



THE STING

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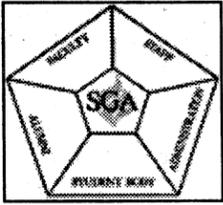
This issue of the Sting was wrestled into submission by the Elf-in-Chief. Reading the articles contained herein will give you magical Elf-like powers. Or not.

July 14, 2003

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

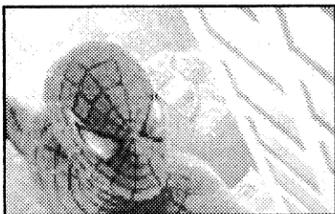
Volume 58, Edition 10

QUICK NEWS



SGA throw a Stuednt Week (pg 2).

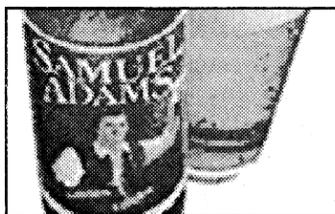
QUICK FEATURES



Spidey 2 Review. Find out what one STING writer thought of this movie (pg 8).



Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time review. Read before you buy the game (pg 11).



So you don't waste your money on beer that tastes like piss, read The STING's beer review (pg 11).



Review for Tiesto's latest visit to Atlanta. (pg 13).

QUICK OPINION



Hear what this STING writer thought after seeing the model room in the Courtyard. (pg 4).

An anonymous warning to SPSU guys. Mean Burritos (pg 6).

Courtyard Update

KAREN ASAY

The students that were here during the spring semester have watched the Courtyard apartments go from wooden supports to the brick building they are today. The outside look of the new apartments has been known since the outside of the buildings have been done for around a month or two, but what about the inside? The individual rooms are in the process of being finished; however, there is, now, a model room open for students to view. If you view the apartments, here is some of what you will see and discover.

The kitchen and living room are the two biggest areas, with a half wall separating them. The kitchen comes with a refrigerator (with an ice maker), microwave (with the stove fan controls), stove/oven, dishwasher, and a garbage disposal in one of the sinks. The pieces of furniture that will be in the kitchen upon move in are a square table and four chairs. The walls where the stove/oven and dishwasher are are lined with two feet deep counters and one foot deep cabinets. The kitchen has plenty of room to move around in. The living room, also, has a good amount of open space. The living room comes with furniture too: two chair, a sofa, two edge

tables, and an entertainment center that can fit a TV that is smaller than 32". This area is also where the phone and cable hook-ups are. Attached to these parts of the apartment are two closets: one for the water heater and the other for the washer and drier.

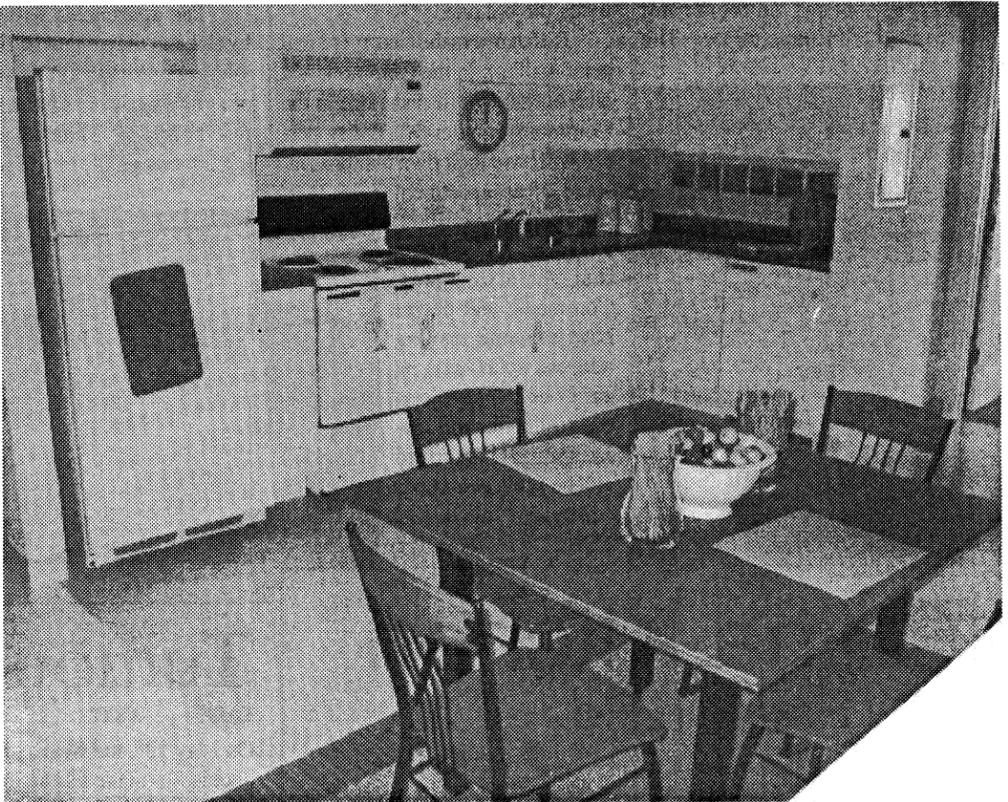
There are four bedrooms in every apartment and each one has a bathroom. The bedrooms come with a

full sized bed, a desk and chair, a dresser that can be separated in half and put under the bed, and an end table. They, also, have internet and phone hook-ups. The bathrooms in each room are roomy and have a

bath/shower in them.

Residence Life has already put together a deal for cable, internet, and phone. The deal is that you get

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Math and ECET's New Building

KAREN ASAY

On June 8, the Board of Regents, BoR, added six new construction projects to the already existing 16 project on the capital-outlay list. One of the added projects was a new Mathematics and Electrical Building for Southern Poly.

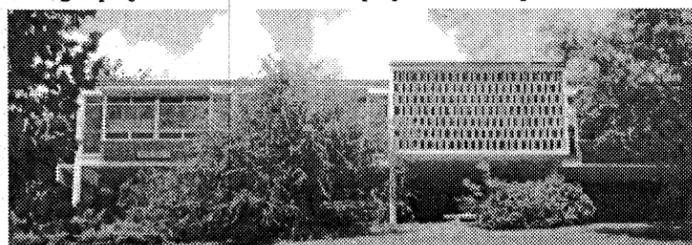
The new building is projected to cost \$30 million. One part of the cost will be demolishing Buildings I (old architecture) and G (ECET). The site for the new building will be where I-Building is now. Another part of the cost will be the actual design and construction for the building. The Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology Department is hoping that another part of the \$30 million cost is some new equipment. Professors Davis, Crimm, Fallon, and Bachman made a list of equipment they expect the department to need. However, equipment needs might change by the time the building is actually built.

It normally takes five years for a project to get to the top of the capital-outlay list. However, since there is a great need through out the Georgia University System for more academic buildings, Regents is trying to get the funding for the first eight projects on the list dur-

ing 2005. The cost for all these projects will be \$203 million. If the funding is found for these buildings, it will most likely hurry the process up. The ECET department is very hopeful that it will be sooner, but the building has a ways to go since it is 19th on the list.

The fact that SPSU was added to the list is possible proof that Regents approves and supports what this school is trying to do. This support might have been caused by Southern Poly's plans to get Life University's campus. The planning that went on with Life forced Regents to take a better look at SPSU and observe its faculties, students, and needs. Even though, SPSU did not get Life's campus, through the planning process this school has shown Regents that it is a worthy university and it might have earned more support from Regents in the future, not just with this new building.

Both departments are excited about the new building and hoping it is sooner than five years before it's built. They also express their thanks to Dr. Rossbacher for her support and work to get the project on the capital-list.



Graphic Lab Theft

KAREN ASAY

On the night of April 10th, the graphics lab in J-building, room #212, was robbed. That night, at 5:27 pm, the police got a request to secure the lab and they did. However, the next morning, April 11, the lab assistant, Gonzalezdonvares, open the room and discovered many items missing. The items missing were:

- 1 Monitor
- 3 Scanners
- 2 Deskjet printers
- 1 Inkjet printer
- 3 DVD/CD Players

On April 26, a warrant for William Harold Partridge, Jr. arrest was issued and Officer Mike Tarcan arrested him. William Partridge is better known, on this campus, by the name, Henry Slyie, because during

the Fall of 2003, he was a part-time teacher in the Humanities Department. He was arrested for burglary.

On May 2, all the stolen items were recovered. Someone had dropped them off at the Hampton Inn on 120 Loop near I-75. Someone, after the drop was made, told the clerk at the desk that there was stolen property on the hotel's property. The clerk called the police. The police recovered the stolen property but couldn't find any clues about who dropped the property at the hotel.

This case is still active. As of June 17, the case hadn't gone before a Grand Jury, which will decide if enough evidence had been collected to hold a trial.

Athletic Fee Increase

KAREN ASAY

The athletic fee will be increased this fall by \$11 so Southern Poly can start a soccer team. The Athletic Board was hoping for a \$26 increase. They were planning on spending \$5 on general costs, \$1 on the tennis team, and the remaining \$20 would be used to start a men's and women's soccer team. The Board of Regents decided that SPSU could only raise the fee by \$11.

The \$11 will be split up \$5 to general costs and \$6 to begin a men's soccer team. The \$5 to general cost was considered the most important cost. General cost includes the raise in salaries, raise in

scholarship cost, and other general items, like paper and equipment. Since none of the \$11 is going to the tennis team, tennis had to be cancelled. SPSU is still honoring the four returning tennis players' scholarships, though.

The school is hoping to hire a full-time coach by the end of August. Professor Hahn, the coach of the soccer club, was offered the job, but declined because he would rather teach. When the new coach is hired, he/she will be brought to the campus to get use to SPSU and start recruiting. This academic year,

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Update

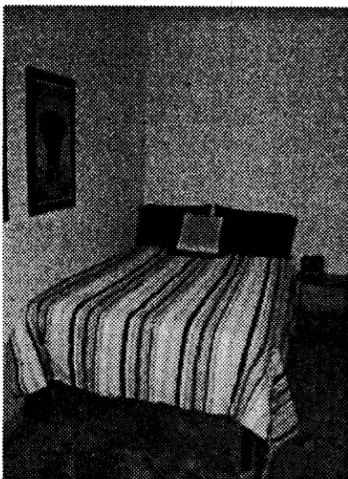
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all three of these utilities for \$25 per month. This deal doesn't just apply to the Courtyard; it is also for the Commons and dorms. Also, all residences have to pay this fee whether you use this service or not. The reason this fee spread to the dorms is that IT has upgraded the phones, to allow three-way calling and voicemail, and the network. There are no deals for electricity or water but ResLife is willing to work residence. If roommates can't agree on how to pay bills, ResLife will set up a pay plan for the roommates through the business office. The

roommates will be charged on there school account for a specified amount. The downside to this is that if the roommates' utilities bill goes over the specified amount, they will be charged more, but they will get nothing back if it is less.

The Courtyard apartments are going to have card access (no more keys). The cards will be made by the ResLife office, and in August, Eric White and Lisa Bovino (a new employee) will be trained to make the cards. This system has many advantages. For example, if a resident loses his/her card, ResLife can make him/her a new card and deactivate the old one.

Residence in the Courtyard will get a mailbox in the Commons old club house, as will residence in the Commons and dorms. Every person will have their own mailbox, instead of an apartment sharing one mailbox. ResLife has made it so that the Courtyard, Commons, and dorms have separate mailing address so it will be easier on the people in the post office to separate the mail. Courtyard will be 1160, Commons 1150, and the dorms 1170.



The construction for the apartments is on time. The only building that might not be done by fall is the community center. ResLife is looking forward to moving into their new offices before check in. Also, the construction crew has already planted grass and started the landscaping.

One problem ResLife is having with the apartments is that only 21% of the beds in it are full. They are starting to advertise at other schools, like Kennesaw, Georgia State, and Georgia Tech. ResLife needs to fill the rooms to pay their investors.

The apartments will be ready by fall, but they might be filled with many people that don't go to Southern Poly. Ed Klein says that it is sad that more SPSU students aren't taking advantage of this offer.

SGA's Student Week

KAREN ASAY

The Student Government, SGA, held a Student Week from Monday, June 14th to Thursday, June 17th. The money for this event was approved the week before at their bi-weekly meeting.

The schedule for the events was:

Monday: 12-2 - ice-cream
5-7 - pizza

Tuesday: 12-2 - Chick-fil-a

Wednesday: 12-2 - Free Billiard
5-7 - BBQ

Thursday: 5-7 - Wing Night

Most of these events were held in the Student Center. Monday's pizza was the only one held in the J-building. At each of their events, SGA gave out raffle tickets. With these tickets, people could win prizes at the end of each event. If people keep the tickets, they could use all their tickets to win a big prize Wednesday night. The prizes, also,

changed each day. Monday, the prize was movie passes. Tuesday, they were day

passes to Six Flags, Wide Water, and the Tennessee Aquarium. Wednesday, the big prizes were given out: an Xbox, TV, DVD Player, DVD's, Best Buy gift cards, and season passes to Six Flags. Thursday, SGA passes out smaller prizes again: the day passes and movie passes.

Marvin, the president of SGA, said that for a summer event, the event wasn't bad, but SGA could have done better advertising. Marvin, also, said that SGA is planning on doing a 'Week of Eats' in the fall. So if you missed this event or enjoyed it, look out for the 'Week of Eats' next semester.



Fee Increase

Continued from Front Page

2004-2005, will be used for recruiting and training, and, hopefully, in the Fall of 2005, the soccer team will play their first season.

The Athletic Board is planning to request for another raise in the athletic fee so women's soccer can

be added. If the increase is approved next year, expect to see women's soccer in Fall of 2006.

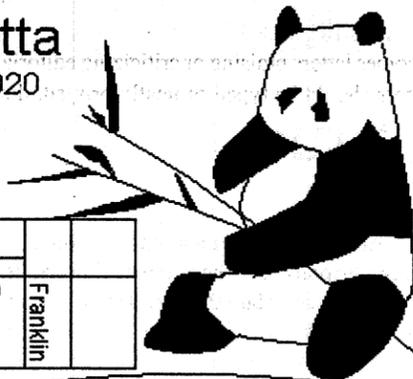
Soccer is the second new sport to be added to SPSU's athletics in the past three years. Soccer will bring some excitement to the Fall semester, since SPSU will finally have a Fall sport.

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Tuition Increase for 2004-2005

KAREN ASAY

On May 18th, the Board of Regents decided to make all the University System of Georgia, USG, institutions increase their tuition by five percent. Southern Poly students will be paying \$58 more per semester than they did last year for in-state tuition.

Undergraduates' full-time, in-state tuition - \$1,214.00

Undergraduates' full-time, out-of-state tuition - \$5,087.00

Graduates' nine hours, in-state tuition - \$1,330.00

Graduates' nine hours, out-of-state tuition - \$4,606.00

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Ex-SGA President is Arrested

KAREN ASAY

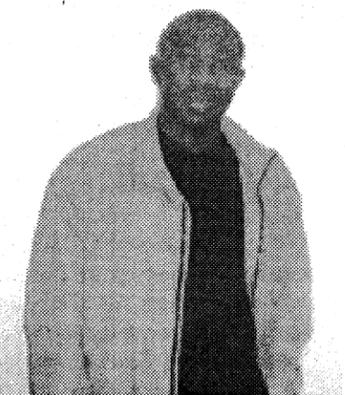
On May 3, Adefolarin Adeleye was arrested for theft by conversion. Theft by conversion, according to the Georgia Law Books, means "a person...lawfully obtained funds or other property of another...[and] he knowingly converts the funds or property to his own use in violation of the agreement or legal obligation." This law is explained in Georgia Code 16-4.

Adeleye was charged for this offense because he allegedly transferred a check made out to the Student Government to himself. This check was for \$800 and was reported missing by the business office, which caused the investigation to start.

The judge released Adeleye on his own recognizance, after he signed a promise to appear in court, if charged. On June 17, his Grand Jury hearing was held to determine probable cause. This hearing is held to see if a jury feels there is

enough evidence to hold a trial. It is not an indication of guilt. If the jury feels there is enough evidence, a bill of indictment will be issued. The jury's verdict is unknown as of now.

This case is still active. No verdict has been made of Adeleye's innocence or guilt, and when this case will be closed is unpredictable.



**Don't like something you see in The Sting?
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<http://forum.thesting.org>



It's still time for a change in Housing

ANONYMOUS

It's sad to say that the SPSU Housing continues in its old ways. Old ways equates to nothing more than harassment. Let's start with the definition of harassment then the reasons it equates to this.

Definition of harassment as found in a common dictionary:

- To irritate or torment persistently.

- To wear out; exhaust.

- To impede and exhaust (an enemy) by repeated attacks or raids.

As you read this article keep this definition in mind. Hopefully, some of you will have also read the articles in the last issue of *The STING* entitled "SPSU: All About the Bottom Line" and "It's time for change in Student Housing at SPSU". Some of the major themes in those articles were: lack of choices for students, lack of input from students, Housing making up the rules as they go along, and lack of consideration for the residents' learning environment. Surprise! Surprise! It seems as though nothing is going to change since the Housing Office continues to make completely stupid decisions, flip flop on important issues, and operate without a coherent or solid residency policy.

To see how Housing has flip flopped just look at the room assigning process for this summer. All

SPSU Housing. About mid-way through the semester, Housing began to notify some residents that they would have to change rooms in order for some work to be done on the roof. This announcement was not made via e-mail or in a memorandum distributed throughout the dorms, but presented at a dormitory cookout. Halfway through the semester, the residents had to set aside all of their school work, the most important reason for being here, to change rooms which should have been planned for in the beginning. If Housing had taken the most logical approach and put everyone on the first and second floors, and left a wing of the fourth floor open for the high schoolers, this wouldn't have happened. As mentioned, Housing said there would be no private rooms available this summer. So why are there students not only in private rooms, but also on the first floor and paying the same rate as double occupancy residents? True, some of the planned residents didn't show up, but, in the past, Housing has made single occupants move together or pay the single rate.

Recently, the residents of Howell Dorm noticed some disturbing fliers posted around campus. These signs read: "Sign a contract for any on-campus apartment hous-

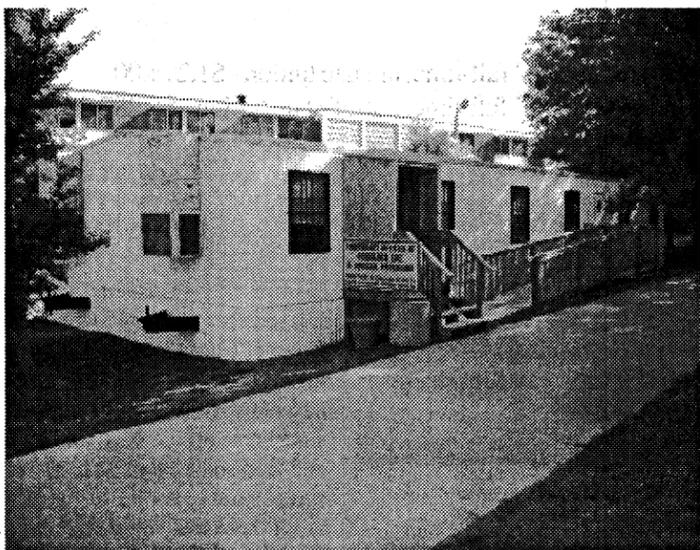
completely miscalculated the demand for apartments on this campus. One can only expect that if this ploy doesn't work then in the future, new residents may even get cheaper rent. By looking at the history of action by the Housing Office, one has no idea what to expect, so forget trying to use rational to anticipate anything.

It seems as though the underlying problem with our Housing Office is that they don't have a policy and the people running the show don't understand how important that is to students. In the article entitled "Its time for a change at SPSU Housing," the student made reference to how Housing has completely not taken a firm stand on issues, not taken student concerns into consideration, not provided adequate information on the contracts, and not worked in the best interest of the students. If you were to visit the Housing websites of other universities, you would see what we are talking about. There you will find the policy, rules and regulations, and prices of what is offered. Kennesaw State University's (KSU) housing website is a perfect example of this. SPSU Housing needs to start by developing a complete and coherent policy that takes into consideration the needs, concerns, and wants of students. Once this has been established, no changes should be made while a student is under contract. If changes need to be made, they need to be published so students will be informed and a well-documented reason should be given for the change.

Now let's go back to the definition of harassment. The idea of irritating or tormenting persistently definitely applies here. Insisting people live on the 4th floor when the whole building is empty and forcing residents to change rooms mid-way through the semester definitely qualifies as irritation. These are just more examples of continued and aggravated behavior which is persistent. The thought of trying to figure out Housing's "policy" and dealing with rules that are being made up on-the-fly is beyond exhausting. Consistently being bombarded with actions and fees that virtually no one understands or agrees with is tantamount to physical attacks.

There are plenty of residents that are unsatisfied and disgusted with the way SPSU Housing is being run. These residents are not necessarily frustrated with Housing itself, but more with the people running the show. With numerous students writing *The STING* with complaints about Housing, when is the University going to realize that things need to be changed?

ing and your \$150 application fee will be waived". It sounds like the school is having a hard time filling up all the housing space. In the last issue of the *STING*, housing residents complained vehemently about the excessive application fee with no compromise from Housing. Now, it seems that they have completely changed their minds again. Our question is what about the students who have already signed a contract and paid the \$150. Are we to be punished for committing early to a new and better SPSU? The residents of University Commons also raised concerns about the \$150 fee and the reply from Ed Klein was that all students would in some way or another pay the \$150. Well now it seems like that isn't true. The fact of the matter is that the people responsible for this endeavor



of the residents that applied for the dorms during spring semester were assigned to rooms on the fourth floor. What was the matter with the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd floors? Granted, the school allows some high school seniors to experience dorm life with a short-term residency but those students could have been placed on the fourth floor. The students that are paying the extravagant housing fee and enduring the three-month tenure could have inhabited the bottom floors. No private rooms were allowed even though there are several unoccupied rooms on every floor. Housing could have charged more for the spare rooms and allowed students to enter a lottery to obtain these rooms. There are two more situations related to summer housing that really show the lack of competency that infects

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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.

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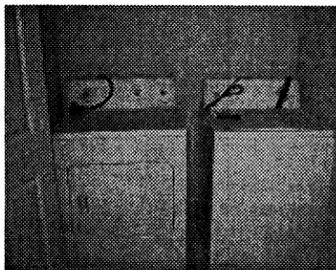
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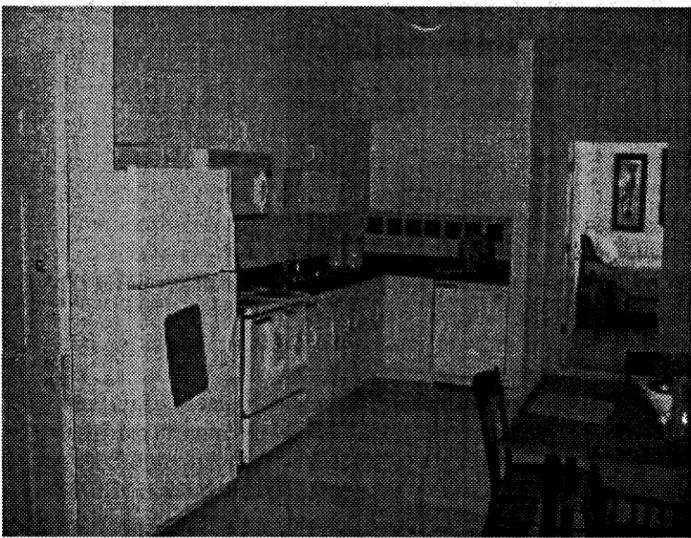
Thoughts and Feelings about the New Apartments

DOUG LACHER

For quite a while I have been very skeptical about these new apartments. When housing first set the rent on these four-person apartments to be \$425 per person per month, one thing came to mind: "price gouging". With the four-person apartments in the commons being "only" \$365 per person per month, there could be no way that these new ones could be worth it. That's a \$60 per person per month difference! I and my three chosen roommates decided to sign up for one of the new apartments in the University Courtyard. I've been watching the construction from my room in Norton Hall throughout the spring semester. I'm still surprised at how quickly those buildings have gone up. I'll be even more surprised if the whole area is finished at the beginning of the fall semester.



On June 25th, I was able to see a fully-furnished mock apartment in the Courtyard apartments. The apartment I toured with housing is located in the far building, the one that is horseshoe shaped. Despite my skeptical state of mind, I was thoroughly impressed. Here's what I saw as I walked through the apartment. Upon entering through the front door, you are immediately inside the kitchen. The apartment I

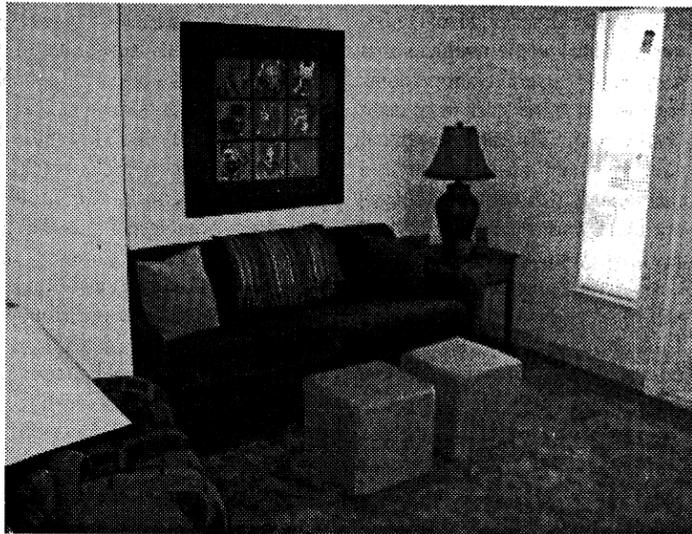


visited had the kitchen to the left. Some will have it to the right depending on the apartment's orientation. On my immediate right are two doors that hide the clothes washer and dryer. No more coin-operated laundry for me! Turning back to my left, the kitchen is fully furnished and ready for use. A table sits in the middle of the kitchen area with space for four people to sit and dine. A full sized refrigerator occupies the space closest to the door. Just beyond the fridge is a stove/oven. The microwave is directly above the stove and has vent fans for the stove located along the bottom. A double sink is just a little bit further over. One of the two drains has an in-sink

garbage disposal unit while the other is just a regular sink drain. At the far end of the kitchen is the dish washer, which looks adequately large to take care of the cleaning of four college students' dishes and utensils. Cabinets line the rest of the kitchen with plenty of room to store everything.

The living room is just off of the kitchen, separated by a half-height wall. A sofa, two cushy bucket seats, two coffee tables, and a large cabinet for the TV occupy the room. Housing tells me that all the furniture in the apartment I was viewing will be present in all of the other apartments. I forgot to ask housing about who is providing the furniture, but I happened to see some furniture boxes elsewhere in the construction with "University Loft" stamped all over them. The decorations (paintings, centerpieces, etc), unfortunately, won't be included in the standard-issue apartment. Through the living room is the porch or balcony, depending whether you have a ground-level or higher up apartment. Two windows flank the door that leads outside, so plenty of light can get into the room. The balcony looks like it has enough room to fit a lawn chair or two and a small grill.

I have heard the rumors about the bedrooms being tiny, and that made me very skeptical as I made my way to visit one of the four furnished bedrooms in the mock apartment. The floor plans for the apartment only show about 120 square feet (not including the closet or private bathroom) of floor space for each room. For comparison, the University Commons apartments advertise 12'x12' of space per bed-



interesting piece of furniture. It's actually a pair of drawers stacked on top of one another. Each individual unit has two drawers. This is for good reason, too. The individual units are just the right size to be taken down and placed under the bed to allow for additional floor space. This frees up an extra corner in the room for anything from a spare desk, a fish tank, a lounge chair, or whatever else. The desk, as it was setup in the room, was very simplistic. It has no drawers or hutch: only table-top space. I seem to recall housing saying that more is supposed to be added to the desks (a hutch hopefully), but, in its current state, it could not serve a student very well. Chaos could ensue if there's no extra storage attached to that desk. A simple chair is provided for the occupant, too. The closet was another area of concern to me. While the closet is nice and spacious, its door is huge and swings out into the room. It seems to take up half the wall space where it opens. A double-hinged door might have been more efficient. The closet door seems like it will be a source of great annoyance to many people. I wouldn't be surprised if some even "fixed" the problem themselves.

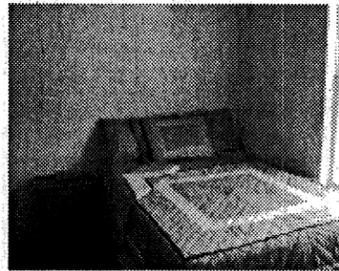
The bathrooms are very nice in the apartment. Keep in mind that each occupant has his/her own fully equipped bathroom. This includes a sink, toilet and shower/bath tub. The bathrooms are also very spacious. It seems like they are about half the size of the individual rooms, if not more. When



you walk into the bathroom, you see the sink and mirror right in front of you. There are two switches on the wall: one turns on the lights over the mirror and one turns on the ceiling

light and ceiling ventilation fan. The sink's counter has a cabinet below it, accessible via two doors. To the side of the counter is the toilet. Further over is the bathtub/shower. The only problem I see with the bathroom is what looks like a small ledge for placing your shower amenities. I could be wrong about its size, though. This apartment has made me think it's smaller than it really is more than once already.

Here's a little information about the utilities in the apartment. Each apartment has its own hot water heater, furnace and air conditioning. I'm glad, too. I'm sick and tired of putting up with housing refusing to turn the A/C on in the dorms when it's 70+ degrees outside. Everything is electric, including the stove. There are no gas utilities. A phone jack, network jack, and cable TV jack are present in all



of the bedrooms. The living room has a phone jack and cable TV jack. Plenty of electrical outlets line the walls, so no one should have any trouble powering in any location in the apartment. The school has finalized a deal to provide the students with telephone service, Internet access, and cable TV service through the school for \$25 per month per person. It is presently unclear whether each apartment will have a single phone number or four phone numbers, one for each occupant. Housing tells me that IT is still working out that particular detail. That takes care of three of the five utilities the occupants will have to deal with. The only other two are water and electricity. Those will be left up to the students to handle. If a particular apartment wants the service, housing has offered to prorate water, electricity or both. This may be useful if one finds themselves in a situation where they don't trust their roommates to pay the bills on time (or at all), or the roommates can't agree on someone to handle the up-front payment of the utility. The pro-rate service works like this. Housing will pay

the utility up front and generate an "average" usage for a four-person apartment. They did not tell me how they would get these numbers, but in my eyes it seems best to use the four-person apartments in the Commons as the source data to calculate the median usage. This average usage will then be divided evenly amongst the occupants of the apartment, and then the occupants must pay housing. If an apartment's usage of the utility is over the average calculation, the occupants must also pay the extra. However, if an apartment's usage of the utility is *under* the average calculation, then the occupants must still pay the calculated average. This difference may be anywhere from negligible to a noticeable sum. I can see it as a worthwhile fee to pay for peace-of-mind that you won't have your power shut off while typing a paper because your roommate Joe Schmo was too drunk to pay the power bill on time, or if you would rather not risk over-paying for your power



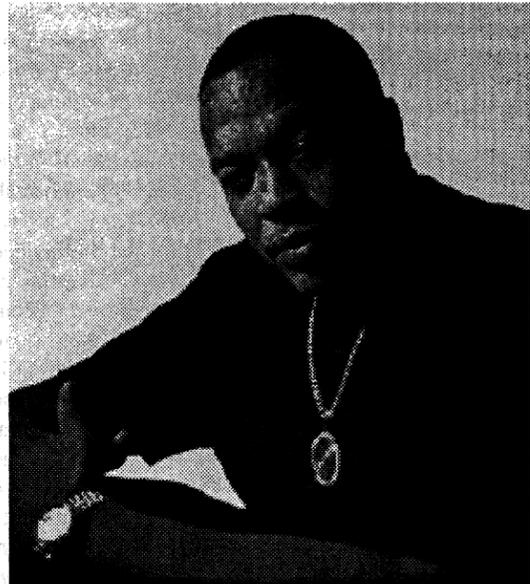
and/or water bills, you can just act your age and sort things out between you and your roommates. I would like to hope my roommates and I can handle the later of the two options.

There's also one more interesting feature of the University Courtyard apartments I would like to mention. On each floor of the buildings will be a study room for students to escape their apartment and find some place to work. At three floors per building, that means three study rooms per building, nine study rooms all together. However, housing has informed me that due to budget cuts, they will only be able to furnish one of the study rooms in each building. The other two should be available, but they won't have a table and chairs. Housing mentioned that in time they hope to fully furnish those additional rooms. The study rooms have network access and power outlets for laptop computers, and they seem to be a bit larger than the study rooms in the library.

Over all, I'm rather pleased with the new apartments. I know many, including myself, have been very skeptical about the housing department and this project, but I feel much better about where my money is going now that I've seen a working apartment. The apartment I toured isn't just a "demonstration" either. Housing tells me that it will be occupied just like the others, and the others will be just like it and have the same furnishings.

So-Called Ebonics

CJ SHRADER



start from the beginning.

Some of you may have heard from the news or on radio that Bill Cosby recently gave a speech where he essentially blasted some members of the black community for blaming others for their own problems and the way that some people have been raising their children.

Cosby went off about the language being used by these children, saying, "I can't even talk the way these people talk, 'Why you ain't,' 'Where you is' ... and I blamed the kid until I heard the mother talk, and then I heard the father talk...Everybody knows it's important to speak English except these knuckleheads. You can't be a doctor with that kind of crap coming out of your mouth."

And you know what? He's exactly right.

Let me pause for a moment, though, and clarify something. A caller on the radio show I was listening to mentioned, at some point, that he now sees these white kids walking around with baggy clothes and using this kind of language as well. He said these kids were "trying to be black."

What this sounds like to me, however, is incredibly racist. To me, it's as if he said "The blacks have started this problem, and now their spreading it into the pure and unmarred white community." That's ridiculous, and part of my main point is that this rampant issue of incorrect grammar and spelling is

not just limited blacks. It's all over, in whites, blacks, Asians, Latinos, and any other race that can be found in America.

So, back to the issue of Ebonics, which, for the purposes of this rant, I have said that any race can use, I need to explain something to those out there who think that their use of Ebonics is part of their cultural heritage or some other garbage. Let me start a new line to make this perfectly clear.

English, the language you speak, is not open to interpretation. It is not a piece of art, where everyone can have a different opinion on how it works and what is beautiful and what isn't. You can't spread manure on it and call it culturally acceptable. English is a complete and full system with rules for speaking, spelling, and writing. There is a right and wrong way to speak and write English, and Ebonics is one of

the wrong ways. Once again, I don't care what race you are, English is simply not up to your artistic interpretation.

You know, it's silly of me to point out a problem and not a solution, so here goes. To fix this problem, there are two things that must be done. The first is to stop this improper grammar and English in the home. This means not to use it around your children and to teach them that there is a proper way to speak.

For many of us, though, it's pretty much too late for that. If our parents spoke bad English, then we're in college now and speak bad English ourselves. The best way I know of to correct this? Read. Just read anything, it doesn't have to be a classic novel or anything special. But just read all the time. As long as what you read is well-written and uses correct English (I point this out

because there are some magazines that might be a little shady for reading, and anything written online usually promotes bad grammar as well, but that's another rant), you will learn from it and begin to write and use proper English yourself.

Trust me, proper English is one of the best ways to sound intelligent in this country. People judge you based on how intelligent you sound, not on how intelligent you are. Even Einstein would have been called an idiot if he wasn't able to clearly communicate his ideas in a way people can understand. If you sound smart, then you'll get somewhere. If not, then you're going nowhere.

Please note that the views expressed above are those solely of CJ Shrader, and do not reflect those of the STING or SPSU's population, in general. Intelligent comments may be sent to rshrader@spsu.edu.

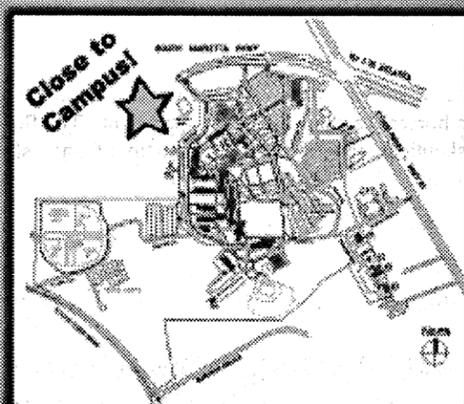
The following is, in essence, a rant. Some parts of it some people may find offensive, but this is certainly not the intent of the article. The purpose is to vent some of the frustration that I see out there in society every day, and, hopefully, get some active feedback from the school as to how they feel about these things as well. With that in mind, healthy, logical, and mature e-mails are welcome to rshrader@spsu.edu. If your response is reasonable, I'd definitely like to put it in print. However, with all that out of the way, let's get on with the rant.

Ebonics. According to dictionary.com, Ebonics are defined simply as "a nonstandard form of American English spoken by some American Black people." However, I would define them as society's way to make people's (notice I said people's, not blacks, because the problem is certainly not limited to any race) incorrect English acceptable. That way, people can say that their ignorance of proper grammar and English is part of their culture, and not just ignorance. But let's

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Calling a Spade a Spade: Fad diets come and go but the waistline is forever

ERIK HADLEY

In my twenty-three years on this planet, I have witnessed more diet trends than I can remember. So what is the one thing that all the trends have in common? Everyone swears by them when they come out, everyone tries them, everyone sings their praises, and then everyone drops them. The fad diet is the health equivalent of a one hit wonder: here today, forgotten tomorrow.

Of course, the fad diets of today have to be Atkins and South Beach. I honestly can't say much about South Beach as it does not seem to get the same publicity as Atkins. So what's the big problem with Atkins? Nothing really except that people generally don't understand how the diet properly works. Sure cutting the carbohydrates out of your diet forces your body to burn fat for energy, that is the whole purpose of the diet, but do you honestly think that by eating foods with "low carbs" and a high fat content

that you are actually going to burn fat? Not if you are eating more fat than you are burning.

Of course, the truly sad diet trend has to be the diet pills. Yes, this country has sunken to an all new low in its desire to get something for nothing. Yes, the same country that decided that fast food



isn't fast enough and so installed a drive-thru window, now pursues a pill that can make you lose weight

while you do nothing. Am I the only person that thinks the concept is ridiculous?

Have you ever seen the advertisements for these weight loss pills? They all claim that research has pointed to a hormone or chemical that is responsible for overeating or fat storage. So by popping their pills you will stop overeating or your body will magically stop storing fat. Sounds like a miracle, right? Sure, but did you read the little disclaimer in everyone of those adds? Each of them says that the pills work best when used in combination with DIET and EXERCISE. That's right the pills work best if you eat healthy and exercise. Why would that be? Maybe, just maybe it's because the pills do just about nothing and it's the diet and exercise that cause the real weight loss.

It's sad that the best means

of losing weight is overlooked. We are more interested in finding a reason for being fat than we are in finding a way to lose the weight. I am sure there are cases of people with a genetic abnormality that causes them to be fat. But, I am also sure that just because they have the abnormality, it does not mean that everyone else in the world has the same abnormality. If we did then we would all be overweight.

Think about it, what do you and your family eat each day? Do you live on fast food, or foods with high fat contents, or other foods that are just accepted as unhealthy? Do you think this could possibly have something to do with your big gut? Do you exercise at all? What do you do every day? Do you sit on the couch watching TV or playing video games? Do you park yourself in front of the computer? Do you ever get off your butt and do any kind of strenuous activity?

Face the truth the best way to lose weight is to burn more calories per day than you consume. That means that if you consume 2000 calories per day (the recommended quantity) then you must burn more than 2000 to start burning the fat. So how do you burn more calories than you consume? Well start by controlling your diet. That means having the control to not stuff yourself. Eat healthy meals. Instead of cookies, ice cream, and candy try eating fruits. And, then get off the couch and exercise! Try physical activity. Go for a walk, go swim, try something. The weight is never going to come off if you don't try to get it off.

The simple truth of the matter is that the one thing that has ever survived any diet trend or fad is the best way to lose weight is diet and exercise. If you really want to lose the weight, that's what you

To Whom It May Concern: Mean Burritos

I have been a student since 1997. I have seen many improvements in our computer lab equipment over the years. The computers in the labs I use have been replaced multiple times since I enrolled as a student. Though the quality of the workstations gets better every time they are replaced, the stability of the network never improves.

As I sit in the lab here in the H building, I can see a sticker on the side of the computer I am using. It says: "Southern Polytechnic State University, Georgia's TECHNOLOGY University, Purchased with Tech Fee Funds." This concerns me. For being "Georgia's TECHNOLOGY University", we certainly have not lived up to that name if you consider the network on campus. The fact that our Tech Fee Funds are paying for a network that is broken as often as it works concerns me.

I have kept track of my lab usage and the problems experienced for this semester. Though I used the lab without trouble on a few occasions, most of the times I used the lab, something goes wrong. The network has disconnected and reconnected twice since I started this email. The is typical of the frustration students must deal with on a daily basis.

Most students that use the labs have a remote folder to store their files. The computers in the labs do not allow access to the local hard

drives. For this reason, students MUST load their files from the remote server. When the network disconnects and reconnects, programs being used often crash causing loss of data. As a TCOM student, I use Photoshop and other programs that produce large files. When the server disconnects, I generally lose what I was working on. When the server disconnects multiple times while I am in the lab, I lose multiple hours of work.

This email is a request for action. The network on campus has been experiencing trouble for years now. As students, we have received no correspondence on the status of the network, what problems we are facing, or what actions are being taken to fix our broken network. Since the network on campus only works half the time, can we get half our money back for the tech fee fund. We didn't think so. Since we cannot recover this wasted money, I ask this question: What is being done with our money fo fix this issue? The network on campus is a problem. We pay money to maintain this network and now it only works sometimes. What can I do? Who can I contract? How can I help?

Respectfully,

Wylie Jones

ANONYMOUS

This school has its bad points, you know what I mean, girls, this school's ultimate shame and failure. And this makes me proud, to be an average, for this semester at least, student at SPSU. I mean who needs girls right, they only make you feel better when you feel down, and give you honey when you feel "____". This school has nothing to offer when it comes to females, and to think this was our greatest after school activity in H.S. But let us not put them down, I mean who's fault is it they can't keep their holiday fat on the food. Or their "I don't know where its been" mouths closed. I have come to a horrible conclusion, SPSU is dangerous, how dangerous you ask? Ask yourself, when was the last time I checked my standards? Oh yeah, its that bad.

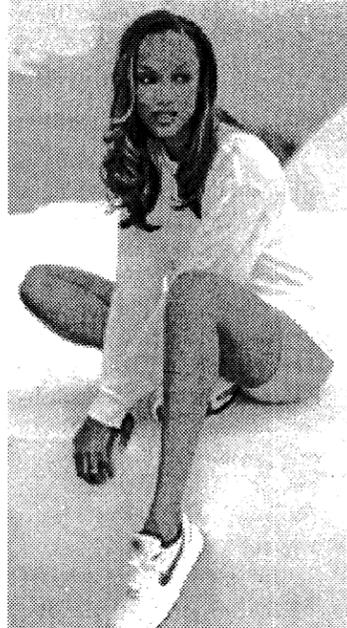
Here's a checklist to help those of you whom this disease has already contaminated:

1. If when she's wearing her "hot pics", it looks like she needs more than one-DANGER!
2. If her hair looks like that crap that comes in your pants pocket after you've washed them-DANGER!
3. If she smells like a**-DANGER! If she wears perfume, and smells like a mixture of a fruit cocktail and a**-...WHAT ARE YOU STILL DOING THERE!!!

4. If she thinks she's smart, because she goes here, but has a conversion span limited to: sex, types of sex, @*%&... how she got drunk, or where she last saw her ex-boyfriend-DANGER!

5. If she thinks she's a good girl, but put a bottle of drink in front of her, and the morning after the party, 90% of the guys there now know her bra size-DANGER!

This ofcourse is not every girl, for those of you who are still what a college woman should be, bless you. For the rest of you, give it a rest,



If this is your standard, SPSU hasn't affected you yet, and neither has reality.

don't think your good just because you have a boyfriend. I mean, your only competition here are the teachers, and employees of SPSU. Ladies, why don't you go to Kennesaw, and find out what you should be, but are not and probably never will be.

I will be posting, (for the guys) parties and such at UGA, Kennesaw, GT, and the Art Institute of Atlanta. Remember men, just because it talks, walks, has a hole, and resembles a female, does not mean it's date worthy. Do yourself a favor, shop outside of SPSU, where all the meats are grade A.



If this is your standard, you have been at SPSU too long and need to visit KSU.

I CAN'T THINK OF A TITLE! I S**K

THE ANONYMOUS X

So often I hear "Hey X you should meet this girl, she's perfect for ya!!" Right around the time I hear this statement, I usually bolt towards the nearest lake/river and attempt to drown myself. Being a fat, single dude, most of my friends (and enemies) take it upon themselves to attempt to hook me up with whatever psychotic/neurotic female they've found under the local bridge. Due to my body being 2% muscle and 99% fat (yeah that's right) my friends tend to typically pick the first fat female they can find and present her as my perfect "equal." However, sometimes people don't think like that, but they do use some highly circumventive vernacular to describe the person they want to set me up with. Here, I've translated the most common of these statements so that you may all be as well-informed as I am (read: not very).

Friend says: "Hey man, she's got an awesome personality!!"

Translates into: She's got a face like a shaven yak, and I'm only 85% sure she's a woman.



Friend says: "She and her parents are VERY conservative."

Translates into: She's a Nazi, and her parents are Klansmen.

Friend says: "She's out of this world."

Translates into: (easy one) She's an alien and will probably lay eggs in your brain.

Friend says: "She's got a killer body!!"

Translates into: She looks like a lumberjack.

Friend says: "She knows her way around da bedroom."

Translates into: She's got 45 STDs named after her. "Ah man, I've come down with a severe case of Jenniferrhea. It feels like there are a thousand rabid gerbils river-dancing across my crotch wearing flaming clogs."

Friend says: "She's got a unique hairstyle."

Translates into: All of her hair was ripped out by a rabid poodle.

Friend says: "She's got an extra pound or two."

Translates into: She weighs a metric ton.

Friend says: "Her dog is a little fiesty."



Translates into: Her dog is the hellhound Cerberus, and you'll be getting mauled to death soon.

Friend says: "She's freakin' hot!!!"

Translates into: (if she were that hot, he'd be dating her...so) She's a mutant hillbilly and you'll probably be drug out to the docks and skinned alive.

Friend says: "She's exotic."

Translates into: She's got malaria and/or West Nile Virus.

Friend says: "She has a little bit of a temper."

Translates into: She's wanted in three states for arson, manslaughter, and rabbit-tossing.

Friend says: "She's got a bit of an appetite."

Translates into: She wiped out three buffets and a deli on the way to dinner yesterday.

Friend says: "She's the nicest girl on the planet."

Translates into: She's the Predator.

Friend says: "You've got a lot in common with her."

Translates into: She's roughly as desperate as you are.

Friend says: "She's got beautiful eyes."

Translates into: She's a cyclops.

Friend says: "This girl has an athletic build!"

Translates into: She tossed a firetruck across the Atlantic and resembles a cross between Michael Clarke Duncan and Cher.

Friend says: "She looks just like a famous movie star."

Translates into: She looks like Rodney Dangerfield.

Friend says: "She

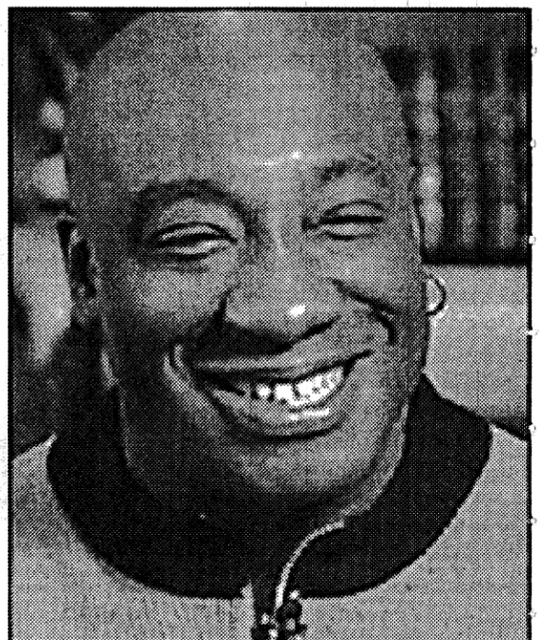
speaks extremely well."

Translates into: Her voice is the only thing that will distract you from her smell.

Friend says: "She's very unique."

Translates into: She's stranger than Richard Simmons, but not as strange as Dennis Rodman (but has the hair of both).

There you have it. I hope you've read this article and walked away that much more informed. If you didn't read this article, then you aren't reading this and I can say whatever I want here: Sock Monkey.



Green's Review

TOM GREEN

Macross Zero

This is an OAV that is only releasing an episode each season. So far, four episodes are out. This is different from the other Macross



stories because this is not continuing the storyline. This one is an alternate universe. The animation is great and the battle scenes of the Valkeries fighting are astounding.

Gantz

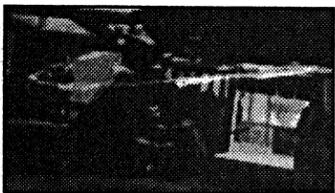
In this anime they show two students helping to get this guy off the tracks in the subway but before they themselves could get out of the way the subway car hits and kills them. But then they are automatically transported to this room in which they see other people. They all died in some way but are now there. Then this large black ball tells them to kill this alien and it gives them weapons and different clothing. They all take weapons but only two of them wear the clothing.



They then set out to hunt down this alien. The story continues, but if I said more it would ruin the story. So go watch it. So far only 9 episodes have come out. It is rumored to have 13 episodes in total.

Samurai Champloo

From the creators of Cowboy Bebop comes an anime that takes



place in feudal times with samurai and adventure seekers. You have a samurai and a wanderer who both want to fight each other, but can't because of a promise to a young girl trying to find a samurai that smells of sunflowers. This anime is very action packed and seems to have a good story developing. So far only 4 episodes are out. I am going to predict that this anime will be 26 episodes long.

Galaxy Railways

This anime, although made later, comes before the series Captain Harlock, Queen Emeraldas, and Cosmo Warrior Zero, which all were made after but take place before Galaxy Ex-



press 999 and Galaxy Express 999 Adieu. The series is good if you like Captain Harlock and Galaxy Express 999, but if you don't like those then you probably wouldn't like this one.

Kono Minikukumo Utsukishii Sekai

Also titled "This Ugly and Beautiful World" starts with these two guys making a delivery on their motorcycle. Then a light comes down from the sky and lands in the forest. The two



guys go to investigate and find a girl suspended in the air inside this light. One of guys goes to help the girl but before they know it a monster attacks them and the guy transforms to fight the monster. He, himself, doesn't know how he did it. The story progresses with telling the growing relationship between Hikari, the girl, and Takeru, the guy that transformed. This series is 12 episodes long. The series is ok.

Kyou Kara Maou

This series is about a guy that was transported to a different world from his. When he arrived he was called the Maou, Demon King. He is then inaugurated as the Maou. And when talking with the previous Maou's children, he, in there custom, proposes to one of them. That was not his intention because the one he accidentally proposed to was a guy himself. This anime is really messed up because almost all the guys are gay. I do not suggest this anime because it is stupid.

Tenjou Tenge

With an academy dedicated to the restoration of marital arts, you are bound to have many talented



fighters. In order to keep order, a group was formed called the enforcer group. It is made up of the most skilled fighters at the academy. With only one group to stand up to them, what will happen at the academy? Will the enforcers win or will the martial arts club. So far, 10 episodes have been released, but I am sure there

are more to come.

Bakuretsu Tenshi

With crime on the rise in Tokyo, the police can't keep up, so they have legalize bounty hunting. A group of bounty hunters are in search of a cook to keep up their strength with a good diet. The group consists of a young girl that is a genius at computers, a gunslinger, an annoying woman that cant do anything, the head of there group that provides the finances they need to complete a mission, and there new cook, who is a culinary student. So far there are 10 episodes out. There will probably be more episodes. I don't really like this series that much.

Aishiteruze Baby

After Yuzuya's mother leaves Kippe, then has to take care of her. Yuzuya is a kindergartener and Kippe is a high school student. He has to make sure Yuzuya has a lunch and make sure that she gets to school on time. He must also make sure to raise her well. Not only does he have to worry about Yuzuya but he also has to deal with his own life. This is a really sweet anime. If you are looking for a feel good anime this is one you should check



out. I suggest it but then again I a sucker for a WAFF anime. So far only 12 episodes have come out and I am sure more will be released. I am guessing a total of 26 will be released.

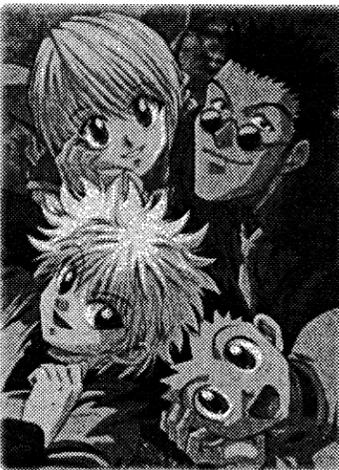
Daa Daa Daa

Miyu's mother has been selected to be an astronaut and goes off for training. Miyu's father goes along to make sure that his wife makes it there safely. They send their daughter, Miyu, to stay with their friend, who then goes off to India to train, thus leaving her home alone with Kanata. Then all of a sudden, a UFO shows up with a baby and a sitter-pet in it. Now, they all live together. 45 episodes have been released out of 78. The series is good. Its about the adventures Kanata and Miyu have with Ruu, the baby alien, and Wanya, the sitter-pet.



Hunter X Hunter

If you like Yu-Gi-Oh then you will probably like this one. Personally, I think it sucks, and I was only able to stomach about 4 episodes of it. It's about two kids that have asked this girl to help them get into some league. She trains them, and then they work towards some goal that I didn't quite understand what the point was. Bottom line, this anime sucks. That's why this review sucks.



some reason, I had to finish watching it. This anime is 12 episodes long, plus an OAV. The OAV takes place in an alternate reality where the two schools are one.

Green Green

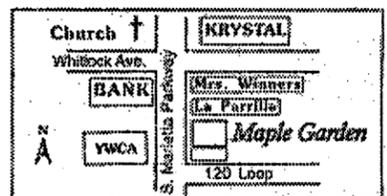
This one leaves you saying, "WTF." It is about an all guys' school and an all girls' school seeing if the schools can combine into a co-ed school. The test is only for a month though. The girls arrive thinking that all the guys are going to be hansom, but all they find are

your typical guys and, of course, for any anime of this type, the perverts. There are these 3 with some really weird fetishes, and you are asking yourself why they made this into an anime. The background on the story is that in the past two lovers were fated to never be together. So they killed themselves and were reborn in a different time. Turns out, the girl was reborn farther in the future than the guy. After remembering her past life, she goes back in time to find him. The story to this anime is lacking and all it really has is fan service. But for

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Your Friendly Neighborhood Blockbuster: Spider-Man 2

THE ANONYMOUS X

Rated: PG-13

Running Time: 127 minutes

Roughly thirty minutes into this movie I realized I had yet to blink since the opening credits rolled.

a movie you've already seen about twenty-six times and probably written hackneyed fan-fiction about. *Spider-Man 2* picks up a couple of years after the first movie left off,

the typical amazing-but-city-threatening project. Parker and Octavius hit it off, as one would expect, but during the unveiling of the aforementioned project something goes

long, but hilarious as a tenant of the building also rides the elevator down with Spider-Man and complements him on his "Spidey costume," only to have Web-head respond "[The costume] is a little itchy...and it rides up in the crotch." In the first film, James Jonah Jameson (played with gravitas by J.K. Simmons) was more of an afterthought, even though he's one of the comic's more fun characters in Spidey's early days. Fan boys can rejoice now, since there is a lot more JJJ this time around, and each scene feels or sounds like something right out of the comics.

Those of you that haven't seen the first *Spider-Man* movie don't really need to see it before viewing this one, as you probably have an idea of Spidey's origin already. That being said, if you detest comic book movies, then this one will probably not win you over either. Sure the acting is solid and the script is nice, but some of the scenes can be overly melodramatic not to mention the fact that the movie's base is still good vs. kind-of evil. This is also not too far from your basic whiz-

movie better than the first? Don't hate me for this, but I'm going to say "yes", and then only because this movie doesn't have to spend time telling mainstreamers who Spidey is or what he's all about. Sequels tend to be overblown special effects gaseous emissions (*Men In Black 2*), but Sam Raimi and company bring out their "A" game for a worthy sequel.

If you liked this movie: Then check out Brian Michael Bendis' *Ultimate Spider-Man*. Yeah, it's a comic book, and yes you'll be treated like a social pariah for reading it in public, but it'll be worth it. This little series retells Spidey's origin and early days in a modern setting and you can bet the value of the series is gonna sky-rocket with the success of the movie.

What's Good: Solid acting, good CG scenes, more action than the first, a lot funnier than the first movie, just the right length, Danny Elfman's soundtrack Bruce Campbell and Stan Lee make cameos.

What's Bad: Kirsten Dunst's teeth (I feel a little sick), some



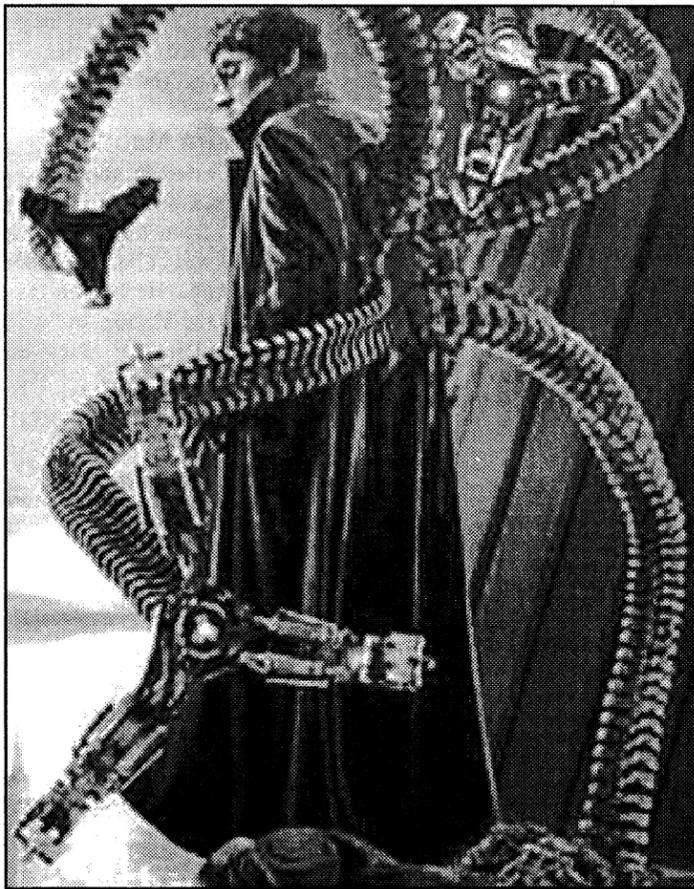
Why? Because, even the opening credits are done in a stylish hand-drawn comic style reminiscent of your favorite titles from the modern age. I had a feeling I was in for trouble when my group and I arrived at the theater almost an hour ahead of time (for the 6:30 show) and STILL had to wait until 8 for the next available show. Now, if you've read any of the reviews I've done here (and I'm sure you haven't, what with them being so poorly written and all) you've noticed that I traditionally start with a synopsis of the movie followed by the actual review itself. Well, unless you've been living in a cave for the past few years (and I count at least five of you that have, get some freakin' deodorant you funky bastiges) you KNOW what this movie is about, and you also KNOW that director Sam Raimi is not going to disappoint you. In fact, I'd originally planned on using this space for an ad to hire a wildlife trapper to get the evil demon monkey out of my room (his name is Jo). However, The STING's editor-in-chief reminded me that I was paid to do a movie review. When I informed her that I was not receiving any money for this, she hit me with a brick (I gotta find out where she's keeping those things) and sent me back to the computer to finish the article.

So, here I am, telling you about

with Peter (Tobey Maguire) struggling to make ends meet as a pizza delivery boy/photographer and love interest Mary Jane (Kirsten "the nose" Dunst) succeeding as a model and stage actress. To say that Peter is down on his luck would be like saying that Jessica Simpson is stupid; the poor guy starts the movie off with losing his job, despite a dazzling Spidey-assisted web-slinging delivery. Making matters worse, Harry Osborne (James Franco) is still harboring animosity towards Pete for not revealing Spidey's true identity and Mary Jane has given up on Pete for the mono-syllabic astronaut John Jameson (Daniel Gillies). Just when it appears as though ol' Parker is at wit's end, his professor, the not-yet-a-giant-angry-lizard Kurt Connors, informs Peter that he'd better get his butt in gear or risk failing the science class. It's, at this moment, that Dr. Otto Octavius (played with aplomb and sans accent by British thespian Alfred Molina) is first mentioned, as a compatriot of Connors, an idol of Parker, and an employee of Harry Osborne (whom now is the head of his father's company Oscorp...GO WATCH THE FIRST MOVIE!). Harry puts aside his differences long enough to allow Peter to meet Octavius at Oscorp's labs, where the Doc is working on

nearly indestructible tentacles to Octavius's portly frame.

Spider-Man 2 doesn't waste any time catching your attention, and that isn't a bad thing here. The first movie was an origin story, thus the first half of the movie was all about character building and back story, but that's not the case here. Right at the start of the movie you get to see Parker don the red and blue tights to deliver pizza (as mentioned above) and stop to assist some police in a high speed chase. As with the first movie, all of the web-slinging scenes are done with computer graphics, but unlike the first movie, the scenes don't look like they were rendered by a class of blind chimpanzees with no fingers. When Spidey swings over New York at high speed, you feel like you're swinging with him, and you get just as nauseous as he does (easy on the popcorn) which does nothing but add to the experience. But don't let this talk of computer graphics and popcorn fool you, all of the trademark humor you've come to expect from Spider-Man is here and is more along the lines of what a Spidey fan is used to. For example, when ol' Web-head experiences a quick lapse in his powers (what causes the lapse you ask, go watch the movie!) he's relegated to having to use an elevator to get off the roof of a building. This scene is



bang summer action movie, with tons of CG throttling you into submission and fast-paced dialogue that is designed to make you gloss over some of the slower scenes. So now comes the big question, is this

scenes feel a little overly dramatic, non-comic fans may be turned away (don't be), Tobey's "running" face (you'll see).

The Score: Five "Dunst Teeth" outta Five.

Gunbound Review

JOSH

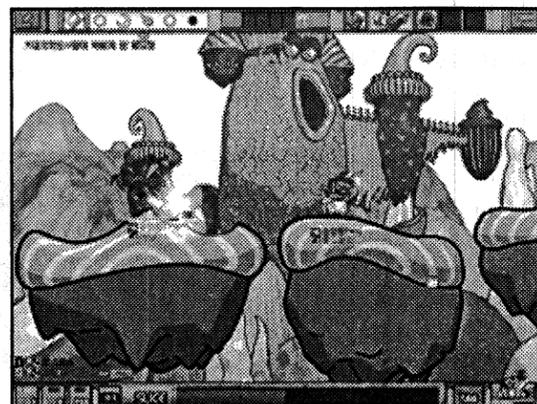
Gunbound is an online game made by Softnyx, www.gunbound.com. It is based upon something akin to Mechwarrior, but simpler. The main focus of the game is to destroy others, quite frankly. This can be done by one of three means. In the usual form of the game, your goal is to destroy those opposing you, anywhere from one to four people, by either sheer damage, or by 'bunging' them, also known as dropping them off the stage. The other available form of play, known as Jewel

Matches, pits two teams of up to four people each against each other in a race to get 100 points, done by killing special items dropped into play in random locations. Game play seems simple at first glance, but it is much more than it appears. One has to take into account strengths and weaknesses of their 'bots', vehicles used to do play. Some are good at bunging, others are good for sheer damage, and some have shields. It really tends to be personal preference. Another thing that one has to

do in play is to take into account shot angle, wind angle, wind speed, and shot power. The graphics for the game are great, compared to the idea behind it. Being an online game, one is bound to encounter the occasional stupid person, or whatever else, but the fun of totally destroying them more than makes up for it. The ambiance of the game is outstanding, but I must say that the music for the game is rather annoying, but it can be turned off so you can listen to your own music

should you choose.

Overall game play: 9/10
Ambiance: 10/10
Music: 4/10
Enjoyment Factor: 8/10
Graphics: 10/10
Overall Rating: 41/50 (82%)



Vin Diesel Must Be Stopped: *The Chronicles of Riddick*

THE ANONYMOUS X
Rated: PG-13

Running Time: 119 minutes

The summer movie season brings about a wealth of emotions in most movie-goers. There are those of us that are happy that a plethora of possibly pleasant pictures will land in our favorite theaters, and there are the realists that realize that almost any movie with a mono-syllabic six-footer will be greenlit. Such is the case with Mark "Vin Diesel" Vincent's sequel to 2000's otherwise competent science fiction action ride *Pitch Black*. In the first movie, Richard Riddick was a hardened criminal on his way to a lifetime of reform and late-night dances with a cell-mate named Bubba when his transport vessel is suddenly downed on an unknown planet. Whereas this movie had moments of intensity and decent action, it wasn't a "great" movie so much as one that was good enough to lull the audience to forget that the "hero" was a man whose sole ability was seeing in the dark. The movie ended with Riddick escaping the planet with a few survivors from the transport, and *Chronicles* picks up five years later, with a mostly changed cast and a much bigger budget to squander. The movie opens with a group of ragtag mercenaries finding and chasing Riddick into a narrow cavern with their large CGI (computer generated image) spacecraft. Having the upper-hand due to familiarity with his surroundings, Riddick dismantles the mercenary crew and hijacks their spaceship. Next, he pilots the vessel back to the planet of the people that hired said 'mercs' using the

vessel's autopilot. He arrives on the planet, Helion, and encounters the holy-man, Imam (Keith David, showing visible regret for answering the phone when called to make this movie), only to eventually find out that a race of planet destroying beings led by Lord Marshall (Colm

Feore) with his army of Necromongers (guess all the non-stupid alien names were taken) are on the way. Dame Judi Dench, whom one can only guess was tricked into playing in this movie, is an elemental that unlocks secrets in Riddick's (wait for it...) MYSTERI-

OUS PAST (DUN DUN DUNNNNN!), revealing to him that he is a "Furion" and the only one that can defeat Lord Marshall.

To say that this movie is a travesty would be the understatement of the century. When the Necromongers first attack Helion, it APPEARS as though the movie is going to take a turn for the better. But all of a sudden, Riddick is kidnapped by more mercs led by the same mercenary that he dismantled earlier, and the battle on planet Helion is all but forgotten! What follows is a long, boring, and absurdly dark jaunt on the prison-planet Crematoria (guess all the good planet names are taken too) where Riddick proves he's an incredible fighter when the camera jerks and swipes too quickly (or blocks the action altogether) to actually tell what's happening. When Riddick mercifully leaves Crematoria (provided you're still awake) you are "treated" to an unfair amount of stupid one-liners, atrocious acting, more dark and jerky fight scenes, and characters you don't really care about. Speaking of shallow characters, if you watched *Pitch Black*, you may remember Jack/Jackie, the young girl that posed as a boy for the majority of the movie. Well, he/she returns and although we learn that she "had it rough the last five years," we don't learn anything else! It's almost as if the filmmakers scripted some background for Jack/Jackie (Kyra here, since "Jack is dead"...ooh you're sooo tough!!) and then forgot to freakin' film it. Don't get me wrong, this movie isn't

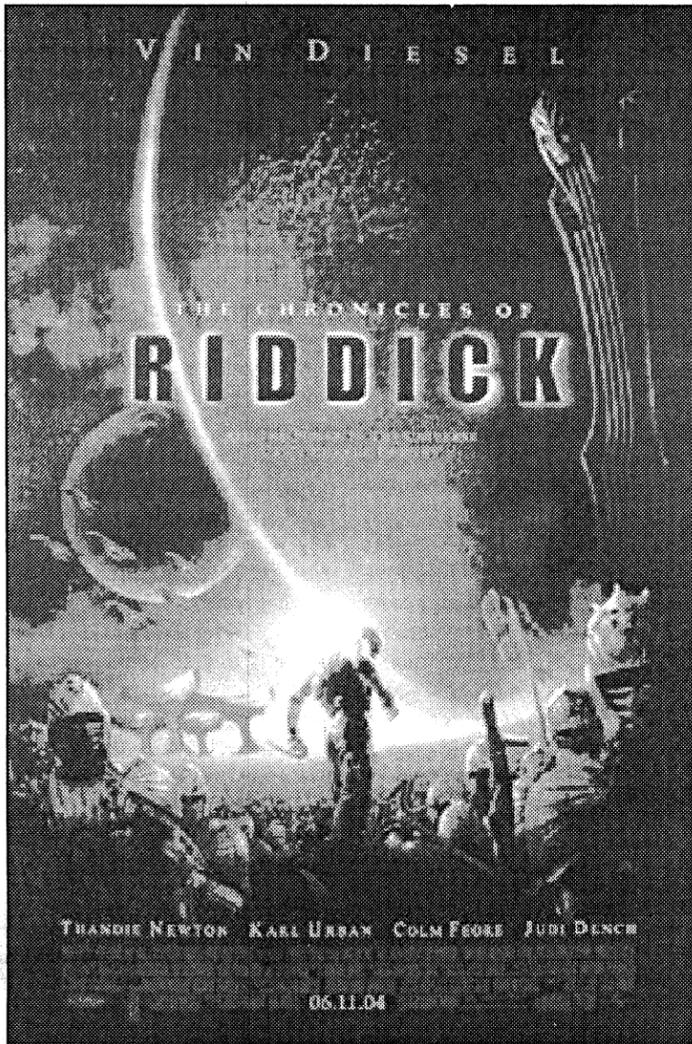
without some nice points. The special effects range from nice to almost realistic at some points, and some of the early action isn't too bad although both of those points are relative to the rest of the movie.

So should you see this movie? Let me put it this way, you're better off paying the eight bucks to have an angry dwarf hit you in the crotch repeatedly with a tack-hammer rather than watching this entire movie. The only person on-screen that won't make you want to hurl yourself into moving traffic is Dame Judi Dench, and you'll spend the entire movie asking yourself; "why the hell did she sign up for this, is the catering service that good?" In fact, after Riddick's final showdown with Lord Marshall, Thandie "I-learned-to-act-from-a-dude-at-Kroger" Newton turns away from the camera and utters the word "flawless" in what is supposed to be a dramatic, heart-pulsating scene. Instead, the entire theater erupted with laughter mostly at ourselves for paying to see this movie in the first place. Do yourself a favor, go watch something more interesting and with better acting than this, like a little league bowling championship.

What's Good: The SFX (Special Effects) are pretty decent. If you listen closely, you can hear Judi Dench firing her agent during the credits, the movie eventually ends.

What's Bad: There's better acting in a high school production of *Cats*. You'll realize that this is 2 hours of your life you'll never get back, Vin Diesel is allowed to speak.

The Score: 1.5 "Stupid unnecessary sequels" out of 5.



It's the End of the World...: *The Day After Tomorrow*

THE ANONYMOUS X

Rated: PG-13

Running Time: 124 minutes

...And I'm bored as hell. Who knew the end of the world would be 124 minutes of simplistic by-the-books disaster movie clichés. *The Day After Tomorrow* is another Summer Movie Season catastrophic event flick that doesn't pretend to be anything deeper than a big, loud, dumb movie that is supposed to flog you into submission with overblown special effects and dialogue written by a third grader. As all of you may know by now (especially since this review is coming out over a month after the movie's release) this movie details writer/producer Roland Emmerich's vision of how the world could come to an end as the result of global warming. The movie opens with paleo-climatologist (climate historian, yeah I didn't get it either) Jack Hall (played by Dennis Quaid) and his two colleagues nearly getting violently slaughtered by a pissed off Mother Nature while collecting weather data in Antarctica. The event, a massive earthquake, gives Emmerich and company a chance to show off just how agile and spry ol' Jacky is as he valiantly leaps across a gaping chasm to save some precious data (end sarcasm). But the fun doesn't stop there. Oh no, it hasn't even begun yet. In traditional fashion, no one believes Jack when he reports to the nation's leaders that a major event

is about to occur, but a world renowned climatologist named Terry Rapson (Ian Holm) does believe Jack and the two hit it off immediately. The actual point of attack in the movie comes when Japan is bombarded by baseball sized pieces of hail, and Rapson notices dramatic changes in ocean current and temperature. Soon after, the planet's weather turns vicious as dozens of powerful tornadoes rip through California, and rainfall reaches almost Biblical proportions. Yet, the country's leaders *still* do not believe that anything is wrong. Apparently, the presidential advisors are all mute, blind, deaf, and stupid. After the rudimentary pointless background events, Jack manages to convince a young woman from NASA to allow him access to some powerful supercomputers to run his weather modeling software, and it becomes apparent that the weather will get a LOT worse quickly.

The events that unfold in this highly clichéd disaster movie should not and will not surprise anyone. When we see that Jake's son, Sam (played by Jake Gyllenhaal), is going to New York for a competition, we *know* that something is going to happen to strand the kid there. It does. Jake and his small band of friends become stranded in the NYC public library by almost ethereal tidal waves, and remain holed up inside

until the hard freeze that precedes the catastrophic new ice age freezes the ocean water. When Jake promises to make it to his son, we *know* that Jake's colleagues are going to join him and we *know* that someone is going to die on the trip. It's almost as if Roland Emmerich wrote this movie for an entry level creative writing class and made sure not to stray away from a tired old formula to ensure that he got a passing grade. You'll also notice that I've used the phrase "ice age" here, as that's what one expects when one sees the trailers for this movie. That's not the case. The "age" here is a particularly harsh two-week storm that brings temperatures of 150 degrees below to ONLY the major countries of the world: the U.S., Great Britain, Japan, and others that I didn't bother to remember because I'd dozed off. The absurdity of this becomes apparent when Jake explains to the president that everything will be just fine if everyone in the U.S. can evacuate to Mexico or to Florida. It's almost as if Emmerich is saying; "big countries be evil and stuff, so you're gonna be punished! PUUNNISHED!" In fact, at one point, in this mostly pointless movie a TV reporter actually goes into a long-winded speech about

third-world countries openly accepting their more powerful neighbors and how thoughtful such an act is. It was at this point that my patience almost ended with the movie, until I saw the VERY Hollywood ending, an ending that will make everyone roll their eyes and yell "YOU SUCK, EMMERICH!" at the screen.

Should you bother even going to this movie? Well, if you're a special effects junkie, then you'd at least want to go and let your eyes drink in the spectacle. In standard Summer Movie Season fashion, the visuals are often times horrifying and unsettling (especially any that involve Gyllenhaal) such as the sight of the gigantic tidal wave washing over the Statue of Liberty. The performances aren't too bad either, as most of the actors here are qualified scene-chewers, even

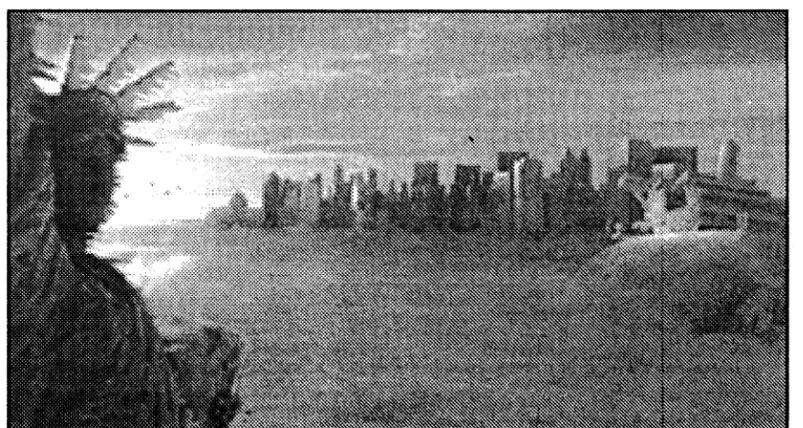
though they all look and sound like they'd rather be getting pecked to death by ducks than continue filming this movie. Overall, you'll probably want to wait until the day after tomorrow to rent this movie on DVD (ha!...I'm sorry that'll never happen again).

The Moral: Don't piss off Mother Nature, or She'll stomp a mudhole in your candy a\$\$.

What's Good: Lots of eye-candy, solid performances from most of the actors/actresses, may raise awareness of a serious problem, you can doze off and miss nothing.

What's Bad: Far too predictable, the ending couldn't possibly be more "Hollywood-ized", and too long for a movie with nothing to say.

The Score: 2.5 Gyllenhaals out of 5.



Don't Dodge the Ball! —*DodgeBall: A True Underdog's Story*

THE ANONYMOUS X

Rated: PG-13
Running Time: 97 minutes
 Ah dodgeball, the sport of kings and gentlemen across the globe. Nothing is more fun than standing outside of that area with a large, painful cylindrical object in hand, and hurling said object at roughly half the speed of sound at some unsuspecting kid in the bleachers doing his homework. Like the "sport", *Dodgeball* is a lot of fun and makes for an enjoyable event with friends, but leaves its participants bruised, battered, and covered in humiliating life-long scars (or something like that). In the film, Peter La Fleur (played with eerie

stoicism by Vince Vaughn) is your average heart o' gold health club owner who's down on his luck and about to lose his quaint little establishment; "Average Joe's". When the bank sends Kate Veatch (Christine "Marcia Brady" Taylor) to inform La Fleur of his club's impending closing (due to several missed payments), La Fleur decides to throw in the proverbial towel and crawl into obscurity with his motley crew of co-workers. The situation only gets worse when La Fleur discovers that competitor and all-around creepy dude White Goodman (mustachioed and appropriately hammy Ben Stiller) of Globo-

Gym is going to purchase Joe's and bulldoze it to make a parking structure. In a last ditch effort, La Fleur and company host a doomed carwash and prepare to disband when Gordon (News Radio/King of the Hill's Stephen Root) notices a Las Vegas dodge ball championship game in his *Obscure Sports* magazine. Coincidentally enough, the prize for winning the tournament is \$50,000, which is just enough to cover La Fleur's debt. Peter and company get thoroughly trounced by a group of rabid girl scouts, but manage to win the region by default due to one of the scout's testing positively for steroid use (try to guess which one). Average Joe's looks like it may have a chance for survival, but when White catches wind of La Fleur's plans, he too joins the dodgeball tournament with a cadre of muscle-headed steroid chompers. Once again, the team gets disheartened, only to have dodgeball legend Patches O' Houlihan (Rip Torn) volunteer his services as

coach to the team. Very rarely is there a summer movie in which the trailer makes the film look so clichéd and stupid. I ventured into this movie not expecting much more than some mild entertainment and maybe a chuckle or two from Stiller. Oh man, was I wrong. This is, without a doubt, one of the funniest movies you'll see this summer, *IF* you go in knowing that the movie is mostly a spoof of those sickly saccharine underdog stories. You know what's going to happen in the end, but oh what a fun ride it is to get to that end. In fact, the majority of the scenes displayed in the preview STILL provide a lot of laughs, regardless of whether or not you're waiting for said scene. For example, the most infamous clip played in the trailer has Patches gruffly informing his players that; "If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball," shortly before hurling a large monkey wrench onto the snout of an unsuspecting player. You know it's coming, you even sit in your seat and LOOK for the scene, but it still manages to grab you by the neck and choke out a laugh. The entire movie ruthlessly assaults you with appropriately far-fetched situations that make you shake your head at the sheer absurdity but still laugh despite yourself. Another example, when Average Joe's reaches the Vegas championship, a player on

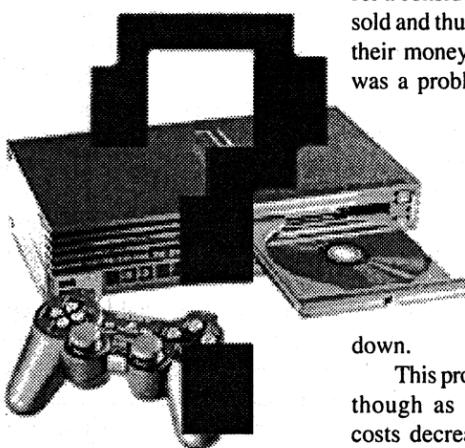
the team proudly informs his colleagues that he's purchased uniforms. Something is going to go wrong, something so far out in left field that you can't help but prepare to cringe when you see the final results, and you aren't let down. I won't spoil the surprise, save to say that the result made me want to wash out my eyes with bleach. *Dodgeball* is not for those of you looking for a high comedy, or even those of you looking for a straight-forward summer comedy flick. It's for everyone that has seen one too many after-school specials about the underdog overcoming all odds and achieving some unbelievable goal that causes a collective eye-roll for all those watching. If you're looking for a fun way to waste some time this summer, but don't want to be violently assaulted by a small red ball, then go WATCH *Dodgeball*, don't play it. **The Moral:** Germans love David Hasselhoff (Norm McDonald was right!) **What's Good:** Vaughn and Stiller are an awesome team, rips apart those annoying underdog movies, people get hit by wrenches (and traffic). **What's Bad:** Possibly too "spoofy" for some people, most people will take it too seriously, the steroid freaks. **The Score:** Four and a half "Rip Torns" outta Five



Next Gen, More Than Just A Pretty Face

STEVEN
 The next generation of console systems may not be as clearly distinguishable from the PC as users are used to them being. Aside from the obvious graphical improvements, next gen consoles could offer features generally reserved for a PC, such as surfing the web and typing documents. Much like the need for more storage space drove system makers Sony and Microsoft to include DVD capabilities and thus make their system play movies as well as games, the next gen system's additions for online gaming could bring new features more typical of PCs. In order to capitalize on the emergence of online gaming in the console world, console makers will need to include an Ethernet port for online gaming and a hard drive to store downloadable content such as extra levels and characters. This change in hardware could have an impact on more than just gaming. With the addition of an Ethernet and hard drive, the consoles will have the potential to surf the web and type documents, making the PS3 in direct competition with Windows. With the need for a hard drive and Ethernet port already there, it is of little to no extra cost to add in the ability to surf the web, check your e-mail, chat, type your term paper and really anything that you are used to doing on your PC just by adding a few USB ports to connect a mouse and keyboard to. Adding in these features could help to convince consumers to buy the new and potentially more expensive than usual next generation platforms but there are several ob-

stacles that could prevent console makers from making the change. Obviously, Microsoft will not be looking to create a device to compete against its own Windows monopoly. Sony, on the other hand, is much more likely to include PC-like features to the console world. The



back on software sales. Later the hardware costs less to produce and console makers start making money on hardware and software sales. The problem this creates for a PC-like console is that if consumers opt to use it as a PC rather than a console, there will be no software sales for a considerable number of PS3's sold and thus Sony would not make their money up in software. This was a problem for Sony with the PS2's DVD player capabilities because many people bought the PS2 when it came out in Japan just to play movies thus temporarily keeping software sales down. This problem is only temporary though as hardware production costs decrease with time quicker than the value of the console drops. This means that Sony will probably be making a profit on each console sold after one to two years after it's launched. After this happens, it's very possible that Sony will offer downloads to make the PS3 capable of surfing the web and typing documents. This could have an impact on much more than just the gaming market as many companies may want to opt for a very inexpensive Linux equipped PS3 with simple office software over the more expensive and bulky Windows equipped PCs ultimately making the next generation of consoles more than just a graphical update to what we have now. Cell chip, which is being developed by Sony, IBM and Toshiba is capable of running Linux. If Sony decides to make the PS3 run Linux or some variation there of, they could potentially make use of a lot of the free software for Linux. Most importantly, Sony could offer PS3's with Mozilla and Open Office. Mozilla is a popular web browser and Open Office is similar to Microsoft Office. While the cost of making this move would be inexpensive and would add a lot to the capabilities of the PS3, there is still one more potential issue. Out of necessity, the console market is a subsidized market. Console makers lose money on the sale of their hardware at first but make that money

New Paint for Computer Nerds

KENNY WHITE
 I'm quite certain there are a few people at this school who like computers. While I'm not all that computer literate, I know what I know, ya know? I, recently, was introduced to a new product via WGHR's own Cain. I had just bought a new case, a black case. Problem is I didn't want to buy black drives. Now, buying just isn't my thing. So I was discussing with him that I was going to attempt to spray paint it. I consider myself rather good with spray paint, however for small detail applications like computer cases it's not really the right thing to use. He was like "Hey jolly-o talk a peep at my new stuff" I was like "Why are you talking like that?" "Like what?, never mind, what did you find to use?" He showed me this new spray paint, Fusion. It turns out regular ole spray paint is the gateway paint. I've not progressed to the newest thing. The paint is from Krylon, the Fusion series. It's promoted as the "No prep, super bond paint" and it is just that. It was designed specifically for use on plastics; it chemically bonds to the plastic in some manner. You can smell the plastic melting as it works. You can use it for other applications

like regular paint but if that's all you want to do buy the cheap-o dolla can. This stuff runs from 3.50-450 a can depending where you get it. I recommend Wal-Mart; they have quite a selection. Krylon offers 32 colors as of now. This stuff is dry in under an hour and, at that point (on plastics), it doesn't scratch easy because it has become part of the plastic. It bonds to most "hard to bond to" surfaces. Another feature of this paint is the spray nozzle, out of the box its sprays a vertical "fan", you can switch a piece on the front for a horizontal spray. This means that it's a more even covering, instead of the concentrated spot that regular paint provides. So there you have it. Go for it; paint everything you own, even the monitor screen. Go crazy.

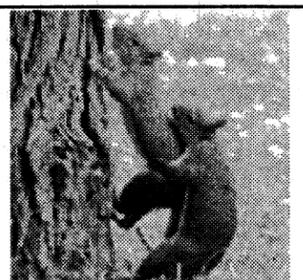


RANDOM HAIR

SQUIRREL DANCING HERE

HE IS RABID, AND BIT ME

LITTLE NEAR BASTICE



Prince of Persia: Sands of Time

STEVEN

As fun as sex with: A beautiful bar girl. Once you figure her out, she's really fun.

Length: 10-15 hours. It's not that long, but you have a life so that shouldn't be problem. If you don't have a life, then you should probably unpause your game of FFX-2 now.

Bottom line: Prince of Persia is a great frustration-less, fun game that lacks the challenge that some gamers crave.

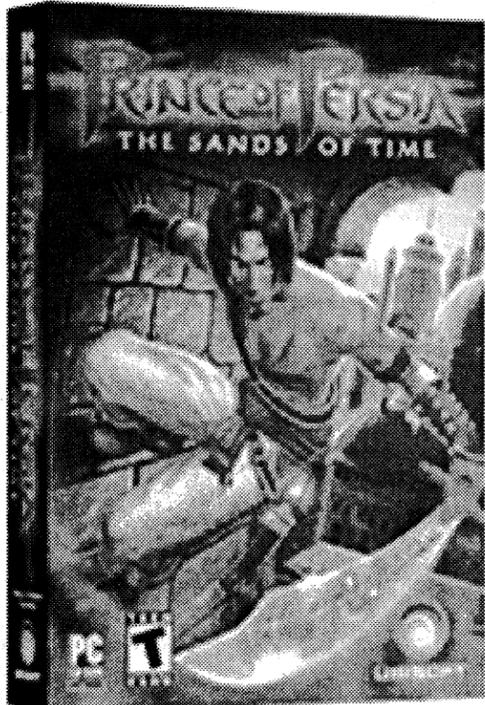
In a previous life, the Prince was: a circus performer

Prince of Persia is about 2/3 puzzle and 1/3 actions and all good. Prince of Persia: Sands of Time starts with the destruction of everyone the prince knows when he unleashes the sands of time using the dagger time. Prince of Persia alternates between fighting and puzzle solving. Puzzles revolve around leavers, jumping and avoiding traps such as blades and spiked pits and, like in the original Prince of Persia, the main thing you have to worry about is falling too far.

While most puzzle games skip on the action, the Prince has some of the best fighting skills in any game. The prince wields two weapons: a dagger and a sword. One of the first things you learn to do is jump over and enemy and hit him with your sword while still in the air, effectively knocking them down. While

slowing down time is cool, more than likely, you will get more use out of the Prince's ability to rewind time to undo a bad move. The Prince, also, has the ability to slow down time to give himself an advantage in a fight and even stop time for his enemies allowing him to hack them to bits. However, by far the most amazing thing to see is when you turn the enemies into sand by hitting them with your dagger and then slicing them in half with your sword. Now, that is a thing of beauty!

Puzzles are perhaps the best part of Prince of Persia. In the original Prince of Persia, they were made frustrating by the fact that if you fell, you had to go way back and try the level again. In Prince of Persia: Sands of Time, however, the dagger will allow you to rewind time so that you can take another shot at running past the blades or making the jump. The Prince has a simple set of moves that by themselves aren't too impressive but the real fun of it is seeing how you have to string these moves together. For instance, you may need to run up a wall then jump onto a pole and then swing-jump onto another wall and then jump off of it. You will find that a lot of the puzzles revolve around jumping off of a wall and learning the timing needed to do this is crucial to the game.



Frenzied Fat Freak: Fanatical Food Finder

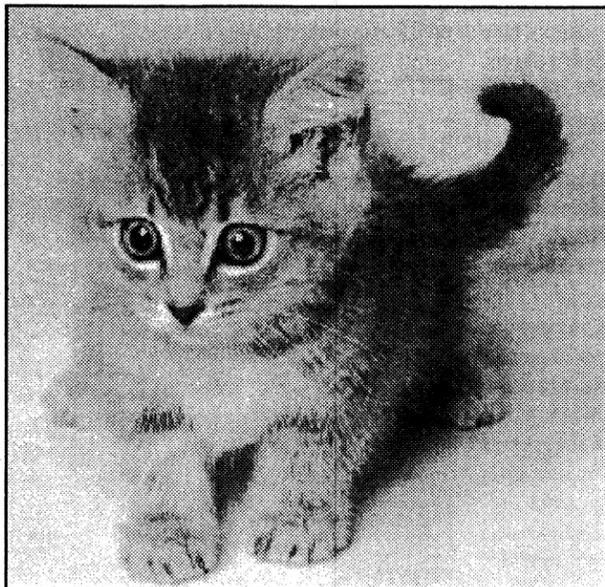
THE ANONYMOUS X

This is the first of what I hope will be a series of restaurant reviews and eatery evaluations to inform the (ahem) "healthy" SPSU student about where to eat around campus. This column will be for those of you that are tired of having your stomach feel like you just ate a bowl full of molten tacks after consuming ABL "food," but still want live on a student's budget. Why am I any more qualified to tell you where to eat than anyone else? Because I'm a big fat guy, and who better to inform you of food hideaways than someone that eats no less than thirty-seven meals a day? Since I know most of you see the word "food" and automatically skim to the end of the article, I will present all of these articles in a skimmer's delight format.

The Hours: Mon-Thurs: 11am-10pm, Fri-Sun: 11am-11pm
The Service: So good it's almost scary. Although only one waiter or waitress may be assigned to your table, traditionally any waitress/waiter that notices your empty glass will give you a refill. I'm working on a telepathic employee theory that I'm sure will either be proven 100% correct, or get me a cozy spot in a nice padded cell at the local asylum.
The Food: You probably hacked up a lung at the price (I know I did) but there is good reason for it. The restaurant may be known for its Chinese food, but it also sports a lengthy seafood buffet. Everyday after lunch (after 4pm), a hungry student can find salmon, crawfish, sev-

eral shrimps, crab cakes, mussels and the best seafood known to man-kind: crab legs. Be forewarned, people get crazy around all-you-can-eat crab legs. Upon my last visit, I and a little old lady grabbed for a set of crab legs at the same time. She glared at me and growled and stabbed me in the hand with a pitchfork. Then, she did a spinning hook kick and knocked me clear across the restaurant. For those of you that don't like seafood, the buffet usually has pizza, french fries, buffalo wings, salads and (you won't believe this part) Chinese food.

The Verdict: Scale of 1-10, "1" being leftover ABL that's been sitting under a fat man's left butt-cheek for two semesters. A "10" is a restaurant that is so good, that you bring a sleeping bag and bed down in the kitchen for a month. This restaurant's score: 7.5.
Bottom Line: Good food, excellent service, expensive as hell (especially if you don't like seafood), a long way to drive (the Roswell location is sub-standard at best).



The Place: New China Buffet [Kennesaw]
The Location: 425 Barret Parkway, Kennesaw GA 30144 (Across from Town Center)
The Price: Dinner buffet and a drink are \$12.42(!). They have an actual menu, but you don't go to a buffet to order from the menu do you? If you do, you're a freak (and probably a large goat of some sort).

I Pledge 'Ale'egiance

HEATHER GIROUX

Liberty Ale.

The company description is as follows: "First introduced in 1975, Liberty Ale is brewed strictly according to traditional brewing methods, and, like all Anchor Brewing Company products, uses only natural ingredients — water, malted barley,



fresh whole hops and yeast. A special top-fermenting ale yeast is used during fermentation and is responsible for many of Liberty Ale's subtle flavors and characteristics. Carbonation is produced by an entirely natural process called "bunging," which produces champagne-like bubbles. Dry-hopping (adding fresh hops to the brew during aging), imparts a unique aroma to the ale. It is a process rarely used in this country today."

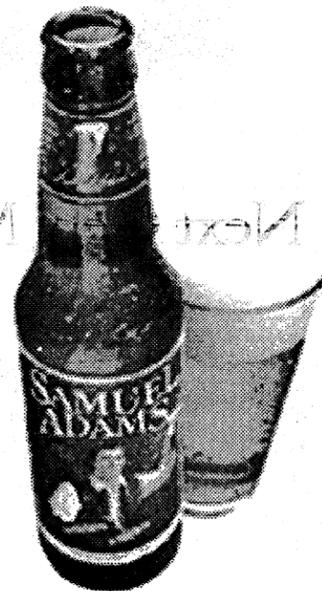
I don't know how a beer named Liberty Ale came from San Francisco and not somewhere more "historic" like Philadelphia, or Boston. What's so patriotic about California? I was intrigued though, and thought I ought to try it in observance of the 4th. It was disgusting! I took it to the streets and had a taste test of what some other college kids thought. "Tastes like paint thinner," exclaimed one lad by the name of Vincent. When asked when the last time he tasted paint thinner, he simply replied, "Three and a half months from today." Another student, we'll call him C.J. described the beer as being, "hopsy...but not too hopsy." Well, if that wasn't an honest answer, I don't know what is. The last young gentleman I tested, Bailey, brought good points to the table. He felt the beer was, "too bitter for a pale ale and had a bad aftertaste." There you have it, this highly unscientific

study proves that no one likes Liberty Ale, period.

Sam Adams.

The company description is as follows: "Summer Ale is tangy and crisp, brewed with wheat malt, lemon zest, Hallertau Tradition and Saazhops, the Boston brewery's own ale yeast, and an historic, nearly forgotten brewing spice called Grains of Paradise. Grains of Paradise gives Summer Ale a peppery citrus note, which enhances the tanginess of the lemon peel. This nearly forgotten brewing ingredient — used by brewers in the 13th and 14th centuries — brings a subtle, elegant aroma to the wheat ale base. The ale yeast fermentation produces background notes of tropical fruit: you'll detect hints of mangos and peaches. This is a well-balanced, quenching beer — perfect for summertime. Cheers!"

I normally like Sam Adams, but this "seasonal style" was quite the disappointment. It's a good thing it's only available during the summer. It's the makings of a great gimmick. First, you buy some just to try it. Then you realize it tastes



awful, so you don't buy anymore of it for the rest of the summer. A year later, you see it appear on the shelf again, which gives you just enough time to forget all about how bad it was and thus the cycle begins yet again. Not all drinkers feel the same as I do on this beer, one coed in particular exclaimed, "It's delicious!" as his eyes lit up with joy and excitement.

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ROAD TRIP!

THE ANONYMOUS X

It's summer time, and you're trapped here in school, just like me. But fret not my fellow prisoners, for I have a solution for your summer-time "getting beat down by physics" woes. What I've done here traditionally does not appear in a newspaper, due to its decidedly non-informative nature. In fact, when I approached The STING's Editor-In-Chief about whether or not I could submit such an entry, she responded with a curt, "HELL NAH YOU FLABBY BASTIGE!" But you see, I'm sneaky like a trout, and late at night I snuck into The STING office and inserted this into the paper's *ahem* private area. If all goes well, this is part one of a continuing story that'll run throughout the summer. If all goes un-well, then blame Ayrehtek.

This story is being presented in a basic script-like format for easy reading. Granted, "easy" doesn't equal "entertaining," but it does equal "longer, so I get paid more." You may also notice that this story is roughly as original as a WB sitcom (read: not very) hence it appearing in a periodical and not a major network's lineup. So sit back, relax, and enjoy. When you're done with that, read the story.

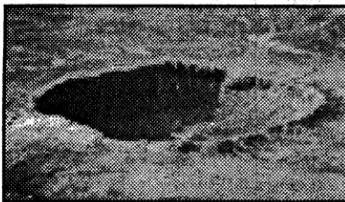
Ron: (storms into the apartment) I swear my freakin' boss is insane. I got fired today and it totally wasn't even my fault!

Gym: You got fired again? That's, what, your fifth job this month? What happened?

Ron: You know the robotic planetary-lander we were working on? Well, I was on the team working on the code to power that little sumbitch. A slight, *slight* bug may have slipped through and caused a runtime error resulting in a minor explosion.

Gym: How minor of an explosion are we talking about?

Ron: Remember that 100-acre forest near downtown?



Gym: Uh...yeah.

Ron: It's kinda gone now. Well, it's not gone so much as a smoldering crater, but I'd still stray far away from there for a while. Lotta pissed off squirrels and chipmunks with automatic weapons lingering around there.

Gym: Yeah, those little rodent bastards seem cute, but you make 'em angry and they can wipe out your whole family. On a lighter note, you know that cute teller at the bank? I finally asked her out!

Ron: Dude, 'bout time. What'd she say?

Gym: She said, "Hell no you freakin' weird lookin' bastard," then she tried to stab me with that little pen on a chain.

Ron: ...How is that good news?

Gym: I said she *tried* to stab me. Most females I've hit on at the bank leap across the desk and kick me in the face. I figure since this one didn't beat me within an inch of my

life, that I've got at least a small chance.

Ron: (shakes his head and plops down on a nearby recliner) This city, this place, it's getting to me man, I gotta get away. You know I got mugged six times yesterday on the way home from work?

Gym: Only six? Wow, maybe the neighborhood is getting better.

Ron: Yeah, but last night, there was some dude with a chainsaw wearing a hockey mask in our shower at 3AM.

Gym: Oh yeah, Mr. Vorhees. He's a good guy; just don't make eye contact with him.

Gym turns the TV volume up

Guy In News: If you've seen this man, please call the authorities. Mr. Ron Jones is wanted by the authorities for spreading countless bad checks and lewd conduct in public.

Ron: ! I'M WHAT!

Gym: Oh, yeah I meant to tell you about that. I, uh, used your name to write a few checks that may or may not have bounced.

Ron: How many checks?

Gym: 117.

Ron: And the lewd conduct thing?

Gym: I won't go into detail, but I'll tell you it involves a midget, a goat, and lotsa baby oil.

Ron: ...how the hell did you pull this off, you look nothing like me!

Gym: Identity theft is a bitch, ain't it? Man, just wait until you see what I've done to your credit repo- *knock at the door*

Ron: Who the hell is it?

Guy at Door: ...Hired goons. Er, I mean, pizza delivery.

Gym: Oh, kewl. Let 'em in I'm starving.

Ron: NO! What's wrong with you? They were probably sent by the freakin' 117 people you wrote bad checks for. Get your keys; we're leaving the city for a while.

Gym: Where we going?

Ron: Anywhere but here. Let's just go on a road trip until the heat dies down. C'mon we can take the fire escape to get to the ground floor.

(They both fly down the fire escape like people whom are being chased by hired goons)

(In the car)

Ron: You know, maybe we should've thought about this earlier, but we don't have any money other than what's in our pockets and the little we have in the bank.

Gym: Oh, I wouldn't worry about money. I've got a little nest egg set aside for fun splurging.

Ron: Oh yeah? How much?

Gym: \$450,000 give or take a thousand.

Ron: *loses grip on the steering wheel* WHAT! DUDE! WHERE'D YOU GET THAT KINDA MONEY!

Gym: Oh, I've been selling pot out of our apartment for years now, didn't you know?

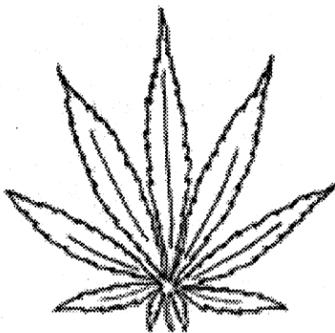
Ron: Wait, you've been selling drugs, illegal substances, IN MY HOME!?

Gym: Oh, did I say "pot"? I meant "Girl scout cookies..."

Ron: Whew, okay, you had me worried there.

Gym: ...laced with weed.

Ron: Okay you know what; don't tell me anymore because when the cops come I wanna be able to fall back on plausible deniability.



Gym: Do you have any idea what that means, or did you just hear it on TV?

Ron: I heard it on TV. One of those cop dramas, the really violent one with the bald cop that is corrupt and beats the hell outta people, what's it called?

Gym: Friends?

Ron: Yeah, that's it. That Rachel is one evil woman. *Yawns* Dude, I've been driving for like 8 straight hours and we still don't have a destination yet. What say we stop and get something to eat, or at least, something to keep me awake?

Gym: You could just let me drive, ya know.

Ron: Do you remember what happened last time you drove?

Gym: That totally wasn't my fault. I blew the horn as loudly as I could, but the car didn't move!

Ron: ...That's because it was parked, in a garage, with the wheels off and the garage door closed!

Gym: Yeah, whatever. Anyhwo, I'm not hungry yet. But if you stop at a gas station, I can hook you up with my special drink. I call it the "Caffeine Heart Puncher," 'cause after you drink it, it feels like you got punched in the heart by Mike Tyson.

Ron: Tyson boxes now? I thought he just ate ears.

Gym: I think he boxes, on occasion. Pull over here at this service station and I'll go inside and get the ingredients.

*Gym rushes inside and returns about 10 minutes later, with a dark,

bubbling concoction in a plastic bottle."

Gym: Alright buddy, drink it quickly before it melts through the bottle. I'm gonna go urinate.

Ron: Uh, I can HEAR the caffeine from over here. *Yells at Gym* What's in this thing? *chugs the bottle*

Gym returns **Gym:** DUDE! How much of that did you drink!

Ron: Er, the entire bottle, why is that bad?

Gym: You were only supposed to have half of a bottle cap! How many fingers am I holding up? *holds up five fingers*

Ron: *squints* 37?

Gym: Oh man, you're about to go on the trip of a lifetime. Maybe you shouldn't drive.

Ron: So what exactly was IN THE FREAKIN' STUFF!?!?

Gym: Just a few innocent items. Mountain Dew, Coke, Tea, Red Bull, Ice coffee, and a secret ingredient.

Ron: ...What was the secret ingredient!

Gym: ...crack.

Ron: WHATTHEHELLIS WRONGWIHYOUCANT BETAKINGCRACKAND DRIVING!

Gym: What? Slow down man.

Ron: WHATDOYOU MEAN SLOWDOWNIMNOTAL-KINGFASTIMNTHAI STUFF WASPOTENT!!!!!

Gym: Now you're seeing why a serving is only half a cup full. I think we need to pull into that hotel over there and let you sleep this off.

Ron: GREATHOTELSAREGREATILOVETHEM THINGSTHEY'REALLTALLANDSTUFF ANDYOUKNOWWHATSAWADUCK ONCE!

Gym: Uh, yeah, exactly. What say you let me drive?

Ron: FINEGOAHEAD!MGONNAGOON FOOT!LLMEETYOUTHERE!!!!

Gets out of the car and runs towards the hotel

Gym: Ron! You can't run to the hotel, it's gotta be like six or seven miles off! The only reason we can see it is because it's so tall...ah forget it.

(20 minutes later, Gym arrives at the hotel)

Ron: HEY BUDDY WHERE YA BEEN, I'VE BEEN HERE FOR LIKE 18 MINUTES!

Gym: You ran seven miles in 2 minutes!

Ron: WELL, IT GOT KINDA TOUGH WHEN THE TRUCK HIT ME, BUT YEAH, I MADE IT. WHAT SAY WE SEE IF THESE BASTIGES HAVE SOME ROOMS



OPEN. IF NOT, I SAW ANOTHER HOTEL ABOUT 20 MILES DOWN THE ROAD WHEN I RAN PAST THIS ONE BY ACCIDENT.

Gym: ...I think I'll see if they have some tranquilizers here too.

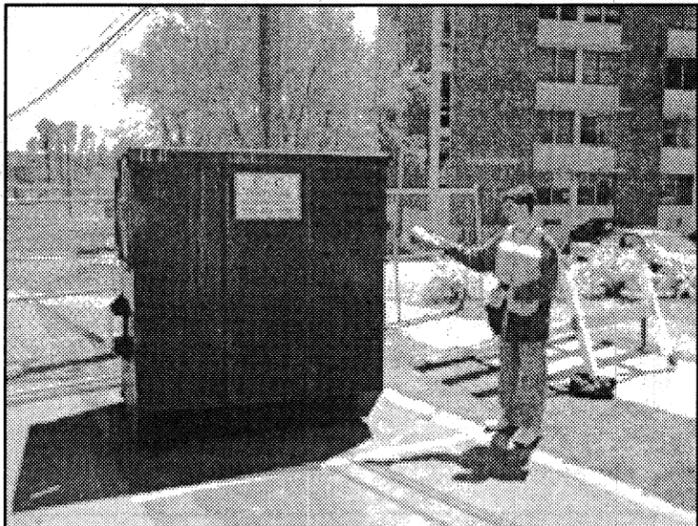
The Ticket to Parking Right

KENNY WHITE

It has recently come to my attention that people still don't know where to park. So with limited knowledge and no true research I'm setting out to inform the masses. You see, there are the normal rules like the green curb M-F is faculty, and the orange curb is M-F 7:00-5:30 faculty. Of course, the obvious blue which seems to represent visitor 15 minute, and handicap. I don't guess there's a special color for the handicap visitors here for only 15 minutes. There's the red and orange yellow color, that's no one, unless you're a cop, then you're a someone and entitled to park there. There are some other colors but I don't really care about those. I think white is the student parking color. Here's the kicker though. Just recently, I was informed by an informant that if you're a RESIDENT student you can get a ticket in any parking other than resident. Its stands to reason that if you are not a resident that if you park in assigned resident spots you WILL get a ticket. Resident spots are the closest to really anything useful on campus. That includes the spots outside Howell, the small lot near Norton, and the lot in front of

the gym, however that lot is divided. The half closest to the dorm under sidewalk is all resident, and the 4-5 rows above that sidewalk are also resident. (This may be different for this summer) So this means that even if you are going to the gym you can still get a ticket if you are parked in the resident spots. I had the privilege to go out on the road with The STING's own CJ Shiflett and discovered that under the bright orange vest

there is a person. These people have feelings. You know the feelings you get when you read your ticket; they have the exact opposite feelings when writing them. It's not an easy job walking in the sun to personally deliver your ticket to you. I think they don't pay them enough for their services. After all, they try their hardest to keep that 15 minute parking clear, well for the most part; I suppose if it doesn't have wheels it can't move.



The Histories That Matter: The Phrases You Use and the Midgets Who Love Them

CJ SHRADER

Midgets? What?
This History was inspired by Heather Giroux, who was curious as to where we got the phrase "Three Sheets to the Wind." Of course, I never write Histories on just a single topic, so I'll go into the histories of a few more odd drinking words and sayings as well, as I have been known to do.

Three Sheets to the Wind

The history behind this phrase to describe a drunk person is simple. As it sounds, "three sheets to the wind" is a sailing term thought up by sailors. In a sail boat, there are various kinds of ropes. There is the halyard, which moves, or holds, sails vertically, the line, which holds sails still, and the sheets, which move sails horizontally.

If one sheet was loose (or, to the wind, you might say), the sail would be flapping in the wind and, of course, the boat would be harder to steer. If you have two loose, then the ship becomes extremely difficult to control, and three loose makes

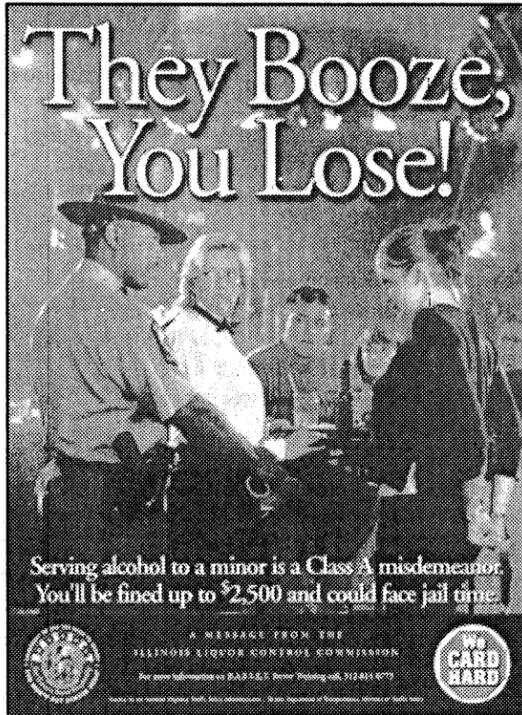
control of the ship nearly impossible (I've read that it makes the ship swerve through the waters like a drunken sailor).

It's interesting to note that sailors, at one time, had a complete system for rating the drunkability of their coworkers. One sheet to the wind would mean that the sailor was merely tipsy, while four sheets to the wind meant that the sailor was completely unconscious.

Booze

Some people say that the origin of the word "booze" comes from one E.S. Booz, who made Whiskey in Philadelphia in the mid-1800's. This theory is wrong and the people who say it are dirty, dirty liars.

Even though there really was a Mr.



Serving alcohol to a minor is a Class A misdemeanor. You'll be fined up to \$2,500 and could face jail time.

Booz, the true origins of the word come from 1300's and the Middle English word "bouse," which meant "to drink." The word was generally used to say that someone was drinking a bit too much.

Bouse was originally pronounced similar to house or mouse, but, in the 1700's, bouse got more of an "oo" sound in the middle. Americans, being the crafty folk we are, began to spell the word as "booze" to make up for the change in pronunciation.

Proof

For those two or three non-drinkers on campus (and we know the rest are raging alcoholics), the proof of

an alcoholic beverage is equal to twice the percentage of alcohol in the beverage. Hence, a 50 proof beverage is 25% alcohol. My mouthwash is 32 proof.

Why is this? Well, back in the day, distilled spirits and vinegar were meant to have exactly 50% alcohol and 50% water. In order to prove (hence, the word proof) that the concoction was in the right amounts, it would be mixed with an equal amount of gunpowder. If the new gunpowder juice didn't burn, it had too little alcohol and was under proof. If it burned too brightly, it was over proof. If the juice burned with a steady blue flame, then the stuff was considered to be just right: 50% alcohol with, you might want to say, 100 proof.

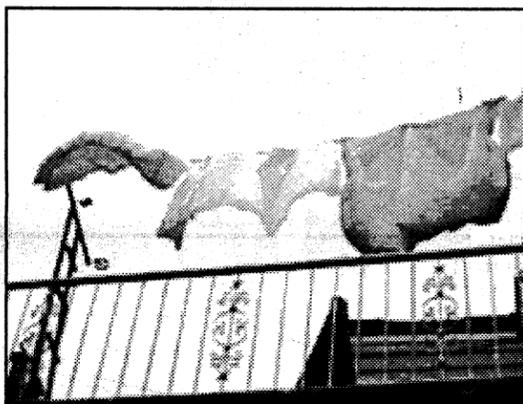
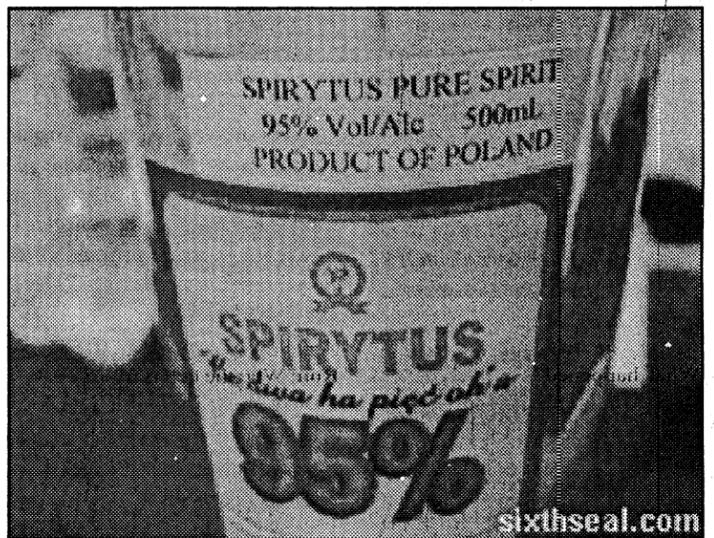
For those of you wondering how, when this test could only prove if something has 50% alcohol, we know if something has, say,

exactly 20 proof or 150 proof, well, the answer is simple – technology. Modern liquor makers don't use the old gunpowder method, of course. They use sophisticated machines and things I couldn't begin to understand to make sure you know how much alcohol you're really drinking.

That's it for this edition. Now that you're super-educated, you won't have a problem educating those around you as you and your friends revel in a drunken stupor.

Got any questions you'd like to see answered? Anything you'd like to know the history of? Then e-mail me at rshrader@spsu.edu, and I'll do everything in my power to answer them.

Next time, I'll discuss the sordid and saucy history of Coke, Pepsi, and Dr. Pepper. Until then, keep those e-mails coming.



Tiesto – Just Be Tour

CHUCK STEWART

The first mistake of my venture was to go to an event fronted by a world renowned D.J. without a ticket in hand. While waiting outside in the overflow line at Eleven50, I could hear the sounds of Tiesto from inside. I could hear the sounds of people, breathing hard, dancing in time to the music, and I could hear the cheers at the end of every song.

After waiting outside for an hour and a half, I finally came to the head of the line with my \$30 dollars in hand. Stepping through the door inside was like stepping out of reality and into a place much more important. This was a land where your

value was not placed in your ability to produce and be efficient, but instead value was placed on being able to let go and forget the world outside the walls of the club. There was nothing else present that really mattered besides the man 40 feet above the crowd between the turntables.

Despite my late entrance to the party, I was able to enjoy to sounds of Tiesto's new album, Just Be. This summer show was Atlanta's one chance to throw the wildest party to be at. Tiesto shined with his musical talent at peak.

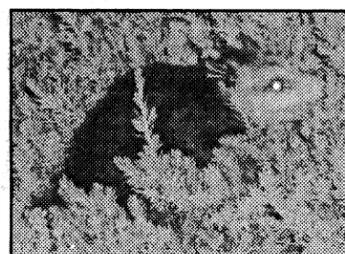


Opossum Spotted On Campus

CJ SHRADER

On Saturday, June 26, at approximately midnight, an opossum (pronounced eh-possum or just possum) was spotted on the SPSU campus. The opossum was seen lying in the tall grass in the walkway between the University Commons, near building 400.

The opossum was spotted by Heather Giroux, and chased by CJ Shiflett. Neither person was hurt by the opossum. Contrary to popular belief, though, the opossum did



not "play dead." It merely stood very still and did not make any moves for a time.

When an opening around the people was found, the opossum dashed off towards the apartments, took a quick turn, and ran into a small patch of woods and disappeared near to where a coyote had been spotted earlier. There is currently believed to be no reliable information that says the coyote sighting and the opossum sighting had any relation.

The danger to humans from an opossum is minimal, since they are timid creatures and generally do not attack any animal attacking it, but rather "play dead" until the threat moves away.

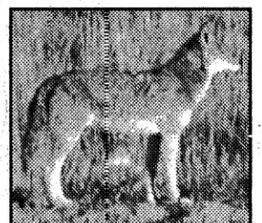
This opossum has not been spotted again.

Coyote Spotted on Campus

CJ SHRADER

On June 19, 2004, a coyote was spotted on the SPSU campus. The coyote was seen standing in the grass near the three-way stop close to the South Cobb Drive entrance to SPSU.

The coyote stopped what it was doing, looked up, and stared. Later in that same evening, the coyote was no longer there and hasn't been spotted since.



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Movie Watch-Release Dates

THE ANONYMOUS X

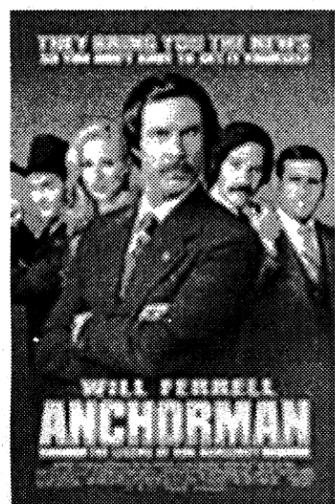
We're right in the middle of the summer movie season, but have the best movies already passed us by? Here's a look ahead at the films that'll infest a theater near you during this li'l ol' season we call summer. This information is backed up with data from <http://www.upcomingmovies.com>

In July

Already released:

King Arthur - Keira Knightley shoots people with arrows. [starring: Clive Owen]

Anchorman - Will Ferrell proves he's the funniest thing to leave SNL in the past 10 years. [starring: Will Ferrell]



Sleepover - If you're over the age of 15, and a male, and you watch this, you're creepy. [starring: No one you know]

July 16th

I. Robot - Will Smith assaults some friendly robots in the film "adaptation" of an Asimov tale. [starring: Will Smith]



A Cinderella Story - Again, if you're a male over 15 and watch this, you're creepy. [starring: Hillary Duff]

July 23rd

The Bourne Supremacy - Part two in Robert Ludlum's trilogy returns, whether you want it to or not. [starring: Matt Damon]

Catwoman - Has nothing to do with the comic. If you're looking forward to this movie, then you're probably insane and should be committed. [starring: Halle Berry]

July 30th
The Manchurian Candidate - Subtract Sinatra, subtract Lansbury, add Denzel Washington and Live Schreiber and you'll have this downright unnecessary remake. [starring: Denzel Washington]



Thunderbirds - Or "Crappy Kiddie Movie #11125533243"... Nah, "Thunderbirds" works better. [starring: Bill Paxton]

The Village - M. Night Shyamalan scares the living crap outta you again. On the bright side, you'll be too busy following the plot twists to scream. [starring: Joaquin Phoenix]

In August

August 6th

Collateral - Tom Cruise shoots people while Jamie Foxx drives. [starring: Tom Cruise]

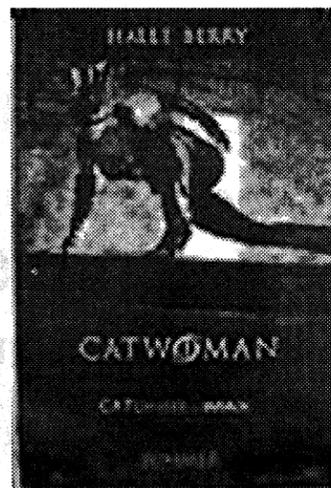
August 11th

The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement - Another movie sequel in a year of movie sequels that nobody asked for. [starring: Anne Hathaway]

August 13th

Aliens vs Predator - I'm rooting for the aliens. Why? Because no one can beat ALF. NO ONE! [starring: No one anyone knows]

Yu-Gi-Oh! - I don't know what's more entertaining, the 30 year old geeks going to watch this movie or the fact that I'm envious of Yu Gi's hair. [starring: Some weird lookin' anime folks]



August 18th

Without a Paddle - Seth Green and Matthew Lillard go camping and get mauled by a bear. At least, that's what I hope happens. [starring: Seth Green]

August 20th

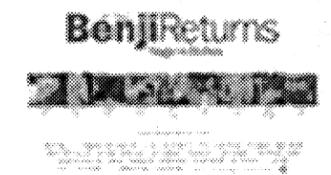
Exorcist: The Beginning - The original is one of those movies that I am too much of a wimp to watch. This one is a movie that will probably s**k too much to watch. [starring: Stellan Skarsgard]

Open Water - Two deep sea divers are stranded in the ocean. I hope they haven't seen *Jaws*. [starring: Daniel Travis]

August 27th

Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid - A large, angry snake bites people in what will be a horrible sequel to a horrible movie. [starring: Nicholas Hope]

Benji Returns: Off the Leash - The dog returns! I'm guessing it's not the same pooch from the 1974 release. [starring: Nick Whitaker]



Suspect Zero - Aaron Eckhart hunts down a serial-killing serial killer. [starring: Aaron Eckhart]

Concerts

15th

Echophlox, King Elementary, special guests **Echo Lounge**

The Woodpeckers

Andrews Upstairs

Television Box, TBA

10 High

The Sundogs

Smith's Olde Bar

D-12, Bonecrusher, Slumvillage

Earthlink Live

Collective Efforts (D-12 After Party)

Vinyl

16th

Urge Overkill, Luigi, The Last Vegas

Echo Lounge

Illmic

Breakers Music Hall

The Orphins, Sybris, The Honorary Title

The EARL

New Orleans, JUICE, Patrick Smith Band

Smith's Olde Bar

Kennesaw Bo Band, Lanky

Vinyl

Pepper, Lola Ray, 2 Cents

Cotton Club

Who's Bad? (Michael Jackson Tribute)

Andrews Upstairs

Aquafina On the Bricks w/ Fuel, Mr. North, The Whigs

Cetennial Olympic Park

JFKFC, Maudlin Ash, One Atom 12

10 High



k.d. lang

Chastain Park Amp.

17th

Magnapop, Eleni Mandell, Jackpot City

The EARL

Secret Machines, Helio Sequence, The Honorary Title

Echo Lounge

Harmony in Life feat. Mahogany Sweet

Velvet Underground

Indecision

Smith's Olde Bar

Sexxy Circus

Vinyl

Supafuzz, Artimus Pyledriver, Defriender

10 High

Boney James, KEM

Chastain Park Amp.

18th

The Album Leaf, The Movies

The EARL

Brian Vander Ark, Acres

Park Tavern

19th

Counting Crows, Graham Colton Band

Chastain Park Amp.



Continued on Next Page

Summer Class of 2004

Congratulations to all graduating students!

Good Luck getting a job, finding a spouse, having kids, and all that other stuff you are supposed to do in life.

Concerts

Continued from Previous Page

Mum, Slowblow	Echo Lounge
Sleep Therapy, Claire Bradley, Twelfth Planet	Smith's Olde Bar
Metalsome Monday	10 High
20th Now Its Overhead, The Waxwings, Lona	The EARL
TBA, The Loran Receiver	10 High
The Procussions, Edan & Insight, Time Machine, Vintage Imperial	Echo Lounge
21th Solroc, Firewood	10 High
Johnny Winter	Coca Cola Roxy
Blue Epic, Anadivine, River City High	Smith's Olde Bar
Jill Scott	Earthlink Live
Abba The Music	Chastain Park Amp.
22th The Woodpeckers, The Ugli Stick	Andrews Upstairs
Atlantis Music Conference Showcase	Many locations
Stateside, Girls On Film	Echo Lounge
The Ponys, Tiger!Tiger!, The Fashion Brigade	The EARL



23th Aquafina On the Bricks	Centennial Olympic Park
Liza Minnelli	Chastain Park Amp.
Kenny Chesney, Rascal Flatts, Uncle Kracker	Hi-Fi Buys Amphitheatre
Atlantis Music Conference Showcase	Many locations
Rainer Maria, Engine Down, Circle & Square	Echo Lounge
Jet By Day, Untied States, The Race	The EARL
24th 99X/Atlantis Music Conference Showcase	Many locations
Madonna	Philips Arena
Umpfrey's McGee, Steve Kimock Band	Variety Playhouse
Under Siege, Charm School	The EARL
Jupiter Coyote, Hounddog	Andrews Upstairs
Julio Iglesias	Chastain Park Amp.
25th Ike, Paul Meloncon	Park Tavern
Elefant, Ambulance LTD.	The EARL
Madonna	Philips Arena



Haha, Miranda. I'm publishing pictures of you and you can't retaliate. I'm the editor, hehe. (If you don't know what this is about look at page 14 of the April 28th issue).

There are two reasons this collage is in the paper. One, revenge. Two, it is 6:00 am and I want to go to sleep, so this is what The STING staff calls filler.

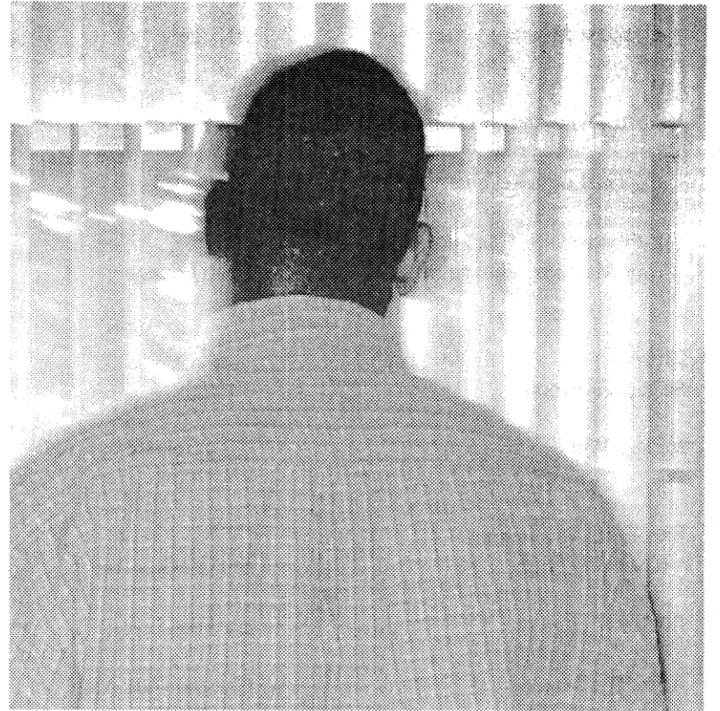
Student Question

Where do you think Dr. Rossbacher went on vacation?



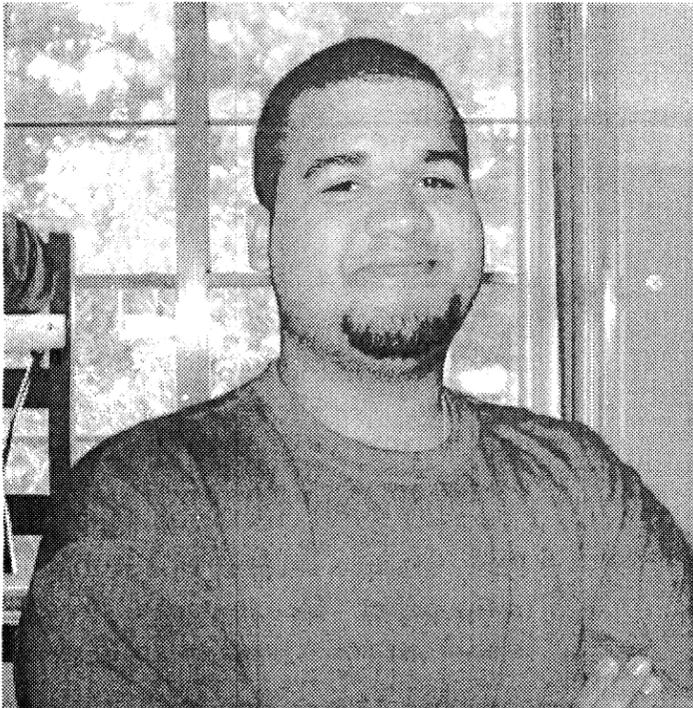
I plead the 5th because I don't want to be shot.

-Brak



A Crack House

-Idun Giv Ahphook



Tybee Islands or Crotch

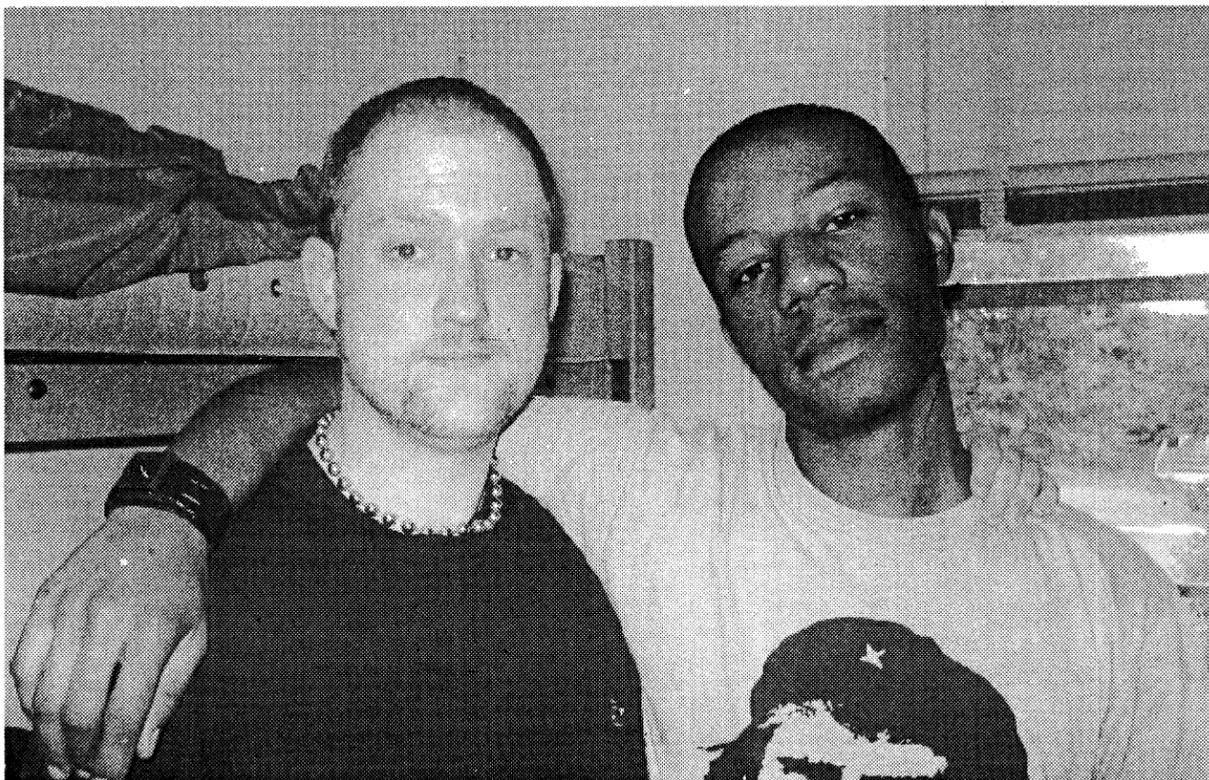
-Jay Stewart



Quiet and Peaceful Cancun

Jamaica

-Harley Derrett



Cancun

-Demar Joneson