

# THE STING

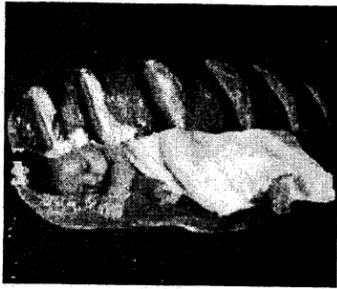
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SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 59, Edition 7

## QUICK OPINION



This picture amuses me to no end. And I made it! Oh, but read Remy Lebeaux's challenge to the faculty and staff of SPSU (pg 2).

Read Mark Campbell's "The Company you keep." That's it. Just read it (pg 3).



A fascinating and new approach at how to handle your official business at SPSU (pg 4).

## QUICK FEATURES



Beer is f\*\*\*in' metal (pg 5).



Newcomer A.L. Johnson saw STOMP recently. Read what she thought about it (pg 5).

Haven't bought Prince of Persia: Warrior Within? Have any questions at all about it? Then read CJ Shrader's comprehensive review (pg 6).

Some students are starting up a Lacrosse team. Interested? Read here (pg 7).

Section	Page
News	1
Opinion	2
Entertainment	5
Sports/Organization	7
Student Question	8

## Recreation Center roof update

CJ Shrader  
Editor-in-Chief

On Monday, August 2, 2004, a storm swept through Southern Polytechnic State University's campus downing trees and electrical wires. Strong winds from the storm lifted portions of the Recreation and Wellness Center's roof and then hurled them back down, causing many leaks throughout the Wellness Center.

According to Karl Staber, the Director of Recreational Sports and

Athletics, Parker Young Construction quickly came in and removed the roof over the swimming pool, replacing it with a temporary roof that was meant to stop further leaks.

The only other major damage was done to the Fitness Room, whose hardwood floors had to be completely stripped and thrown away. Currently, the Fitness Room will occasionally still leak and so is unusable and will remain so until the roof is repaired permanently. Any classes that previously took place in the Fitness Room now take

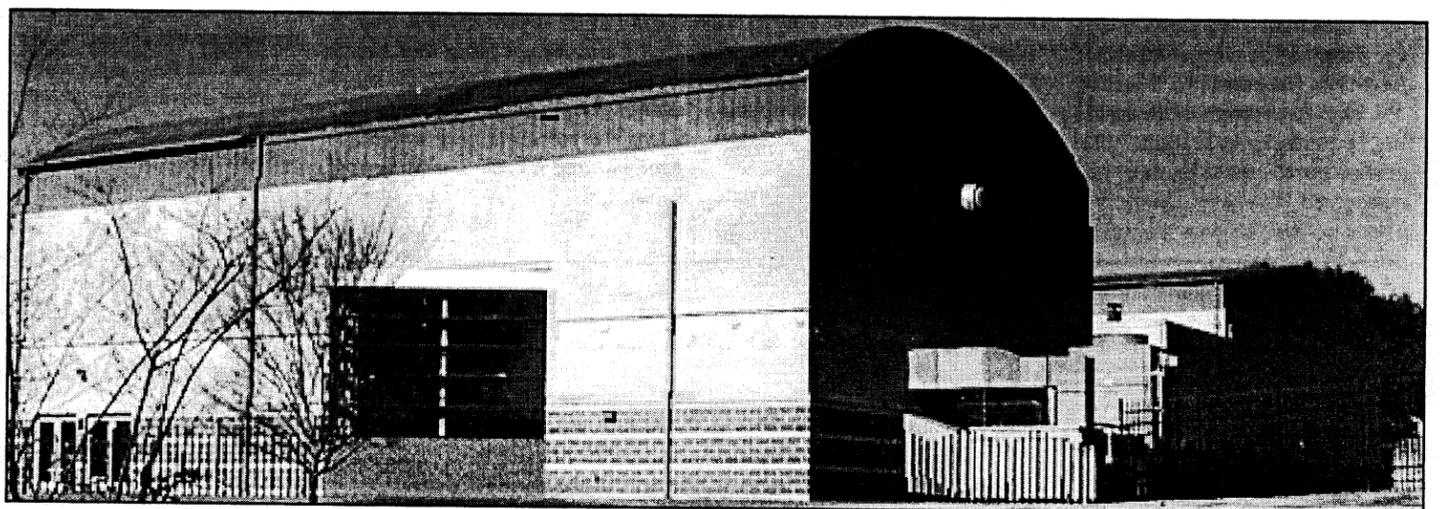
place in one of the racquetball courts.

It is unclear on how much longer until the roof will be replaced. According to James Milhollin, Director of Facilities and Utilities, the school is currently waiting to find out how much insurance money it will receive for the damages to the roof and how much money the school will have to pay on its own.

The insurance claim is being handled by the Department of Administrative Services, a Georgia governmental organization. Right now,

the procedure for getting a new roof is in their hands, and not actually in SPSU's.

The new roof, when it is built, will be engineered to withstand another storm of this magnitude, explains James Milhollin. The plans for the roof are already finished; it is now just up to the amount of money the school may receive from the damage to the previous roof.



The roof of the pool has, for the past six months, been covered in a sort of sturdy tarp until a new roof can be purchased.

## New Director of Advancement named

CJ Shrader  
Editor-in-Chief

As of January 3, Dr. Ron Dempsey has been named the new Director of Advancement for Southern Polytechnic State University.

Prior to his position at SPSU, Dr. Dempsey served as Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Shorter College for four years. He also served ten years as an associate dean of Academic Affairs for Presbyterian College in Clinton, South Carolina.

Dr. Dempsey has a Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology of Religion from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He is also nearing completion of another doctorate, this one in Philosophy in Higher Education

Administration from the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Dr. Dempsey also has a Master of Arts in Sociology, Master of Divinity, and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology.

When asked why he chose to come to SPSU, Dr. Dempsey responded that he had been "looking at moving from private education to higher education" yet he wanted to "stay in Georgia." Dempsey explained that he liked SPSU's "size and unique mission."

According to the SPSU website, "The Office of Advancement manages the functions of giving, alumni activities, development, public relations and marketing." Dr. Dempsey hopes to follow this mission and, according to the new director, create a "culture of giving" between the alumni and the school.



The new Director of Advancement, Dr. Ron Dempsey. (Photo from the Shorter College website)

## SGA Happenings

A behind-the-scenes look at the most recent meeting of the Student Government Association

CJ Shiflett  
Staff Writer

The first meeting of the semester of the Student Government Association was held on Tuesday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. The SGA will keep its traditional meeting time of the first and third Tuesdays of the month at noon in the Library Rotunda. The next meeting is scheduled for February 1<sup>st</sup>. All students are invited.

Four budget requests were brought before the SGA for approval. The SPSU Band requested \$244 to allow Beth Farber, the current Band Director, to attend a music conference on teaching. The request was approved by a majority vote and all \$244 of the requested funds were allocated to the SPSU Band.

Alpha Phi Alpha requested \$550 to help with their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day luncheon. The SGA's contribution would mainly be used for plaques and awards. The request was approved by a majority vote, but only \$150 of

the originally requested \$550 was allocated to the luncheon.

The Soccer Club requested \$1935 to help with the cost of conferences and tournaments. The request provided for the entrance fee for various tournaments as well as covered the cost of hotels, food, and transportation while away from Southern Polytechnic. At the suggestion of the Budget & Finance Chair, the budget request was revised to only provide for the cost of conferences and tournaments, dropping the request to \$750. The request was rejected by a majority vote.

Before Ambling took over Housing, the Office of Multicultural Affairs was funded by the revenue generated from students living in the dorms. Unfortunately, the introduction of a third-party has since changed the way revenue is handled. To stay operative, the Office of Multicultural Affairs has relocated to the Attic in the Atrium (J) Building. Multicultural Affairs does not currently have a budget, however, so they have requested \$3000 from the SGA. The requested amount was reduced to \$2000 and was approved by a majority vote.

The Student Council is currently one representative short. To apply for the position, contact one of the current members of SGA. This should prove to be an easier task than before, as all SGA members are now required to spend 1 hour a week in the SGA office, located in the Student Center.

## Letter to the Editor

# Outsourcing isn't so evil

Steve Logue  
E-mail Contributor

This is in response to the opinion piece "The evils of outsourcing" by Matt Polis in the November 10 issue. I find the article laced with incorrect facts, misguided conclusions (a natural consequence), and most regrettably, a degree of xenophobia.

The first sentence of the article notes that outsourcing is a recent trend. Actually, what is recent is presidential politics that amplify outsourcing issues for political gain. Companies have outsourced for years (check out the textile industry) as a means to keep costs low and remain competitive, often to the benefit of American consumers. Ever buy a t-shirt at Wal-Mart for \$9.99? I wonder if Mr. Polis has.

The last sentence of the article is equally incorrect. The author notes that Kodak has outsourced 70k+ jobs. Sorry, but Kodak's downsizing has more to do

with technology disruption than it does moving production abroad. Ever heard of digital photography?

Incorrect facts lead to misguided conclusions, beginning with the author's call to ban outsourcing altogether. In a global economy, restricting corporate competitiveness through extreme government policies is harmful. A good case study is Germany. That country has among the most stringent labor restrictions of any rich country...and among the highest, sustained unemployment rates. Also, if the US government bans outsourcing, are we prepared for other nations to retaliate? Goodbye Mercedes Alabama, BMW South Carolina, etc. What really matters in this debate are the NET outsourcing statistics...which are conveniently forgotten by (or most likely, unknown to) the media, politicians and misinformed outsourcing critics.

The worst part of the article though is the author's use of what

seemingly is a photo of Indian workers in computer jobs, which he boasts is the second time he has used that photo. I understand the anxiety that comes with job loss (after 11 years with my employer, I will be laid off this month) but the author's use of a photo of Indian families reeks of xenophobia and has no place in legitimate debate of economic policies. Mr. Polis expresses his own anxiety over his choice of a career in programming...perhaps getting into US politics would be a viable alternative.

*Editor's note: Pictures and captions in The Sting are usually chosen by the layout staff and the Editor, not by the author of the article. Matt Polis did not select that particular photo nor decide on the caption for the photo. The photo's intent was merely to keep with the good-natured humor The Sting is known for.*

## A challenge to the staff...

Remy Lebeaux  
Staff Writer

Late last semester, I journeyed to the homestead of another Sting staff member on an impromptu road trip of sorts. During this trip, the two of us talked about how much better campus life is now that neither of us is living in the dorms anymore and how great it is to not have your eating habits dictated by the school. Then we thought about all of the lower classmen and friends that weren't able to get the apartments or just plain couldn't afford the exorbitant rent. At this point, one of us suggested that some of the SPSU administrative staff should live in the dorms to experience life as a student for a semester. We shot this idea down as being nothing more than built up animosity manifesting itself as a bad idea, but the more I've mulled it over the more I like the idea.

For those of you that have never lived in the dorms, the basic idea is this: they're expensive, they're cramped, they're very difficult to get any decent amount of work done in, and they're connected to the horrendous food service company known as ABHell (er..ABL).

Most students, including myself, can put up with most of those conditions, but the extra thousand dollars to pay for the meal plan (ABL

serves stuff that can only be called "food" because the law dictates it is passable for human consumption...even if barely) is where the damage is caused. When I lived in the dorms, I worked, along with having classes, which means I could almost never make it over to the cafeteria to get anything to eat. When I could make it over, the "food" was so bad that I usually ended up trashing it in favor of something more palatable (like aluminum). This means that I had to spend the allotted money per day for the meal plan ALONG with spending more money for food I could eat. When students confronted our president and her staff with this, the students were met with a curt "you chose to live here" as a response to the situation.

So, my challenge to the president of SPSU and some of her staff

is this: live as a student in the dorms for ONE month. Just one month. Perform all of your duties as per the norm, but live exactly as a dorm resident would. Eat ABL "food" for 90% of your meals, try to sleep when



ABL makes this look delicious sometimes. Seriously, French Bread is really gross.

everyone on the hall is playing anime at 4am, use the communal restrooms after dinner or lunch when all of the hall residents are having their intestines ripped apart by ABL "food." You don't even have to shell out the money that we have to part with, all you have to do is share the experience to see where we're coming from with our complaints.

## STING Staff

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Heather Giroux  
Erik Hadley  
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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*The Sting* welcomes letters praising or criticizing editorial policies or opinions. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double spaced and should not exceed five hundred words. Letters must include a name, address, and phone number for verification purposes, but names can be withheld upon request. Unsigned or unverified letters will not be printed. *The Sting* reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to *The Sting*, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our office in A252, or e-mail 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 (e-mail, disk) by the deadline printed below. Please limit articles to two hundred words. All such articles are subject to editing for style, content and size, and are run on a space-available basis.

### JOINING *The Sting*

Any student paying Activity Fees is eligible to join *The Sting*, though final decision is made by the Editor-in-Chief. We prefer creative students who have passed English 1101. Come to our meetings Friday at 1:00 PM 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 Thursday, February 3 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.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

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# The company you keep

Mark Campbell  
Staff Writer Emeritus

Under what circumstances is plagiarism acceptable?

This question arises as the first of two ethical dilemmas facing *The STING*, the student-run newspaper at Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Ga. In the Dec. 1st, 2004 issue of the paper, staff writer Christiaan Funkhouser committed what most journalists consider an unpardonable sin—he plagiarized.

Specifically, he submitted an article called “A Conservative Christmas.” It was an editorial piece in which he introduced a poem; the words are actually the lyrics to the song “So This Is (a Conservative) Christmas” cut and pasted straight from a December 22nd, 2003 web page associated with nationally syndicated conservative radio talk show host Glenn Beck.

Funkhouser claims that in his introductory paragraph he gave proper credit to the author. Specifically, Funkhouser had written, “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.” There’s no mention of who Glenn Beck actually is, nor that Beck and his staff have never visited Southern Polytechnic.

The inference any reasonable person would draw in this context is that Glenn Beck is Funkhouser’s friend, that they got together on campus and that they wrote the poem together with other unnamed friends. That Funkhouser then introduces the lyrics as his new Christmas anthem only further obscures the truth—namely that Beck likely would never give Funkhouser the time of day, much less collaborate with him.

It is true that Funkhouser never specifically said he wrote the poem. But it is under his byline, he never gave full and proper credit to Glenn

Beck and his staff, and he let his carefully worded introduction lead the reader to draw the wrong conclusion. More disquieting is his internal comment on submission to the editor: “I gave credit to those who needed, if you cannot tell, or think I need to be more blunt, let me know.” Funkhouser counted on the

**“Liars get fired. Plagiarists get fired.”**

editor to draw the same inference as the reader; in this he succeeded spectacularly.

What Funkhouser has done is not an honest mistake. To copy and paste is done with deliberation. To mislead is done with intent. To call what he did an honest mistake is to lie.

Some might argue that the victims here are Glenn Beck and the readership of *The STING*. That’s true in the sense that Beck has been denied compensation for his work and the readers have been deceived into thinking that they were reading an original and exclusive work.

But equally harmed are all journalists, especially the writers at *The STING* and their fellow colleagues in the Georgia College Press Association. Student journalists face the particular burden of being dismissed by sources and readers alike as merely students and therefore prone to incompetence and poor judgement. When one of our own pulls a stunt like this, it causes greater hardship, proportionally, than the lies and plagiarism that reporter Jayson Blair perpetrated upon the *New York Times*. The *Times* cited that incident as the low point in its 152-year history and fired Blair.

*Washington Post* columnist Richard Cohen spelled it out clearly in his editorial on the firing of four

CBS News employees (*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Jan. 13, 2005, “Bush should follow CBS Standard”): “Liars get fired. None of the CBS four lied. Plagiarists get fired. None of the four plagiarized. Incompetents get fired—and one mistake over the course of a career is not proof of incompetence. All these people deserved another chance. Bush would understand that. He always gets another chance.”

Liars get fired. Plagiarists get fired.

*The STING* has fired staff before, so no new precedent would be set. A *STING* web manager was dismissed in 2001 after being charged with sexual harassment (of another staff member). One of our more controversial opinion writers was discharged for submitting the same work to *The Sentinel* at neighboring Kennesaw State University. His mistake was in failing to inform either newspaper’s editor of what he was doing—otherwise *The STING* would have been happy to share him in syndication.

Fortunately for Funkhouser, plagiarism is not a crime. I like to believe our nation’s founding fathers saw that making it so would permit a government to make inroads against a free press, for what information does not come to us in some form from another source?

**“At least and at most, a plagiarist earns his own reputation.”**

That isn’t to say that *The STING* is legally in the clear. Funkhouser has not only plagiarized, he has infringed on Glenn Beck’s copyright. A judgement could easily be obtained against Funkhouser and the newspaper for compensation, court costs, and punitive damages.

Barring dismissal, Funkhouser’s punishment will come in more subtle ways. One earns

one’s reputation by deeds, words, and the company one keeps.

It will come in the form of furtive glances from classmates who will wonder if *he* is the Christiaan Funkhouser. It will manifest itself in the raised eyebrow when a professor calls his name during roll at the start of a semester. It may lead to the lost job prospect, when an employer googles his name—and opts instead to hire a candidate with a better moral character.

At least and at most, a plagiarist earns his own reputation.

Personally, I regret that the good name of *The STING* has become the story. We’ve never touted our four awards bestowed upon us by the Georgia College Press Association. Our view has been that the newspaper is not, and should not be, the news. But circumstances like this mandate differently.

I’ve been honored to share in two of those awards. In 2001, I shared a first place in investigative journalism with fellow staff writer Kamie Harkins (now Kamie McKoy). We had scooped the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* in revealing the fact that the Georgia Student Finance Commission had inadvertently exposed the confidential data of some 20,000 HOPE and other scholars to the Google search engine, and thus to internet users.

Georgia House Minority leader DuBose Porter at his office at the *Dublin Courier* newspaper for comments on student government representation in connection with the Board of Regents. I’ve followed money trails—a source of consternation to university administrators and the student government alike. I’ve walked the walk.

When a previous student government sought to exert control over the content of *The STING* and the right to hire and fire its editor, I was assigned to cover the story. My editor turned to me to draft a code of ethics. We adopted and adapted our “Canons of Journalism” from the American Society of Newspaper Editors’ Statement of Principles. But a newspaper’s code of ethics is meaningful only if its staff imbues it with meaning.

And while I’ve no aspirations to pursue journalism as some of my colleagues at other papers in the Georgia College Press Association, I respect them and consider it a privilege just to have been in their company, much less to have received their accolades.

That first ethical dilemma in dealing with plagiarism arose as to the circumstances under which plagiarism might be acceptable. I believe no newspaper has room for a plagiarist. However, my editor has determined that a public apology from the wrongdoer is acceptable and sufficient.

The second ethical dilemma had to await the resolution of the first. It concerns the company you keep—I resign.

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## Editor’s editorial

CJ Shrader  
Editor-in-Chief

If you haven’t already, please read Mark Campbell’s “The Company You Keep” which is also found in this issue. It is something I believe everyone should see, and the topic I am discussing is fully explained there.

This is not like the “Consensus Editorial” which *The Sting* usually runs every issue. In the Consensus Editorial, the staff comes up with a topic which we all agree on and then write about it. In this case, I know there are members of the staff who disagree with me, so this is my opinion and mine alone.

I’d like to start by saying that I am sad to see Mark Campbell go. When I was just a freshman being coerced into stepping into *The Sting* office, he was the first person I spoke to. Since then, he’s been an amazing member of *The Sting* and one of the best writers I’ve ever met. His

knowledge of the campus of Southern Polytechnic State University and its going-ons are seemingly boundless.

In regards to Mark’s article, why didn’t I simply fire Christiaan Funkhouser instead of losing Mark Campbell? Why keep a member who has, so far, written very controversial articles that made me publish two separate corrections rather than keep the writer who has brought in so many awards?

When I received Christiaan’s articles, I read over them like I do any other. I didn’t know who Glenn Beck was. I thought he was someone on campus, as others out there might have thought as well. I thought the song was odd, but I figured he had come up with it himself. In retrospect, I should have checked up on the article a little more extensively. If I had, this could all have been avoided. Hindsight is 20/20, isn’t it?

I printed the article. When the

online edition went up, a member of the Campus Forum posted how the song in the article had come from a different source. I saw this, and got with Christiaan. It was too late to fix the print edition, but I added some notes to the online edition so that any future readers would know exactly where the story came from. Naturally, I also planned to print a correction in the next edition, which should be in this issue right now.

However, any other newspaper would have fired him on the spot. So why didn’t I? In the end, I understand that Christiaan, like almost everyone at *The Sting*, is new to journalism and hasn’t learned all the ropes. I believe that what he did was an honest mistake. He thought he had cited the source well enough. Obviously, he had not.

Since I believe his mistake was unintentional, and I think everyone should be allowed a mistake, I wanted to give him a second chance. So I have. I don’t think he

meant any malice by his mistake, so I’m going to stand by my decision not to fire him no matter what comes.

Naturally, however, mistakes are wasted if they are not learned from. In the future, I will be more vigilant in finding citation mistakes. Furthermore, I have made it clear to the staff that if this mistake ever occurs again, there won’t be any more second chances. I have given tips to the staff on proper citation in a newspaper, so that this shouldn’t happen again. I will continue to tell newcomers to *The Sting* of the importance of citing one’s sources.

I would like to apologize, though. I’d like to apologize to the readers, who I have let down by allowing this mistake to appear in *The Sting*. I’d like to apologize to my staff, who I have also let down by hurting the name of *The Sting*. What affects *The Sting* affects us all.

I’d like to give a word of grati-

tude to my staff that may disagree with my decision but still stuck with me. I appreciate it, I really do.

Finally, I’d like to say that there will never be any ill feelings towards Mark Campbell. In the end, he and I are both doing the same thing: standing up for what we believe in. How can anyone ever do any less?

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## Surviving SPSU Series

## How to handle your official SPSU business

Rudolph Volkswagon  
Staff Writer

Hey, it's Spring semester, 2005. You're either coming to SPSU as a freshman for the first time, coming back as a freshman (those tend to be rare these days), or you've been here before. Well, I'm going to assume you've walked around 1100 S. Marietta Parkway a few times already, so you know the difficult challenge ahead of you whenever you face any official SPSU department of \_\_\_\_blank\_\_\_\_.

Is it the Financial Aid department to find out about your loans and scholarships? Maybe you have to go to the Campus Police to get your new parking sticker? Maybe you are going up to the department of Residence Life to change your room assignment because your roommate from last semester has really horrible foot odor and you hate listening to his crappy music?

If you've done any of these before, you know that SPSU is less than friendly, and very unlikely to hold your hand through any of these matters. You might even get told simply that they can't do anything for you. Oh, no, you didn't lose your temper over there, did you?

**Mistake #1**

You walk in expecting the world and got left holding some shattered dreams. Along the way you simply lost it, you snapped, you got down those good-for-nothing government employees throats and showed them who's boss.

**Solution**

Whenever you are going to start any official business on campus, walk into wherever it is with a smile on your face. Don't walk in with any expectation except for the next clue for whatever you're trying to find out.

Getting anything done on campus, if even just for yourself, requires you to interact with salaried employees of the state government. They may work for our school, but the University System of Georgia writes their checks. Even though you may not think they're that important, they had to get where they are by doing something right.

Give the proper respect and courtesy and kindness to the people that make your life easier at SPSU. At the beginning of the semester, they have hundreds, and in the case of Financial Aid, thousands of students come in and out of their offices daily. Screaming, yelling, cursing, and losing your temper doesn't make you any different than any one

else that walks through those offices. Smiling, and being friendly, and even paying the secretary a compliment will never hurt you, and just might give them the incentive

you didn't know before, or tells you that you will simply have to wait until a certain date, they are doing their job.

Rome wasn't built in a day, and your FAFSA isn't verified in one either. Be patient when dealing with the school. Large things take a while to get started into motion. Also, if you listen to the advice from the first section, you might even find yourself getting cut little breaks and doing things even when no batch cycle processing or check cutting is scheduled for that day.

**Mistake #3**

When you go into the office, you are told that doing something ahead of cycle, or right this very minute, is against the policy of that specific office. You get mad because they did it for your friend, John Doe Dillinger, and storm out of the office.

**Solution**

Just because your friend, John Doe Dillinger, walked into some office on campus and made something happen, doesn't mean you will be able to. John may have been around campus longer, or made more friends

in different offices faster than you in shorter time because he's a really nice guy.

When a school official squeezes someone you know through the system faster than you, you have no right to get upset or even point it out. It is the privilege and the prerogative of the school employees to deem when it is appropriate when to deviate from set policy. This isn't your privilege, and don't try to bully your way into making it yours.

**Some Concluding Advice**

All of these mistakes have something in common: losing your temper and storming out of the officer swearing like a sailor. If you do your homework about your situation, and if you approach the situation with a friendly, courteous, and educated stance, there's no reason everything shouldn't go your way. Always be certain to thank the person that helped you out. They will remember you, whether you were a nice guy or a complete jerk.

If you do happen to lose it, and you think you're sunk, don't worry about making a mistake. The school officials are people too, and they realize that sometimes people just have bad days. Of course, if you do lose your temper, swallowing your pride and walking back in to apologize will win you some points with that person.



Look at this friendly Business Office. Why would you want to be mean in it? (I swear that five minutes after I left, it was full of people. Where'd they all go while the picture was being taken?)

to add a little swiftness to their step in helping you out.

**Mistake #2**

When you find out that what you want cannot be done right that very minute, you storm out of the office swearing up and down about the lack of concern for the students.

**Solution**

Sometimes what you want to get done can't happen all at once. You might have to go through a lengthy process of multiple steps. If a person tells you anything at all that

## Uncensored: with Christiaan Funkhouser

Christiaan Funkhouser  
Staff Writer

The question has been asked in the past, "Under what circumstances is plagiarism acceptable?" And that answer is clear - Never. Under no circumstances is plagiarism acceptable - Whether you are a freshman writing a paper for English 1101, a senior writing for that final TCOM class, or a professional out in the field, and submitting some kind of report. Plagiarism is unacceptable. According to the Little Brown Handbook (a required book for composition English classes at SPSU) "Plagiarism comes from, the Latin word for 'Kidnapper'." Look at pages 342 - 350 for a more in-depth look.

It goes on to define the different forms of plagiarism *Deliberate* and *Accidental*, "Copying or downloading a phrase... and passing it off as your own by omitting quotation marks..." speaking of *Accidental* plagiarism, "forgetting to place quotation marks around another writer's words." However, not only must one place quotations around the quoted phrases, one must also explicitly cite where one got the quote from.

Ok, some of you all who may be reading may have read on the *Campus Forum* or other articles that have accused me of deliberate plagiarism, or have made it seem as if I willingly committed plagiarism.

It may seem after reading the Forum or the case made against me that I am being a hypocrite by writing on these things, however, this is not the case. The controversy is centered around my article I submitted entitled, "A Conservative Christmas". In that, I call upon my conservative friends, and young conservatives to listen to lyrics of my newly adopted "Conservative Anthem." I made a huge mistake in my APA style of what my 1102 professor called an "Anonymous Citation." Anonymous citation is when the author of the paper does not directly cite the author of the quoted material yet separates it from his original thoughts and phrases and places it in quotations. My huge mistake in my anonymous citation was that I did not explicitly elsewhere in the paper say that I did not write the anthem.

In my mind, when I wrote the paper, I was going to anonymously cite Glenn Beck's conservative anthem, and never claim it as my own so as not to commit plagiarism. I complied with the Encarta Dictionary's definition of plagiarism, "copying what somebody else has written... and trying to pass it off as original." I choose to take the chance with anonymous citation in my article because it wasn't a paper for a class that I would be getting a grade for, but a light hearted article for the enjoyment of my conservative readers, which would cause the

further frustration of the liberals who read.

As with all my articles, I read them to my immediate family, and showed them to a few friends, none of whom assumed that the anthem was my original work. However, they know me. They know of my passion for writing, my passionate fight against those who have plagiarized, my opinion of the disrespect it not only to the author who writes it, but to the writers who do not plagiarize, to the readers who are in a sense lied to, to the organization that published the plagiarized piece, and lastly to the unlucky editor that did not catch it. They know of my wanting to write for *The Sting* since I was 15, and how I would not do anything to jeopardize my position there. They know the low opinion and lack of respect I have for those who have. They know of the importance of my Christian witness through both this paper, my radio program, throughout my schooling, and of my high moral values that I strive to attain to. For all these reasons they knew that I would not plagiarize, and when they saw my mistake of anonymous citation, they saw it as if it was done correctly. Recognizing the name Glenn Beck, and associating it with his style of humor and sarcastic-ness.

As my English professor stated about anonymous citations, they are very tricky and it's very easy to go wrong and end up not citing it

correctly at all. I want to take this part of the article to apologize to *The Sting*, the Editor and Chief, and most of all to the readers for my honest mistake, and error in my anonymous citation. I had no intention of plagiarizing, nor do I condone it or wish to justify my mistake. I sought throughout this article to reason with you, the readers, and possibly have you all understand what was done wasn't intentional, but instead was a sin of omission that I will not make again.

So how will I prevent this kind of situation from happening again? I will treat all my articles as if they were papers with the correct citation as such. I will issue an apology to Glenn Beck, of whom, after sending him my article which appeared in the February 4<sup>th</sup> 2004 issue of *The Sting* for his opinion after him asking for callers on Affirmative Action, wrote me back an e-mail stating that my paper was not only a "good

read" but a "great paper."

With the above said, I will end this apology with a solemn heart that we have lost a staff member because of this misunderstanding, and a troubled mind that honest mistakes would be misrepresented as a way to censor my viewpoints through expulsion. Sadly, in this world of political correctness there is a double standard. The few that aren't politically correct are persecuted; their mistakes dealt with publicly and made a spectacle as a form of censorship. This happens while the clones of the liberal propaganda machine are never looked at once, their mistakes never brought to the light, but handled in darkness. Is this right? Not at all, but it does force those who are not politically correct to soar above the bar so as to be so far above reproach that they are of a level the clones only aspire to be at.

## Corrections

In the December 1, 2004 issue of *The Sting*, the picture for the article "RamaHanukwanzMas," by Christiaan Funkhouser, as well as the title itself were improperly cited. Both items come from a December Glenn Beck radio program and website materials ([www.glennbeck.com](http://www.glennbeck.com)) from that same month.

Also in that same issue, the article "A Conservative Christmas," also by Christiaan Funkhouser, was improperly cited. The portion in quotation marks comes from a December 22 Glenn Beck web page which can be found at <http://www.glennbeck.com/news/12112003-1.shtml>.

# Tall, dark, and heady

Heather Giroux  
Staff Writer

So this was supposed to be an article where I review hurricanes and hand grenades. I had it all planned out...the title was going to be Close Really Isn't Good Enough. You know, like the saying close only counts in horseshoes and hand grenades; I think it should also count with hurricanes. I was going to have words of wisdom such as "If you want to see these, then throw me some beads." I had such big ideas, but I never actually drank either drink. I know, I know...I'm disappointed too. To make it up to you, I've decided to finish a beer article I've been meaning to write for a couple months now.

I really like dark beers these days; two in particular that have caught my taste buds lately are

Boddington's and Belhaven. Boddington's is well known English pub fare that has been around for more than 200 years. The beer was cloudy amber in color and held a four centimeter head.

Just before my first sip I experienced a hoppy sweetness in aroma. My initial

reaction was it having a light taste, not very bitter at all. It was quite smooth going down and the head was just enough to leave a moustache. Aaron, my partner in crime for the evening, described Boddington's as being "very smooth with a pleasantly mild bitter flavor."

The second beer we tried was at Johnnie Macracken's on the Marietta Square. This is hands down my new favorite bar. It's an old Fire Station with plenty of Irish

memorabilia on the walls and friendly people to share a pint with. The beer of choice there was Belhaven. This beer was very dark

or maybe it was just the lighting in the bar. I couldn't smell the beer, but I'd like to blame that on my being in a bar; it smelled like smoke, but no beer smells that bad. There was only about two centimeters of head on my beer (half of that of Boddington's).

Head isn't everything though, right guys? Now for the tasting; oh the taste! It was rich and creamy, almost sweet with a slightly nutty flavor and the aftertaste was barely bitter at all. I feel like I've drank crappy beer all of my life now. Aaron had quite the epiphany himself, "Now I just drink other beers to drink...I drink this beer to enjoy..."

Ah European beers, how I love thee...Cheers!



# STOMP

A.L. Johnson  
Staff Writer

And shuffle. And jump. And kick. And tap. And knock, hit, punch. On anything. The floor, the brooms, the hubcaps, the matchboxes, the trashcans, the Zippos. This is not violence. This is percussion.

This is STOMP, a theatrical production in its tenth season performed the week of January 18-23, 2005 at the Fox Theater in downtown Atlanta. They have performed for over nine million people in Europe, Australia, the Middle East, Asia, South America, and of course, right here at home.

There are eight performers, all with a background in dance and most with a background in percussion. According to Encore Atlanta, the official magazine of the Fox Theater, there are other performers that travel with the group because of its high physical demand. And demanding, it is.

For two hours, the performers climb, crawl, flip, run, and of course, STOMP all while producing rhythms with complex cadences heavily rooted in tribal and hip hop influence.

The show begins with what looks like a custodian who has lost his way. The man pushes the broom

across the stage and all of a sudden, looks around, notices the crowd, shrugs his shoulders, and continues to sweep. At this time, the lights darken and the audience begins to understand that conversations are to cease, and the cell phones are to vibrate.

Slowly, one can detect a rhythm being made with the brush of the broom, alternating with the taps of the wooden sides and the artist's shoes. Soon another "custodian" joins him, and another, and another until this alliance explodes into an entertaining dance show.

They go from pushing brooms, to tapping matchboxes, to shuffling newspapers. Next they are swinging from the rafters banging hubcaps. They strap trashcans to their feet and stomp around, but only after they have demonstrated their percussionist prowess with toilet plungers and Zippo lighters. They use trashcan lids in a tribal dance where they flip and spin the lids much like cymbalists in Southern marching bands. One of the most creative choreographies involved broomsticks that they used as fight-



The Nimbus 2005's are incredible.

ing sticks. As they challenged one another, spinning and tapping, the beat went on.

It is engaging in that the

performers have the audience to interact by clapping at designated times. Without saying a word, they signal the audience to *clap, clap* or to *clap, clap, stomp, clap* just to see who is paying attention. The results are lots of laughs.

Finally in the last fifteen minutes, everyone in the audience becomes a member of the STOMP cast, clapping and stomping along with the various everyday items that provide such invigorating sound.

The artists' acting skills are up to par as well. Certain gestures and insinuations are communicated to each other and the audience through body language. The chemistry displayed amongst the cast was clear to all as they intertwined and crossed paths, switching instruments with each other along the way.

STOMP has come and gone for this season but be sure they will return. To find out their touring schedule, log on to [www.stomponline.com](http://www.stomponline.com).

# Dirty Pretty Things

A.L. Johnson  
Staff Writer

When a doctor (Chiwetel Ejiofor) is forced to leave his country because of a corrupt government, he settles in England, working as a cab driver at night and a concierge in the morning. In the afternoons he gets a few hours rest on the sofa of one of the hotel maids (Audrey Tautou).

His hours of sleep go from few to nonexistent after the discovery of a human heart in the toilet of one of the hotels rooms that was previously occupied by a hooker.

His concern as a doctor and as a human being force him to ask questions that give him answers beyond

anything his imagination could conjure. From everyday goings-on to immigrant exploitation, this movie sends you deep into the lives of the desperate people willing to do anything, anything, to make a life outside of their native countries.

This tale comes as a surprise for lovers of Audrey Tautou's work (*Amelie*, *L'auberge Espagnole*) who are used to her cute upbeat portrayals of the lovelorn. This movie is dark, and an obvious stretch for Tautou, but she manages to make her character believable and loveable, as usual.

For anyone willing to step out of the Hollywood-dominated movie industry to see what the rest of the



Second place behind tampons.

world has to offer, this foreign independent film is a great start...it's in English.

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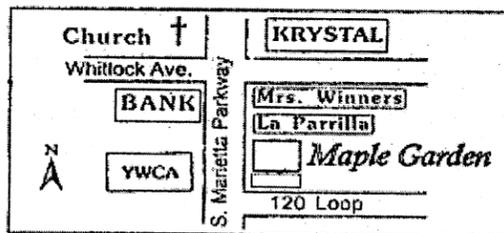
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# Prince of Persia: Warrior Within

CJ Shrader  
Editor-in-Chief

The game begins. The Prince is running from the Dahaka through the alleyways of some probably-Persian city. The Dahaka corners him at a dead end. The Prince has no choice but to unsheathe his swords and stand and fight.

Flashback to what is conceivably the past (relative to the Prince). Exposition, long scene of a woman wearing a thong as armor's rear, exposition, standard tutorial beginning.

This is Prince of Persia: Warrior Within, the latest in the Prince of Persia series. Fans of Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time might like this game; fans of Mortal Kombat might like it more.

Let's start with the story. The Prince's actions in Sands of Time have caused a shift in the Timeline. The Prince was supposed to die. The Dahaka has been released to kill the Prince and correct that mistake.

So far, so good, right? Well, the Prince, being a genius in temporal mechanics, comes up with a brilliant idea to stop the Dahaka. He will travel back in time to the Island of Time and stop the Empress of Time from ever making the Sands of Distance... I mean Time. Whatever. It's the premise for a second game, and I was happy with that.

I mentioned earlier that fans of the first game would probably enjoy this one. The Prince still has control over time, thanks to his possession of Farah's amulet. This allows all of the standard time control moves like Recall (Rewind time for 15 seconds or so if you fall off a cliff or die). Also, they've added a few

more time abilities. Some are for combat, like the Breath/Wind/Cyclone of Fate, all of which damage all enemies around you. Others are actually used both for combat and puzzles, like the Eye of the Storm which will slow down time around you while leaving you at the same speed.

Also, the Prince will use various time portals on the Island of Time to travel from the present to the past. This adds an interesting concept the game, because many areas you will wander through twice; once in the present, and once in the past. This also makes the game feel a little less linear, because in many cases you will have two routes that you could take to get to the same place (though after an hour of wandering around, I learned that usually one route is far faster than others).

Speaking of puzzles (I know, that was a whole paragraph ago), there are still plenty to be had throughout Prince of Persia: Warrior Within. Admittedly, I am not completely through the game yet, but the puzzles so far seem to be a lot easier than anything that was in Sands of Time. I think the purpose of this is so the game can focus heavily on its new fighting engine, which I will touch on later.

To get through the puzzles the Prince will have to use an assortment of acrobatic feats that only a Persian could know. There are of course the old favorites, like crawling across ledges, swinging on ropes, and... jumping. Naturally, there is always my personal favorite, running on walls, as well. I could play entire games based on running on walls, but that is neither here nor there.

For the player's enjoyment, Ubisoft has added a few more acrobatics. Now the Prince can slide down tapestries, which really helps expedite the Prince's exit after successfully solving a puzzle. Also,

has a new "Free-Form Fighting System" which was meant to improve the fighting in the game. Most background items in the game can be spun around or leapt off of in some way to further inflict damage on

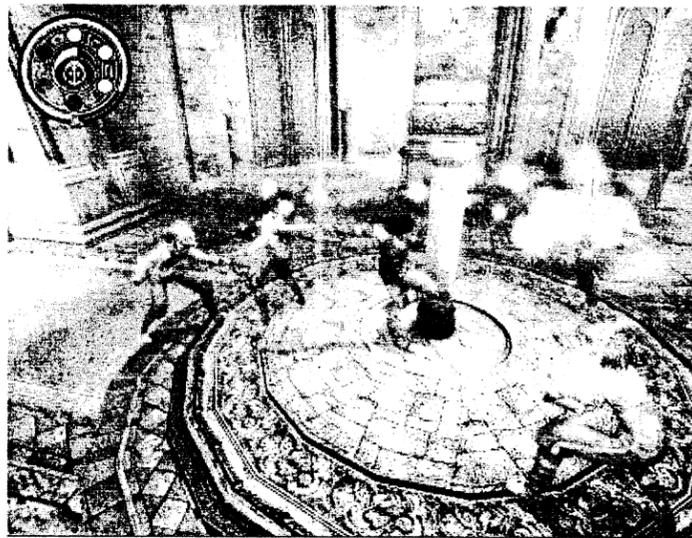
nothing in your second hand, you can grab your enemies and use them as a shield, steal their weapons, or, my favorite, simply throw them. I've avoided countless fights just by throwing my enemies off a cliff. It's strangely satisfying.

So did the emphasis on combat turn me off of this game? Initially, yes. Though the standard enemies are easy enough to dispatch, I could never originally get past the very first level in the game because of its mini-boss. She had her way with me every time. However, after going back and playing through the early game in Easy, I finally got enough feel for the Free-Form Fighting System to give Normal another shot, and made it through a lot better the second time through. My advice? Learn to block. It's so important.

Let's wrap up the final details of this game. The graphics are similar to those of the Sands of Time, if not a little darker. However, I do love to watch the Prince move as he slices off the enemy's heads or jumps over something in order to do a triple-spin-super-slash move. The game will even slow down at times when a particularly cool move has been performed.

The sound is also similar to Sands of Time, with much of the fighting music being that odd blend of Persian and rock that has found a special place in my heart.

All in all, this game is harder than the original, and different in many aspects. But I think that anyone who is willing to give it a go will find it to be a very enjoyable game. Warrior Within is available for the X-Box, Playstation 2, Gamecube, and PC. If grades be your thing, I'd give it a B+, 8 out of 10, or 4 out of 5.



Watch the Prince as he swings around that column. Swing, Prince, Swing!

now the Prince can grab onto ropes hanging next to walls and use them to help him run on the wall back and forth until he releases and continues to run on the wall. A long sentence, but effectively the Prince is now able to run even further on walls.

A big complaint that fans of the first game have is that this game is too combat-orientated. At first, I thought this would be a major turn-off for me. When I played through the first game, I was terrible at combat but loved the puzzles and acrobatics. Combat was pretty easy in that game and it certainly wasn't terribly difficult to get through.

Prince of Persia: Warrior Within

your enemies. Also, the amount of moves in the Prince's repertoire have increased dramatically. I just counted, there are at least 73 different moves the Prince can perform depending on where the enemy is. There are simply too many to learn. The Free-Form Fighting System (namely, those 73 different moves) really seems to be an invitation to button mashing, which seems to work out all right for me.

This game also introduces two-handed weapon fighting. You always have a main weapon and then the option of picking up a secondary weapon, which you can use to perform various combos or just throw at your enemy. If you have

## An alternative to X-Box Live

Christiaan Funkhouser  
Staff Writer

Are you all tired of walking around the multiplayer levels of popular games like Halo 2 or others all by yourself because you're not rich enough to afford X-Box live, or your favorite game isn't X-Box live enabled, or you have one of the billion of games that doesn't have bots? Well, my friend, then us X-Box users are in luck. XBCConnect (XBC) is here. XBC is available for a free download at [www.xbconnect.com](http://www.xbconnect.com). All you do is download it, start it up on your computer, plug your X-Box into your network, find your X-box via XBCConnect's easy to use set up system and play away.

How you may ask? Well, according to [xbconnect.com](http://xbconnect.com), XBC is a "Next Generation Game Console Tunnel Software for Windows that allows you to play Microsoft X-Box System link games over the internet." In short, if you have Windows, then you can download XBC and fool your X-Box into thinking that there's a system link game ready and waiting. XBC doesn't require a mod chip, and is as legal to the X-Box as system linking via the school network. In fact it's much similar. After downloading the program and setting up your X-Box, all one needs

to do is find a game and up to four players can join per X-Box.

### Why XBC over X-Box Live?

- It's Free versus the \$79.95 first time, and \$59.95 per year Live fees.
- Four people may join per X-box versus only two with the X-Box Live.
- It has all the versatility of Live such as up to 16 players on Halo 2, voice masking and communication.
- Available to all X-box games that can be System Linked.

### Why X-Box Live over XBC?

- Live Content – the ability to download upgrades and extra content.
- It's more stable, less lag, few random boots.
- The additional \$20.00 for the first year includes headphones (very helpful, and nice)
- It's only really \$5.00 a month.
- Clans, rating boards, a real community.

Overall, if you're just looking for quick play, then I would suggest XBC. However, if you're a serious gamer, looking for rankings, money, fame, the X-Box Live is for you.

## Internet toxic waste dump: Forums

A.L. Johnson  
Staff Writer

The World Wide Web is fantastic. It has completely revolutionized the way we gather information, conduct business, and look at pornography. Nobody uses encyclopedias or goes to the library to do research anymore. If someone has a question, they'll just "Google it." When I "Google it," but can't find what I'm looking for, I'll hit the forums.

Forums are all over the Internet; some are useful, most are online communities where antisocial losers act like tough guys with the sole purpose to cause trouble in order to make themselves feel better.

Here is an excellent scenario to tell if a forum is useful: Let's say you have a car problem that can't find an easy solution to after Googling for it. You go to a car forum and post your question. If the forum members respond quickly with helpful information, then the forum has been use-

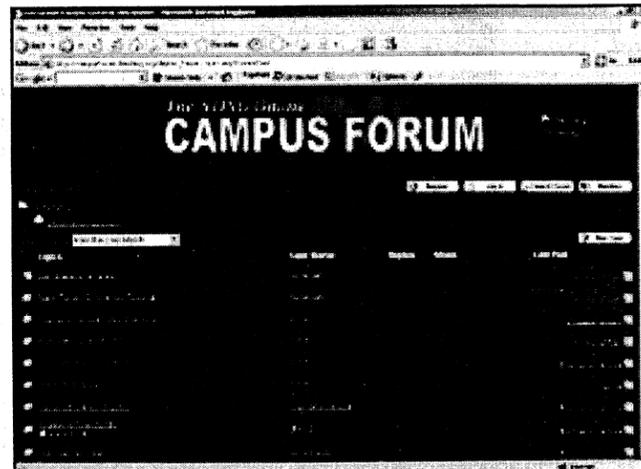
ful. If the forum members respond quickly with a comment similar to "taht question si so ghey L your retraded" then the forum has been useless. The more misspelled words, poor punctuation, insults, emoticons, and giant signatures, the more useless the forum.

Another rule of thumb: political forums are almost always useless. They are the breeding grounds

two biggest arguments used on forums leading up to the presidential election: Bush is Hitler, Kerry is Herman Munster. That is the height of political discussion on forums: name calling.

Why have forums become so useless? Jerks. Why are there so many jerks on forums? Anonymity. Antisocial losers, who don't have the social skills to express their opinion in reality, feel safe making anonymous comments in virtual reality. There are no serious consequences for their actions online. When an antisocial loser throws an insult at a big, strong scary guy in a forum, he's not going to immediately punch the antisocial loser in the face. He's going to respond by saying "im not teh jrek... your moms the jerk!!!11"

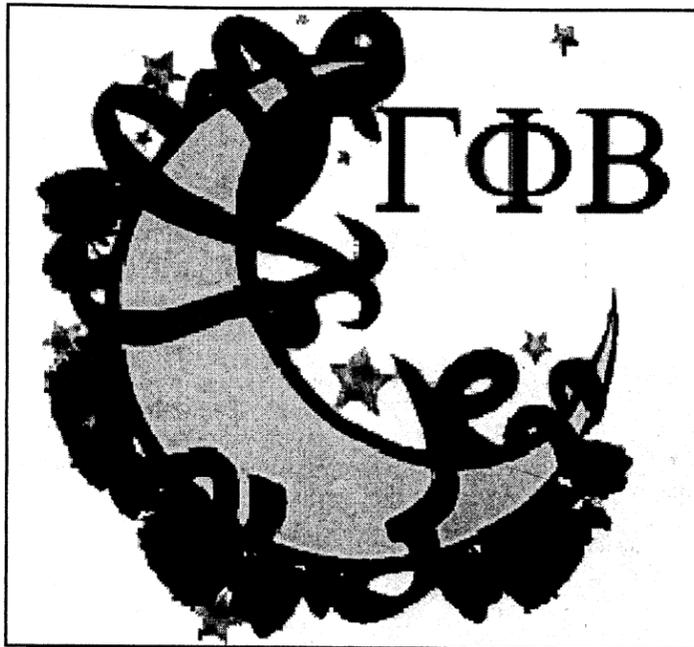
Forums can be very useful, especially for finding specific information. Unfortunately, most forums are the Internet's toxic waste dumps.



Arguing on the internet is like cheating in the Special Olympics.

for illogical, blind partisanship. Reading through those forums can be entertaining, if you like reading illogical arguments. These forums can also be annoying, if you don't like reading illogical arguments. The

# A message from Gamma Phi Delta



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SPSU Sorority

Gamma Phi Beta's recruitment is going great this semester, but we are still waiting for YOU! If you are interested in women leadership roles on this campus, you can make a difference in the Delta Omicron Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta International Sorority! Please check out our website at [www.gammaphibeta.8m.com](http://www.gammaphibeta.8m.com) and contact us as soon as possible through the emails on that site. We can't wait to hear from you!

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## Lacrosse is coming to SPSU

**Dave Bachtel and Heather Giroux**  
Staff Writers

A new lacrosse team is forming at SPSU. Sponsored by "Coach" Geoffrey Berlin, there will be both men's and women's teams.

Lacrosse has a diverse history, and is commonly referred to as "America's First Sport." First played by Iroquois it later gained popularity among sporting enthusiasts in the northeast. A widely adopted sport, Lacrosse is now played in schools and leagues across the country.

There are two variations of Lacrosse played. Men's Lacrosse allows for limited contact where as Women's Lacrosse allows no intentional contact. The game consists of two goals separated by about the length of a soccer field. Basically, when the ball is thrown into a goal, a point is scored.

According to coach Berlin, "Lacrosse has the offense of bas-

ketball, with the speed and intensity of ice hockey." The SPSU Lacrosse team hopes to begin conditioning after holding an organizational meeting on January 26.

For more information, team practice schedules, or to ask questions, visit and join the Yahoo! [spsu\\_lax\\_group](http://spsu_lax_group) at <http://tinyurl.com/5x5b4>



This is the beginnings of the new SPSU lacrosse team. Don't you want to be a part of this great thing? (Photo by Chris Colyar)

## SPSU 2005 Basketball Schedule

### Men

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
1/27/2005	SPSU at Georgia Southwestern	Americus, GA	8:00 pm
1/29/2005	SPSU v. North Georgia	Marietta, GA	4:00 pm
2/03/2005	SPSU at Shorter	Rome, GA	8:00 pm
2/05/2005	SPSU v. Southern Wesleyan	Marietta, GA	4:00 pm
2/07/2005	SPSU at Brewton-Parker	Mt. Vernon, GA	8:00 pm
2/10/2005	SPSU v. Faulkner	Marietta, GA	7:30 pm
2/12/2005	SPSU v. Knoxville College	Marietta, GA	4:00 pm
2/17/2005	SPSU at Lee University	Cleveland, TN	8:00 pm
2/19/2005	SPSU v. Reinhardt	Marietta, GA	4:00 pm
2/24/2005	SPSU at Auburn-Montgomery	Montgomery, AL	9:00 pm
2/26/2005	SPSU at Berry College	Rome, GA	8:00 pm
3/2-5/05	SSAC Tournament	Marietta, GA	TBA
3/16-22/05	NAIA National Tournament	Kansas City, MO	TBA

### Women

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
01/27/2005	SPSU at Georgia Southwestern	Americus, GA	6:00pm
01/29/2005	SPSU v. North Georgia	Marietta, GA	2:00pm
02/03/2005	SPSU at Shorter	Rome, GA	6:00pm
02/05/2005	SPSU v. Southern Wesleyan	Marietta, GA	2:00pm
02/07/2005	SPSU at Brewton Parker	Mt. Vernon, GA	6:00pm
02/12/2005	SPSU v. Morris College	Marietta, GA	2:00pm
02/17/2005	SPSU at Lee University	Cleveland, TN	6:00pm
02/19/2005	SPSU v. Reinhardt	Marietta, GA	2:00pm
02/24/2005	SPSU at Auburn-Montgomery	Montgomery, AL	6:00pm
02/26/2005	SPSU at Berry College	Mt. Berry, GA	6:00pm
3/2-3/5/05	GACC Tournament	Mt. Berry, GA	TBA

Basketball times and schedule for the Men's basketball team come from [http://www.spsu.edu/recreation/Basketball-Men/spsu\\_mbball\\_schedule04.htm](http://www.spsu.edu/recreation/Basketball-Men/spsu_mbball_schedule04.htm). You can check there for updates and for results from past games.

Basketball times and schedule for the Women's basketball team come from [http://www.spsu.edu/recreation/Basketball-Women/spsu\\_wbball\\_schedule05.htm](http://www.spsu.edu/recreation/Basketball-Women/spsu_wbball_schedule05.htm). You can check there for updates and for results from past games.

## Student Question

# What is the secret ingredient in ABL's food?

"I don't have a quarrel with the food, but if I ever got in a fight with it, it would kick my ass." --

**Jonathan Causey**



"Carcass of a possum scooped off of South Marietta Parkway." -- **Barry Hinton**

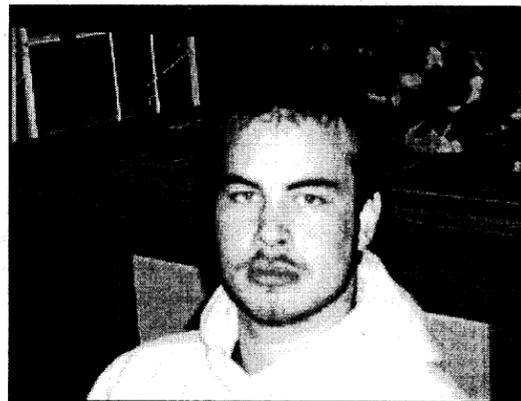


"Grease." -- **CJ Lakes**



"Ketchup." -- **John Rice**

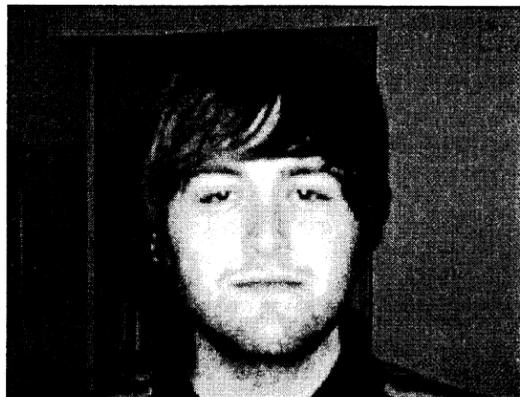
"Cinnamon and cayenne pepper." -- **Luke Mateen**



"Semen." -- **John Powell**



"Lots of butter." -- **David Wojcik**



"Tender lovin' care." -- **Bailey Humphries**


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