December 1, 2004

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 59, Edition 5

QUICK NEWS

TCOM Master's makes name change

Graduate TCOM Master's can look forward to a degree in Information Design and Communication

Elliott Skiles
Staff Writer

With over forty active students, a handful of recognized expert professors, and one of the southeast's most advanced usability labs, Southern Polytechnic's graduate program in technical communication is one of the leading technical and professional communication programs in the nation. In order to maintain this status, the HTC Department decided a change was in order, and so the Master's in what was formerly called Technical and Professional Communication was officially changed to a Master of Science in Information Design and Communication. The reasons for the name change are numerous, but it boils down to two main reasons; it is a better description of what TCOM students do, and it places Poly's program far ahead of the curve in what could end up to be a community-wide identity change.

"The reasons for the name change are numerous, but it boils down to two main reasons: it is a better description of what TCOM students do, and it places Poly's program far ahead of the curve in what could end up to be a community-wide identity change."

Comcast scammer found, removed

GJ Shadrer
Editor-in-Chief

On November 8, 2004 an e-mail was sent out to all students from Ann Watson, Director of Public Relations at Southern Polytechnic State University. The e-mail detailed how several female students had been approached by a tall black male in construction-type work clothing. All of the approaches were made around the apartments. The man told the women that he had a friend who works at Comcast and that they are hiring. He would then give the women a number to call if they were interested. Any of the women who called the number soon discovered that it was not Comcast on the other end. The person on the line who may or may not have been the same man, attempted to get the women to schedule an appointment off-campus. None of the women made the appointment. Since this e-mail was sent out, according to Detective Tareen of the University Police, the suspect had been identified and asked to leave campus. If the man is seen on campus again, he will be given a criminal trespass warning. If the man appears on campus an additional time, he will be arrested for trespassing.

"If the man appears on campus an additional time, he will be arrested for trespassing."

Double Dash dashes dreams

S. E. Johnson
Staff Writer

S. E. Johnson
Staff Writer

On Wednesday, November 18, Residence Life sponsored a Mario Kart: Double Dash tournament in the Community Center. Daniel Grant, a

QUICK OPINION

Remy Lebeaux is tired of the copiers

Mark Campbell expresses his ideas on how to "re-energize the tax code." (pg. 4)

QUICK FEATURES

The Incredibles. Is it incredible? (pg. 5)

PLUS: Find all the obligatory reviews of Half-Life 2 and HALO 2 with a review of MK Deception and GTA San Andreas thrown in for spice. (pg. 5-6)

Speaking of spice, check out Heather Girouxs experiments in various "holiday spirits" in our four-page Holiday section. (pg. 10)

Comcast never had any knowledge of the scam and was not affiliated with it in any way. No one has any reason to hold Comcast responsible.

Community Assistant in the Commons apartments, organized the tournament. Over 20 residents showed up at the event, with 10 teams of 2 participating. The first round was a single elimination round, with 2 teams pitted against each other. Whichever team lost 2 of 3 games would be eliminated from the tournament. To come basis. So, if the other team managed to get to your favorite character first, too bad. The track was selected randomly. If you had already done the track during that round, the track was reselected. Five teams came out victorious from the fiery first elimination round. The Best, The Badasses, Desi Kart, Continued on page 2
Double Dash
Continued from Front Page

Smeag in the Head, and, surprisingly, Team Never Played were the ultimate victors of the first round. Because of the odd number of teams, Daniel Grant and his roommate, Derek Bradley, joined the tournament. At this stage of the tournament, the format shifted a little bit. Instead of single-elimination, the tournament switched to a double-elimination, round-robin style of play. Whichever team lost their 2 of 3 this time around would still be in the tournament, but would have to work harder to have a chance at winning.

The second stage saw a more competitive experience and much more shouting. These were the not-so-good players, after the losers had been weeded out. Smeag in the Head managed to overcome a decidedly not-so-Badasses, while Team Never Played pulled a surprise upset, making everyone wonder what The Badasses were actually good at. Desi Kart were jointly awarded elimination round robin style of The round brought out the games The 2 teams made sure that The Best Badasses swept Smeg in the Head in straight sets. Instead of single elimination, the Badasses made sure that The Best Only one of these brill...
Are you in need of proof that the Second Amendment works?

You don’t need to look further than Iraq

Dave Bachel
Staff Writer

Criticism of the Second Amendment火爆 at the center of the movement to ban the personal ownership of firearms. For reference there is a political that somehow the United States would be a better place if people were not allowed to own guns. However, the truth is exactly the opposite. The Second Amendment clearly states that it is for the purpose of ensuring that the United States remains free. The opening lines of the War for Independence were fought as a Guerilla war against an occupying force, just as the war in Iraq is being fought now. For us, or against us, the Second Amendment works.

A library copier is capable of performing simple tasks such as two-sided copying or document stapling. The copiers are capable of copying documents at a rate that is effective as that of your average blind person. The reason for this situation is simple; the library’s copiers were seemingly purchased in the mid-teens. The machine has now never been replaced, resulting in machines that work sporadically at best.

If you’ve visited the library in the past week or so, you’re probably aware of a disturbing lack of working copiers on the lower level and first floor. In fact, the most frequently used copying machine, the one formerly located on the lower level near the Architecture/Construction materials has been removed since it made copies roughly level near the Architecture/Construction materials. The reason for this situation is simple; the library’s copiers were seemingly purchased in the mid-teens. The machine has now never been replaced, resulting in machines that work sporadically at best.

If you want to thank Christians for admitting to his error and the opportunity to keep this discussion going. We recognize that we will never be able to change your mind about the value of a diverse campus nor will we be able to respond to your attacks without getting yet another. We think it is important to recognize that your opinion is not the only opinion on campus.

The idea of essential versus non-essential groups is a scary concept. When that concept is essential or not and exactly what criteria should be used? Why would groups that foster leadership, social responsibility and cultural diversity be considered non-essential and sports are essential. The Greek organizations and the culture based organizations are just as important as sports to our school’s future. These groups are also important to all students’ futures. That is one reason why the Board of Regents requires social and cultural classes in the core curriculum.

The budget problems are troubling and its effects will linger on this campus for many years. The students will be able to recover financially much quicker than the school ever will. Do we really want to stunt our growth on campus? The most diverse the campus gets, the more students that will consider enrolling here. We all win.

Finally, the idea about homosexuality’s choice is laughable. Choose to be hated, killed or just pitifully disliked? It just does not happen. I challenge everyone to think about it with an open mind. If you are not anti-gay then why end your article with an anti-gay statement?

The Second Amendment clearly states that it is for the purpose of ensuring that the United States remains free. The opening lines of the War for Independence were fought as a Guerilla war against an occupying force, just as the war in Iraq is being fought now. For us, or against us, the second amendment works.

The sting: Individuals who have passed English 101. Come to our meetings Friday at 10:00 PM in A252, or call (678) 915-7310. The Sting welcomes letters praising or criticizing editorial policies or opinions. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double spaced and should not exceed five hundred words. Letters must include a name, address, and phone number for verification of signatures. Letters may be withheld upon request. Unsigned or unverified letters will not be printed. The Sting reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to The Sting, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our office in A252, or e-mail stingeditor@gmail.com.

The Sting: Individuals who have passed English 101. Come to our meetings Friday at 10:00 PM in A252, or call (678) 915-7310. The Sting reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to The Sting, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our office in A252, or e-mail stingeditor@gmail.com.

Are you in need of proof that the Second Amendment works?

You don’t need to look further than Iraq

Dave Bachel
Staff Writer

Criticism of the Second Amendment火爆 at the center of the movement to ban the personal ownership of firearms. For reference there is a political that somehow the United States would be a better place if people were not allowed to own guns. However, the truth is exactly the opposite. The Second Amendment clearly states that it is for the purpose of ensuring that the United States remains free. The opening lines of the War for Independence were fought as a Guerilla war against an occupying force, just as the war in Iraq is being fought now. For us, or against us, the Second Amendment works.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

As the death toll in Iraq continues to steadily climb, only one thing seems clear: it is by the Second Amendment works. The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed. The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation.

The Second Amendment works to steadily climb only one thing seems clear: it is by the Second Amendment works. The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed. The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed. The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

The conflict in Iraq has proven that a well-armed insurgency can physically resist occupation uprisings can usually be quelled easily by the use of nonlethal force. When one is unarmed there is no real way to physically resist occupation. For the military power on the face of the Earth, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.
One of the reasons that the Bush administration has given for rejecting the Kyoto global-warming treaty is that its cap on greenhouse gas emissions would compel reduced energy usage, which would retard the American economy. It is evident that a high per capita energy usage correlates well with a high per capita gross national product.

Although we’ve made good strides in increasing our energy efficiency, Americans have tended to use those gains to do more, rather than less. There is no doubt that the engine in a Hummer is 2% more efficient per cubic inch of displacement than engines from the muscle cars of the 1960s. But that gain in efficiency is swallowed up in a vehicle that is much larger, capable of going off-road (though it seldom will) and much more comfortable. It is not a very popular idea but it’s certainly compelling that the US is the world’s largest emitter of greenhouse gases.

Our energy habits are like using less vegetable oil to fry a given French fry, but then super-sizing our order. In the end, more vegetable oil is used than ever before. European economies and the Japanese too, have managed to be more energy efficient in their consumption and use of wealth, while attaining similar per capita GNP. A large part of it is that the energy costs that their consumers see is much higher – due to taxes on energy consumption.

Since taxes are going to be collected anyway and the Bush administration has given for rejecting the Kyoto treaty is that its cap on greenhouse gas emissions would compel reduced energy usage, which would retard the American economy. It is evident that a high per capita energy usage correlates well with a high per capita gross national product.

Another problem the two of us ran into was the field of construction. The Construction Department was the first place SPSU is one of the most prominent technology companies participating in this Career Fair in any area. There is a section entitled “Employers by Major” which can give is do not put any- thing off. If you have any assign- ment, be it as simple as homework or as complicated as a semester long project; do not wait until the end to work on it. Get it done early. Working on projects does not always save you a lot of grief down the road. If you hit a snag early you have plenty of time to fix the problem. If you wait until the end you will never the snags.

Final thoughts

Trik Hadley
Staff/Writer

I am going to take a break from my usual political commentary to provide students with a few insights into academic studies. You see from what I have been told this is going to be the last issue of The Sting for this semester and I am going to be graduating (as long as I pass my three remaining classes). Therefore I would like to take this opportunity to share with you the things that I have learned about college since I started back in the fall of 1999.

For starters I will share the greatest piece of advice I ever received. The key to all of your success in college comes down to one word: balance. There is plenty of time for you to get all of your work done. Take time for the fun stuff: games/party. The key is to find the balance between them.

The next biggest piece of advice I can give is do not put any- thing off. If you have any assign- ment, be it as simple as homework or as complicated as a semester long project; do not wait until the end to work on it. Get it done early. Working on projects does not always save you a lot of grief down the road. If you hit a snag early you have plenty of time to fix the problem. If you wait until the end you will never the snags.

Be very careful who you choose to work with on projects. Depending on whom you choose you may end up suf- fering. After all if you are determined to get an A in the class and you pick a group of people that will be happy to just get a C as a guess what kind of work they are going to produce. That’s right - they will only produce the work and guess what grade you will get. That’s right a C. You also want to make sure you find people willing to pull their share of the load. Un- less you really like freeloaders that will ride your coattails and let you do all the work make sure you find people that will be willing to actively work with you.

Try to get your professors, and make sure they get to know you. Eventually you are going to need their professional recommendation for some- thing. So unless you are already working in industry where you can get people in industry to write the letters for you, you will have to go to your professors. It is a lot easier for them to do that if they know who you are.

On Tuesday, November 16th a ca- reer fair was held at the Cobb Galle- ria Center from 12:00 noon until 3:00pm. All students who have signed up with the SPSU Career Planning and Counseling Center’s Career Fairs were notified via email a few weeks prior to the event.

We both went to the event ex- pecting to network with at least two or three companies in our perspec- tive fields of study. Instead, the most promising company we ended up connecting with was Waffle House. Not to say that Waffle House is not a great company with staying power, but it isn’t really where a college graduate would like to start out. The vast majority of employers present were looking for entry level positions in financial and related fields to work with students rather than the en- gineer majors that our school of- fers.

Another problem the two of us ran into was the pumpkin given out the service sectors - the gain in ef- ficiency would lead to reduced prices to gain market share, or alter- natively, to boost profits.

If America can increase her na- tional energy efficiency, then gen- erating wealth will be less depen- dent on foreign energy supplies such as Saudi Arabian oil. That means that our Arab “allies” won’t have us over their barrel. One could argue that such en- ergy efficiency would reduce gov- ernment income over the long haul. It may not be true, and may not be a bad thing: It may, at the very least, compel the government to ex- plain why any increase in an energy tax should be made at the time.

Another possible fault with a flat national tax is that it may encourage energy intensive indus- tries to move offshore. That may also be true, but the elimination of all other federal taxes should con- tribute to the American economy, leading to increased American own- ership opportunities by overseas investment. Besides, specialisation is also a hallmark of capitalism. It could be said that further outsourcing of manufacturing harms the American economy. In that case, it can be reasonably ar- gued that the failure of other na- tions to tax their energy usage is an unfair subsidy of their industries. At the end of the day, this is how to in- troduce a surcharge on imported goods to level the playing field. Is such a plan likely? No. Just as with the flat national sales tax as proposed by Congressman Linder, or a flat national income tax as pro- posed by President Bush, such a tax is unlikely to survive the special in- terest lobbies that will seek a com- petitive niche in the tax code. A look at the current tax code should be evidence enough of the havoc that Bush tax cut will start off simple.

But the options are certainly worth discussing, if only to define what our nation finds as its priori- ties, and how we’ll meet our ex- pectations.

Eugene Gekas and Benny Lebeaux
Staff/Writer

Our energy habits are like using less vegetable oil to fry a given French fry, but then super-sizing our order.

There are those that argue that such en- ergy efficiency would reduce gov- ernment income over the long haul. It may not be true, and may not be a bad thing; It may, at the very least, compel the government to ex- plain why any increase in an energy tax should be made at the time.

Another possible fault with a flat national tax is that it may encourage energy intensive indus- tries to move offshore. That may also be true, but the elimination of all other federal taxes should con- tribute to the American economy, leading to increased American own- ership opportunities by overseas investment. Besides, specialisation is also a hallmark of capitalism. It could be said that further outsourcing of manufacturing harms the American economy. In that case, it can be reasonably ar- gued that the failure of other na- tions to tax their energy usage is an unfair subsidy of their industries. At the end of the day, this is how to in- troduce a surcharge on imported goods to level the playing field. Is such a plan likely? No. Just as with the flat national sales tax as proposed by Congressman Linder, or a flat national income tax as pro- posed by President Bush, such a tax is unlikely to survive the special in- terest lobbies that will seek a com- petitive niche in the tax code. A look at the current tax code should be evidence enough of the havoc that Bush tax cut will start off simple.

But the options are certainly worth discussing, if only to define what our nation finds as its priori- ties, and how we’ll meet our ex- pectations.
**The Verdict:** 4.5 Frozone's worst nightmare....

Ronan Leheux
Staff Writer

Running Time: 105 minutes
Rated: PG

Once again, I find myself re-
viewing a movie that everyone with even the slightest bit of interest has already fallen in love with. The last time I reviewed this film, the subtitle was Spider-Man 2, a movie that I did nothing but gush over for a solid 10 hours. In 10 hours, the movie in question is, enjoying himself immensely as he performs incredible feats of strength to rescue civilians from all of the peril of everyday life (like giant robot
attacks). Mr. Incredible, the viewer soon learns, is in high spir-
its due to his nigh nuptials with Elastigirl (voiced by Holly Hunter) and his judgment becomes a little stunted. After noticing a man falling from a brick building (now to be
forward and tackles the man through a large window thus sav-
ing lives continues to grow and prosper

Due to this almost-magical property of everygreen, they began to be revered by many various so-

Christmas Caroling

**The Christmas Tree**

Just like nearly any tradition, the Christ-
mas tree has been around for thousands of years, especially during the winter solstice, where
was at its longest. People were cold and all other plants were dead, but the evergreen

The following year, expounded on

Of course the Druids and Romans
decorated their trees with pieces of
winter solstice Pagan Romans

In the early 16th cen-
tury, the fir was being hung upside-down from ceilings as a symbol of Christianity.

Decorating the Tree

Of course, the Druids and Romans decorated trees very early on. The earliest mention of the decoration of a Christmas tree, however, takes place in the early 16th cen-
tury. It is stated, and possibly could be
legend, that Martin Luther was the first to decorate a Christ-
mas tree by placing an artificial shining light on the tree to show his children how the star shone
through the night. If the above is

Even so, Christians obviously

adopted the Christmas tree. The legend circles around St. Boniface, who would use the triangular shape of a fir tree to describe the Holy

A legend to this day, Bonifacius, that is an oak tree, is
-credited to Pagans which miraculously split into four pieces and revealed an evergreen growing from the cen-
ter of a palm tree branch to symbolize res-

The legend of Martin Luther gives us our tree today

If you ever have History request

The gifts for each person would be

Of course the Druids and Romans

The earliest mention of the decoration of a
Christmas tree, however, takes place in the early 16th cen-
tury. It is stated, and possibly could be
legend, that Martin Luther was the first to decorate a Christ-
mas tree by placing an artificial shining light on the tree to show his children how the star shone
through the night. If the above is

Even so, Christians obviously

adopted the Christmas tree. The legend circles around St. Boniface, who would use the triangular shape of a fir tree to describe the Holy

A legend to this day, Bonifacius, that is an oak tree, is
-credited to Pagans which miraculously split into four pieces and revealed an evergreen growing from the cen-
ter of a palm tree branch to symbolize res-

The legend of Martin Luther gives us our tree today

If you ever have History request

The gifts for each person would be

Of course the Druids and Romans

The earliest mention of the decoration of a
Christmas tree, however, takes place in the early 16th cen-
tury. It is stated, and possibly could be
legend, that Martin Luther was the first to decorate a Christ-
mas tree by placing an artificial shining light on the tree to show his children how the star shone
through the night. If the above is

Even so, Christians obviously

adopted the Christmas tree. The legend circles around St. Boniface, who would use the triangular shape of a fir tree to describe the Holy

A legend to this day, Bonifacius, that is an oak tree, is
-credited to Pagans which miraculously split into four pieces and revealed an evergreen growing from the cen-
ter of a palm tree branch to symbolize res-

The legend of Martin Luther gives us our tree today

If you ever have History request

The gifts for each person would be
Jufflanjoseph
Street FighterPuzzle Turbo except Doug Lacher for the most This seems lik...ecstatic After playing the game look stiff and plastic and while the Halo has lot of good points graphics while very nice were not...game and the new modes was ics dont compare The characters The Good that werent all that great First the Coming February 9th It does not...fighting style and featured beefy ceeded well on November alone grossing you cross the halfway point youll as simply the setting of the next...innovations to the series such as game perfectly All in all they really vember on the 9t Day sales emies during ment in the...Sand Mortal Kombat came back into and walk the walk online against the Publisher Microsoft Game Studios other non but pos...ing the block button and pressing cheap People especially newbies Steven Merritt making the world more believable watch the paint splatter all over...carefully planned killing machines but yet all have limited move list It would add...the second innovation into the se- new element to the game they all the floor and swing your right there to not be some sort offollow-...fall and fall until they hit the ground tem While the style change Death melee attack while dual-wielding pissed me off and made me feel to get Cortana away from the Coy-...the very top of the stage but when wish they put FMV endings in the or take the shields down on most to preserve the ending of Halo follow-up is short cut-scene thai...has affected the flow of the fight. First off, the stages are now multi-tored, which allows more dan...well on November 9th alone, grossing approximately $125 million. The...opinion that there is an immense amount of hype that surrounded the game before it was released. Is there any merit to the hype, or is it a lot of hot air? The Good has a lot of good points. The graphics are the first thing most people notice. They are without a doubt top-notch. Shortly after your tually about par for todays tech- about Halo Could Bungie and...induction into the se- On the other hand, the second innovation into the se- the second innovation into the se-; the second innovation into the se-ries; the Death Traps. Midway wanted to spice up the fight, and decided to implement carefully planned killing machines. Example of that is the Yin-Yang Arena. You knock off your opponent into the water, they get eaten by a black shark. Slowly but surely, you create a...the stages are now horrible and right out of an old kung-fu movie. I wish they had spent more money in the voice acting like other fighting games have. Also, what happened to Full Motion Video (FMV)? You beat the game, and all you get are images with an older Shunjinko telling the ending. I wish they put FMV endings in the next one.

Another flaw, and a major flaw that the developers in Midway will undoubtedly work on before making another MK game, is the fighting system. While the style change, Death Traps, and Sunjinoko added a new element to the game, they all have negative effects. The fighting system allows each char-...form two independent entities and will be released is another matter that’s currently left to speculation based on the scattered clues here and there. In the end we see Master Chief riding a particular ship to Earth with the intent of “Finishing the battle.”

First off, the developer had to...Puzzle 2000 his facial expressions change as he saw blades to chop enemies in half...to gain koins in order to unlock the...looking at you. It adds lot to or hit them with can of paint and...awards for years until it was finally tinually presenting the player with going pretty fast so that you can...e-motions that can show. As you look at the character in the train with you, you can see his facial expressions change as he is talking to you. It adds a lot to making the world more believable.

As the game continues, you get to...or the next city in Half-Life 2, the physics engine. This engine allows you do things like throw objects around, blast away wooden objects and let things swing on ropes. More than that, Half-Life 2’s levels fully take advantage of the physics of the world and automatically present the player with physics based puzzles.

Many of the game’s puzzles include things like loading a sea saw so that you can jump off of one end and navi...kill the boss with a poison dart frog. These sequences are generally some of the more action oriented parts of the game.

Half-Life 2 is the best FPS I’ve ever played. The physics engine is incredibly well done, and it seems like almost every other FPS has characters capable of the depth of emotion as those found in Half-Life 2.
Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade

Matt Finn
Staff Writer

At 9:00am on the streets of New York, the 2004 Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade began rolling down Central Park West, gracing all whom looked on with excitement and cold teeth.

Like every year at this time, we are reminded to be thankful, but unlike many years past, we’ve just concluded one of the most divided elections in our country’s history. In a state that voted almost 60% Democratic earlier this month, subtle reminders of the war on terror, and election gone by seemed no more significant than talks from the night before regarding the possibility of winds prohibiting the balloons from flying.

Neither wind nor rain held off the parade, further-

more the unusually warm weather now holds the record for the third highest temperature in the parade’s 78 years. This was appreciated most by those claiming a front row seat on the road as early as 5:30am.

Of this year’s 59 balloons, including favorites like Kermit the Frog and Charlie Brown, SpongeBob proved to be most popular with kids of all ages. In addition to the many colorful and exciting balloons were an array of floats, celebrities, and marching bands, including the Lassiter High School Marching Band from Marietta, who made the 880-mile drive to be in the parade.

Amidst the estimated 2.5 million spectators, the local high school band was supported by friends and family along the 2½ mile route to Herald Square, where all performers in the parade put on a show for the NBC cameras broadcasting live to an estimated audience of 50 million. Shebang!

A conservative Christmas

Christian Funkhouser
Staff Writer

Well, as many of you all know, I’m a conservative. But I’m stepping out of the closet so to speak, and I want to tell all of you liberals that you’re right. I recently got together with a couple of my conservative friends like Glenn Beck and others on campus that will remain nameless because after all, they’re conservatives, and that’s not the popular thing to be. But I want you liberals, and young conservatives to realize that this is true.

“遂 this is Christmas, Conservatives cry, Cause children are happy, and we want them to die. War mongering Christmas, We all had some fun, Bombing all the A-rabs, and starving their young Conservative Christmas, Drive my SUV Right over the homeless, Speed bump them with glee Conservative Christmas, What a happy day ‘Cause we just stole 4 million, From your 401k’s An intolerant Christmas, On the colored we spit And beat them for crimes that They did not commit A conservative Christmas, Have a great holiday Unless of course you’re a liberal, Or a conservative gay A conservative Christmas, And a write off next year Pray for a bull market, And go kill a deer We’re war mongers, Love no longer White race stronger, Blah Blah Blah Blahhhhh”

GET PAID A GUARANTEED $2,500 U.S. EVERY MONTH TO START!

International company now hiring people between the ages of 18 to 25 to work part time!

Visit: www.coyfs.com/support.html for complete details.
Top 29 Holiday Movies
Movies to help ease the pain of holiday blues.

Bailey Humphries
Staff Writer

1. A CHRISTMAS STORY
The number one staple movie of the holiday season. I myself try to watch at least 18 hours of the 24 hour Christmas Story marathon on TNT every 25th. You’ll shoot your eye out.

2. SCROOGED
God bless us everyone!

3. MIXED NUTS
Mixed Nuts is Steve Martin before he sold out, well before he sold out the 4th time and after he had kind of gotten some credibility back after he sold out the 3rd time.

4. SE7EN
For those of you who get a little angry every holiday season you should sit back, relax, and watch Kevin Spacey ruin Brad Pitt’s life in a very creative manner.

5. NATIONAL LAMPOON’S CHRISTMAS VACATION
I like when he gets locked in the attic and when the tree catches fire and when Chevy Chase holds the gun up to Jon Candy and makes him go on the roller coaster even though he doesn’t want to.

6. IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE
It truly is a wonderful life, if you end up with a bag of money at the end of the movie.

7. A CHRISTMAS CAROL
God bless us everyone!

8. A MUPPET’S CHRISTMAS CAROL
God bless us everyone!

9. BAH, HUMBUG!
God bless us everyone!

10. HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS
I always thought Jodi Foster and Holly Hunter were the same person. Claire Danes and Robert Downey Jr. are also in it, they are holidayicious.

11. HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN
It just came out recently on DVD and it’s the ultimate choice for those nights you just want to get drunk and watch a kids movie with your cousin Alvie.

12. THE BRADY BUNCH MOVIE
I’m running out of ideas here.

13. MIRACLE ON ELM STREET
Freddy Krueger terrorizes the poor people of Elm street until a mall Santa teaches him the real meaning of Christmas.

14. GROUNDHOG DAY
Bill Murray relives the same day as only Bill Murray can when he’s playing a character. I like this movie because it reminds me of that time I had to relive the same day over and over again which also resulted in hilarious situations.

15. A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS
Nobody does it better than the Peanuts. Actually, if this were a serious article this would be number three. Number one would still be A Christmas Story, and number two would be It’s A Wonderful Life. Good grief!

16. 200 Cigarettes
200 Cigarettes – It’s about a new years eve party, and it’s got Elvis in it.

17. SURVIVING CHRISTMAS
Affleck was the bomb in Phantoms.

18. REINDEER GAMES
Affleck was the bomb in Phantoms.

19. THE PAC-MAN CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
Hey, at least it’s better than the Kiss Christmas special.

20. THE KISS CHRISTMAS SPECIAL
It’s better than the… I got nothing.

21. HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS (CARTOON)
Sometimes it’s the only thing on.

22. THE BREAKFAST CLUB
There are many reasons to watch the Breakfast Club, one of them is they all wear very puffy jackets, which is cool. Another reason to watch the breakfast club is for the part where Tony the Tiger and Molly Ringwald make-out while Anthony Michael Hall tries to pick up the pieces of his completely shattered career. Go fetch me a turkey pot pie.

23. 13 MOONS
“Legend has it when there’s a full moon, anything can happen. Just imagine what can take place on a night of 13 moons…”

24. ANNIE HALL
It’s got Christmas in it.

25. A CHRISTMAS STORY
It’s on for 24 hours!

26. KANGAROO JACK
If you have family trouble chug a Foster’s every time they say “g-day.”

27. DIE HARD
Bruce Willis walks on glass, and I’m not talking about the Whole Ten Yards kind of glass.

28. LOVE ACTUALLY
Love Actually is actually unlovable.

29. CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS
Just kidding.
Holiday

Remy’s Picks

A list of movies and the reasons why they’re on the list

Why it’s here: The seminal “be a kid again” Christmas movie. The narration makes you feel like you ARE Ralphie (sort of) and you actually feel his anticipation when he starts opening his presents on Christmas day.

Where to get it: Newly released on DVD in a two-disc set. For the cheap-skates out there, TNT usually plays this movie for 24 hours straight starting early on Christmas Eve.

Why it’s here: Fans of this epic series looked forward to it every holiday season, eschewing such interests as shopping or caroling to sit in a crowded movie theater with weird dudes dressed up as long haired elves.

Where it’s here: Home Alone 1 and 2 (1990, 1992) - Macaulay Culkin defending his home from thugs that are looking to break into homes in a wealthy neighborhood. Kevin is a spoiled little brat whom, not once, but TWICE gets on his family’s bad side and gets left behind when his family goes on vacation (someone call DFAC). As soon as the family leaves, the burglars (played by Joe Pesci and Daniel Stern) stumble upon Kevin and systematically get beaten like they owe him money, but in a funny way.

Why it’s here: Safe, clean (albeit sometimes a little violent for the kiddies) fun for your whole family. Parents should show it to their kids and say “See, you act bad, we’ll leave you here alone and some burglars will come get you.” Okay, maybe they shouldn’t do that.
Politically correct “holiday” songs

Recently there have been a lot of complaints in regards to Christmas. So many people have created Politically Correct versions of different songs. Their premise is that “Never be insulted again by insensitive lyrics of one-sided Christmas Nativist Testaments songs.” However, those of you who are not WASP’s (White Angry Protestant) may be offended.

So, I am in all my wonderfulness, decided to help you because I don’t want to force my beliefs down your throat by having these offensive Christmas cards. I am aware that people have different opinions, and if people know that I have a different opinion, I apologize for my open Christianity and that I understand now is wrong, I tried to incorporate Christianity right out of Christmas’ hair.

“It’s beginning to look a lot like Christmas”

“It’s beginning to look a lot like winter everywhere you go, there’s a frosty (in the grand hotel;) in one in the park as well; the sturdy kind that doesn’t mind the snow. It’s beginning to look a lot like winter soon the bells will start, and the thing that’ll make the bells ring is the card that you sing, right within your heart.”

Whoo, whoo, whoo, what, that song still had bells in it. Hello?! What’s with the F. F. bells? In CHURCHES! People can’t play things that could remind people who don’t celebrate Christmas about churches by playing things that have bells in it. I wonder how many people would be offended by putting that in the newspaper. Because there are people who want function cards, not function cards that talk about the bells and the spirit in “your heart”. I hope this next one is edited right, because I can only guess how many people are being offended.

“Christmas Time” by Alvin and the Chipmunks

“All right you chipmunks, ready to sing your song? I’ll say we are, let’s sing it.. “Holiday, Holiday” time is here, time for songs and time for [non-religious and non-secular celebration] we’ve been good, but we can’t laugh, hurry [week before the New Year hurry]... (Something about loof da loof probably that hipity-hop language) Me, I want a [PlayStation 2 portable Sony available at Toys R Us R]. We can

If this choir were singing these awful songs, they’d have about as many listeners as William Allen Shurtleff at a deaf convention.

Politically Correct Christmas from the Nat. Bar Association

Staff Writer

The National Bar Association recently wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

But what you didn’t hear was all the fine print. After a day of studying, I took the Bar exam in Georgia and passed, allowing me inside the in-crowd, so I could see the evidence firsthand at what they meant by that. Here now is the full “script”, if you will, including the fine print. (The actual compliments were compliments of Bill Burket and Glenn Beck, and I was granted ac- cess to Dan Rather at CBS news with this information).

Merry Christmas from the National Bar Association!

Restrictions apply, from us the wishes after the closer we please accept without obligation implied or explicit our best wishes for environmental, socially and culturally responsible, politically correct, low stress, gender neutral, celebration of the winter solstice tradition, practice of the language and the traditions of the religious persuasion of your choice or secular practices of your choice, with due respect to the religious/secular persuasions and traditions of others, or their choice not to practice religion or secular traditions at all, or financially fulfill- ing and medically uncomplicated on the onset of the generally accepted 2004 calendar year with due respect to the calendar of choice of other cultures or sexes and in regard to the race, creed, color, age, physical ability, religion, choice of computer platform or dietary preference or wishes.

By accepting this greeting you are bound by the terms and not entitled to further verification or withdrawal. This greeting is hereby free and is not freely transferable provided that no alter- nations be made, and shall be made to such extent that all or any of the proprietors the wishes are acknowledged, this greeting implies an offer by the recipient to actu- ally implement any of the wishes, that could be made due to this greeting. This greeting may not be en- forceable in certain jurisdictions, and or the restrictions herein, may not be binding upon certain wishes in certain jurisdictions and is revoca- ble at the discretion of the wishes this greeting is reasonably regulated after the period of anticipated time to which one would celebrate and engage in good tidings for a period of one year at or under 15 hours. Never comes first. The recipient only grants this greeting for the limited time replacement of this wish or the issuance of a new wish at the sole discretion of the wishes. Any refer- ences in this greeting to the Lord, or Father Christmas, or our savior or any other festive figures whether actual or implied, or dead or alive shall not imply endorsement of the same or from this greeting. All propri- etary rights in any reference to them via third party means or images are hereby acknowledged.

Wishing you and your families an Extraordinary Christmas.
It's always an interesting exercise to compare and contrast. In mid-November, Bill Clinton's presidential library opened in Little Rock, Ark., and the STING procured a copy of "Viewpoints," Southern Polytechnic's President's Annual Report. Both Bill and the University have an interesting spin on their own history.

In President Clinton's case, he did indeed address the Monica Lewinsky scandal and subsequent impeachment, though certainly with less prominence and in a light that portrays his own organization in a percutaneous light. His critics found a voice in the national media to let their displeasure be known. But it is his presidential library, and his view stands.

The same goes with Dr. Rossbacher’s report, an accomplished hi-gloss portrayal of the University in its best light (as seen by the administration) sent to our alumni. SPSU, however, lacks the visibility for criticism to find a voice in anything other than the campus newspaper.

We at the STING may not be proficient writers, but we can read with a discerning eye, and we certainly can read between the lines. For instance, we noted that in the impotence section on students, the campus newspaper was the only student organization explicitly named, and named first at that. All others were relegated to secondary class status as “fraternities, sororities, and a significant number of professors and students.”

We think that this is because the publication is produced by SPSU’s Office of Advancement. This slant to the plethora of student organizations lies in the relationship the STING has with the university’s public relations arm. Our belief is that they hold true the old adage of keeping your friends close, and your enemies closer. It might be explained away by the fact that the newspaper is the oldest student organization, having first published on Sept. 1st, 1928. As we’re not buying that, and neither should you.

Next year, we hope the president’s report mentions a few other student organizations ahead of, or in lieu of, the newspaper. For instance, some of those professional organizations are the Georgia Society of Professional Engineers, the National Society of Black Engineers, and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. Alternatively, a competent public relations department might mention that Tau Alpha Pi, the National Engineering Technology Honors Society, was founded at the University on Jan. 15th, 1953.

But glaring omissions are best addressed by the department. While a full page of text and a full-page photo spread could be addressed to Dr. Julie Norris’s re-search to formulate a manuscript based on her dissertation on the hierarchy of American geologists—Dr. Lord, specifically, it is a geologist—not a mention was made of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology department. Also entirely forgotten within the university’s propaganda was the Management department, the Industrial Engineering technology department, the Technical Communications department, and the Physics department. On the inside cover, a small photograph of Professor Kathy Hall, who retired a while back, is the only link to the Mathematics department and that’s only evident by the math on the blackboard behind her.

Profiles of three students, Marie ‘Rella’ Streising, Yolanda Jones, and Ernest John ‘E.J.’ Campbell III served secondary roles in giving some recognition to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Given the administration’s an-tipathy towards Textile Engineering—the administration did not send a delegate to a key meeting with the industry’s board two summers ago, resulting in the industry’s resources to its industry—its prominence was surprising. But a careful reading of the student profile in question reveals that student worked for the University’s Office of Advancement.

Architecture, with its new student profile, of William Norris, and a faculty profile of Dr. Armen Farooy, both in Architecture, and the total coverage in text and photos comes out to almost five pages. A faculty profile on Dr. Carlos Ortiz illustrates how Civil Engineering Technology students helped Paulding County decide on a new wastewater treatment system. Not mentioned, of course, was that the lab equipment used was funded in part by the Technology Fee charged to students. The money was allocated at the urging of students themselves when an electoral faculty committee at the university had placed the proposed equipment as a low priority. Occasional students and faculty in concert do score some administrative success.

Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Information Technology received some recognition in the faculty profile of Dr. Andy Wang. His profile introduces the Smart Network Appliances Platform Technology effort, wherein software for devices is developed to permit remote operation via the Internet. A former editor of the STING used to refer to such projects as “internet toasters,” but we’ll concede that they are more valuable than that.

But the Computer Science program still hasn’t received accreditation from the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology since the newspaper mentioned it three years ago. The State University of West Georgia has managed to do so recently, adding its name to the rolls along with Georgia Tech, Georgia Southern, Armstrong Atlantic State University and Mercer University. Yes, it is an essential accreditation, but it would be nice, and the School of Computing and Software Engineering ought to stop studying it to death and just get it done. If you have to ditch the men’s basketball student-athletes who enroll in your program, then so be it.

Mechanical Engineering Technology gets it due with the faculty profile of Professor Glen Allen, and in the section recognizing SPSU’s competition clubs. Alums was the primary driver to involve high school students in the “Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology” competition held on campus recently. Outreach is good, and maybe next year mention will also be made of the role that ECET faculty is taking up to.

The competition clubs section mentions the Steel Bridge Team from CET, and three teams housed in the MET department. The Society of Automotive Engineers is credited with the Super Mileage Team and the Formula SAE race car team. SPUS’s seemingly sole robotics entry is the Airush Robot team. The only mention that was omitted was the Institute of Electricai and Electronic Engineer’s robotics team. There was a mention of the Formula SAE race team. SPUS’s seemingly sole robotics entry is the Airush Robot team.

The administration did not send a delegate to a key meeting with the engineering students and faculty in concert do score some administrative success. Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Information Technology received some recognition in the faculty profile of Dr. Andy Wang. His profile introduces the Smart Network Appliances Platform Technology effort, wherein software for devices is developed to permit remote operation via the Internet. A former editor of the STING used to refer to such projects as “internet toasters,” but we’ll concede that they are more valuable than that.

But the Computer Science program still hasn’t received accreditation from the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology since the newspaper mentioned it three years ago. The State University of West Georgia has managed to do so recently, adding its name to the rolls along with Georgia Tech, Georgia Southern, Armstrong Atlantic State University and Mercer University. Yes, it is an essential accreditation, but it would be nice, and the School of Computing and Software Engineering ought to stop studying it to death and just get it done. If you have to ditch the men’s basketball student-athletes who enroll in your program, then so be it.

Mechanical Engineering Technology gets it due with the faculty profile of Professor Glen Allen, and in the section recognizing SPUS’s competition clubs. Alums was the primary driver to involve high school students in the “Boosting Engineering, Science and Technology” competition held on campus recently. Outreach is good, and maybe next year mention will also be made of the role that ECET faculty is taking up to.

The competition clubs section mentions the Steel Bridge Team from CET, and three teams housed in the MET department. The Society of Automotive Engineers is credited with the Super Mileage Team and the Formula SAE race car team. SPUS’s seemingly sole robotics entry is the Airush Robot team. The only mention that was omitted was the Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineer’s robotics team. There was a mention of the Formula SAE race team. SPUS’s seemingly sole robotics entry is the Airush Robot team.

While full-page photos and full-page spread could be addressed to Dr. Julie Norris’s re-search to formulate a manuscript based on her dissertation on the hierarchy of American geologists—Dr. Lord, specifically, it is a geologist—not a mention was made of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology department. Also entirely forgotten within the university’s propaganda was the Management department, the Industrial Engineering technology department, the Technical Communications department, and the Physics department. On the inside cover, a small photograph of Professor Kathy Hall, who retired a while back, is the only link to the Mathematics department and that’s only evident by the math on the blackboard behind her.

Profiles of three students, Marie ‘Rella’ Streising, Yolanda Jones, and Ernest John ‘E.J.’ Campbell III served secondary roles in giving some recognition to the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. Given the administration’s antipathy towards Textile Engineering—the administration did not send a delegate to a key meeting with the industry’s board two summers ago, resulting in the industry’s resources to its industry—its prominence was surprising. But a careful reading of the student profile in question reveals that student worked for the University’s Office of Advancement.

Architecture, with its new student profile, of William Norris, and a faculty profile of Dr. Armen Farooy, both in Architecture, and the total coverage in text and photos comes out to almost five pages. A faculty profile on Dr. Carlos Ortiz illustrates how Civil Engineering Technology students helped Paulding County decide on a new wastewater treatment system. Not mentioned, of course, was that the lab equipment used was funded in part by the Technology Fee charged to students. The money was allocated at the urging of students themselves when an electoral faculty committee at the university had placed the proposed equipment as a low priority. Occasional students and faculty in concert do score some administrative success. Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Information Technology received some recognition in the faculty profile of Dr. Andy Wang. His profile introduces the Smart Network Appliances Platform Technology effort, wherein software for devices is developed to permit remote operation via the Internet. A former editor of the STING used to refer to such projects as “internet toasters,” but we’ll concede that they are more valuable than that.

But the Computer Science program still hasn’t received accreditation from the Computing Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology since the newspaper mentioned it three years ago. The State University of West Georgia has managed to do so recently, adding its name to the rolls along with Georgia Tech, Georgia Southern, Armstrong Atlantic State University and Mercer University. Yes, it is an essential accreditation, but it would be nice, and the School of Computing and Software Engineering ought to stop studying it to death and just get it done. If you have to ditch the men’s basketball student-athletes who enroll in your program, then so be it.
Student Question

What do you really want your relatives to get you for Christmas?

"Some herb." - Brian Banger
"A three dollar whore and a Porsche." - Januad Stewart
"Just an X-box" - Braxton Wilder

"Portable DVD player." - Troy Sledge
"A double-sided art deco dildo." - Heather Giroux

Bonus Student Question

Who would win in a fight: Dumbledore vs. Gandalf?

"Who the hell is the first guy?" - Stephen Meyers
"Who and who?" - Kirk Morris

"Which one’s which?" - Brian Everitt
"I don’t know the first guy." - Andrew Varnon
"Who the hell are those people?" - Preston Dennis

This student question is brought to you by graduating-senior Erik Hadley, who would never shut up at any meeting (Fridays at 1:00 PM in A252 in the Student Center, you should come) ever about having this as a student question. The answer, however, is obviously Gandalf and the students who answered the question were just trying to look cool by not knowing.