Tuition Increase Delayed

On October 12th, the Board of Regents reversed its decision to impose a mid-year tuition increase on students of the University System of Georgia. The original plan set forth by the Board of Regents called for a 10% tuition increase starting Spring semester to help offset the budget cut imposed on the Board by Governor Perdue’s new budget for the 2004-2005 fiscal year. The budget cut is necessary because the Governor refused to allow the Legislature to use questionable accounting practices to shift $165 million of the state’s $179.3 million shortfall. The budget cut, originally totaling $66.7 million, was eventually reduced to $64.8 million.

To compensate for the lost revenue not generated by the tuition, the Board of Regents will pull money from 3 ‘one-time’ funds, totaling $44.5 million. The largest fund is the University System’s employee health-plan reserves, which will face almost $28 million in critical losses. Losing such a large chunk of money, however, will reduce the health-plan reserves from the recommended 60-day reserve to a 30-day level. The funds gained from this cut are only temporary, however, as the University System will need to replenish the reserves next year.

At least one school will be personally hit by the budget cut, as the University of Georgia will be required to sacrifice a research building as one of the three ‘one-time’ funds. Merck, a pharmaceutical company, had planned to build the Merriel research facility at UGA.

The facility would have cost $9.4 million. After Merck pulled out of the project, the unused funds were quickly reallocated as a stop-gap resource to help reduce the damage the budget cut would do to the University System. This means that UGA will not be able to contact another company about future research facilities in the near future.

The Board of Regents is still searching for a third source to fund the remaining $7 million. These funds will only cover $44.5 million, however, so $20.3 million will still be cut from the University System’s budget. Current estimates show that such a large sum will require all schools in the University System, including Southern Polytechnic State University, to continue their current full-time hiring freeze, in addition to eliminating positions. More part-time faculty will need to be hired to fill the positions originally designated for full-time faculty. The Board of Regents is concerned that these cuts will hamper their ability to deliver “high-quality academic instruction in appropriately sized classrooms and facilities.”

Students Protest Budget Cuts

On Friday, October 8th around 150 students gathered at the state capital to rally against the proposed budget cuts that might have led to a mid-year tuition increase to the University System of Georgia. These students came from 31 different state colleges and universities to express their concerns. There were chants of “No more budget cuts” and “No increase” while the students marched from Georgia State University’s student center to the state capital to the University System employee health plan reserves which will face almost $28 million in critical losses. Losing such a large chunk of money, however, will reduce the health-plan reserves from the recommended 60-day reserve to a 30-day level. The funds gained from this cut are only temporary, however, as the University System will need to replenish the reserves next year.

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Quick Features

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Bill Clinton a mass murdertor? Read more in Calling Spade a Spade. (pg 10).

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Spsu Hosts BEST Robots

CJ SHRADER

On Saturday, October 23, Southern Polytechnic State University hosted the Georgia Boost Engineering Science and Technology (BEST) competition in the gym.

The competition started at 9:00 a.m. and had High Schools from all over Georgia competing to build and maintain a multi-function robot that could accomplish a variety of tasks in a 24-foot square obstacle course.

This year, the schools in attendance were: Milton High School, The Paideia School, Kennesaw Mountain High School, Columbus High School, Roswell High School, Wheeler High School, Berkmar High School, Jasper County High School, Walton High School, Benjamin E. Mays High School, Mount Paran Christian School, South Cobb High School, Westlake High School, Northside High School, North Atlanta High School,作物 School, Sandtown Middle School and Campbell High School.

The BEST Competition was started in 1993 when two Texas Instruments engineers were guiding MIT and the students were so interested that the engineers asked themselves, "Why don't we do this?"

Since then, BEST has grown by leaps and bounds. According to Professor Glen Allen, who brought the BEST competition to SPSU, BEST "has grown from 14 schools and 221 participating students in the early days, to more than 300 schools and 6000 students throughout the nation last year." The growth certainly showed, as the turnout at SPSU was high with many large teams competing.

The competition this year was named BEST Fever, and had rules and an obstacle course to reflect the same. The course was a large, colorful circle with a double helix in the center meant to reflect DNA. The objective was to separate the deoxyribonucleotides (The small, colorful balls found in children's ball pits) from the PCR primers (tennis balls). Each team had only three minutes to amass the highest score they could while competing against the other team's robots.

The teams themselves came dressed up in a mix variety and color (Or lack thereof as the obstacle course. Fernbank Science Center was resplendent in their matching kilts. Jasper County High School displayed their scientific side by wearing lab coats.

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The winners mentioned above will go on to compete at the South's Regional Competition on November 19 and 20 at Auburn University.

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A Murder of Squirrels

CJ SHRADER

The small city of Washington has recently elected to legalize squirrel hunting within its borders, according to Jeff Scott of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Washington, with a population of 4300, is located about 110 miles east of Atlanta and has been dealing with its squirrel problem for some time now.

"A few years ago they tried trapping them and then letting them loose in the woods, but that didn't work," police chief Mike Davis is quoted as saying in the AJC. "It seemed like they just came right back to town."

The City Council, exasperated, decided to sell licenses for $3 a piece in order to help reduce the numbers of Washington's rampant squirrel population. The permits are limited to residents with valid Georgia hunting licenses, and shooting is only allowed on one's own property. Also, ammo has to be No.6 sized only which the AJC says is too small to take down a man.

Shooting hours are only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:15 am to 12:00 noon. Residents aren't allowed to kill more than 12 squirrels a day, and can only use a shotgun with a single shell.

Squirrel hunting throughout the state is only legal, with a hunting permit, from August 15 to February 28, with a limit of 12 squirrels per day.

So far, only two Washington residents have bought a squirrel hunting license, and no squirrel fatalities have been reported.

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CHRISTIAN FUNKHOUSER

The equivalent of 98 student's tu-
itions goes towards clubs and or-
ganizations such as "The Sting" and "WGHR-131 if you add in CAb's money. But 98 student's tu-
itons go solely for organizations that do not help students in their career or anyone else was offended and rates are one half the local advertisement rate. Classified advertise-
tments are $25.00 for the first 25 words on paper; online classifieds are $12.00 for the first 25 words. Ads must be submitted by the deadline printed below. To reserve space or for more information, contact The Sting at 770.528.7310 or stingeditor@gmail.com.

ORGANIZATIONS

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

JOINING The Sting

Any student paying Activity Fees is eligible to join The Sting, though final decision is made by the Sting Editor-in-Chief. We prefer creative students who have passed English 1101. Come to our meetings Friday at 1:00 p.m. in A252, upstairs in the student center, or call (678) 915-7310. This includes YOU, all you so-called members that never attend. The Sting: It's not a job, 'cause a real job pays more.

DEADLINE

Deadline for the next issue is November 5, 2004 at 5:00 P.M. Articles submitted after this time will not be printed in the next issue of The Sting, except through special permission.

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Uncensored: with Christiana Funkhouser

CHRISTIANA FUNKHOUSE

Dirty politics? Mad slingin'? What's the truth behind what people say? One of the things I've noticed in my 14 years of politics is that when liberals get mad and in a corner, they become defensive. And over thousand were injured because the Clinton administration did nothing. What happened in Rwanda? What do you think were lulled as a result of the bombing? Thank you very much.

Engaging in futility trying to change the course of events, not put the blame exclusively on anyone. We have to charge him with something.

Terror was first bombed. Six people died. Eighteen soldiers died on that mission in time to 1994. This time we are in the Lewinsky scandal. How many lives will ever be lost? Do you remember 1993? You stated that states shouldn't be forced to let homosexuals marry simply because they want to redefine a word. It's interesting what the democrats call dirty politics. In Zell Miller's GOP speech, he said, "What has happened to the party that I've spent my life working in?"

I am going to talk about their collective butts and did nothing. They offered because of loss of media attention. That is what the Clinton administration did nothing and was accused of having a "deep and true disdain" for "anyone non-white." He is talking for instance about theStampede in Lusaka, a terrorist attack. It was a combination of Clinton actions and inactions. The deaths of any people that died in the US were caused by a bombing and a plot to produce WMD. It also just happened that day and Clinton did nothing. They engaged in foot dragging and delayed before giving the go ahead for the war in Iraq. No wait, sorry. It was a result of the bombing. How many lives were killed in that war? You asked Simple genocide as a direct result of the bombing. A lot of people did nothing because of the loss of media attention. Thank you very much. Mr. President.

Calling a Spade a Spade: Clinton's Body Count

ERIK HADLEY

I would like to take this opportunity to respond to one of the many bumper stickers I have seen this political season. The bumper sticker usually reads something along the line of "Boy baby when Clinton lied." This is an attack on President Bush over whether or not he lied about the reasons for war in Iraq. I am not going to argue points over whether or not President Bush lied, if you have made up your mind then I would only be wasting my time reinforcing your ideas or engaging in futility trying to change your mind. Either way I accomplish nothing.

Instead I am going to talk about all the people that died because of former President Clinton. Not his lies under oath (a crime known as perjury) did not cause the deaths of any person. However, the actions, and quite often inactions, that the former President took while in office resulted in countless deaths. Don't believe me, read on.

Let's start with February 1993 when the Westside Trade Center was first bombed. Six people died and over a thousand were injured that day, and Clinton did nothing. There was no response, no attempt to go after those responsible. Clinton sat on his butt and did nothing.

Do you remember Mogadishu in 1993? Sure you do if you ever saw Black Hawk Down. Eighteen soldiers died on a mission because the Clinton administration was too weak to respond. That's mean spirited. Mean spirited compared to what? Certain professors calling the President of the United States a "Moron," a "complete and utter moron."

Are you for this? Do you want to start singing Cheney and I-K-I-S-S around radio programs? It's interesting what the democrats call dirty politics. In Zell Miller's GOP speech, he said, "What has happened to the party that I've spent my life working in?"

I am not going to argue points over whether or not Bush is a strong leader. The monologue that the caller delivered was referring to was one where I stated that states shouldn't be forced to let homosexuals marry simply because they want to redefine a word. It's interesting what the democrats call dirty politics. In Zell Miller's GOP speech, he said, "What has happened to the party that I've spent my life working in?"

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Slices: $1.00 Small: $5.00 Medium: $7.50 Large: $8.50 Deluxe: $10.00 Topping: $1.00 Small: $5.00 Medium: $7.50 Large: $8.00 Deluxe: $10.00

Topping Prices:
Slices: $1.00 Small: $5.00 Medium: $7.50 Large: $8.50 Deluxe: $10.00

- Deluxe: Pepperoni, Sausage, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushroom, Black Olives
- Medicine: Sausage, Bacon, Ham, Beef, Steak, Chicken, Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, Black Olives, Bacon, Banana Peppers, Pineapple, Tomatoes, Garlic, Spinach, Black Olives, Jalapenos, Cheese, Feta, Thick Crust, X-large, Salami

SPECIALTIES:
1. Deluxe: Pepperoni, Sausage, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushroom, Black Olives
2. Medicine: Sausage, Bacon, Ham, Beef, Steak, Chicken, Mushrooms, Onions, Green Peppers, Black Olives
3. Meat Lovers: Pepperoni, Ham, Bacon, Sausage, Beef
4. Spicy Buffalo Chicken: Chicken, Blue Cheese Dressing, Extra Cheese, Hot Sauce
5. BBQ Pizza: BBQ Sauce, BBQ Cheese
8. Pepperoni & Ranch: Pepperoni, Ranch Dressing, Extra Cheese
10. Hawaiian: Ham, Pineapple, Extra Cheese

GRILLED STEAK RANCHER: Ranch Sauce, Steak, Onions, Tomatoes, Extra Cheese
Small: $5.00 Medium: $10.00 Large: $15.00 Large: $16.00

SUPER SPECIALS:
1. All The Way: Pepperoni, Sausage, Onions, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Black Olives, Ham, Beef
2. Ultimate Veggie: Green Peppers, Onions, Mushrooms, Black Olives, Tomatoes, Garlic, Spinach

SLICES:
- Toppings: Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cheese, Oily, Vinaigrette, Mustard, Pepper, Mayo, Pineapple, Onions, Black Olives, Green Peppers, Mushrooms, Jalapenos, Banana Peppers

SOLD OUT:
1. Italian: Pepperoni, Onion, Salami, Sliced Ham, Marinated Provolone Cheese
2. Ham & Cheese: Sliced Ham, Marinated Provolone Cheese

TURKEY AND CHEESE: Turkey, Roasted Turkey, Black Olives
4. All Star Club: Boiled Ham, Oven Roasted Turkey, Bacon and Provolone Cheese
8" $4.00, 12" $6.00

HOT SUBS:
1. Chicken Philly-Grilled, Diced, Marinated Chicken Breast and Provolone Cheese (Battered Veggies by Request)
2. Steak and Cheese: Marinated Steak and Provolone Cheese (Battered Veggies by Request)
3. Meatballs Parmesan: Meatballs, Marinated, Parmesan and Provolone Cheese

4. Chicken Parmesan: Fried Chicken Strips, Marinated, Parmesan and Provolone Cheese

CALZONES:
1. Italian Sausage, Pepperoni, Ham, Bacon, Sliced Tomatoes
2. Beef, Ham, Cheese, Spinach, Sliced Tomatoes, Black Olives
3. Veggies Pocket: Rozzarella, Green Peppers, Onions, Mushrooms, Black Olives, Sliced Tomatoes

DINNER SPECIALS:
1. Chicken Parmesan: Rozzarella, Sausage, Onions, Green Peppers, Marinara
2. Chicken Alfredo: Rozzarella, Marinara, Alfredo Sauce
3. Vegetarian Pocket: Rozzarella, Green Peppers, Onions, Mushrooms, Black Olives, Sliced Tomatoes
4. Sausages with Peppers: Pepperoni, Rozzarella, Sausage, Onions, Green Peppers, Marinara

SPECIALTY: Spicy Buffalo Chicken: Chicken, Blue Cheese Dressing, Extra Cheese, Hot Sauce

SALADS:
1. Garden: Lettuce, Tomato Slices, Black Olives, Onions, Green Peppers
2. Caesar: Lettuce, Tomato Slices, Croutons, Parmesan Cheese, Lemon

BUFFALOWINGS & CHICKEN TENDERS
SERVED WITH BLEU CHEESE OR RANCH DRESSING & CELERY STICKS
(RAW HAM, MILD, MEDIUM, HOT, FRANKFURTER, HAM & EGG, SPICY BBQ, CRISPY TUNA, GARBAGE, PROVOLONE)
10 PIECES WINGS $5.00 20 PIECES WINGS $15.00
10 PIECE TENDERS $3.00 20 PIECE TENDERS $5.00

SALADS:
1. Garden: Lettuce, Tomato Slices, Black Olives, Onions, Green Peppers
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BUFFALOWINGS & CHICKEN TENDERS
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10 PIECE WINGS $5.00 20 PIECE WINGS $15.00
10 PIECE TENDERS $3.00 20 PIECE TENDERS $5.00

6. Prime Rib: Roasted Ribeye, Spinach, Black Olives, Provolone, Roasted Peppers, Garlic Mayonnaise
7. Fiesta Chicken: Roasted Chicken, Tomatoes, Black Olives, Provolone, Roasted Peppers

SALADS:
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**Election 2004: Where do the Candidates Stand?**

**CJ SHIFLET AND HEATHER GIBoux**

The following information is from the respective candidate's official websites.

### Abortion

George W. Bush
- Republican (Incumbent)

Bush is strongly against abortion. Instead, he will promote abstinence by creating abstinence-only classes in schools, reviewing health messages to teenagers and making sure they are consistent, and use public education to help foster better communication on the subject with parents and their children. Bush also plans to defend the Partial-Birth Abortion Ban and restrict funding for federal abortion.

John Kerry
- Democrat

John Kerry is of the position that a woman should have the right to abort her un-born child. He plans to enforce this platform by only nominating judges who “demonstrate a respect for the full range of constitutional rights, including… the right to choose.”

### Education

Bush has a policy of ‘No Child Left Behind.’ This policy is laid out into “four pillars”: “stronger accountability for results, more freedom for states and communities, proven education methods, and more choices for parents.” All of this basically means that a child cannot be moved up through school just because of his/her age. The child must comprehend the material enough to be able to move (through a standardized test) they are ready to advance in school. He also aspires to give $250 million a year to high schools across the country to better our children’s reading and math skills. Bush is also a big supporter of early childhood development, improving vocational education, increasing financial aid, and creating incentives for teachers.

John Kerry
- Democrat

According to his website, John Kerry intends to increase funding for the Head Start and ‘No Child Left Behind’ programs in addition to offering at least 3.5 million after-school activities through his “School’s Open ‘til Six” initiative. To better facilitate children’s education, Kerry wants to “enact a new bargain that offers teachers more.” This bargain is aimed at making sure teachers stay happier in a more favorable environment, thereby increasing the quality of their student’s education. He will also rein in tuition and make it easier for students to go to college, though he does not mention how.

### Environment

Bush will give incentives to reduce power plant emissions, continue the Clean Air Interstate Rule, limit emissions of mercury, and reduce pollution emitted by diesel engines. He will continue to maintain our country’s National Parks, try to create and preserve wetlands, spend $7.8 billion on restoring the Everglades in South Florida, delegate $45 million to clean up the Great Lakes, and to restore and conserve our healthy forests and oceans.

John Kerry
- Democrat

John Kerry intends to fix our traditional environmental problems, such as, but not limited to, those caused by industrial sites and threatening our parks and baseball fields. The quality of America’s air is a big issue with John Kerry, who wants to take aggressive action to stop acid rain and counter global warming. This is to be accomplished by using “innovative, job-creating programs.” No specific plan is outlined to fix the problems that Kerry has laid out.

### Gay Rights

Bush is vehemently against gay marriage. He intends to “vigorously” defend the Defense of Marriage Act and to also move towards a Federal Marriage Amendment which would define and protect the institution of marriage as we now know it in the United States.

John Kerry
- Democrat

John Kerry currently supports the gay and lesbian request for equal protection. This supports extends to opposing President Bush’s proposed Constitutional amendment that would define marriage as between a man and a woman. John Kerry also plans to increase HIV/AIDS funding, something which has been cause for concern amongst gay and lesbian voters.

### Health Care

Bush promises to fulfill the benefits of those in near retirement. He will also create a voluntary personal retirement account for younger workers and will not increase the Social Security payroll tax.

John Kerry
- Democrat

If elected, John Kerry will create new alliances with the nations that aren’t helping now. Kerry also plans to transform the American military into a more potent striking force more capable of stopping terrorism. Kerry’s central position for Homeland Security, however, relies on protecting the nation from terrorism with passive defenses.

### Homeland Security

Bush will tighten border security, use advanced technology against weapons of mass destruction, and renew the USA Patriot Act to reinforce communication between all levels of law enforcement and intelligence. Another aspect of his protecting America is strengthening our assistance to nations who support freedom and democracy and the overall encouragement of these two philosophies worldwide.

Jon Kerry’s website does not show an affirmation or rejection of the war in Iraq.

### Iraq

Bush obviously supports this. Enough said.

To keep jobs from leaving the country, John Kerry will approve tax cuts for businesses that keep their employment within the country. Kerry also intends to invest in the jobs and people who will manufacture “new technology.”

### Jobs

Bush’s plan of ‘Jobs of the 21st Century’ will designate $500 million to help train and educate workers in school and community colleges.

Like any politician, John Kerry is steering clear of taking any hard-nosed position on the Social Security issue.

### Social Security

Bush promises to fulfill the benefits of those in near retirement. He will also create a voluntary personal retirement account for younger workers and will not increase the Social Security payroll tax.

John Kerry supports providing tax breaks to those businesses that will keep jobs within the country, instead of outsourcing them. He also supports giving 98% of all Americans some form of tax break, though he makes no mention of what will happen to the other 2% of the population. Kerry’s platform also does not mention how much of a tax break will occur or in what manner it will be provided.

### Taxes

Bush would like to encourage the common man to save and invest on their own. He would also like to keep most of the tax cuts he has previously imposed. These cuts include low 10% tax bracket, reducing the marriage penalty, gradually getting rid of the death tax, doubling child tax credit, and increasing small business expenses. To make these things happen, Bush is proposing to make the tax code easier and more fair to improve the economy.

John Kerry’s website makes no mention of welfare reform, though it can be assumed that, based on previous voting records, he opposes any changes that would reduce the amount of aid a welfare family would receive from the government.

### Welfare Reform

Bush will require those on welfare to work fulltime to foster self-sufficiency.

John Kerry supports providing tax breaks to those businesses that will keep jobs within the country, instead of outsourcing them. He also supports giving 98% of all Americans some form of tax break, though he makes no mention of what will happen to the other 2% of the population. Kerry’s platform also does not mention how much of a tax break will occur or in what manner it will be provided.
Abortion
Ralph Nader fully endorses the National Organization for Women's (NOW) and the National Abortion Federation (NAF) platform with regard to abortion, instead parroting the positions of NOW. NOW believes that abortion is an issue of life or death for the woman and vehemently opposes any attempt to restrict abortion.

Education
Nader believes that responsibility for education falls on the shoulders of state and local governments and that the federal government is responsible for ensuring the quality of the education environment.

Environment
Nader's environmental platform centers around stricter government regulations. According to Nader, we currently "threaten the global environment with tremendous economic threats...which will significantly impact commerce, agriculture and communities across America." Nader's solution to this imminent problem is to strengthen toxic standards and make environmental protection a higher priority in government.

Gay Rights
Nader also supports NOW's agenda with regard to Gay and Lesbian rights. According to his website, "NOW is committed to fighting discrimination based on sexual orientation in all areas...NOW assures the right of lesbians and gays to live their lives with dignity and security."

Health Care
The United States is the only industrialized nation which does not provide universal health care, and Ralph Nader considers this a disgrace. Nader supports a government provided health care system which is supervised by a federally-chartered non-profit membership organization.

Homeland Security
Nader's online platform does not make any specific mention about homeland security as an entity. A number of grievances are raised about President Bush's civil rights infringements, though none address the overall homeland security issue.

Iraq
Nader supports a U.N.-led peacekeeping force to replace the U.S. forces currently in the region. He also believes that the war could have been avoided and the costs of the war should have been spent on America's infrastructure, schools and health care system.

Jobs
Ralph Nader laments the last jobs suffered when the dot com bubble burst. To increase the employment rate, Nader proposes local, labor-intensive public works which would benefit the infrastructure when combined with equitable trade and fully funded education.

Social Security Taxes
Like any politician, Ralph Nader is steering clear of taking any hard-nosed position on the Social Security issue.

Welfare Reform
Though no mention is made of Nader's stance with regard to welfare reform, he does support increasing minimum wage to what he calls a "living wage." It can be safely assumed that he does not support traditional welfare reform.

Like it or Leave it – The Electoral College

The Electoral College has long been a subject of controversy, made all the more so every time it elects someone not supported by the majority of the populace. Before the advantages and disadvantages of this unique system can be compared, a brief rundown is required to explain exactly how it works.

The Electoral College was created by the founding fathers in Article II, Section I of the Constitution. In 1804, the 12th Amendment was ratified, slightly modifying the process by which the Electoral College selects the President and Vice-President, though no real significant changes were made. In the interest of saving space, this article will only refer to how the Electoral College works now.

Currently, each state selects a number of Electors equal to the number of Representatives and Senators they have. Ironically, the way Electors are selected is left entirely up to the individual states themselves, with no mandate that the Electors should represent who actually received the most votes in the state. As far as the Constitution is concerned, each state's governor could personally select the Electors without any regard to the populace. Fortunately, all states have the manner in which they will select their Electors outlined within their respective Constitutions, so there is little, if any, chance of such extreme corruption occurring in the foreseeable future. Currently, every state except Maine and Nebraska select all the Electors for that state based on which party's candidate won the popular vote within that state. Maine and Nebraska only allow the party to select the 2 Electors granted by their Senator seats based on the popular vote. The other Electors are selected based on who won the popular vote within a specific Congressional district. Colorado currently has a referendum on the ballot to change the way they select Electors to mirror Maine and Nebraska. Please note that popular vote only means that the candidate received a plurality of the votes. Bill Clinton won 1992 and 1996 elections with only 43% and 46% of the popular vote, respectively. He won the presidency because his total was greater than either of the other candidates. With that little history lesson out of the way, let's focus on the positives and negatives of the Electoral College.

Negatives
1. The voters don't actually select the President. When you step up to that polling place, you are actually selecting the Electors who you hope will vote the same way you are. It is entirely possible that your Elector will vote for the opposing party if he feels strongly enough. This has happened 7 times in the past 100 years and occurred as recently as the 1988 election between Vice-President George Bush and challenger Michael Dukakis.

2. It's possible to win the majority of the Electoral College, yet still lose the popular vote. This is what happened in the 2000 election and what has caused the majority of the suspicion cast on the Electoral College. Theoretically, it is possible to receive much less than 50% of the popular vote, as long as your support is spread out enough to win 51% of the vote in 270 votes worth of states.

3. The Electoral College causes rural votes to count more than urban votes. According to the Federal Election Commission, using 1988 statistics, "the combined voting age population (3,119,000) of the seven least populous jurisdictions of Alaska, Delaware, the District of Columbia, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and Wyoming carried the same voting strength in the Electoral College (23 Electoral Votes) as the 9,614,000 persons of voting age in the State of Florida."

4. In short, each vote of the aforementioned states carries the same voting power as 3 voters from Florida.

Positives
1. The Electoral College is true to the Representative nature of the Democratic Republic that the United States of America actually is. We are not a democracy, but rather a conglomeration of states that meet with each other under the supervision of a stronger federal government to decide the fate of the nation. Our respective House Representatives and Senators are our voice in the Legislative branch and our respective Electors are our voice for the Executive branch. Additionally, not a single one of the 7 recorded instances of an Elector voting against the will of the people has changed the result of an election.

2. While it is theoretically possible to win a small portion of the popular vote and still win, the odds of that happening are up there with a meteor killing the popular candidate the day before the election. The potential for abuse is there, but it also allows the possibility of a great many more years to come since the last election. Nader will most certainly continue for many more years to come, since opposition to the Electoral College, while growing, is nowhere near the levels required to change the Constitution.

For better or for worse, the next election will be decided by the Electoral College. This trend will most certainly continue for many more years to come, since opposition to the Electoral College, while growing, is nowhere near the levels required to change the Constitution.
A Tale of Two Libraries

DAVE BACHTEL

IT WAS the best of times, it was the age of enlightenment.

It was the age of Procrastination, it was the age of Mountain Dew. It was the age of frozen microwave dinners, it was the age of chocolate milk. This, for better or worse, however, is not "A Tale of Two Cities." Neither is it "A Tale of the Eating Habits of a Single Male College Student." This, my astute reader, is "A Tale of Two Libraries."

The first library is that which lies in the present and the past. It is the library that has spanned countless generations and civilizations around the globe. This library is a monument to human achievement; not only in the knowledge contained therein but also to the meticulous detail and the sources were opened on the knowledge contained therein. Number mean that both of the milestones to human that he pointed in vague past It is the library that has seconds he had produced two libraries the reference section of the Student This my astute topic at the front desk was of Semi Obscure Single Male College literature on my obscure Tale of the Eating Habits inquired as to where might find chocolate milk This for better breathe had become victim for dinners it was the age of close in and it becomes hard to have decided to wait until the Who will be the keepers of History paper due Being the librarian who can put back the thick headed student that was pieces if the system falls apart. The answer is that library can lend library its character increase in technology Yes it to replace the human factor that certain degree of sadness to the computers have slowly begun the more realize that there is which lies in the future Books home to finish the paper

The second library is that which lies in the future. Books still exist, as do librarians, except computers have slowly begun to replace the human factor that lends a library its character.

But what happens when the computers go down? The answer is that a library can become a very scary place.

In Fall of 2003, I had a US History paper due. Being the thick-headed student that I was (am), I decided to wait until the day before the paper was due to start working on it. Without a second thought, I walked over to our campus library to pull some books for my paper (non-digital, published works). I waistled up to the computer terminal, only to discover that the online card catalog wasn't working. It seemed like a bad dream (the kind where the walls begin to close in and it becomes hard to breathe). I had become a victim of my own procrastination.

After catching my breath, I inquired as to where might find literature on my semi-obsure Topic. I was directed to a reference desk near the front desk. I was blown away. I took some notes, thanked the librarian, and returned to my home to finish the paper.

The more I think about it, the more I realize that there is a certain degree of sadness to the increase in technology. Yes, it enables us to get more things accomplished in a shorter period of time. But have we become too reliant upon it? Will there always be someone like a librarian who can put back the pieces if the system fails apart? Who will be the keepers of knowledge if society breaks down and everyone is running around Mad-max style, with dunge buggies and football paper? We now have librarians, and for that, I am very grateful.

The Dr. Pepper Fiasco, an Epic Tale

CJ SIBERDA

The day is Tuesday, July 27. I'm working hard on finishing my Video Game Development and Design game prototype. I feel the dry tickle at the back of my throat that tells me I'm thirsty, but I despair. I have no soda anywhere around me, and drinking water isn't fish. I'll have to brave the hot sun and make the laborious trek from the University Commons to the Howell Dormatory if I'll be drinking today.

Luckily for me, I have through some miracle saved two dollars in my cow-skin money-pouch/ PDA holder. More than enough for the purchase of a Dr. Pepper. I suit up in my adventuring gear (shoes), and rush outside, only to be assaulted by the burning sun. I knew that I wasn't quick, I would surely dehydrate. I rushed past the Commons, over the deadly laborious trek from the University Commons to the Howell Dormatory if I'll be drinking today.

I found the soda machine near the police station, just where I thought it would be. I pulled out my first dollar, the Dollar of Hope. Quickly, I inserted it into the soda machine, which grabbed at it greedily. I removed my second dollar from my cow-skin pouch, and placed it into the slot. The machine would not grab at it; the machine did nothing at all to acknowledge this Dollar. Naturally, this confused me, for it had registered my original dollar and given me credit as such. I examined the slot that had taken my original dollar and, to my surprise, found that the machine was chowing on it! The dollar had not been taken all the way in, even though I had been given credit for it. No amount of prying or pulling would get the original dollar back out, and I had no dime with which to finish the transaction. Despair filled my heart as the Dr. Pepper was just outside my grasp. I checked the ground around the machine for a dime, but to no avail. I knew what I had to do.

In the burning sun, I make the trek all the way back to my apartment. I climb over the mountain of neglected chores that was once my bed. I peek into the forbidden Christmas Jar of Change and pull out a single dime and four quarters, just in case. Naturally, though, I hoped my dollar credit would still be in the machine when I returned.

Once more I walked to the Howell, and confronted the soda machine. Indeed, it had finally swallowed my dollar. Yet, there was no more credit. What fiend had walked by and profited from my misfortune? Or, had the devilmachine simply stolen my dollar and erased any evidence that I had ever been there. I did not know, nor did I have time to find out. My body needed liquid, and fast.

I walked past the soda machine, and cost me two more walks in the sizzling sun. The machine accepted it as well, without question. It simply dispensed my Dr. Pepper. I reached for the Dr. Pepper, and pulled it out of the drink dispenser. It was mine at last! However, a flash of silver from the dispenser darted. I looked down and found, to my horror, the single object that would have saved me from so much walking. A dime.
Halo 2

CHRISTIAN FUNKOHUSER

Halo® Combat Evolved is the best first person shooter on the market today. At the start of Halo 2 begins with the Halo, a creation of the Forerunners that rotates throughout space. When the Pillar of Autumn is made lame by enemy fire, the captain orders Master Chief into a guerrilla warfare style of fighting against the vast Covenant race. The Master Chief's only help is every computer nerd's dream woman, Cortana.

The amazing action. The "Flight" of enemies. Running to get the ammo before the Hunter can smash you. Halo was an amazing game. Can we expect the same from Halo 2? Before we delve into that, let's take a look at our most memorable moments of Halo.

The beginning of the game when we get our first gun. My favorite memory. The adventure begins. However, how many of us can remember the first time we saw the flood; the grotesque creatures that would stop at nothing before destroying us? The flaming tentacles of the half-formed flood creatures. What few. The mad dash to the end had more adrenaline going through my body than the Acrophobia at Six Flags could ever intend to give me or anyone for that matter.

Halo 2 takes place on Earth. The Covenant has located it and we (this writer and a lot of other people) believe 343 Guilty Spark has some- thing to do with it. The Covenant is very organized this time. The AI has really come in handy, and rumors have it that the Grunts and weaker units will avoid you (Master Chief) and focus on the weaker marines, while the Covenant is very organized this time.

John Kerry when someone disagrees with him. The Ghost has been upgraded with a spaceship. At the second, we have to drop the second gear, lob the grenade, then pick it up again. Raise your hand if you won't be throwing as many grenades! The nerve of a bug to make us use strategy. That's just disgusting. But they're making this game happy by letting us have the Beam sword with one hit KO combo.

The story of Halo begins with the wargame and real-life experience of the keeping with realism, the Chief can not lob grenades with both guns out. This is truly a butt pain because we have to drop the second gear, lob the grenade, then pick it up again. Raise your hand if you won't be throwing as many grenades! The nerve of an insect to make us use strategy. That's just disgusting. But they're making this game happy by letting us have the Beam sword with one hit KO combo.

The Flood of enemies ships and not only seeing scraps of the Flood, the grotesque creatures that itshkcTron...only in the future. The Flood of enemies ships and not only seeing scraps of the Flood, the grotesque creatures that itshkcTron...only in the future. The Flood of enemies ships and not only seeing scraps of the Flood, the grotesque creatures that itshkcTron...only in the future. The Flood of enemies ships and not only seeing scraps of the Flood, the grotesque creatures that itshkcTron...only in the future.

Star Wars Battlefront

STEVEN MERRITT

Battlefield Nineteen Forty...errr... I mean Star Wars Battlefront features some of the best multiplayer combat for the consoles. As the name suggests, Star Wars Battlefront is all about the battles. Each mission is a battle between the two sides. Players fights against the opposing side to control the planet. The battles are big and it has just the right level of strategy. This is the best multiplayer console shooter. If you have a PC, you are better off with Unreal Tournament 2004, but console players can't go wrong with this game.

Counter-Strike: Source

STEVEN MERRITT

Counter-Strike: Source, made using the new Half-Life 2 engine, is the remake of the ever-popular "Why haven't I died already?" Counter-Strike mode for the original Half-Life game. In fact, Counter-Strike is the most popular online shooting game. Counter-Strike: Source is the newest product in the Counter-Strike franchise which uses Valve's new Half-Life 2 engine.

Because of the new Half-Life 2 engine, CSS (Counter-Strike Source) features some rich graphics with well-drawn characters and great sound to boot. The physics engine is also there. Bodies flop realistically after you kill an opponent and tives like rescue hostages or stop the terrorists from blowing up a building. The match ends when a team has completed its objective or eliminated the opposition.

CSS features a lot of guns to choose from which are bought at the beginning of each round. These guns are separated into a few different categories such as shotguns, snip, rifles and hand guns. Each gun has its own distinctive sound effects that can be an important factor in success as some guns are better for long range combat than others.

CSS controls very well and is definitely a great game to play online. The only real problems with the game are the same as that of the original CS. When you die, you have to wait on the round to end before you can give it another shot. This means that you'll be spending some serious time just waiting on the round to end unless you are already great at the game. This can add a lot to the frustration and make the game difficult to enjoy.

Overall, CSS is a great game and well worth playing. It comes with every version of Half-Life 2 which will be available on Nov 16th barring some catastrophic event such as space aliens taking over the earth. Then again given the kind of bad luck Valve has been having with Half-Life 2's release date, is a space alien invasion all that unlikely?
The Histories that Matter: Those Kooky Buildings

CJ SHRADER

When I first arrived on this campus two years ago, I remember looking at the so-called Joe Mack Wilson Student Center and asking myself, who on earth is Joe Mack Wilson and why is our student center named after him? Well, that’s what I hope to cover in this Histories that Matter.

I went to four buildings: the student center, the Lawrence V. Johnson Library, the Burruss auditorium, the W. Clair Harris Apparel and Textile Center of Excellence (Hey, I don’t come up with the names), and the Atrium building. I took a picture of each of their commemorative plaques which tell what that particular person did for the school, and now I will attempt to go a little deeper into each person’s background. Let’s see what happens.

Oh, and so you don’t have to go walking around campus yourself, I’ve repeated what each plaque says in this article.

Joe Mack Wilson Student Center

What the Plaque Says: Southern College of Technology Joe Mack Wilson Student Center dedicated January 20, 1994

[An image is shown, followed by the dates 1919-1993]

The Southern College of Technology Student Center is dedicated to the memory of the honorable Joe Mack Wilson in appreciation of, and respect for, his dedicated commitment to this center, our college and our community.

During his 27 years of service as a representative in the Georgia State Legislature, from 1961 to 1988, and as mayor of the city of Marietta, from 1990 to 1993, Joe Mack Wilson advanced the cause of Southern Tech as an individual institution and the university system of Georgia as a whole. His initiative and assistance helped provide quality improvement funds for instructional equipment, a new funding formula, and many campus improvements.

The District of Columbia Court officially declared that “Representative Joe Mack Wilson is a rare jewel.”

Upon hearing this, according to liefbonline.com, Wilson exploded: “If you don’t condescend and give in to everything black people want, you’re tagged a racist.”

Did he reform after this incident? I really don’t know and can’t find out. All I have to say is that he may not have been as great a guy as his plaque says he is.

Lawrence V. Johnson Library

What the Plaque Says: The Lawrence Virginij Johnson Library

In 1947, Lawrence Virginij Johnson was named Founding Director of The Technical Institute, now Southern Polytechnic State University. In March 1948, The Technical Institute welcomed its first class.

Mr. Johnson guided the institution with wisdom and foresight. Under his leadership, the Institute became a pioneer in education and industry. During his distinguished career, Mr. Johnson served as Founder and Chairman, Carwood Manufacturing Company (now Deckhead Apparel), President, American Apparel Manufacturers Association, and a leader in a wide range of other business, civic and philanthropic organizations.

It seems that Mr. Harris had quite a bit of money and had his hands in various businesses. Before the budget for the plaque was approved, he was also chairman and president of W.C. Harris & Co. and Harris Realty Company until he died.

What do you believe his plaque and two paintings in the textile building really mean is that he donated a lot of money to this school. I think my belief is supported by the fact that in 1999, the Harris estate, now lead by his widow, donated $17 million to Emory University School of Medicine for research and to support the Harris Scholarship fund.

I wonder how much his plaque and building at SPSU cost him?

The Atrium Building

What the Plaque Says: John A. Burruss Auditorium

1920-1994

Representative John A. Burruss made many strides in improving and reconfiguring the way Southern Tech has been run over the years. He implemented course rosters, classroom schedules, and hired new professors and staff.

Thanks to charitable contributions made by John C. Atrium, the Atrium building was able to be constructed. If it weren’t for his philanthropic donations, the school wouldn’t be the fine institution that it is today.

The John C. Atrium building is dedicated in his honor.

Behind the Scenes: Ok, calm down, I’m sure most of you are writing me rabid-mails right now. There is no John C. Atrium, and there is no plaque outside of the Atrium building. It’s only called Atrium because it’s at the “heart” of the campus, if you didn’t actually already know that. I just couldn’t help but make something up.

Speaking of rabid e-mails, why don’t you go ahead and send me one? Drop a message to rshreader@spusu.edu and tell me what question you’d like to see answered in the next Histories that Matter. I’d be glad to hear from you.

The Sting • October 27, 2004

Entertainment
You are invited to the

Black Greek 101 Mixer
(Southern Polytechnic State University)
November 4th, 2004 at 8:00pm

@SPSU Community Center
Hosted by:

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

This invitation is to ALL students who are interested in learning about Black Greek Life and what it may have to offer.
We hope to see you there!!!
Refreshments shall be served!!!

This event is sponsored by:

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### MEN’S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

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<th>Date</th>
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movies to go see

BY HEATHER GIROUX

Shaun of the Dead

A British epidemic. With zombies.

This British film directed by Edgar Wright takes the zombie genre and turns it on its decaying head. Shaun is a thirty-something stuck in a dead-end job with a girlfriend who's fed up and a best friend who's always around. After fighting about the same ole, same ole Liz (the girlfriend) finally gives up and pushes Shaun out of her life. Then there are some zombies that appear and Shaun tries to save Liz in quintessential "love conquers all" fashion. The movie is great for the fan of heart that still want to be in the Halloween spirit. It has zombies, it has imminent death...but in a funny way.

The Grudge

"It never forgives. It never forgets."

This movie starring Sarah Michelle Gellar is actually a series of horror movies (all directed by Shimizu) in Japan much like Friday the 13th or Nightmare on Elm Street here in the States. A horrible murder in a fit of rage is committed in a house. The house carries 'the grudge' of this event in the form of a curse that consumes all who enter it. This movie is a bit hard to follow since the storyline is not unfolded in a linear approach like most movies, but it is creepy nonetheless. A good flick to see, but why do we keep having to remake these horror movies from Japan? Saw

"Every piece has a puzzle"

This is another film by girls of the school and people are wishing they watch the film Horror movies are always You're in college you should exactly why it takes days to come full circle and there are set at camp or single cabin be able to do research or at for person to die after he leaves. This movie starring Sarah Michelle Gellar and directed approach like most movies promises to be mighty accomplish what in the woods this movie is least download it from the watching the tape. The first 1998 this version was hit in Japan and even spawned sequel Ringu.

The Grudge

This British film directed by Dario Argento, this movie follows Susy, an American ballet dancer. She goes to Europe for ballet school and finds much more than just a basic choreography. A coven is killing many of the girls of the school and people around town. Rent this flick to solve the mystery and view the mayhem. Rings

Many of you have probably seen The Ring with Naomi Watts that came out in 2002. Well Ringu is the original from Japan dating back to 1998. This version was a hit in Japan and even spawned a sequel, Ringu 2. The storyline is almost exactly the same, but the essence is not. I don't know if it's because the actors are Japanese, but for some reason they're just a little creepier. Plus Ringu doesn't patronize its audience by turning to it and explaining exactly why it takes 7 days for a person to die after watching the tape. It is always the best, or at least it is in this case.

movies to go rent

BY HEATHER GIROUX

If you're too cheap to go to the movies or just hate seeing scary movies in a large crowd, these rentals are for you. All movie selections listed below can be found at either Hollywood Video located at 2135 Roswell Rd, Marietta, GA 30062, or at the local Blockbuster at 270 Cobb Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060.

Pumpkinhead

This is a monster movie of the gory kind. Ed Harley's son is accidentally killed by bikers on their way to a cabin. To avenge his son's death, Harley enlist the help of a witch to conjure up Pumpkinhead. This demon is evil, ugly, and likes to torture its victims. Doesn't that sound like a nice way to curl up and spend an evening on the sofa?

Texas Chainsaw Massacre

This movie follows a group of teenagers on a road trip. This movie really isn't your typical scary, but it is creepy as hell. The images portrayed are so bizarre and horrific that you won't be able to shake them out of your memory. The great thing about this movie is that it's filmed almost like a documentary. This makes it much more realistic and believable. Oh, and that remake that came out last year? It's shitty, don't watch it.

Hellraiser

Grievous is always the first word that comes to mind when I think of this movie. There's a guy upstairs in the attic that doesn't have too much skin anymore. There are torture scenes that would probably make suspension and tendon assassin s Tigers. Of course there is also Pinhead himself, what a crazy looking bad guy.

Sleepaway Camp

Horror movies are always set at a camp or single cabin in the woods, this movie is no different. Angela and her cousin are sent away to Sleepaway Camp for the summer. Angela is a shy kid who doesn't really play well with others but does find a way to fall into a blossoming summer relationship. While all of this is happening, people who are extra jerky start dying in weird ways. This is a typical '80s splatter flick, but the ending is nuts and needs to be viewed by all.

Zombie

This is an Italian horror movie directed by Lucio Fulci. The plot for this movie isn't that amazing, but the special effects completely make up for it. The decaying zombies look as realistic as I've ever seen; they're maggots ridden and flesh is rotting off everywhere. If you want to witness primo makeup effects, rent this movie.

Gates of Hell

This is another film by Lucio Fulci and better than the one listed above. It has great effects including a girl throwing up her insides in Ringu along with many others but does find a way to fall into a blossoming summer relationship. While all of this is happening, people who are extra jerky start dying in weird ways. This is a typical '80s splatter flick, but the ending is nuts and needs to be viewed by all.

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Haunted House

600 Whartone Circle
Atlanta, GA 30336
Price: $15
Dates: October 1 – 31
Times: Friday and Saturday 7:13 – 12:30

Nightmare at Haunted House

600 Whartone Circle
Atlanta, GA 30336
Price: $15
Dates: October 1 – 31
Times: Friday and Saturday 7:13 – 12:30

You can also buy a double ticket for $23 which includes both Crypt of Terror and Nightmare Haunted House since they are next door to each other.

Austell

Six Flags Over Georgia
7561 Six Flags Parkway
Austell, GA 30168
Price: Park Admission $42.99, $34.99 online
Haunted House Admission $8 for one or $14 for both
Dates: October 29 – 31
Times: Friday 6:00 – 11:00
Saturday 10:00 – 11:00
Sunday 11:00 – 8:00
Halloween is this Sunday and what better way to scare everyone the girls away than to dress up as a nerd. To be a nerd you'll have to do more than just put on some glasses and wear a dragon shirt, you'll have to get into the character. Most people don't really think about it, but there are more than just one type of nerd. When most people think of the word nerd they often recall someone who wears glasses, isn't too fashionable, and is an outcast. While this can be true in some cases, this description doesn't fully encompass what the nerd actually is. There are many sects of the nerd, and it will be up to you this Halloween to decide which nerd you'd like to go as.

The Classic Nerd

The Look—The classic nerd is a style of nerd that some might consider outdated, but there are people who still go for this retro look. In order to pull off the classic nerd you'll first need a pair of glasses. Keep in mind that you are going for a nerd look so small lenses will not do. Next, try to get a pair of pants that are about two sizes too small. It is of the utmost importance that the socks be visible while you are standing up. You don't need to go overboard, but this is Halloween so don't be subtle. A dirty t-shirt is always a great compliment to high water pants, but make sure its not a sports team t-shirt otherwise you ruin the image. For a grand finale that will really make your classic nerd look believable you should try to add pimples around the face. Remember nerds aren't clean and they have greasy faces. You won't be believable unless you too have a pizza face.

The Attitude—You will need to practice not talking to anyone. A good way to do this is to maintain eye contact with the ground as you walk. You can't very well talk to someone if you pretend they don't exist! If by chance someone does try to talk to you, you'll need to get the voice correct. Practice talking two octaves higher than you are used to. The trick is to speak in this high pitch but at a much lower volume so you are almost inaudible. You might have people constantly saying “What did you say?” because they can't hear you. If this is the case then put yourself on the back. Finally you can't show confidence in anything. Make sure everyone knows that they can walk all over you, and don't ever show any emotion other than sadness. Example Quote: “I'm sorry, that was my fault.”

The Egocentric Asshole Nerd

The Look—Now this look is tricky, but still very capable of being pulled off. This type of nerd will try to dress modern, but will still fall short. I recommend wearing colors that don't match and not brushing your teeth for a day or two. These types of nerds always seem to have bad breath because they can never keep their mouth shut, but that's only because its full of shit.

The Attitude—There are two important rules you must follow when trying to pull off the Asshole. The first rule is that you are smarter than everyone else. The second rule is what anyone else says is wrong no matter what. The most important thing about this person is that they get off by making others feel inferior. Unfortunately for this genre of nerd everyone except them knows that they are just full of crap. The best way to describe how to act like this nerd is to be a dick. For a touch of realism that will be sure to win you a few costume awards be nice to someone, but only because you want to use them for personal gain. Remember though that this person is a nerd so if you are by yourself it's a must to secretly have the same interests as a 6 year old. Example Quotes: “You didn't know that?” “You're so stupid.”

The Computer Nerd

The Look—Computer nerds often smell like equal parts Mountain Dew and virginity. A computer nerd works hard to obtain this scent, but it is highly time consuming. Unless you aren't opposed to not bathing for a week then I suggest you simply wipe cheese dust on your clothes and get ready for the bugs to swarm. Unkept greasy hair is also another lovely trait of the computer nerd. This look can easily be mocked with some pomade and a lot of it.

The secret to looking like a computer nerd is definitely in the shirt. Try to find a blue t-shirt that says something about the voices in your head, because remember computer nerds are some of the wildest and craziest people you'll ever meet!

The Attitude—Now this is where some of the lines of nerd begin to blur. If you were to go out and use the tip I gave you for the Egocentric Asshole Nerd then that would be perfectly acceptable. Approximately half of computer nerds also fall under the last division of nerd as well. The only little twist here is that instead of knowing everything about everything you'll have to pretend you only know everything about technology. The other half of computer nerds don't want to bother anyone they just want to stay in their room, play videogames, and punish themselves to anime. Example Quotes: “Let the roll of dice decide our fate!” “The only thing Microsoft could make that wouldn't suck is a vacuum.”

I hope my guide will help you take a step in the right direction when choosing your costume for this year’s Halloween. Please be safe this Halloween; unless of course you're being a nerd then I’m pretty sure you won’t need any protection at all.
Halloween

Creeper’s Haunted House
1700 White Cir
Marietta, GA 30066
Price: $15
Dates: October 25 – 31
Times: Monday and Tuesday 7:00 – 11:00
Wednesday through Sunday 7:00 – Midnight
This haunted house offers two tours of terror, Nevercrest Mortuary and White Circle Asylum. Each tour costs $15 a piece or you can buy a combo ticket for $25.

Newnan Horror Hill
181 Ware Road
Newnan Georgia 30263
Price: $20
Dates: October 28 – 31
Times: Thursday Dark – 10:00
Friday, Saturday, and Halloween Dark – Midnight

Norcross Netherworld Haunted House
6624 Dawson Blvd.
Norcross, GA 30093
Price: $15
Dates: October 1 – 31
Times: Monday through Thursday 7:00 – 11:00
Friday and Saturday 7:00 – Midnight
The $15 is a ticket for Spirits of the Dead.
There are two other ‘haunts’ to see, Oblivion and Very Scary Tales in 3-D. You can buy a ticket for Spirits of the Dead and one of these two others for $20 or experience all three for $25.

Chambers of Terror
4475 Shackleford Rd
Norcross, GA 30093
Price: $15
Dates: October 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st
Times: 8:00 – Midnight

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candy is dandy

BY CJ SHIFLETT

Ah, Halloween. That rustic smell of leaves and lit (fire)paces permeating the air, the wide variety of colors that all try to grab your attention, the endless parties with their bountiful supply of boozes, the cries of small children getting their Trick-Or-Treat bags stolen. That’s what this holiday is all about, right? Wrong! When October 31st rolls around, there’s only one thought racing through my mind: Candy! The pursuit, acquisition, and consumption of mounds of delicious, sticky-sweet, chocolate melting, flavored sugar covered with a hard, brightly colored outer shell. Everything from Pixie Stix to Hershey’s to Smarties contribute to the pure ecstasy that accompanies a sugar buzz.

Filler
Candy tends to fall into three (3) categories: filler, good stuff, and meh. Filler candy is a necessary evil. Like it or not, candy gets expensive. Mixing some Jawbreakers or Tootsie Rolls into the bucket of normal candy helps keep a large supply of sugary goodness that much cheaper. The low-grade candies also keep you from overdoing the candy splurges. Eating 20 bags of M&Ms in half an hour isn’t going to do much good for your system. Filler candy like Smarties and Blow Pops make you wait and pace yourself between those gooey mouthfuls of chocolate sweetness.

Good Stuff
Ah, the good candy. This is the stuff you wade through the rest of that filler garbage to get to. This year, I noticed some new gimmicks sitting alongside the traditional ones, like brown and orange M&Ms and candy bars wrapped in scary-looking wrappers. Apparently, the ‘new’ Shrek 2 movie has inspired the Mars Corporation to make its candy bar wrappers glow in the dark. Hopefully, whatever they used to make those wrappers glow won’t seep into the Milky Way and Snickers bars trapped inside. The selling price for these ‘specialty’ treats is higher than normal, probably to cover the costs of lawsuits coming from retarded children trying to eat the potty green wrappers.

SkeleTOON Stickers

BY BAILEY HUMPHRIES

This Halloween, have not one goal, to find the ultimate Halloween sticker set. Every year there are countless numbers of Halloween sets released but many times, all times, they fall short of greatness. Most of the time they’re filled with cartoonish skulls and pumpkins and bats with speech bubbles that say “Halloween”.

The perfect set of Halloween stickers has six pages. The first two pages are nothing but skulls followed by another two pages of skeletons followed by bats then their famous Halloween characters.

The skulls are all mildly cartoonish, but they all do smile. No more than 1/3rd of the skulls smile, and no more than 1/6th of the skulls have eyehalls. Smiling skulls with eyehalls tend to creep their way into sticker sets by the dozen, it’s simply the first sign of bad design. Skulls are also typically the most important section for one reason and one reason only, skills make for great stickers.

Bats are simply filler. Nothing really makes bats good stickers. The one thing you want from bats is less words, you don’t want your bats to say anything or exclaim anything or ask anything or be named anything. Bats are for the vampire freaks, and we know they’re all weirdos.

Stickers of famous archetypal characters vary from set to set and any other sticker type. Some sets will feature name brand characters like Count Dracula, Jason, or Freddy Kruegerstein. In the end it comes down to personal preference. I myself appreciate the more stereotypical as opposed to the more recognizable. I would rather have a wolf man drinking a martini and wearing a tie than The Wolf Man care of Universal.

This Halloween I am going to try sticker set, and I wish the best of luck to no one, because no one else is in search of the perfect Halloween sticker set. Halloween makes my face hurt twice as much as Veteran’s Day.

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variety packs. Those packs are the ones with the Krackel, Goodbar, Hershey’s, and Dark Chocolate mini-bars inside. Krackel and Dark Chocolate are the two pieces of candy I go for first, before the kids can get their hands on the ground and take their bags of candy back.

Meh
Everything that’s not under crap or just a special version of regular candy falls into the ‘Meh’ category. This is the candy that you pass over when going for the good stuff, but don’t feel too small dogs to see the effects like you do with filler candy. This category also includes the ‘traditional’ candy like candy corn and those peanut butter kisses, you know, the sticky pieces of goop wrapped in a piece of black or orange paper. I like to put Reese’s pieces into this category as well, for two reasons. First, they’re too tasty to peg squirrels with, and secondly, they’re not good enough to fight over.

This article has to finish now, because I have to go clean the already started shaking from thinking of so much concentrated sugar in one easy, convenient, delicious form...
the histories that matter: halloween type lovin's

BY CJ SHRADER

Here's the situation. We've all heard how many pages the Halloween section of The Sting would be. As such, the paper has a big black hole in it at this moment. However, our mistake translates into your gain. Because, to fill that space, you get to read a bonus History that Matters! I can hear you cheering in the background.

Jack O' Lantern

The pumpkin is not originally a pumpkin, but rather a turnip. The story of Jack O' Lantern is very old. And Irish. And I will relate the story to you in 3... 2... 1...

Legend has it that during the Devil's time, Stingy Jack was quite the trickster. He'd play tricks on everyone he met, including the Devil. One day, he tricked the Devil into climbing an apple tree. While the Devil was in the tree, Stingy Jack quickly put crosses around the trunk of the tree. The Devil was trapped. Jack made the Devil promise not to light the tree again, and that his soul would be found in exchange for being let out of the tree. The Devil agreed.

Later, after Jack's death, Heaven would not accept him, because of the terrible life he had lead. Jack was sent to Hell. However, the Devil held true to his promise and refused to accept Jack's soul. Jack, having no choice but to wander the darkness between Heaven and Hell, knew he was destined to fail. Jack was scared, and asked the Devil how he could leave if he had no light with which to see. The Devil gave him an ember from the flames of Hell, which Jack placed in a hollowed out turnip that he carried with him. From then on, Stingy Jack roamed the earth without a face, living as the Devil's ghost and using his light to guide him.

In olden times, unmarried people would attempt to take a bite out of an apple bing hanged in a string. The first person to do this was said to be the next to get married. That person would also be blessed with some kind of disease over the next few years. On Halloween, before deciding which apple to bite, people would place a candle in a pumpkin or turnip. The Halloween celebration is based on this tradition.

Trick or Treating

I'll touch up on the history of Trick or Treating in my Halloween section, but let's start at a time that's only about 150 years ago. I always thought "trick or treat" meant that the kid was asking for a trick or a treat. I was always confused and usually disappointed. Why would someone want a trick played on them? However, I was sorely mistaken, and pretty dumb. Way back when, when a kid went to a door and asked "Trick or Treat," what they really meant was "Give me a treat or I'll give you a trick." Back then, if the house had no candy, the kids would vandalize the house through a variety of means. Kids may have just plain taken something.

Halloween the Word

Halloween it begins on May 13, 834. The day is All Martyrs day. How can the story begin better than that? In the year 835, Pope Gregory IV decided to move the festival to November 1. I wish I could move dates whenever I wanted...but anyway, November was chosen because it began to be called All Saints Day, or All Hallowmesse in Middle English. The day after it was All Souls Day, a day where people paraded and celebrated the people who had died but had not become saints. The night before All Saints Day, October 31, was called All Hollow's Eve, which, although the standard version that most English words go through, eventually got shortened to Halloween.

Halloween Itself

The celebration of Halloween dates back to the Celtic festival of Samhain (pronounced saw-in). The Celtic new year began on November 1, the end of summer and harvesting and the beginning of a long, cold winter. The winter time was associated with human death. As such, the Celts believed that the night before the new year was the time when the boundaries between death and life were the weakest, and spirits from the afterlife could walk the earth. The Celts would leave food and drink out for these spirits, to keep them from entering their houses. It was during this time that the Celts believed their Druids, or priests, would be able to see the future. The Druids would celebrate, and the Celts wore costumes of animal skins and heads. The costumes were meant to "confuse" any potentially malicious spirits. It was assumed by the Celts that if they were wearing a stinky bear head on your own head, a ghost wouldn't be able to recognize you.

Fast forward to a time when Christianity had claimed most of the Celtic lands. People are having All Saints Day parties, where the origins of trick or treating can be found. During the parades, poor children would beg for food or money. People would give the beggars pastries, called "soul cake," and in exchange, the beggars would promise to pray for the people's families. The church encouraged bringing out soul cakes as a means to replace the ancient tradition of leaving out food for wandering spirits.

Eventually, children picked up the habit of visiting houses in their neighborhood and being given ale (The History of Halloween). People used the money Trick or treating sounds like it was once a lucrative business.

In America, Halloween was rare in the early years of America's existence. The settlers had simply changed the ancient songflows they had, and Americans had no idea what they were doing. However, in Maryland and the southern colonies, various celebrations were done to celebrate Halloween. These included fortune telling, dancing, and even telling ghost stories. Also, it is around this time that mischievous children began to gain such a role in Halloween.

In the second half of the nineteenth century, the influx of Irish immigrants arrived in America fleeing the potato famine. The Irish brought with them the old Halloween traditions, and Halloween was reborn in many parts of America.

As time progressed, Halloween became more and more secular in nature. Many of the old Celtic traditions were dropped. Today, Halloween is mainly a time of parties or trick-or-treating for the kids. Though some of the traditions have faded, others have just changed to make Halloween the great holiday that it is today.

That ought to do. That ought to be fine. The History of Halloween. And...
Consenus Editorial

STING STAFF

We, the Sting staff, simply say "vote". So what?! So has everyone else this year... so much so that the phrase has become nearly cliché. We are bombarded daily by initiatives like "Rock the Vote" and yard signs advertising a household's selected candidate. Although their intentions are good, if we need celebrities on MTV or talking heads on FOX News to educate our society as to why voting is important, we are in deep trouble.

When the honeymoon ends on November 2nd and the voices screaming "vote" withdraw into the background for the next four years, where will you be? Where will you be during the city, county, state, and gubernatorial elections? These elections offer the biggest chance to change your immediate surroundings and interact with the candidates on a personal level. So you want to smoke in McDonald's but there is a city ordinance that prevents it? Find out who on the city council voted for that law and fire that bitch right out of office. Make sure the person who replaces it only costs. It's that easy.

Editor's Middle-Right Side

Q SHRADER

I see grammar and spelling mistakes all the time, and all it would take to fix them is just a little bit of effort and education. The following are some of the most common spelling and grammar errors.

Its and its: The easiest way to remember this is that "It's" means "it is." If you are not using a contraction, then the proper form will always be "its."

Their, there, and they're: These take little bit of memorization to use effectively. "They're" is only used when you want to say "they are," like "They're fornicating in The Sting dark room." "Their" refers to people's possessions, while "there" refers to places. Think of the "i" in "their" as a little person and remember that "their" always has to do with people.

Definitely: This is one of the most misspelled words ever. The way I remember it is by remembering that it has the word "finite" in the middle of it. Or, you could just spell it definitely the same as infinitely and then replacing the "i" with a "de."

Irregardless: The prefix "ir-" means "not" and the suffix "-less" means "not which makes this word a double negative that actually means "regardless," if that can even be considered a word. Long story short, irregardless isn't a word.

Student Question: What would you like to see your favorite candidate dressed up as for Halloween?

"I'd like to see Nader dressed as taco filled with ice cream." - Ellicott Skiles

"Kerry dressed up like Bush" - Jeff

"I'd want to see Bush dressed up like Saddam Hussein. It would piss people off." - Jeremy Puckett

"Kerry dressed as a child. He doesn't know what he's getting into, and he's way over his head." - Heather

ROOM FOR RENT: LARGE MASTER BEDROOM w/PRIVATE BATH & WALK-IN CLOSET. House in nice area is fully furnished w/full size washer/dryer, big screen TV, fireplace, deck in backyard, etc. Just bring your bedroom suite. Excellent highway access. Located 1/4 mile east of I-75 off South 120 Loop and approx 1 mile from SPSC and minutes from KSU. Also within walking distance of several bars, restaurants, stores and shops. I am a straight SWM professional who works long hours and travels often (you will see very little of me) seeking a responsible and trustworthy roommate. $425/month OBO. Call (404) 512-2355 to discuss, leave name and number.

Zombie squirrel rises from the dead to vote. What are you doing? Disclaimer: Dead people can't actually vote. But no one told him that. (Yes, that's a reall dead squirrel picture taken right here on this campus)