (as reported by Mark Campbell in "SGA Budget Sees Winners, Losers," Vol. LVI, Issue 2 of *The Sting*).

However, there is a cap of \$1000. Shortly after the policy was approved last year, six Greek organizations requested and received funds.

The SGA's saving grace in 2004/2005 may be Marvin Broddus, the uncontested presidential candidate. Broddus, who is not in a Greek organization, will have veto power. It takes a three-fourths majority of the 10 council members to overturn a presidential veto.

To provide more information on the elections and candidates, *The Sting* will release a special elections edition, showcasing all candidates for SGA. This special edition will appear exclusively in *The Sting* Online, beginning March 15.

## Sting Staff

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## Letter to the Editor: Fire the Entire Career Placement Office Please!!!

My adventures in the career and placement office have been a maddening experience to say the least. The recent "career fair" was just as bad. What do those people do? Where can I get a job like that? They do NOTHING!!! I really think they all should be fired.

They DID tell me before I came to SPSU that they had a great placement office. They told me that everyone who graduates has no problem finding a job. They said that this was a small school, so every student gets individual attention. NOT!!!

Can placement office employees be "recalled"?

To the best I can determine, the Career and Placement Office employs at least two PhD's, a person with a B.A. and an administrative assistant. That is a lot of payroll going to what end?

Their job is to tell new students that they are there to help, critique your résumé, help you practice your interviewing skills, and most importantly, to find a place for SPSU graduates to work. As far as I can tell, that is their entire job description.

It is easy to do this in a hot job market, but the true test of their abilities comes when the job market is slow. It is easy to find people who are looking for architects and civil

engineers, because SPSU and Georgia Tech are known for those things. Even a terribly untalented individual can call on these companies and say, "Hey, we are going to have a job fair can you send your recruiters over here for the day?" All they have to do is send out an email for this. However, they aren't getting paid to send out a few emails and see what turns up. Any idiot can do that. It requires no great skill.

They set up a career fair, they say it is for everyone, but it isn't—it's for construction, civil engineers and architects! I did the whole deal and got all dressed up and brought plenty of résumés for what? There were only a few companies there that were even willing to accept my résumé, and only ONE that really wanted to find some schmuck to work in a well known crappy job.

The people who work in the placement office are supposed to be skilled professionals. They are supposed to be experts on finding jobs for students and they are paid well for the knowledge that they possess. They do know that the school consists of more than just civil engineers and architects right? Then why do they act like no one else is graduating in any other major this year?

Dr. Rossbacher says that the "customers" of SPSU are the busi-

nesses that hire our grads right. Did she forget to tell the career center that they needed to expand the customer base?

You be the judge. If your sole job duty was to find more customers for a business, even in tough times, and you didn't produce any more customers than the ones that were already banging down your door anyway, would you still have a job? NO WAY! You get paid for results, not show and tell!

I want to know what their success rate is (not for the simple stuff, but for the hard stuff)? It's not enough to ask the question, "How many SPSU graduates are employed three months after they graduate?" The musical question is, "How many people have been hooked up with an employer by the placement office, by major?" —because that is their job and we are paying for that in our tuition. This is how they advertise the school to prospective students and that is the way they should be graded! If they aren't performing their jobs well, there are plenty of very talented and well-connected people out there who can come and do it much better, to everyone's benefit.

Signed,  
One of those OTHER majors

### ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The local advertising rate of *The Sting* is \$3 per column inch on paper; advertisements online are determined by frequency. Advertisements for service and professional organizations on campus are free, but a run-date is not guaranteed on paper. To guarantee one, ad rates are one half the local advertisement rate. Classified advertisements are \$25.00 for the first 25 words on paper; online classifieds are \$12.00 for the first 25 words. Advertisements must be submitted by the deadline printed below. To reserve space or for more information, contact *The Sting* at 770.528.7310 or sting@spsu.edu.

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The Sting* welcomes letters praising or criticizing editorial policies or opinions. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double spaced and should not exceed three hundred words. Letters must include a name, 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 12:00 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 March 24, 2004. The issue will be released March 31, 2004.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions to *The Sting* are \$1,000,000 per semester or \$5,000,000 an academic year. All subscriptions start with the first issue of the succeeding semester. Checks for subscriptions should be made payable to *The Sting*.

### PRICE

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



# Driving and Crying

MARK CAMPBELL

Most of the students at Southern Polytechnic commute, and I'm one of them. I spend a good deal of time in my car, since I have to travel from Gwinnett County. This means that I get to chose between the I-75/85 Connector at Brookwood, or Spaghetti Junction. And I must travel through the Cobb Cloverleaf. I guess I'm part of the reason these three locations are amongst the nation's worst traffic bottlenecks...

I served on SPSU's original Technology Fee Committee. I clearly remember that the Academic Trio Group (comprised of select faculty) had put a very low priority on a proposal for traffic simulation software for the university's Civil Engineering Technology department. We bumped it up, and the CET program got the software.

That software needs to be put to some serious use. But more importantly, the state needs to make a commitment to actually doing something. Traffic can choke the economy.

Almost every day I get to witness the aftermath of an accident. Occasionally I see one occur. Thankfully, I haven't been in one. But given what an insurance company will pay out, versus the cost of a new vehicle, I'm always amazed at the amount of money my fellow students will spend to turn their car into a "fly ride." If you drive in Atlanta, you ought to spend no more on your car than what you are prepared to completely write off.

I really like the shifting of blame between private car owners and the trucking industry. I've seen plenty of truckers crawl all over the rear of private cars, as well as make lane changes even though a car is next to them (though the truckers, at least, use turn signals). But I've also seen cars cut off trucks.

It seems the worst offenders are the SUV drivers with the cell phones stuck to their ears. Frankly, I think we all recognize that these movers-and-shakers are conducting business important to the state's well-being. We all appreciate that, and since we want them to be able to give their full attention to the matter, I recommend that they close their eyes and concentrate on what is being said.

## Driving Directions

Mapquest doesn't have driving directions from Atlanta to Baghdad, but if they did it would include a very large ship. That's the easy part of the drive.

If you must drive in Baghdad, there are now a few pointers, courtesy of the United States Army. Drive straight down the center line that divides traffic lanes moving in the same direction. Drive fast. Do not stop without accompanying fire support.

Be aware of the fact that turning lanes in the central median may have been bricked over to conceal improvised explosive devices (bombs). Also beware of dead cats, especially near the shoulder of the roadway — many have been gutted and filled with artillery shells. Dead dogs are less dangerous, because

dogs are considered to be unclean by the locals, and therefore are seldom used for this purpose.

Journalists would also add that one shouldn't follow military convoys. However, if you happen to be in the vicinity of such a convoy, keep a sharp eye out for other vehicles approaching the convoy, as someone is likely to be on their way to meet Allah, intentionally or otherwise.

Also, if something does happen near a convoy, find cover quickly, lest you be caught in a fusillade of small arms fire. It may be necessary to risk such fire rather than being caught in the open. While the rules of engagement haven't been published, it seems to be "fire first, ask questions later (if at all)."

Very few of our readers are serving in Iraq, and most of you don't expect to go. But pay attention, if you are a male between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six. Last September the Department of Defense quietly called for volunteers to fill 8,000 draft board positions that were vacated after the Vietnam War. Those volunteers won't go — they are the ones that decide if you go.

By the way, *this* time, the Guard is *not* the way to avoid a tour "in country."

One Shi'ite cleric last summer made the mistake of trying to stop one such urban battle. Seeing that an armored fighting vehicle was not going to be dissuaded, he attempted to get his Toyota out of harm's way. Ostensibly, the U. S. is still investigating the "traffic accident" that flattened him in his sedan.

Once upon a time, people in this country held a lone Chinese student in the greatest admiration as he single-handedly confronted a tank in Tianamen Square. The times, they are a'changin'...

## A New Rider

Check your automobile insurance policies. I'm insured with State Farm, and they recently sent me an amendment to my policy. State Farm is excluding coverage arising from certain events, and they made that clear by CAPITALIZING the exclusions. I'll be a little less strident than they were in spelling those exclusions out.

In terms of medical coverage, State Farm informed me that "There is no coverage for *bodily injury* that results from: (a) nuclear reaction; (b) radiation or radioactive contamination from any source; or (c) the accidental or intentional detonation of, or release of radiation from, any nuclear or radioactive device."

State Farm also informed me that they won't cover any loss to my vehicle arising from the same conditions, using the same cut-and-paste boilerplate phrases.

I guess this is State Farm's assessment of the effectiveness of the U. S. Department of Homeland Security. As a journalist, I've had the privilege of speaking with people like Saxby Chambliss, Max Cleland, and the Atlanta office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and I've got to admit that I agree with State Farm's position.

Still, I think the use of a "dirty

bomb" is unlikely. There are much easier methods for any would-be terrorists to attack the United States, generating as much fear and certainly with a far greater actual impact. I attribute the fact that such a catastrophic attack hasn't occurred in the U. S. since 2001 less to governmental effectiveness than to the simple fact that it is a very small minority of individuals who would want to conduct such an attack, and most of them aren't over here.

That said, the greatest risk of "radioactive contamination" probably arises from a collision. There are vehicles out there that carry radioactive sources, mainly for medical and industrial radiography. And the government and the nuclear power industry do ship nuclear wastes by truck. It's a low risk, since source containers are designed to contain, even in an accident.

I'll live with the risk, and hope that those carriers of radioactive sources will cover my losses with their insurance coverage. The only one I doubt would do so is the U. S. government itself.

That said, if the gentle reader is a would-be nuclear terrorist, please be appraised that state governments in this country will tell you where you can find the low-grade nuclear material you need. Just Google "Georgia Radioactive Materials Licensees," and peruse the state's list of the 504 organizations you may rob. But don't bother with Southern Polytechnic — they aren't among the 17 academic nuclear licensees.

## I've got some good news...

No, I didn't save a ton of money by insuring my car with Geico — remember, I'm with State Farm. Instead, my car broke down here in Marietta, and I found a local business that was very kind.

Parrie Roth of Marietta Trophy and Engraving was very understanding when I called her and explained that my car was abandoned in her parking lot. I told her that it would be towed, and asked if she would accept the key and give it to the tow truck driver whenever he arrived. She did.

Many of the fraternities, the Campus Activities Board, and the Student Government Association have done business with these fine folks. I'm very grateful for all that they've done for me.

You'll find their ad in this issue. I didn't sell them the ad — their kindness in my hour of need sold me. So I personally paid this newspaper for the ad. Thank you, to everyone at Marietta Trophy.

## Of Fly Rides...

Let's accept the premise that some people select (or otherwise sink a lot of money into) a vehicle as a status symbol. That should be apparent to those who promote image over substance. Such are the folks that talk a great deal about visibil-



ity, and pay lip service at best to mission. After all, a campus portal project sells — continuance of an Apparel and Textile Engineering program, or unreservedly supporting an actual engineering program like the Masters in Systems Engineering, just isn't sexy.

I would expect that the president of such an image-conscious university could find a better car to drive — at least from a public relations standpoint. Granted, the Saab 9-5 is a good car for scooting down to Georgia Southern University in Statesboro to discuss Martian ice, but there are better vehicle choices for those who wish to see and be seen at Southern Polytechnic.

The Panoz AIV (Aluminum Intensive Vehicle) Roadster comes to mind. Donald and Danny Panoz's operation in Hoschton produces a fine open-air hot-rod. It's local, and the main engineering work was done by graduates of SPSU. If it's too flashy, they've also got a more conventional convertible sports car, the Esperante.

Another local auto manufacturer is Jim Kelly's Avanti works in Villa Rica. He reproduces the classic Avanti, but also has a Studebaker Sports Utility Vehicle. The latter, at least, should be more suitable for those geological expeditions. At the very least, it might catch the eye of SPSU's rock-climbing club.

Of course, SPSU has an excellent Society of Automotive Engineers' Supermileage team. I'm not recommending that our university president putt around town at 15 miles per hour with a burn-and-coast strategy. However, both Toyota and Honda produce electric-gasoline hybrids for the American market. Wouldn't it be cool if the president of Georgia's Technology University could talk one of those manufacturers into putting her in a car and their dollars into a student competition team?

That said, there is still American iron available from Ford's plant in Hapeville, and General Motors plant in Doraville. It's local jobs for local people, although much of the design and engineering occurs out of state. At the very least, an opportunity to recruit prospective students from the Ford or GM workforce could arise from a closer relationship with the university.

In a similar vein, for the flight aficionado, I'm going to recommend one affordable private plane, with great short take-off and landing capability for remote rock-hunting sites. Maule. They're in Moultrie, Ga.

In terms of cost, we're not talking Mars or the Moon here. At some point, that Saab 9-5 will have to go, with or without our beloved leader. Hopefully it will be replaced by a fly ride.



# Why You Should Visit the CS Open Projects Lab

MICAH ROWLAND

Have you ever been to the Open Projects Lab in J 236? Well I have, and let me tell you — it is one of the best academic environments for those of you who really wish to learn about programming. This lab, and several others, are accessible to students majoring in Computer Science, Information Technology, and Software Engineering.

The Computer Science department has made various software titles available for distribution via licenses obtained from Microsoft. This software can be obtained at the Open Projects Lab. Some of the many available titles include Microsoft XP Pro, Visual Studio.Net 2003, Microsoft Project 2003, Microsoft Visio.

Students can also obtain an Oracle or UNIX account to sharpen their skills on industry-critical technologies. Additionally, the Computer Science department has reserved, in the lab, reference books for various programming languages and tools software that will assist students in gaining a better understanding of specific topics in software engineering. And one of the most important resources provided in the lab course is the lab assistants and teaching assistants. I must tell you that the student assistants there are superb. I have seen them in action and let me tell you they have been getting the job done.

Day after day I have seen these young bright individuals assist their peers in understanding and completing their assignments day end and day out. What is really so great about the "CSLab Crew" is that they also help each other! Even some of the students who are into programming pitch in and lend a hand, making this environment even more conducive to learning programming. If you ask this reporter, I think that they should get a raise, including the lab administrators.

Adjacent to the Open Projects Lab is the Computer Networking Lab. Students should come here to learn about networking. The Computer Networking Lab is equipped with state-of-the-art Cisco routers, Cisco Switches, Cisco Hubs, Sun machines, and various operating systems environments. Also, adjacent to the Open Projects Lab, opposite side, is the Real-time Systems Lab. Here students can work on circuitry and embedded systems. Finally, across the hall, opposite of the Real-time Systems Lab is the extended Open Projects Lab, which is normally used for class lectures and.

I suggest that many of the students here should take advantage of these facilities. I must admit that I have learned a lot here this past year while working in the Open Projects Lab.

## SGA Elections Imminent

TONY PEREZ

Elections for 2004-2005 will be held this semester. According to Karen Asay, elections committee chair, in order to run for a position in SGA, a student must be in good standing and at least a 2.5 GPA for Officers and a 2.0 GPA for Student Council members. Applications to run for these offices were due on February 20<sup>th</sup>, but was extended to February 27<sup>th</sup>. Orientations were held on February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Applicants will be campaigning from March 2 through March 5, and again from March 16 through the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Spring Break occurs between the two weeks. Elections will be held on March 22 – 25. Students will be able to vote by paper ballots.

SGA addressed the budget requests submitted by ten organizations. Because of limited funding, the SGA was unable to grant the full request for most of the organizations. In most cases, half or even less of the requested amount was approved. Vice-President Laura Payan says these amounts are still not yet final and could still change. Among the organizations requesting funding were: Alpha

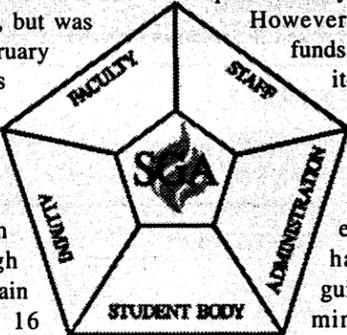
Phi Alpha, the Aerial Robotics Team, the Steel Bridge Team, Phi Beta Sigma, the Japanese Friendship Society, the Concrete Canoe, and the American Society for Civil Engineers.

Any organization that is sponsored by the school can request funding for events or materials required to carry out their mission.

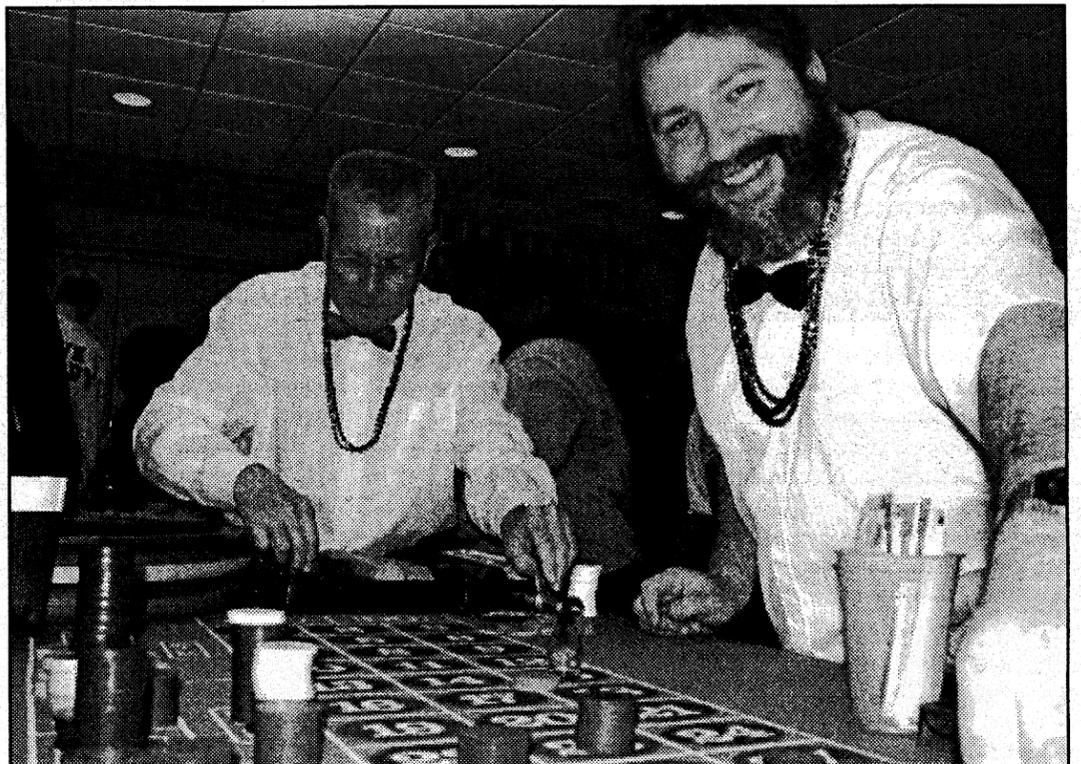
However, the amount of funds available is limited and therefore organizations are asked to raise money on their own whenever possible. SGA has established guidelines to determine what events they will fund; for example, the Board explained at the last meeting that SGA typically does not pay for Greek organizations to attend conferences. The deadline for submitting a budget request for the 2004/2005 school year was February 13.

In additional news, a representative from a newly formed group, *The Society of Gay and Lesbian Students*, asked to be recognized as an official campus organization. The Student Government Association met on Tuesday, February 17 at 12:00 noon in the Library

and discussed the request.



## CAB'S Annual Casino Night



SPSU administrators and faculty pitched in for Casino Night 2003. Ron Koger, vice president of Student and Enrollment Services, stacks chips, while Associate Professor Dr. Joel Fowler removes chips from the board at the roulette table.

It's that time of year again, where the Student Activities office here at SPSU is busy with activity. On top of the normal busy-ness that we have from day to day, the office is also getting ready for Casino Night. If you've been to one of these before, then you know it is by far, one of our largest events each year, if not our largest. If you haven't been to one before, we would like to invite you to attend this event. We will have numerous

black jack tables, along with roulette, craps, and slot machines. And for those less inclined on card games or the chance games of craps and roulette, we'll also have the money wheel again. We invite you to come play with the 'faux monies' provided when you come in the door and try to win raffle tickets, in addition to the one given at the door, to win those fabulous door prizes!

We have been calling place to get door prizes donated so that we

may spend the door prize money allocated on even more door prizes for you all. Please support those who support us: Lori Moore with Mary Kay Cosmetics, SPSU Bookstore, Dick Blick Arts and Crafts, AMF Lanes, Crunch Fitness in Kennesaw, Pets Unlimited, Eagle 106.7, Cracker Barrell, Shillings on the Square, Friday's on Barrett, Hooters at Cumberland, Longhorn Steakhouse, 99x, Sonny's BBQ, 106.7, Olive Garden, Q100, Scalini's.

## An Interview: Alpha Xi Delta



CJ SHRADER

Last month, I wrote a brief news article describing SPSU's newest sorority, Alpha Xi Delta. This month, I got the opportunity to conduct a brief interview with the head of the SPSU colony of Alpha Xi Delta, Pat Jennings.

**CJ Shrader:** "Why did you decide to start a sorority at SPSU?"

**Pat Jennings:** "The SPSU campus provides an environment in which Alpha Xi Delta has the opportunity to build successful chapter. We want to make a positive impact on the campus, in the community and give an upbuilding experience to the women who join our organization."

**CS:** "How many people did you expect to join during rush week, and how many did end up joining?"

**PJ:** "As in most colonization situations, we never know how many women to expect that are interested in joining a new sorority. We look at the average size of other National Panhellenic Council groups on campus to get an idea of what we might expect. Eleven new members joined during colonization week."

**CS:** "How many members does the SPSU chapter of Alpha Xi Delta currently have?"

**PJ:** "The colony is holding strong with 11 members. The chapter will continue to be actively engaged in an on-going recruitment plan to welcome other SPSU women who are interested in be-

ing a part of the colony."

**CS:** "Why, in your opinion, should interested students join Alpha Xi Delta?"

**PJ:** "Collegiate members of Alpha Xi Delta are provided an experience unlike any other on a college campus. It provides access to enriching educational programs that center on topics that can't be learned in a classroom. Our academic achievement programming helps members to excel in coursework. Through Choose Children, our national philanthropy, members experience the joy that comes from touching the life of a child. Alpha Xi Delta is an organization of high ideals and purposes that teaches leadership skills that help members make a positive impact on their campuses, communities and beyond."

**CS:** "What are your plans for the future of Alpha Xi Delta?"

**PJ:** "To continue to build a strong chapter on the SPSU campus, building rich relationships with other campus groups and serving the local community. Everything we do is to inspire Alpha Xi Delta women to realize their potential in the areas of education, leadership, scholarship and service to their community."

Individuals interested in learning more about Alpha Xi Delta's educational programs, academic achievement programming, and Choose Children are invited to visit [www.alphaxidelta.org](http://www.alphaxidelta.org).

## IEEE Robotics Team on the Hunt

TOM MITCHELL

A long time ago, in a far off land, a Mr. Daniel VanVolkinburg was crowned all high mucky muck of the IEEE Robotics Department. He was given the task of building and competing in the annual SoutheastCon robotics competition. Every year the challenge is different, but the idea is the same: get the rules, build a robot to complete the task, and compete against other schools in the Southeast. Over the past few years our robot has done quite well beating out other schools in the area, one could even say last year we beat the north avenue trade school... \*cough\* tech \*cough\*, but only because they didn't go to the competition (which was held in sunny Jamaica).

This year's challenge is called, "The Hunting Session." The ro-

bot has to operate autonomously and starts out at a red light. When the light turns green the robot has to proceed to a "code station," one of many stations on the course. At the "code station" it has to receive a Morse code signal of the order in which it must go to each station and collect a ball that represents an animal. Once it retrieves its targets from each station it must deposit them in a final bin within the allotted time frame of 5 minutes. Luckily, partial credit is given when the final scores are tallied, and every team is quite thankful for that. Most teams are lucky to have their robot move.

The competition is March 26-28<sup>th</sup> in North Carolina, and five people from our team are attending this year. At this point, SPSU's robot is looking pretty good for the competition—it moves around by use of a tracks setup, similar to one

you'd find on a tank. It has a PC104 stack as a brain, which is the equivalent of a 300 MHz processor, and is programmed using the C language because of the amount of space the robot has for data, only 256 mb. The robot is still waiting on final completion and the addition of some components. However, it does move under its own power and control, so that's practically half the battle. Hopefully, in the next week or two, the robot will be ready for final testing in preparation for the competition. So let us all pray that the chaos theory doesn't exist as our robot goes hunting.

If you would like to help out in the final stages of the robot please contact emailing Dan VanVolkinburg at [dvanvolk@spsu.edu](mailto:dvanvolk@spsu.edu). Any help is always welcomed and appreciated.

## The Candidates for the 2004-2005 Student Government

### Executive Offices

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Marvin Broddus

#### Vice President

Melanie Bogart  
Kamisha Peters-Hammond

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Erica Appleby

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Matt Hay  
John Heusinger  
Yolanda Jones  
Maggie McMurray  
Noreen Obanya  
Nish Patel  
Brian Scheiber

Demauro Stark  
Jay Stewart  
Ryan Thompson

Elections  
March 22-25  
**VOTE!**

# Lady Hornets Last Home Game

KAREN ASAY

Saturday, February 28, the Lady Hornets lost to Southern Wesleyan. This game was the Ladies' last home game of the season. Monday, March 1, was their last game of the season. Unfortunately, since the Ladies' record this year is 0-15 (not including their final game's outcome), they will not be going to the GACC tournament.

The Lady Hornets shot very sloppily in most of the first half. There were even a couple of shots that missed the basket and backboard completely. Later in the half, Brittany Watts was able to give the team a much needed burst, when she took the ball right out of the Eagles' hands and ran down court

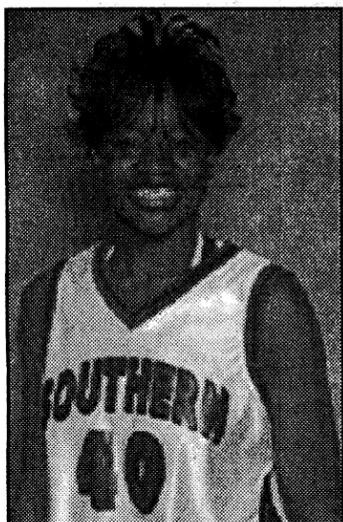
to score. After that, the Hornets went from only have two points with five minutes to go, to ending the half with 15 points. This leap in points closed the gap between the scores: 15-27.

In the beginning of the second half, the Lady Hornets continued to close the gap. Shirley Adrien, #40, did an excellent job of scoring in the box. Unfortunately, the good start didn't last, and the gap got bigger the rest of the game. The Hornets had too many turnovers. The game ended with a score of 38-64, Southern Wesleyan.

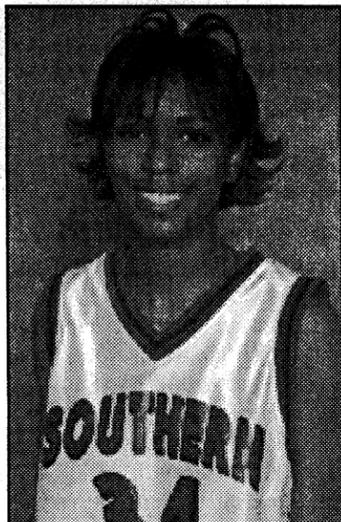
For most of the team, this game was the last game of the season, but for the senior players, Shirley

Adrien, Elisha Howell, and Jaimi Koehler, this game was their last college game. All three of these women played last year when the women's team was started. This year, Shirley Adrien averaged 10.8 points per game, had a total of 165 rebounds, and blocked 21 shots. Elisha Howell played 847 minutes, had 81 assists, and made 45 steals. Jaimi Koehler was a solid contributor to the team in the 12 games she played.

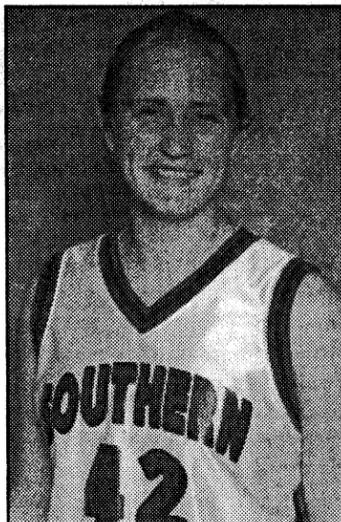
The season ended disappointingly for the team and fans. Hopefully, this season will not dampen the players' spirits but make them work harder, so that next season turns out much better.



Player: Shirley Adrien - #40  
Major: Business Management



Player: Elisha Howell - #34  
Major: Business Management

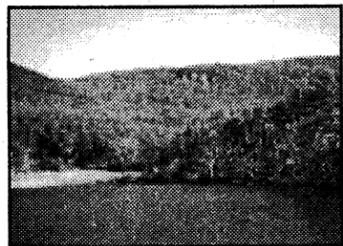


Player: Jaimi Koehler - #42  
Major: Architecture/Construction

March ♡ Southern Poly Hornets VS Brewton-Parker Barons ♡ March

## Rock Climbing Events

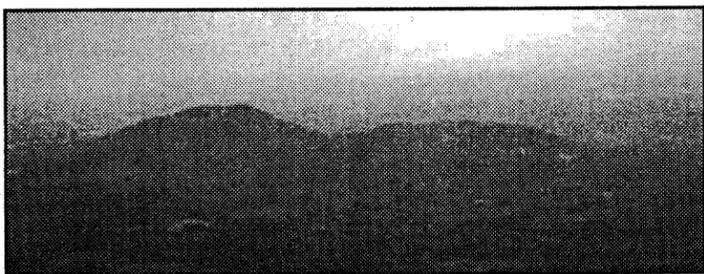
*Monday Nights - Climb Night at Galyan's Town Center at 7:00*



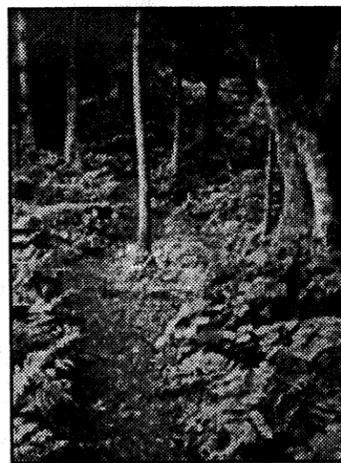
*Mar 11-13 (Thu-Sat) Spring Break Trip to Cheaha in Alabama (camping, climbing, rappelling, hiking, mountain biking, more details soon)*



*Apr 2-4 (Fri-Sun) - Climbing and more near Helen, GA*



*Mar 21 (Sunday) - Hike at Kennesaw Mountain*



*Mar 26-27 (Fri-Sat) Backpacking on the Appalachian Trail*



*Apr 24 (Saturday) - Climbing at Sandrock, AC and swim at Little River Falls*

These events are subject to change.

Please visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SPSU-RCC/> for more info.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb. 5	Emmanuel	L 66-83
Feb. 9	Brewton-Parker	L 63-93
Feb. 12	Ga. Southwestern	L 65-71
Feb. 14	North Georgia	L 55-75
Feb. 19	Reinhardt	L 60-77
Feb. 21	Shorter	L 40-71
Feb. 26	AMU	L 24-55
Feb. 28	S. Wesleyan	L 38-64
Mar. 1	Emmanuel	A 6:00 PM

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Feb. 5	Emmanuel	W 102-85
Feb. 7	Faulkner	L 70-72
Feb. 12	Ga. Southwestern	W 100-93
Feb. 14	North Georgia	L 73-77
Feb. 19	Reinhardt	L 72-73
Feb. 21	Shorter	W 66-64
Feb. 24	Claffin Uni.	W 83-67
Feb. 26	AMU	W 85-73
Feb. 28	S. Wesleyan	W 96-69
Mar. 1	Emmanuel	A 8:00 PM
Mar. 4	Brewton-Parker	H 7:30 PM

Mar. 10-13	GACC Tournament	TBA
Mar. 24-30	NAIA Tournament	TBA

## Men's Third Loss

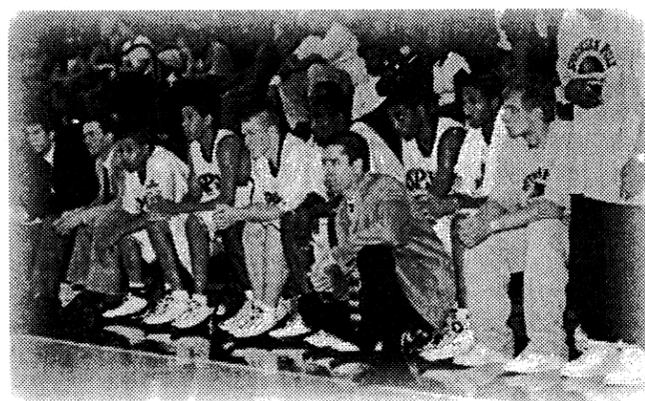
KAREN ASAY

On February 19, the SPSU Hornets played the Reinhardt Eagles. The Hornets had been undefeated until February 7, when they lost to Faulkner. The game against the Eagles was another disappointing loss for the Hornets. The score was really close: 72-73. It was an exciting game that came down to the last half second of the game and a foul shot.

In the beginning of the first half, the Eagles stayed 3 points

ahead of the Hornets for nine minutes. The Hornets finally tied the game when Tabius Tate, #3, shot a three pointer, and Chris Jackson, #12, pulled the team ahead when he scored and was fouled while doing so. Unfortunately, before the end of the half, the Eagles' Scott Kisor, #3, tied the game up again. Also, The Hornets kept fouling the Eagles' players, which allowed the Eagles to take the lead. The half ended with a score 33-37, Eagles.

Assistant Coach Andrew



ahead of the Hornets for nine minutes. The Hornets finally tied the game when Tabius Tate, #3, shot a three pointer, and Chris Jackson, #12, pulled the team ahead when he scored and was fouled while doing so. Unfortunately, before the end of the half, the Eagles' Scott Kisor, #3, tied the game up again. Also, The Hornets kept fouling the Eagles' players, which allowed the Eagles to take the lead. The half ended with a score 33-37, Eagles.

After a few minutes in the second half, Lamar Karim, #4, put the Hornets back into the lead with a three pointer. Hornets could not hold the lead for the rest of the game, so the score became tied with only seconds to go. Unfortunately, for the Hornets, the Eagles scored as

Meister said the effort was there, but the team was unable to defend against the Eagles' drib penetrations and the team only applied the defense they had been working on half the game. Another factor that affected the team is that Tabius Tate, #3, had been hurt, and Jan Zalud is out for the season with a torn AC ligament. Fortunately, in this game, the offense balanced out the game. Coach Meister said that the game plan was to get the ball to Chris Jackson, and the team did just that - Jackson made the plan work.

SPSU's men's basketball team is at the head of the GACC conference. If you haven't seen one of their games yet, don't miss your chance. Their last home game is March 4, so be there.

**MEN'S TENNIS TEAM**

Feb. 19	Emmanuel	W
Mar. 5	Emory Oxford	H 3:00 PM
Mar. 12	North Georgia	H 2:00 PM
Mar. 15	Reinhardt	H 3:00 PM
Mar. 23	Berry	A 2:00 PM
Mar. 26- 27	Tournament	All Day
Mar. 30	North Georgia	A 2:00 PM
Apr. 2	Emory Oxford	A 3:00 PM
Apr. 5	Lee	H 3:00 PM
Apr. 6	Shorter	H 2:00 PM
Apr. 13	Abm Montgomery	A 1:00 PM

# Tennis Team

KAREN ASAY

The SPSU tennis team had their first conference match February 19 and won. The coach expects the team to do well, but the GACC conference is a tough since three of its teams are nationally ranked teams. Auburn Montgomery was rated first in the nation in 2002, and Georgia Southwestern and Shorter have been two of the schools in the top ten for the last five years. This season, the tennis team has 13 scheduled matches.

college for tennis: Georgia Perimeter. As you can see, the team is made up of quality and experienced players.

The tennis team will have their next match on March 3 against Emory, so come support our team.



The 2004 SPSU Tennis Team

# Baseball Season Has Started

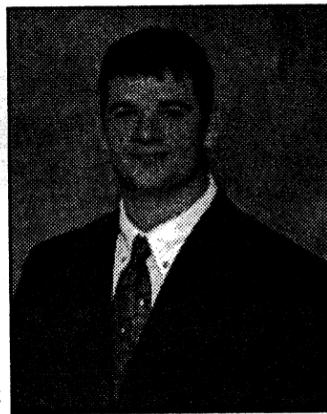
KAREN ASAY

The SPSU baseball team started their season on January 31, with a game against Thomas University. They played their first conference game on February 20 against Emmanuel. The team is ranked third in the conference with a record of 11-7 overall and 4-1 in conference. The team will be playing 55 games this season with 18 of the ones left being home games.

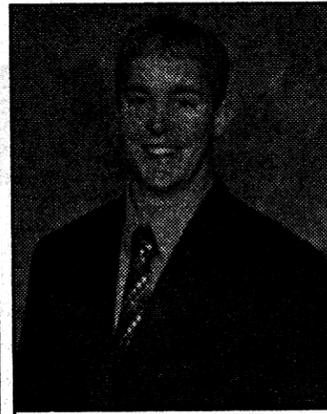
year, which means that they will practice with the team, but not play.

also six senior players this year, Scott Creel, Jeramie Brown, Greg Vandergriff, Evan Golf, Josh Blanton, and J.J. Jones. Of the seniors, Evan Golf and Jeramie Brown have played for SPSU for four years. Scott Creel and Evan Golf will be graduating this year.

The SPSU baseball team is on a roll so far this season, so come out and watch them play. Their next game is March 12 against Brewton Parker.



Evan Golf



Jeramie Brown

The team has a new head coach, Matt Griffin, and assistant coach, Gary Bohannon, this year. The head coach has a long history with Southern Poly. He was the assistant coach for the team for the last four years. He also played for the SPSU baseball team for three years and graduated from SPSU with a degree in Business Management. Griffin is looking forward to now being the head coach and expects the team to end up at the top half of the GACC conference.

There are 33 players this year; however, only 29 of the players are registered. The 4 that aren't registered, Matt Anderson, Greg Ihlenburg, Andrew Manaois, and Chris Marcotte, are red shirts this

Also, 27 of the 33 players are new, so the team has been doing a lot of work on team chemistry. One of the team's new players is Raphael Celis, who is from Valencia, Venezuela. Bohannon recruited him from a private school in Tennessee called Baylor High School. With the 27 new additions to the team, there are



The head coach, Pat Herrera, and assistant coach, Samuel Beadles, both have ties to SPSU other than tennis. Coach Herrera played tennis for and graduated with a Mechanical Engineering Technology degree from Southern Poly. Coach Samuel Beadles has been a full time faculty member in the Civil Engineering Technology Department for 15 years. Both of the coaches agree that this year's team is the best one in 15 years.

The team has six players, Othman Bennis, Jose Altamirano, Gustavo Gimenis, Yannick Bashizi, Kevis Santiago, and Andres Hoyes, and one red shirt, Lionel Ntasan. Othman, who is from Casablanca, Morocco, is the top player on the team. He played number four on the Freed Hardeman team, which was the 13<sup>th</sup> national ranked team in 2002.

Gimenis plays number three for the SPSU team and he is a transfer student from Abraham-Baldwin Agricultural College team, who has played in the national tournament for 39 consecutive years. Another player on the team, Kevis Santiago, also came from a well-recognized

#	Name	POS	YEAR
2	Scott Creel	2B	SR
13	Jeramie Brown	LHP	SR
12	Greg Vandergriff	RHP	SR
8	Evan Golf	OF	SR
24	Josh Blanton	RHP	SR
22	J.J. Jones	OF	SR
9	Rusty Watters	INF	JR
3	Kevin Merck	OF	JR
15	Justin Hogan	INF	JR
11	Justin Armstrong	C	JR
18	Heath Edmondson	RHP	JR
25	Patrick Jones	OF	JR
6	Brooks Cauley	INF	JR
34	Sayan Smith	OF	JR
29	David McCorvey	LHP	JR
23	Chris Gabriele	RHP	JR
27	Jeff Galloway	C	SO
1	Richard Riley	RHP	SO
21	Cole Mosteller	RHP	SO
31	Cory Gilelland	RHP	SO
17	Blake Porto	RHP	SO
4	Raphael Celis	UTL	FR
5	Cole Campbell	INF	FR
10	Adam McCollum	INF	FR
7	Neal Sheppard	C	FR
14	Don Heaton	RHP	FR
26	Mike Fallin	LHP	FR
32	Jermaine Clonts	INF	FR
16	Matt Kroppin	LHP	FR

Matt Anderson	OF	FR
Greg Ihlenburg	OF	FR
Andrew Manaois	OF	FR
Chris Marcotte	INF	FR

19	Jarrold Brown	Manager
	Matt Griffin	Head Coach
33	Gary Bohannon	Assistant Coach

Jan. 31	Thomas University	L 3-7
	Thomas University	W 7-1
Feb. 3	Oglethorpe	W 11-9
Feb. 8	Brevard	W 6-5
	Brevard	L 1-5
Feb. 9	Brevard	W 4-3
Feb. 11	West Georgia	L 5-6
Feb. 12	Berry	L 2-6
	Berry	L 0-10
Feb. 15	Brescia University	Rain Out
Feb. 16	Brescia University	W 10-2
	Brescia University	L 3-2
Feb. 20	Emmanuel*	W 11-3
Feb. 21	Emmanuel*	W 12-2
	Emmanuel*	W 19-3
Feb. 24	Lee University	W 8-7
	Lee University	W 5-2
Feb. 28	Faulkner*	W 3-1
	Faulkner*	L 5-0
	Faulkner*	L 8-6
Feb. 29	Faulkner*	L 8-6
Mar. 3	Emory University	H 2:30 PM
Mar. 5	Auburn Montgomery*	A 5:00 PM
Mar. 6	Auburn Montgomery*	A 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 9	Berry	A 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 12	Brewton-Parker*	H 2:00 PM
Mar. 13	Brewton-Parker*	H 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 16	Kennesaw	A 5:00 PM
Mar. 18	Atlanta Christian	H 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 19	Iowa Wesleyan	H 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 20	Thomas University	H 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 23	Lee University	A 6:00 PM
Mar. 26	Southern Wesleyan*	H 2:00 PM
Mar. 27	Southern Wesleyan*	H 1:00 PM DH
Mar. 29	Emory	A 3:00 PM
Mar. 30	North Greenville	A 1:00 PM DH
Apr. 2	North Georgia*	H 2:00 PM
Apr. 3	North Georgia*	H 1:00 PM DH
Apr. 6	Kennesaw	H 3:00 PM
Apr. 7	Piedmont	H 3:00 PM
Apr. 9	Shorter*	A 2:00 PM
Apr. 10	Shorter*	A 1:00 PM DH
Apr. 13	West Georgia	A TBA
Apr. 16	Georgia Southwestern*	A 3:00 PM
Apr. 17	Georgia Southwestern*	A 12:00 PM DH
Apr. 23-27	GACC Tournament	

\* - GACC Conference Game  
DH - Doubleheader

- TENNIS TEAM**
1. Othman Bennis
  2. Jose Altamirano
  3. Gustavo Gimenis
  4. Yannick Bashizi
  5. Kevis Santiago
  6. Andres Hoyes

Tennis Match March 1

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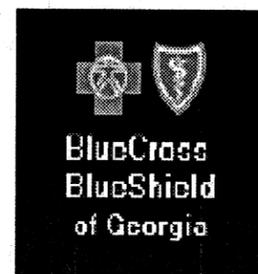
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40-44	\$80	\$130	\$256
45-49	\$111	\$146	\$288
50-54	\$136	\$165	\$325
55-59	\$177	\$179	\$364
60-64	\$219	\$218	\$438

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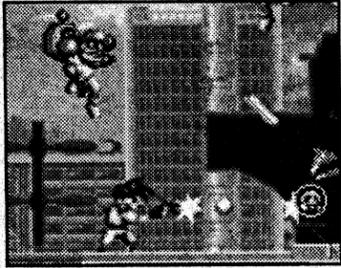
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# GUNSTAR HEROES for the Genesis/MegaDrive

DEVEN GALLO

Now it's time for a review that is long overdue (rhyming entirely coincidental), that of Gunstar Heroes! This is an utterly kickass side-scrolling shooter that equips you with awesome weaponry and pits you

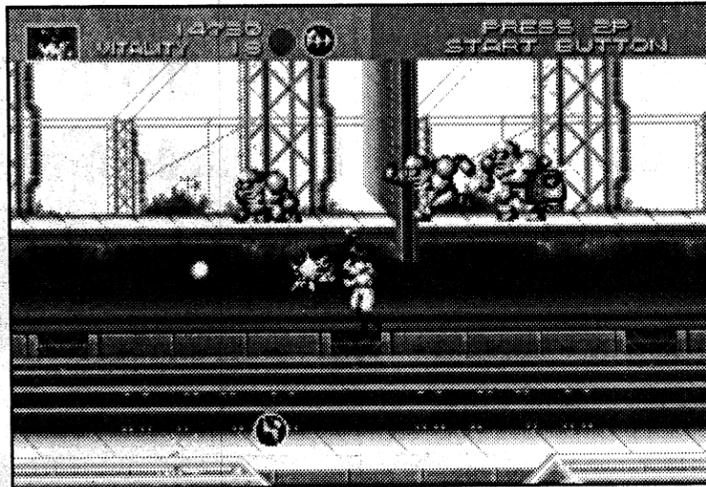


On the Airship in Area C, you must fight flying enemies.

against a tremendous army of enemy soldiers and deranged bosses with poorly translated names. Let's begin.

You're one of the Brothers Gunstar, trying to save your planet from an invasion of militaristic

bastards with an army of (android?) soldiers. Charge through each level destroying enemies, picking up weapons and upgrades, gathering health to keep yourself alive, and



Hang off ledges and attack enemies in all directions.

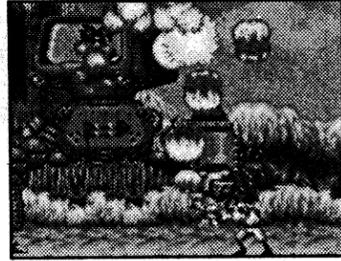
blasting the crap out of bosses.

Despite that it SEEMS like it should get repetitive... it just doesn't. It's ridiculously fun to play the same level over and over and see how many awesome insane stunts you can pull off. Draw a crowd, grab a soldier and throw him, annihilating all the rest. Dive through the resulting explosion, blow away 10 flying turrets and then slide into the next row of enemies. Time elapsed: 6 seconds. Holy crap.

As for the graphics—gorgeous. Everything is colorful, detailed and realistic. Bosses are composed of tons of individual sprites that pivot around each other with extraordinarily fluid motion. My only complaint is that the characters you play as could use more sprites in their animations so they look a bit smoother, but I suppose that might be a bit too much for the system to handle with how many enemies are onscreen.

The music is very, very good. It's well orchestrated, especially the first level's. It's upbeat and matches the action, and spurs you on.

The game is tough, as you need fantastic reaction time and great reflexes in order to effectively take out



"SHIT..SHIT.."

the hordes of enemies. There are multiple difficulty modes however, so the beginner will not be scared off.

What REALLY surprises me—despite having 10 enemy soldiers, 8 flying turrets, bullets, flames, explosions, the environment around you, and your character onscreen at all once... the game DOES NOT LAG! The game is so well coded, it's almost impossible to make the game slow down.

[SCORE 10/10]

Gameplay: Insanely fun and well-rounded gameplay, featuring insane amounts of enemies, psychotic weaponry, inventive bosses, tons of environments, interactive levels that allow you to jump and grab onto things while fighting... I do believe we have a winner.

[SCORE 9/10]

Graphics: Some of the absolute best I've ever seen. My only complaint is that there should be more animations for the main characters.

[SCORE 9/10]

Sound: Fantastic music that fits the game well. Some of the music is a bit repetitive though.

Originality: (8/10) We've certainly seen our share of side-scrolling shooters, but none that took the intensity to this level.

Difficulty: A bit tricky due to how frenzied the battles are, but there are multiple difficulty modes to match each skill level.

Overall: 46/50 (92%)

[ Formula is 2\*Gameplay + Graphics + Sound + Originality ]

Visit the New and Improved Epic Gaming (under construction) at: <http://www.epicgaming.net!>

## Mario Land 2: 6 Golden Coins

DEVEN GALLO

Sometime in the 80's, Nintendo decided it would be a crime to put Mario games on the NES/Famicom and not on the Game Boy. So they came out with the utterly shitty Mario Land. This game finally follows through on actually being playable, and turned out like a clone of Super Mario World for the SNES. Let's take a look. Let's start with the most important thing—Gameplay. You are a fat plumber who has to save his magical kingdom from his evil twin Wario, who has made the whole landscape evil, right down to the pissed-off, angry-faced backgrounds. Everything is after you as you try to recover the 6 Coins that will act as keys and let you into the castle to confront Wario and take back your kingdom. Yeeeah. Well, we all know the Mario games are acid trips in and of themselves. But the game is really, really, fun. It's a side-scroller, so you run right and left, jump on enemies to shoot them with fireballs to kill them, and pick up various items while trying to clear each stage. The stages form areas, each of which ends with a Boss and a coin it's guarding. Once you have them all, you fight Wario.

Sounds simple, but... it's not. However it is damn enjoyable.

Now on to graphics. These are pretty much the clearest, most detailed graphics you can crank out on the Game Boy. They're sharp and manage to look colorful despite that they are all composed of black, white, and 4 shades of gray. Animations are well done and fluid.

Now for Music and Sound. The music is catchy and enjoyable, and the sound effects are all very fitting.

I would always play this game with headphones on to truly appreciate how good it sounds in stereo.

How hard is this game? Fairly so. I could beat this in probably about 6-10 hours, which is long for a platformer on the Game Boy, I really need to give Nintendo credit for that. There are 2 difficulty modes, though "Easy Mode" is sort of hidden. If you didn't read the manual odds are you wouldn't ever find it. The Game Save feature helps you out, as you do not need to play the game all at once, you can spread it out. But if you die and lose all your coins, it's gonna save that too. So either switch off the GB right before it saves the new data, or you are screwed. Royally so.

[SCORE 8/10]

Gameplay: Fun as hell! But, the game's not too efficiently coded... so it lags like a bitch. You get used to it, though.

[SCORING 10/10]

Graphics: The absolute best you can get on this platform.

[SCORING 9/10]

Sound: There are some annoying tunes, but most of them are catchy and enjoyable.

[SCORING 8/10]

Originality: Side-scrolling platformers are nothing new, but each Mario game is on a level of dementia all by itself. It feels a lot like previous games though.

Difficulty: Pretty tough, though the game makes concessions to help you out, like 1-UPs (extra lives), a Save Game feature, etc.

Overall: 43/50 (85%)

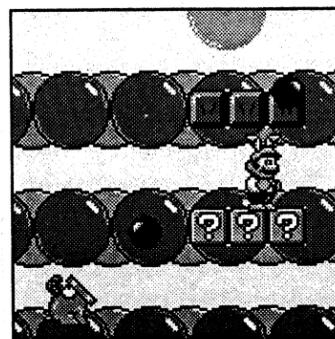
[ Formula is 2\*Gameplay + Graphics + Sound + Originality ]

Visit the New and Improved Epic Gaming (under construction) at: <http://www.epicgaming.net!>

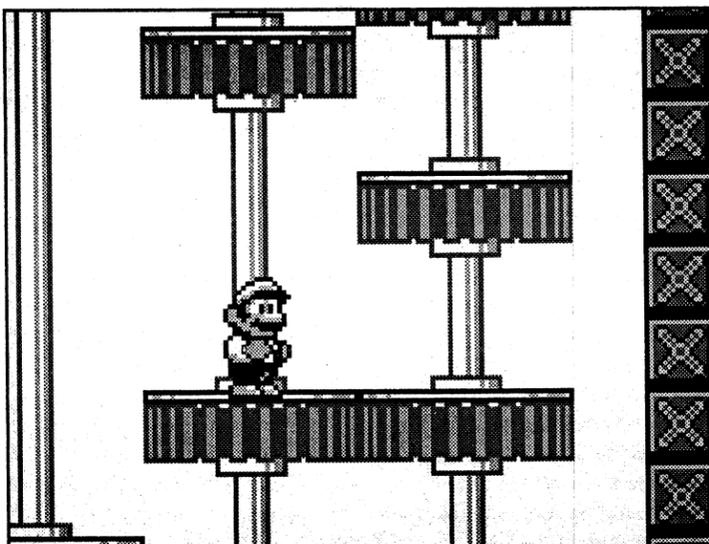
Or suggest a game by e-mailing me, [epicenter@adelphia.net](mailto:epicenter@adelphia.net)



Use the Bubble Blowing Hippo to gain access to the stages in Space.



OMG CANNONPIGS!



Mario jumps from Gear to Gear inside a giant robotic Mario.

## College Sex Talk

### A student from the University of Maine wants to know....

My girlfriend sometimes goes for weeks without being interested in sex. However, the instant she is again, she assumes that I'll be ready to respond to her every solicitation. Is it normal for women's desires to swing like this?

Male, Junior

### Dr. Caron's Answer:

Thank you for your question. There seems to be two parts to it - one related to her expectations of you when she is interested, and the other which has to do with changing desire. I would like to address the latter one first.

Sexual desire varies considerably from person to person - and is not necessarily based on gender. For example, there are men who go for long periods of time without showing any interest and then all of a sudden seem to have a desire for sex. Variation in desire is normal. There are some people who just seem to have low desire all the time - it has never been a big issue, while others seem to go through life with very high desire. In terms of the fluctuation in a person's desire, hormones can certainly play a role for some women - and perhaps this is the case for your partner. And as you have seen firsthand, sexual desire also varies from time to time for an individual. A person who used to be interested in sex on a daily basis may find that for whatever reason, they don't have time, or it is not a priority at this point in their life and vice versa.

In your situation, you say she seems to have no desire for weeks and then is interested. Hormones, her work schedule, and energy level could all be playing a role, or even how well things are going

between you in your relationship. As your relationship continues, you may be able to discover what seems to trigger her desire or non-desire.... and be better prepared for what is in store.

The other part of your question has to do with expectations. In your case, you say she is not interested at all for weeks and then once she is interested, she expects an immediate response... which does seem unfair. We are not robots, able to respond on command. Unfortunately, some people do hold onto the misconception that all men are ready and interested in sex at the drop of a hat. We hear about studies that say that men think about sex hundreds of times a day... so, why shouldn't he be able to perform this instant?

As you describe your situation, it appears you have a wonderful opportunity for the two of you to have a heart-to-heart about what has been, until now, unspoken ground rules within your relationship. It is time to negotiate. Having the conversation outside the bedroom will be useful, and making it clear that you want to improve the relationship - not cause problems - will reassure her that this conversation is important. Try to be honest. Let her know how you feel, which should include the part about her not desiring you for weeks (which may cause hurt feelings for you), as well as her expectation for an immediate response when she is interested. No one wants to feel pressured to do things they aren't ready for. Use this as an opportunity to strengthen the relationship.

Best wishes.

Dr. Sandra L. Caron, Ph.D.  
[sandy@collegesextalk.com](mailto:sandy@collegesextalk.com)  
[www.collegesextalk.com](http://www.collegesextalk.com)

# Shane And Shane Embark on the "CARRY AWAY" Tour

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Inpop Records' singer/songwriter duo Shane Barnard and Shane Everett will headline the "Carry Away" Tour accompanied by Rockettown's Dove Award-winning Ginny Owens and multi Dove Award nominee Shaun Groves. A follow up to Shane and Shane's successful 60-city leg of the tour last fall, the "Carry Away" Tour will hit 27 cities nationwide between March 3 and April 3 with average audiences of over 2500 per night.

Shane Barnard and Shane Everett, known collectively as Shane and Shane, have experienced overwhelming success since releasing *Carry Away*, the duo's critically acclaimed, best-selling sophomore project for Inpop Records in March. A Top 10 debut on SoundScan's "Top Christian Albums" chart and #149 spot on *Billboard's* "Top 200" pushed *Carry Away* to immediate sales success and helped drive the album up radio charts as well. "Be Near," the initial single from *Carry Away* produced by Newsboys' frontman Peter Furler, hit #3 on the *Christian Radio Weekly* (CRW) Inspirational radio chart and #14 on CRW's Adult Contemporary chart. In the fall of 2003, the momentum for Shane and Shane built further with a successful 60-city tour while

the duo continued to receive tremendous support from retailers and media. The worshipful urgency and artistic crafting of *Carry Away* prompted *Worship Leader Magazine* to call the album, "a highlight of the current contemporary Christian season and proof positive of a fresh wind of artistry blowing across the musical landscape."

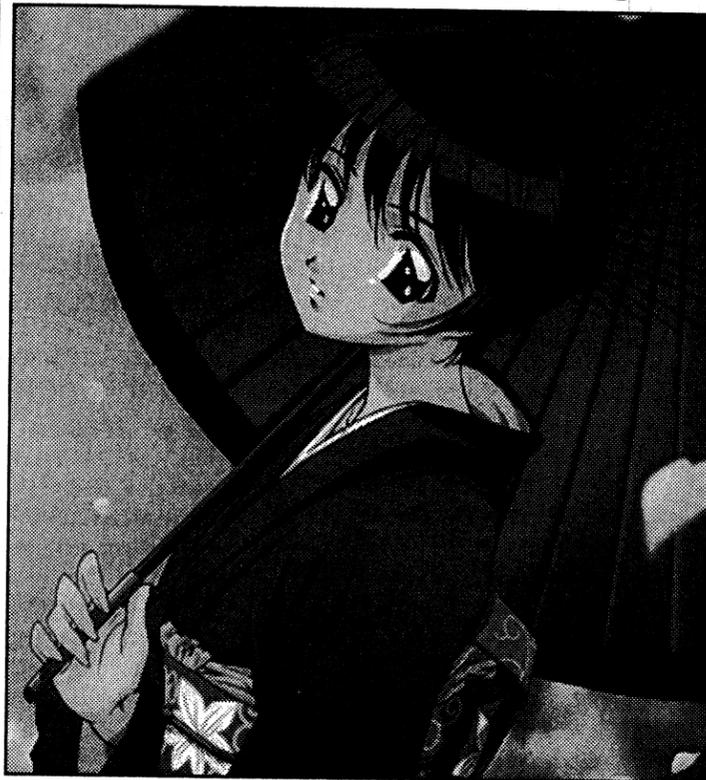
Described by *Billboard* as "a songwriter of incredible depth," Dove Award-winner Ginny Owens will spend the "Carry Away" tour sharing new songs from her upcoming April 6 release, *Beautiful*, a progressive pop record that focuses on the God responsible for ultimate beauty. Owens won her first Dove Award in 2000 for New Artist of the Year, reflecting the success of her debut album, *Without Condition*. The immediate acceptance of the project within the Christian market as well as with mainstream audiences was evident from her chart success at Christian radio and by her appearances on Lilith Fair, at the Sundance Film Festival and on National Public Radio. Blind since the age of 2, her original goal was to be a teacher, and she earned a degree in Music Education from Belmont University in Nashville before being discovered by the Michael W.

Smith-owned Rockettown label.

Shaun Groves is touring in support of his sophomore album, *Twilight*, a 2003 release which prompted one critic to note, "Shaun Groves is one of the biggest artists to emerge in 21st century Christian music, in large part because his music is timeless." Born in Tyler, Texas, Shaun Groves is a songwriter at heart, one who has already been exceedingly embraced in Christian music. Groves' debut, *Invitation to Eavesdrop*, initiated his success as the project's first single, "Welcome Home," rocketed to No. 1 on the Christian adult contemporary radio charts, where it stayed for four consecutive weeks. In 2002, Groves was nominated for six Dove Awards, including New Artist, Songwriter and Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year.

The "Carry Away" Tour will launch at Rockettown in Nashville, Tenn., March 3, continuing to such cities as Birmingham, AL; Fargo, ND; San Antonio, TX and thirteen others. For more information on the "Carry Away" Tour and Shane and Shane, Ginny Owens and Shaun Groves, please visit, [www.inpop.com](http://www.inpop.com) or [www.rockettownrecords.com](http://www.rockettownrecords.com).

# green's anime review



JASON CORLEY A.K.A. TOM GREEN

## Ai Yori Aoshi

This anime series is a romantic comedy. In most romantic comedies nothing ever really happens. They are like soap operas. But, *Ai Yori Aoshi* is different. In this one, progress is actually made between the main characters. Also in most comedies, the characters do some of the most stupid things and you tell the TV that the character should do this or that. Well in *Ai Yori Aoshi*, you say the character should do something or say something and they do. My roomy from last semester and I watched this and we had a blast that the characters actually did the smart thing, well, for the most part. I still have to admit that there are a couple episodes that are just fluff. I actually think the series would have been better if they had cut out the fluff and just made the series shorter. It's 26 episodes with a second season running 12 episodes and a movie. The second season is titled *Ai Yori Aoshi Enishi*. I was excited about seeing the second season but it turned out to be nothing but fluff with one episode that built slightly off the first season.

With the movie you are just saying "WTF mate?" (Quote is a reference to this flash video. <http://www.ebaumsworld.com/endorworld.html>). The movie is just a Christmas special that has no bearing on the series at all. So all in all, just watch season one.

This series is ultra sappy and you have to expect that going into it. There is no violence. Well, none worth noting. It's a love story. It's about a couple that have been arranged by their parents to marry each other. In Japan this not considered strange. The two were friends as children but because of family problems, Kaoru runs away. Aoi later comes to look for him not knowing anything about him other than his name and the way he use to be. They meet again not knowing who

the other is and then find out the person in front of them is their fiancé. Like I said, very sappy. And you can't really picture a group of guys sitting around watching something like this. Perhaps the appeal of this one is the "perfect girl". This could never happen in real life but it's like a fairy tale set in more modern times.

This would probably be a great one to watch with your significant other because it is romantic. You should also probably not try to watch all 26 episodes in one sitting, like I did. I've learned from my friends that they don't like to do that. If you don't like to watch the same thing for 13 hours then break it up some. If you get bored with it then you aren't going to like the episodes, but if you keep it where you want to find out what happens then you will like it a lot.

The first episodes move the story along pretty fast. Then you hit the first batch of fluff episodes. Around the middle it moves along for a bit then there are a few fluff episodes towards the end. The last few episodes bring the series almost to a close, but they leave it open enough for a second season.

Unfortunately they failed to do in the second season what they were able to do so well in the first season. I hope they come out with a third season and that it will be more like the first.

In this series it is clear who Kaoru loves and who Aoi loves. Well, it's clear to the audience. The support characters don't see it and they are trying to get Kaoru to fall for them. There is fair amount of fan service provided by the support characters. Tina just makes you go "WTF mate?" and "that was just wrong". Trust me on that.

This is the closest thing to what I have been looking for in a romantic anime. It a very good series and I recommend it. Well, just the first season. Don't bother with the second season or the movie.

# a brief history of poop and time

cj shrader

I stressed for some time trying to figure out what I should end up writing in this Anniversary Edition of the Histories that Matter. You see, I usually try to have some form of unified "theme" in this little article, rarely straying away from that pattern. However, I felt like that wouldn't work with the histories that I wanted to do, so I instead decided to squeeze in as many small histories as my interest would allow. For your reading pleasure, here are my sometimes-interesting findings.



My roommate Bailey once told me that his grade school teacher began to explain to his class what the black speck in bird poo was, but then stopped, saying that the explanation was too gross. I promised to find out what it was. After much research (And believe me, this information is not easy to find), I discovered that the black speck is merely whatever portions of the bird's diet that it couldn't digest. Some birds, such as owl, regurgitate "pellets," others just have black specks in their poo. Not that disgusting...kinda disappointing.



All is not lost, though. In my search for the above answer, I \*did\* find the history of the word "poop." "Poop" comes from the Middle English word "poupen" or "popen," and, believe it or not, originally meant fart. The word was based on the sound that a fart made.

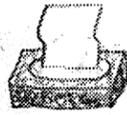


There is a long, long history on this ancient game that first introduced everyone's favorite plumber, Mario. However, my only interest here is why the game is called "Donkey Kong." For those who don't know, and this is important, the story of Donkey Kong is about a giant pet monkey who didn't like being a pet, and so broke free and challenged his owner to get up to the monkey while barrels are being thrown. Just to add insult to injury, the monkey stole the owner's (Mario's) girlfriend, who was actually named Pauline at the time.

Creator Shigeru Miyamoto needed a name for this game. He chose Kong in reference to the old movie King Kong, which is logical. Donkey was chosen to show DK's stubborn nature and to emphasize his uncontrollable pet monkey attitude. Thus, Donkey Kong was born.



"Dead as a Doornail" is an old cliché which pretty much means "dead." The phrase comes from 1350 AD when metal nails were rare and expensive to use. Therefore, either wooden pegs were used or metal nails would be reused from construction to construction. Nails in the door, however, were beat clear through the door and bent on the inner side. Since the doornails couldn't be removed and reused, they were called "dead." Hence, the phrase "dead as a doornail" was coined.



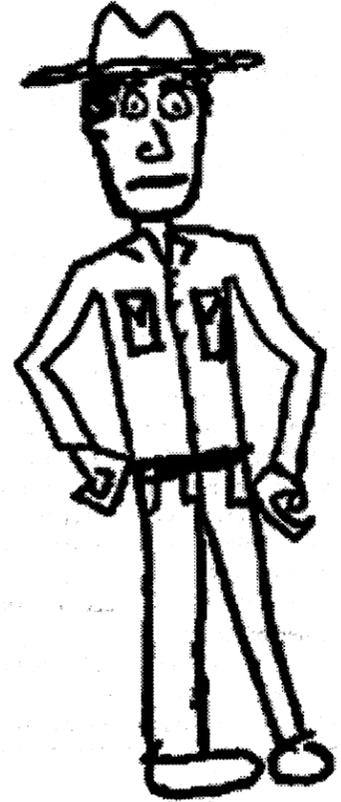
Kleenexes...Kleenexi?...were invented in 1924 as a make-up remover for women. The product did well, but women would complain that men were using Kleenexes as disposable handkerchiefs, a product which didn't yet exist in America. The Kleenex corporation took a major shift in advertising to accompany this new potential market, and Kleenex Facial Tissues were invented.

The name "Kleenex" comes from the company's first product, Kotex, a shortening of "Cotton Texture." When Kleenexes were created, the word "Kleen" was used to suggest the product's cleaning abilities, and "ex" was tacked on to the end to let people know it was from the same people that made Kotex. Thus, for the math majors, "Kleen" + "Ex" = Kleenex.

Wow, seven generally unrelated histories (Yes, the last one counts, stop complaining) squeezed into the same space that I usually put three histories into. It's your lucky day.

Before I end this History that Matters, I'd just like to assert my new plan to bring you better,

more informed histories and other answers that require true research on my part to the best of my ability. Essentially, with one full year of Histories that Matters behind my back now, I plan to double my efforts and make it better than ever before. With that said, I \*already\* know what the next History will be. Next time, I will discuss doomed prisoners' last meals and last words. Trust me, it's fascinating and sometimes funny.



# the history of last meals or something

cj shrader

By now, you may have noticed that there are two Histories that Matter in this one single issue. Well, through no individual's fault, my last History that Mattered failed to get printed in the last issue. This actually is pretty lucky for you. For having such patience (I know it pained you to be without my article for an issue), this issue has two Histories that Matter. And this one promises to be a good one.

Here, you'll read about some very vicious people with some strange senses of humor. I've done my best to find out some of the most memorable last meals and last words ever given by the worst that mankind ever spawned (And believe me, reading through all these last words was not fun). We'll start with my personal favorite and the inspiration for this article, Thomas Grasso.

**thomas grasso**

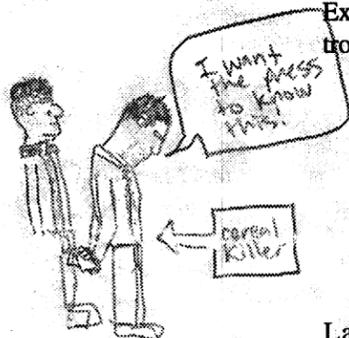
Crime: Robbed and murdered two women in their eighties. He even strangled

one with her own Christmas tree lights.

Last Meal: A dozen steamed mussels, a Burger King double cheeseburger with mustard, mayonnaise, lettuce and tomato, a can of Franco-American spaghetti with meatballs (Keep that in mind until the end), a mango, half of a pumpkin pie with whipped cream, and a strawberry milkshake.

Last Words: "I did not get my Spaghetti-Os, I got spaghetti. I want the press to know this." Well, now they know Thomas. Now they know.

Executed: 3-20-1995 by lethal injection.



**Jesse walter bishop**

Crime: Murder.

Last Meal: Unknown.

Last Words: "I've always wanted to try everything once...Let's go!"

Executed: 10-22-1979 by the gas chamber. Exactly four years before I was born. Coincidence? I think not.

**John sponkolink**

Crime: Murder of a man by shooting and beating with a hatchet.

Last Meal: Unknown.

Last Words: "Capital punishment - Them without the capital get the punishment."

Executed: 5-25-1979 by electrocution.

**robert buell**

Crime: The strangulation and rape of an 11 year old girl.

Last Meal: A single black olive.

Last Words: "Jerry and Shirley, I didn't kill your

daughter. The prosecutor knows that . . . and they left the real killer out there on the streets to kill again and again and again. So that some good may come of this, I ask that you continue to pursue this to the end. Don't let the prosecutor continue to spin this out of focus and force them to find out who really killed your daughter. That's all I have to say."

Executed: 9-24-2002 by the electric chair.

**walter lagrand**

Crime: Along with his brother, they murdered a bank manager in a bank robbery attempt.

Last Meal: Six fried eggs, 16 strips of bacon, one large serving of hash browns, a pint of pineapple sherbet, a breakfast steak, a cup of ice, 7-Up, Dr Pepper, Coke, hot sauce, coffee, two sugar packs and four Rol-aids.

Last Words: Unknown.

Executed: 3-3-1999 by gas chamber.

**Jimmy glass**

Crime: The murder of two people.

Last Meal: Unknown.

Last Words: "I'd rather be fishing."

Executed: 6-12-87 by electrocution.

Here are a few of my favorite last lines that I thought it'd be a crime to leave out of here.

George Appel, before electrocution: "Well gentlemen, you are about to see a baked Appel."

Sean Flannigan, speaking to the executioner: "I love you."

James French, before being electrocuted, "How about this for a headline for tomorrow's paper? French fries."

You know the rest. E-mail me suggestions at rshrader@spsu.edu. I have lots of choices for next issue (None of them submitted, jerks). I just can't put any of them together into one set theme.

# games you should want to play

cj shrader

Last year, as some of you who actually read *The Sting* may know, I wrote an article which told of games to look forward to in the upcoming year. Since then, some of the games I've mentioned came out like I said, some were delayed, and other games which I'd never heard of popped up and came into being. In this article, I'll go over what games I should have mentioned last year, and find out what happened to the ones that never showed up.

## games that were delayed

### Doom III

Delayed Until: Either first or second quarter 2004. Oh well.

Their Excuse: "For planning purposes."

### Counter-Strike: Condition Zero

Delayed Until: March 2004

Their Excuse: Apparently, the game has been passed off to a different developer \*again.\* The new company, Turtle Rock, has scrapped portions of the old company, Ritual's, work and started over. Just like Ritual did to Gearbox.

### Starcraft: Ghost

Delayed Until: February 11, 2004 OR June 11, 2004 (June most likely)

Their Excuse: "In order to meet our goals and deliver the outstanding game play experience our customers have come to expect from Blizzard products..." You know the story. If it weren't Blizzard, I'd be upset. But it is Blizzard. So they can take all the time they need.

### Halo 2

Delayed Until: April 18, 2004 (According to Amazon.com)

Their Excuse: "Halo 2 will be done when it's done." (According to Bungie, creators of Halo). Well...they never officially set a release date so the game isn't really delayed. So I guess they have no excuse.

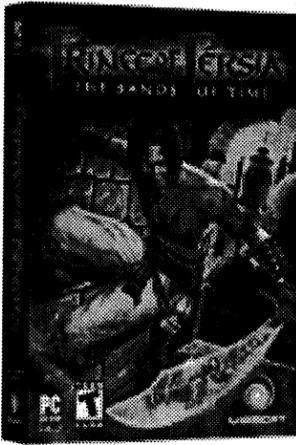
## games that should have made the list

### Prince of Persia: Sands of Time

If all you did in this game was run on walls, then I would play it. But you also get to control time. Control freakin' time AND run on the walls. Simply wow.

Of course, if you don't know what I'm talking about, here's the break down: In Prince of Persia: Sands of Time (PoP), you play a prince...of Persia...who has released the sands of time. The sands have converted everything into monsters, with the exception of yourself, a scantily clad girl, and the evil vizier. It is your mission to use your dagger of time to reverse the evil which you've unleashed.

In the game, as advertised, you have the ability to slow down time, stop time, and even reverse time up to ten seconds to save you if you miss that crucial jump or die while fighting. Combined with a unique fighting system which allows plenty of cool moves, rolls, and dodges, as well as semi-challenging puzzles between each fight, and you have a pretty cool game. Plus you get to run on walls.



### Simpsons: Hit and Run

I can't believe that a Simpsons game slipped under my radar for so long. I actually never heard of this until it was nearly out. At which point I bought it.

Here's the premise: Strange things are happening in Springfield, such as weird mechanical bees and black vans appearing all over the place. It's up to Homer, Bart, Lisa, Marge, and Apu (Yeah, Apu...not Maggie) to figure out what's going on and to put a stop to it.

I wish I could write a long review for this game, but the whole thing is pretty simple: Take Grand Theft Auto and cut the number of missions. Cut the weapons. Now, add Simpsons characters, cars, locales, and many, many Simpsons jokes that fans of the show will love, and you have Simpsons: Hit and Run.

Sounds like too many cuts for you? Too bad. The game is still enough like Grand Theft Auto to be fun, and all the jokes and humor

make it humorous to play as well.

### Soul Calibur 2

This sequel was way larger than I'd expected to be. Now, if you read my other article about the Soul Calibur 2 tournament, then you'd know I'm no expert in the game by any means. That doesn't mean that I don't know anything about it, though...we have two copies of it in my apartment alone.

Soul Calibur 2, like its predecessors, is your standard 3D fighting game. The newest installment has added new characters, weapons, levels, and continues the story of Soul Calibur and Soul Edge.

I'd have to say the most interesting aspect of this sequel is the console-specific characters. The X-Box has Spawn, the Playstation 2 has Heihachi (From Tekken), and the Gamecube has Link, who apparently took a break from finding rupees in bushes to fight in a tournament.

The game has a full story mode and \*tons\* of unlockables, like characters and weapons, so has a great replay ability. I think I'll go unlock something after this article is done.



### Viewtiful Joe

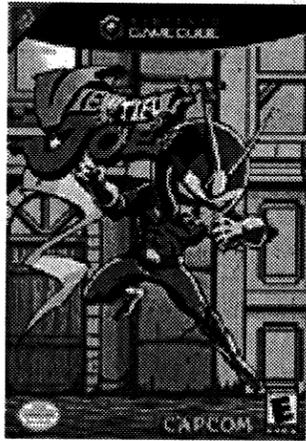
I have to say that this is a game that I truly regret missing on my "Games to Look Forward to in 2003" list. The story of Viewtiful Joe is similar to that of Last Action Hero, oddly enough. Joe's girlfriend is taken into a movie, and so Joe follows to save her. Inside, he's given special powers to help him defeat all the evil bosses and eventually save his girlfriend.

What are those powers you ask? Well, he's given the ability to slow down and speed up...time? The film? I never could figure it out. When playing Viewtiful Joe, you have to understand that physics have no place in it.

The game is a 2D side-scrolling cell shaded marvel. It takes you back to

your youth, where all games were 2D and bosses had predictable, repeated patterns that you just needed to figure out in order to win (Don't get me wrong though...the end of this game is \*hard\* and has failed to be beaten by me or my roommates).

Combat in the game is very exciting with the abilities to slow down and speed up the enemies and yourself. Got one enemy that you need to hit in specific places? Slow it down. Got lots of enemies? Speed it up, and smash your way into viewtiful glory.

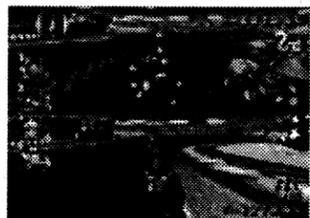


### Mario Kart Double Dash

How could I miss the sequel to, in my opinion, the greatest racing game ever to be invented? Mario Kart is the greatest get-together game that I've ever seen, probably one of the only games people would \*still\* play on the Nintendo 64 (And maybe even the Super Nintendo), and its sequel makes it even better.

Of course, you've got new courses. And new drivers. And even new character-specific items (Though you do see the loss of the long line of bananas and Boo). But that's not what makes Double Dash great. The ability for two people to control one cart, one driving and the other handling items, punching, and speed bursts, is really fun. Also, network compatibility is available, so you could essentially have eight people in four separate carts battling to be the #1 karter.

Naturally, you have the option to race by yourself as well...if you're one of \*those\* people (I generally am ☹).



I think that delaying games as long as how long they've delayed games like Doom III and Halo II is actually worse for the game because it can't live up to the hype. I was at E3 when they showed the demos for Duke Nukem Forever and it's still not out yet I mean what's the point in setting a date if you're just not going to keep it. This is not the 1970's you can't just run around and do whatever you want. This is 2004 and we need to step things up and set some new standards in the gaming future.

Yeah.



# that's a bad oscar

bailey humphries

The Academy Awards are a time when America's finest are rewarded with a symbol of excellence. But who is speaking for the worst? Who is looking for the worst acting, the worst directors, and the worst movies? I am here to point out the worst of everything.

## worst director

**Tim Burton** - Tim Burton is a jerkface. He's got a fat head. He made a remake of Planet of the Apes! He is a very bad person.

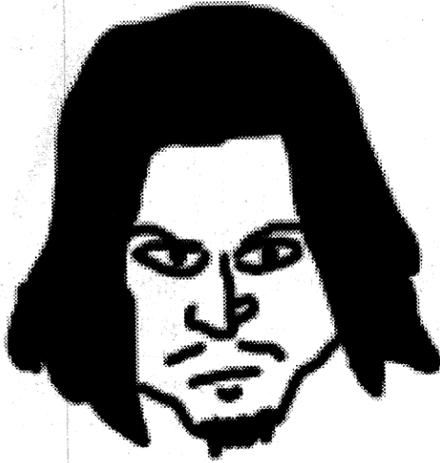
## worst picture

- **Gigli** - Because I couldn't think of four.
- **Pirates of the Caribbean** - It was a movie based on a ride!
- **Matrix Revolution** - My Bosses Daughter was better!
- **My Bosses Daughter** - Ashton may be a hottie! But he's a very bad person.



## worst actor

**Orlando Bloom** - Way to lower your standards!



## worst supporting actress

**Jodie Foster** - There's just something about Jodi Foster I don't like. Maybe it's because of her bad southern accent or maybe it's because I can see the power of satan working behind her dark brown eyes; I don't know. But I know she was terrible in Thirteen.

## worst actress

**Marla Singer** - Why wasn't her hair black?



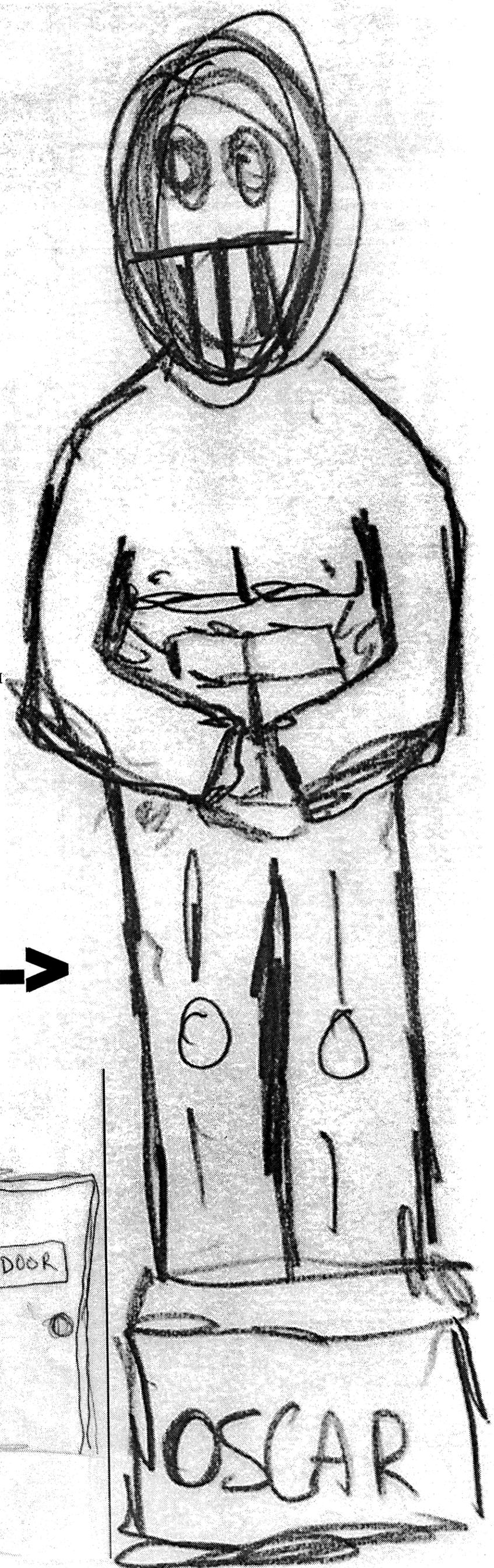
## worst makeup

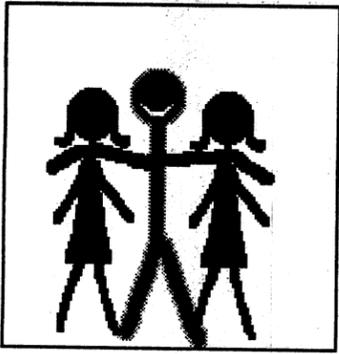
**Jack Nicholson** - He still looked old.

## worst special effects

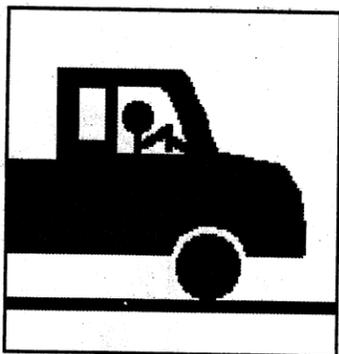
**Matrix 3** - Keanu still sucked.

# OSCAR ->

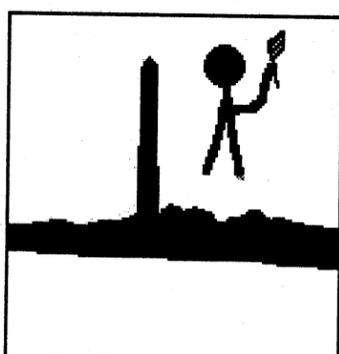




(TKE)Jonathan Higley is going to Tybee Island to "enjoy himself."

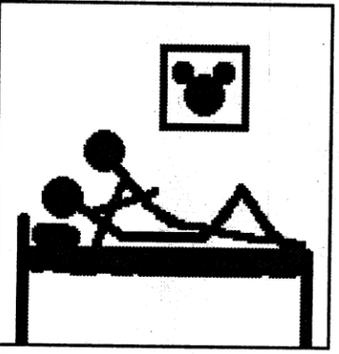


Kitwana Ruddok is working and taking a road trip to Coval Springs, Florida.

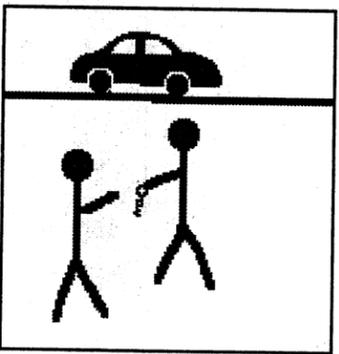


Tyhune Dulaney is going to D.C. with his roommate Frank (the white guy).

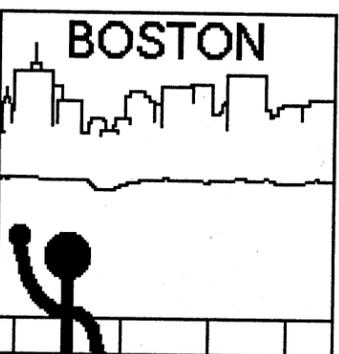
Student Question: **???**  
What are you doing this Spring Break?  
**???**



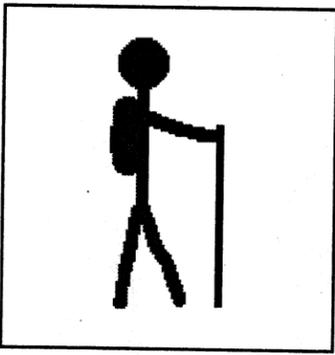
Stephanie Warner is going to Disney World with her Fiance.



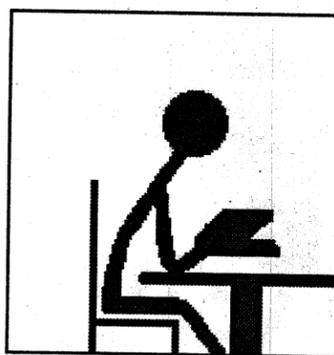
(TKE)Ponch \$ is working as a valet at Lenox Mall.



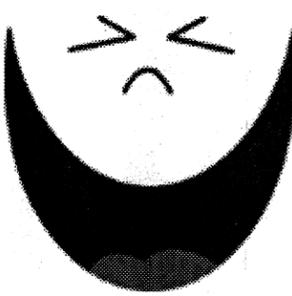
Janet Sandema might be going to Boston.



Matt Mastin is hiking the Appalachian trail.



Bobby Shamsai is doing homework in the library.



**Comedian**  
March 17  
9:00 pm  
SC Theatre



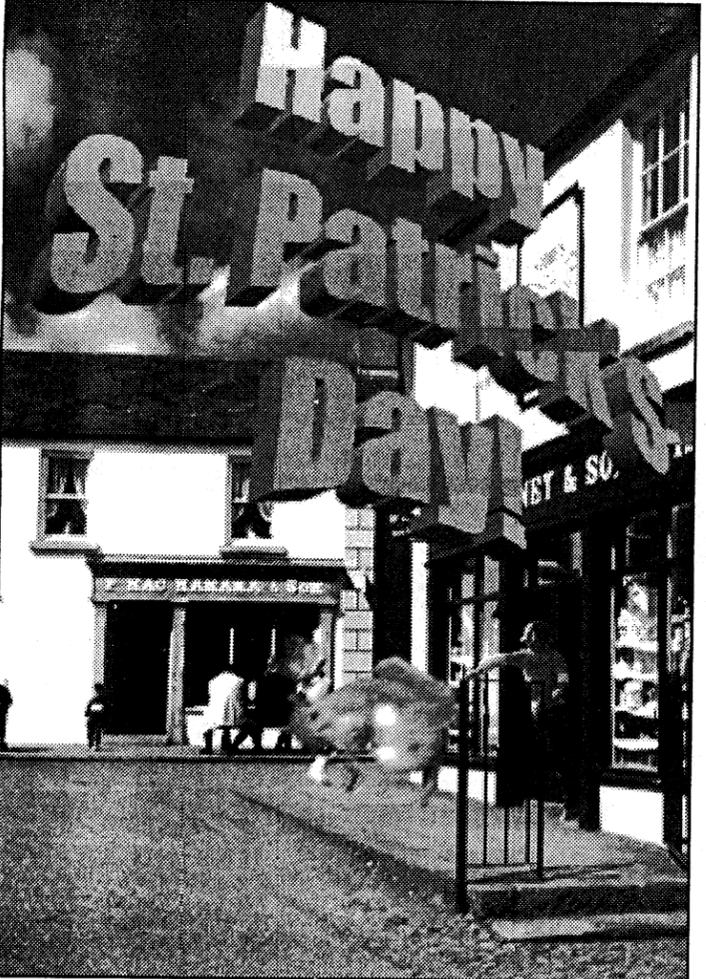
Something tells me we've been making models in here way too long...

GRR!

When Architects Attack



**the sting**  
Marvin's Friend Before Budgeting ... we love you Marvin!



**Casino Night**  
Presented by CAB

March 24  
7pm-11pm  
SC Ballroom

Black Jack  
Roulette & Door Prizes  
Craps & Money Wheel  
Slot Machines Raffle