QUICK: **OPINION**

So far, Ambling has failed to impress. Read Gambit's...Imean, Remy Lebeaux's reasons for saying this (pg 2).



How could you hate this face? Well, F.F. Thought sure does and would be much happier never to see it again (pg 2).

QUICK FEATURES



Alliteration, hoy! Frenzied fat freak, fanatical food finder tells you everything you need to know about Sweet Tomatoes (pg 3)



For some odd reason we're going to assume you've never heard of World of Warcraft. So here's everything you need to know (pg 5).



The ISA took a nice little trip down to Rock Eagle recently. Read all about it, thanks to A.L. Johnson (pg 5).

The consensus editorial covers oh-so-many issues. The Sting went to the GCPA, Student Questions are quite the silly fiasco, and we could really use your help improving the paper (pg 8).

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We didn't do the news this week

Sting Staff Lazy folk

Editor's note: Please check out The Bu, Episode 8, for the tune of "We didn't do the news this week" and to also see where we stole the song from. You can find it at www.thelonelyisland.com. If you don't, this won't make much sense. Watch all of The 'Bu while you're at it. We had to drop the "Take it Sarah" part because it wouldn't translate well on paper.

We didn't do the news this week, We didn't do the news, *clap clap* We didn't do the news this week. Because we're better than you's.

Big CJ here, I'm the editor I get stuck doing all the layout But if you hate The Sting then You could come...write.

We didn't do the news this week, We didn't do the news, *clap clap* We tried really hard to organize, But no one could come through.

My name's Chris and I wrote a cap-

It takes a lot to get me in action Everyone knows I love a good wrap So if you have a wrap, come roll with

SYLT, MOTHER***** YEAH, I WRITE **** FOR THE MOTHER***** STING AND I'LLEAT YOUR **** KILL YOUR CHILDREN AND YOUR ****** WIFE RUN YOU INTO A CURB THENRAPE YOU WITH MY KNIFE

stunned silence

We didn't do the news this week, We didn't do the news *clap clap* We don't get paid nearly enough So we'll use that as our excuse.

I'm Little CJ I work for the Parking Office My job is to write tickets But I do more than that! Ha! Sometimes I just sit around And play solitaire As long as I pretend to work I'll do OK.

Sometimes I want to cry Waking up for class before noon I definitely wouldn't have joined If I knew Syl had a gun One day I will graduate And get out of this place I have no time no puzzle here

We didn't do the news this week We didn't do the news *clap clap* You can try to judge us But we didn't get any news from

We didn't do the news this week We didn't do the newwwwwws.

\$100 cheeseburger confuses Maconites

Syl Turner Staff Writer

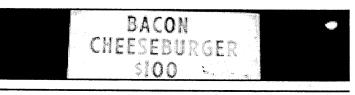
MACON - According to the Burger King sign on Riverside Drive in Macon, bacon cheeseburgers are now \$100.

Local residents are shocked that the prices of bacon cheeseburgers have risen so drastically in the past few weeks. "Last time I went in there, I got a Whopper with fries and a Fanta for only five bucks," says Maconite Heather Giroux. "I can't imagine paying \$100 for just one bacon cheeseburger, unless it's made of gold Kobe beef or something like that."

Pseudo-Economist CJ Shiflett claims the high price of bacon cheeseburgers is due to the inflating American dollar. "The dollar is currently at the worst exchange rate with the Euro since the Euro has existed. Are people really wondering why bacon cheeseburgers are costing us a hundred dollars these days?" Shiflett asked.

The manager of the local Burger King was unavailable for comment.

"I'll wait for someone else to buy one ... see if they like it. If they do, maybe I'll get one," Giroux commented. Giroux has not purchased the bacon cheeseburger yet.



What we learned at GCPA

Sting Staff

The size might surprise you

- All woodies are fun
- Cheeseburgers in Macon are \$100 - The plural of syllabus is syllabuses (seriously)
- The Technique is our rival
- The Sentinel is our ally
- "The Lonely Island" is awesome
- If you record yourself having sex, keep the tape
- There are no working ice machines

on the 13th or 14th floor

- Drive-thru liquor stores are not efficient
- You can't go to the bathroom and sleep at the same time - Zaxby's orders go in a stack, not a
- Pancake scramblers? Krystal's got
- Don't forget you left your jacket
- in the closet - It's spelled "pooh-pooh"
- The Sting sucks

Pining for residence life

Remy Lebeaux Staff Writer

For those of you that don't know, the University Courtyard and Commons are under completely new management. Residence Life, the previous "company" that owned and operated the units is gone, replaced by Ambling whom everyone hoped would be better. This new company couldn't POSSIBLY be any worse than Residence Life, could it? Yes. Oh, a thousand times yes. When Residence Life was in charge, there's no possible way anyone could have foreshadowed the doom and dread that their replacements would bring. After just ONE encounter, ONE, I am fully convinced that the Commons and Courtyard are headed down a spiral of doom and depression that nothing outside of the Second Coming could remedy.

I came to this conclusion after visiting the Housing office two days previous to writing this article. One would assume that something as simple as going to pay for rent would be a quick and painless task, but such is not the case with Ambling. Upon arriving, I noticed two patrons, one a former classmate and

one my lab partner in Physics quaking with mild anger in the lobby. The reason? There was no method to accept credit card payments, meaning you had no choice but to pay with a money order or check (paying with cash is no longer an option as they don't know how to count). This was an infuriating setback that I was willing to work with the department on, (they're new after all, bugs have to be worked out right?) and they eventually did agree to take my credit card number.

This is where the first problems arose, the same problems that prompted me to write this piece. First of all, Ambling's method of taking your credit card number (as of this writing) is to write down your number on an open sheet of paper with all of your personal information on it and leave said sheet of paper in plain sight of every patron and employee in the department! So, by all means, if you'd like to rob me walk on down to the Housing department and grab my number, I'm sure they won't stop you.

Second, for reasons beyond my understanding, Ambling has felt the need to charge TEN DOLLARS PER CREDIT CARD TRANSAC-TION! No one, NO ONE, has to charge that amount of money for a credit card service unless, of course, they're losing money fast on underpopulated apartments run by personified incompetence. For those of you keeping score, this means that people living in the University Courtyard and Commons that pay with a credit card have three options: drive to a bank and purchase a cashier's check for five or six dollars, withdraw money from your account and pick up a money order, or pay the extra ten dollars per month for rent (bringing your monthly rent to \$485 a month plus utilities for the Courtyard). Oh, and did I forget to mention that rent is GOING UP with the next leasing period?

Do I miss Residence Life now? I'm sad to say that I actually do, as this new company doesn't seem like they'll be happy until every single student living in the apartments on campus is broke and penniless. If you're as unsatisfied with the conditions as I am, I implore you to complain to the person in charge: Jennifer Matney. If enough people complain, we may actually convince them to, at the very least, not price gouge us on the transaction fee.

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

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Bob needs to go away

F.F. Thought Staff Writer

I am going to assume that by this time you have seen the many commercials for Enzyte, the pills for "Natural Male Enhancement". I am sure you have heard all their wonderful puns which lead one to conclude that natural male enhancement means a larger penis. Apparently somewhere along the line the makers of Enzyte discovered that a man's confidence is directly proportional to the size of his penis, and so in order to make sure every man is as confident as possible they created a penis enhancing pill.

So the makers of Enzyte decided to market their confidence/penis enhancing pill with a character named Bob. Bob is a man with a stupid grin permanently etched onto his head and a dress code from the 1950's. Poor Bob had serious confidence problems and so he called Enzyte and got a big penis causing his confidence to shoot through the roof.

So what can the rest of us learn from all this? Well apparently going through the progression of the com-

mercials your golf game improves. You all of a sudden develop skills that would put Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicholas, Lee Travino, and Tiger Woods all to shame. Must be some sort of counter balance to your swing. When you jump into your swimming pool during a block party (do people still do that or is this only because Bob is stuck in the 50's?) your swimming trunks are going to be coming off. Not to worry though because when you get out of the pool there will be no embarrassment. Instead everyone is just going to stare in amazement except your wife. She will just smile because apparently you're taking Enzyte causes her to constantly smile and serve vou drinks.

But Enzyte isn't done yet! Oh no, Enzyte also gives you the ability to negotiate with the Japanese without ever talking. All you have to do is just stare at them from across a table with that trademark stupid grin and they will give you five million (we assume dollars). Oh and if you happen to be the office Santa come the holidays all the women are going to want to sit in your lap. Apparently Enzyte causes

sexual harassment to disappear in offices everywhere. Powerful stuff.

If you haven't figured it out by now I am sick of the Enzyte commercials. Their tongue-in-cheek hu-

now I am sick of the Enzyte commercials. Their tongue-in-cheek humor is sick at best and bordering on offensive. Beyond that the entire premise that the confidence of any man is directly related to the size of his penis is ridiculous. If you honestly believe that your lack of confidence has to do with your penis being small then at this time I am ordering you to roll up this newspaper and beat yourself with it until your attitude changes. I know you will follow through because you lack confidence and so are going to do as you are told.

For everyone else that has a room temperature or better IQ I am glad to see that I am not the only one that understands that confidence does not come from within the pants, but from within the mind. Oh and if you happen to be walking around this campus and see someone hitting themselves with a rolled up newspaper feel free to help them get over their penis related confidence issues.

The Machine

Dave Bachtel Staff Writer

The message starts now. The people must be informed that the machine causes many more problems than it solves. Anyone who is alive today and lives in a country that starts with a U and ends in an SA should see this fact as readily apparent. Don't take my word for it. Ask the machine. How can the man behind the curtain not know

that he is not controlling the machine except under the rare circumstance where it allows itself to be controlled?

And yes, it is like a man. Don't argue with me. The machine can hail a cab or order a pizza. The machine kauses the deaths of thousands of innocent animals everyday while the human race averts its eves in shame.

But on the flipside, the machine saves thousands of lives everyday

in the form of hospitals, public transportation and renewable energy sources. The machine (under many circumstances) can (and often does) benefit a society.

Remember, sometimes things are NOT always as they seem. The machine may never disappear within our lifetimes. The sad thing is most people truly won't appreciate it until long after it's gone. Personally, I hope it does.

Battle of the bands

A.L. Johnson Staff Writer

On January 30, 2005, thousands of alumni and fans cheered for their school in the 2005 Honda Battle of the Bands Showcase. What started fifteen years ago as a showcase for all talent in Historically Black Colleges and Universities, has turned into one of the most anticipated performances for bands in the HBCU. According Hbcuconnect.com, each year, ten bands are invited to perform according to their musicianship and showmanship, and are presented with over \$140,000 in grants for their band and school, not to mention bragging rights for an entire year. This year, the lineup included:

- Alabama A&M University
- Bethune-Cookman College
- Clark Atlanta University
- Florida A&M University
- Langston University
- North Carolina Central Uni-

versity

- Prairie View A&M University

- Savannah State University
- Tuskegee University
- Virginia State

Courtesy of www.h

Each band did renditions of popular hip-hop songs that included Ciara's One, Two Step, Ludacris's Get Back, and the second Usher, Li'l John and Ludacris collaboration Lovers and Friends. Also performed were old school Marvin Gaye, Al Jarreau and Cameo classics.

Tickets were a very affordable \$10 for general admission to the Georgia Dome. The show went on for two and a half hours, beginning and ending with fireworks. Each band went on the field with style, purpose, and pride.

Florida A&M University, who is also invited to perform at this year's Super Bowl, was the last school to perform. They set precedence for next year's lucky ten. We look forward to their return.

Board in Marietta

Remy Lebeaux Staff Writer

This is the first of what I hope will be several articles that appear in this newspaper chronicling a series of fun events and things to do in the sometimes boring Marietta area. Before I even begin, I'm hoping you noticed the peculiar use of the word "board" instead of "bored." Well, this was done in an attempt to be clever, and all though it is NOT clever in the least, I do hope the "grammatical error" at least caught your attention enough to peruse this article. If you didn't notice the grammatical error, then you may fall back on the assumption that somewhere in this city there exists a piece of wood thereby making this article title correct.

For the musically inclined:

Do you like music? Of course you do, that's why you should go check out last year's Battle of the Bands winner Mark of the Least in concert at Sidelines Bar and Grill on Roswell road in Marietta (down past There is no cover charge and you can pick up food and spirits during the show, both of which are reasonably priced. The shows start at 9:45PM and are (currently) scheduled for every Friday night with the next show occurring on February the 11th. For more information, the mailing list, and song samples, visit www.markoftheleast.com

For the comically inclined:

Need a good laugh, but don't want to mock your roommate about her mullet anymore? Then you should visit the Funny Farm Comedy club in Roswell Georgia. Located at 608 Holcomb Bridge Road in Roswell, this little club hosts such comedy heavyweights as Mark Curry (returning March 3-5th), Christopher Titus (February 17th-19th), and Ralphie May (of NBC's Last Comic Standing fame). Ticket prices will run you about \$14, and they serve alcohol on-site so you HAVE to be 21 to enter. However, this comedy club is nestled safely inside of a really nice arcade (show off your

the Big Chicken, near Pizza hut). DDR skills!), so you can drop the underclassmen off and go watch yourself a show. For more information, directions, and a calendar visit: www.funnyfarmcomedyclub.com/

For the literarily inclined:

Sure everyone can go to Waldenbooks or Barnes & Nobles and pay your left kidney, pancreas, and liver for a used copy of William Least-Heat Moon's Blue Highways, but you could also drive down past the Big Chicken on Roswell Road and visit Book Nook. This little book store houses hundreds of new and used books, comics, DVDs and CDs all for a very low price (usually 60% of the cover price) and if you've kept your used books in good condition they'll accept tradeins. When you go, tell them I sent you and they'll give you funny look.

Got something you want to see on this list? Visit the Sting forum at forum.thesting.org or e-mail me by clicking on my staff page at www.thesting.org.

Frenzied Fat Freak Fanatical food finder

Remy Lebeaux Staff Writer

Continuing in the grand tradition of this fine periodical, I am here to present to you, the finest places to dine in and around the Marietta area. This article has highlighted such fine establishments as China Kitchen and Jade Palace, and I now

pletely different and equally enjoyable dining experience. If you've got suggestions or just want to complain, I invite you all to visit myself and the other members of the Sting staff on the Campus Forum at forum.thesting.org.

The Place: Sweet Tomatoes [Kennesaw]

The Location: 1125 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW (Right in front of Babies 'R' Us, pick yourself up a couple of babies after dining).

I really like your tomatoes, I want

to pick your vine.

The Price: As of this writing, the buffet will run you \$7.39 plus tax, and your beverage (trust me, you want the strawberry lemonade!!!) will run you \$1.69 with re-

The Hours: Sunday - Thursday: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday & Saturday: 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. (pulled from Sweet Tomatoes website)

Corrections

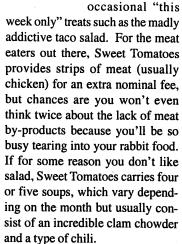
In the January 26th issue of The Sting, the article "Internet Toxic Wastedump: Forums" was credited incorrectly. It should have been credited to Syl Turner, not A.L.

Also, the article titled "Gamma Phi Delta" should have been titled "Gamma Phi Beta."

The Service: This place is set up semi-buffet/cafeteria style. All of your food is on the buffet line, and your beverages are readily available in the middle of the restaurant. However, you do have a waiter/waitress who will fill your cup and bring you bread or pastries if you've eaten too much to move.

The Food: As the name of the switch tracks to bring you a com- eatery implies, you are at the wrong

> place if you're looking to get a 36 oz. steak. Sweet Tomatoes is a soup and salad buffet for those of us that like salad and don't mind eating a gallon of clam chowder. Typically, the buffet line will include the basic lettuce/salad styles: Caesar, garden, spinach, and the



The Verdict: On a scale of 1-10, "1" being a deer that got hit by a dirty gasoline truck and "10" being food prepared by Mr. Lagasse himself, this place rates an 8.

Bottom Line: Great food if you don't need a lot of variation, meateaters need not apply, uber-eaters also need not apply, sort of expensive for what you get.

Symply

Heather Giroux Senior Staff Writer

Symply Reec is the debut album of Gordon (Reec) Swiney, #42 on our very own SPSU Basketball team. The album contains eighteen tracks including four skits. The CD as a whole is a valiant effort for a first timer. Most of the songs are a little generic, but there are a couple nuggets of gold to find.

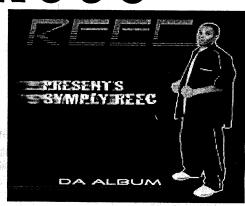
The single, Pray 4 Us is slow and soulful, dealing with heavier material than most of the album, namely "the struggle." I also enjoyed Shine and North 2 South. Shine isn't that special of a song, but the addition of a woman exclaiming "Say what?" in the background gave it that little something extra. North 2 South contains a lot of high-hat and features speed rapping which is a pleasant change from the rest of the album. The excellent line of this song is "Every shirt got a coochie stain"; my friends and I have adopted it as a greeting for special occasions.

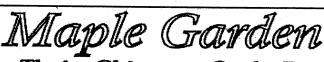
My favorite song is definitely Rendezvous. Reec has a flow in this one, possibly some influences from Kanye West, and the off beats really push the song along.

There are, of course, some songs that aren't that great in my opinion. The ones that stick out in my mind are Still 2 Deep and Guitar Damage. Still 2 Deep has a Sublime feel to it which was pretty cool, but the flow seemed to try too hard to match the irregular beats and ultimately took away from the song as a whole. Guitar Damage is a very appropriate title considering there is a lot of heavy guitar that doesn't seem to mesh well at all. There is also a repeated line of Reec being "the hottest live act around"; a little too blatantly Jay-Z for me.

All in all, I'd say that Symply

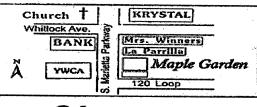
Reec is pretty good for a debut album. There are a couple misses, but the hits make up for it. Plus, what CD doesn't have a couple of bad songs strewn throughout? I'd definitely recommend picking this one up.





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Internet Toxic Wastedump Blogs

Syl Turner Staff Writer

The biggest and most annoying rage of the World Wide Web these days are weblogs, or "blogs" for short. Blogs are used by nearly everyone who thinks they have something of importance to say. Blogs were used extensively last year on the presidential campaign trail and somehow passed off as news items. At the national conventions, both parties had blogs on their websites. Time Magazine's "Person of the Year" issue even included a "Blog of the Year" award. With all the publicity surrounding blogs these days, you might think they are valuable assets to the World Wide Web. Unfortunately, you are

There are three types of blogs: political, personal, and other.

Political blogs are used by people who are very passionate about what they believe, and decide the whole world must know about it. Political blogs are similar to political forums; they are both breeding grounds for illogical, blind partisanship. Blogs give a new aspect to political debates online: no debating necessary. Fans of the political blog are generally friends of the blogger and have similar political views (and presumably blogs of their own). When a fan leaves a comment on the political blog, it's usually a statement like, "You're so right," or "Republicans/Democrats are evil. You're right!" They'll usually throw in a picture of a donkey and elephant fighting or of Mr. Peanut. When a comment is disagreeing with the post, it is ignored. Political blogs are not going to change anyone's mind, especially if they already have their minds set. However, political bloggers think they can change the world...

Personal blogs are used by people who feel that transcribing every unimportant, mundane detail in their life is interesting to everyone else in the world. Nobody cares that you bought two pounds of fish today! Nobody cares about your secret crush that you've now shared with everyone! Nobody cares about your shitty poetry! If your daily life is really that interesting, write a book! Otherwise, just keep your personal information to yourself, maybe in a personal journal...

The "Other" category mostly applies to bloggers who rarely use their blog. The only reason the blog was started was because their friend said, "Oh man, you gotta get on this bloggin' thing." The blogger will use the blog extensively for less than a week, and then each post date gets further and further apart. Eventually, the blog is only used to post the results of silly online quizzes like "Which Fruit of the Loom fruit are you?" or "Which character from some obscure television drama are you?" The results are usually "You are the Green Grapes because you taste good," or "You are Kelli, the super-spy who likes to do whatever it takes to win a game of chess."

Even though blogs have been around for many years now, they have recently picked up some momentum. The blog movement is, sadly, continuing to grow. The only way the movement will stop is when people begin to realize what blogs really are: Internet toxic waste dumps.

An entertaining read

Ross Cutts Staff Writer

Greetings from the Sting's newest column, "An entertaining read." Every issue I will be presenting some sort of interesting question, and over the course of the column successfully or unsuccessfully trying to answer it. So for the first issue I'm looking into one of the most asked questions on Earth. Just what would happen if every man, woman, and child in China jumped at exactly the same moment? Would the Earth be thrown off its axis, would time stop, would SPSU have a female population? Well let's start this problem by looking at the basics facts given to us by Newton: "For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction."

So we could break it down like this:

When the Chinese jump up, they push the Earth down. The Earth then springs back up (being drawn by the gravitational mass of 1.26 billion Chinese). At the same time the Chinese people are beginning to fall back down to Earth (Being drawn by the gravity of the Earth). So in the end, the Chinese people and Earth meet in the middle and through this action and reaction, the energy is canceled out.

However with a slight realistic modification we can get past this pesky canceling out fact by imagining that a giant UFO materialized the entire Chinese population just 2 feet above the ground (thus they did not need to push off the Earth).

Lets start the problem... What we know: China's population: 1.26 billion
Average human's weight: 160

Speed of gravity: 10m/s2 (I rounded up to make the calculations easier)
Height of the drop: 2 feet

Mass of our earth: 6 sextillion, 588 quintillion tons

Kinetic Energy (Joules): .5(mass * speed2)

Start solving

Kinetic Energy = .5(mass * speed2) Mass would equal China's population count 1.26 billion multiplied by 160 pounds

 $mass = \ 201,600,000,000,000 \ or \\ 210.6 \ billion \ pounds \ or \ 100.8 \ million \\ tons$

The speed would equal 10 m/s (they don't fall for longer then a second) speed = 10m/s

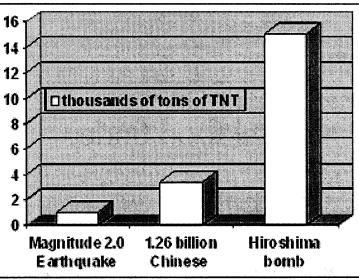
.5(100.8 million * 100)=10,080,000,000,000 or 10.08 trillion Joules

1 ton of TNT = 2,977,789,639.02084 joules.
So 10.08 trillion Joules divided by 2,977,789,639 = 3,385 tons of TNT

2,977,789,639 = 3,385 tons of TNT
What does it all mean?

So, this means that the resulting thud of the 1.26 billion Chinese people would be equivalent to 3,385 tons of TNT. Not too bad, but not even close to the amount needed to affect the Earth's orbit, or to get more females to attend SPSU.

Just as a disclaimer please do not be offended if my calculations are incorrect (as they most likely are). I do not work for NASA, this column is meant to be a humorous look into random questions and curiosities. Next time I'll be looking into how to visualize a hypercube and giving out a chance to win some prizes (i.e. having your name published in this fine newspaper). If you have a question you would like me to fumble my way through please send them to a.entertaining.read@gmail.com.



See? A graph? That makes it official!

The Histories that Matter

Because the editor is

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What did Tom ever do?

CJ Shrader Editor-in-Chief

dumb, this didn't get printed last issue like it should have. So welcome back to another semester at SPSU. And welcome back to me for another semester of Histories that Matters. This History is a shout out to Tom. Not Tom Selleck. Nor Tom Thumb. Not even Tom Tomson, whom I just made up. This is all about the Tom that has been immortalized in terms like peeping Tom, tomfoolery, and the tomboy. Special thanks to Heather Giroux who first presented this topic for the Histories that Matter.

Peeping Tom

First, let's start with a little legend about a woman named Lady Godiva. Her husband, Leofric III, had recently increased taxes to the people of

Coventry, England. In protest, legend states that Lady Godiva rode through the streets of Coventry naked as a boy in Michael Jackson's house with only her long hair to cover her.

Before Lady Godiva went through the streets, however, she asked all of the citizens of Coventry to close their shutters and doors so they couldn't see her in the nude.

I know what you're thinking. "I'm so smart and I bet that Peeping Tom was some guy named Tom that was probably looking when he shouldn't have been. And he was probably a tailor. And he probably was struck blind." Well...you'd be right. Kinda.

Although that is the legend today, the part of Tom in the legend was probably added by a man named William Camden in 1659. On a trip to Coventry, Camden was shown a statue of a man staring blankly off into space. Probably as a joke, Camden was told that this statue represented Tom after being struck blind. I guess Camden took this as truth and propagated this new story as the legend.

Tomfoolery

This article is just a bunch of tomfoolery. Ha. Ha. Ha.

In any case, Tomfoolery is from 14th century England. During that time, "Tom Fool" was a slang term used to describe crazy people.

Why Tom? Because, at the time, Tom was a pretty typical male name used in various derogatory terms like, but not limited to, "Tom Pepper," which meant being a liar.

49 KG

Naturally, the phrase "Tom Fool" eventually began to mean "a fool." After that, a person who was acting like a "Tom Fool" was said to be participating in the act of tomfoolery.

Tombov

The question, of course, is why does tomboy, two words which both represent a man (see above for the expression of Tom), refer to a girl? In the beginning, it didn't. Originally, tomboy was just a word for a rude boy.

For yet unknown reasons, the word changed in 1579 to mean a bold or immodest woman. In 1592, tomboy began to mean any girl who acted like the original definition of tomboy: a rude, spirited boy.

So that's it for that. Ever got a question you'd like to see in the Histories? Just send it my way at rshrader@spsu.edu. I'll do my best to answer it.

P.S. – Still curious as to what Tom did do to be immortalized in all those words up there? He eviscerated a pregnant grandmother and used her intestines to strangle the unborn fetus. Have a good day!

World of Warcraft isn't FDA approved

Remy Lebeaux Staff Writer

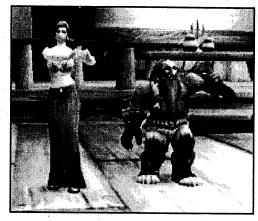
Early in this week, I approached the Sting's Editor-in-Chief about doing a review on World of Warcraft. He mentioned that the game was too old for a review, but that doing an article about the game and my experiences in said game would be just dandy. So, I sat down that night and played the game, thinking I'd get some great ideas for a story and that I'd write the article that night. At about four in the morning, I realized I hadn't blinked for about six hours and that my entire southern hemisphere was numb. The next day was the same, as was the next and soon I realized the deadline was eight minutes ago and that I had about negative eight minutes to submit this ar-

The game is THAT addictive. It's far more potent than any drug an addict could consume, and far more accessible than any boring TV show a couch potato could view. So why am I about to attempt to convince you all to go out and purchase the game? Because I'm evil, that's why, and because if I have to be this addicted to a game then I want all of you to be addicted as well (misery loves company and addiction loves ...uh...company too). Since I'm eager to get back to the game, I've set up this article in easy to digest chunks for easy pe-

What is it? World of Warcraft is a Massively Multiplayer Online takes place in the land of Azeroth. While the game is based on charac-

ters from the Warcraft series of PC games, no previous experience in the games is necessary as a newbie (like myself) can pick up this game and play.

How does it work? After you've installed the game and set up your



\$15 dollars a month to do the Macarena? What an awesome game!

account, you'll try to find a place to play the game. These places, called servers, are all given names (they're all listed as "realms") and if you desire to play with friends you need to find out which server they're on before you chose one. Once you've joined a server, you can chose to be either Alliance or Horde (once you've chosen one, you can't go to the other side on that server unless you delete existing characters on that particular server/realm) next you can pick a race (such as dwarf, human, troll or night elf) and a class (such as warrior, mage or priest).

How much do I have to pay? Role Playing Game (MMORPG) that Nothing in life is free right? Well, except maybe the flu and batteries, but nothing else in life is free. If you manage to find this game on store shelves, you'll be plunking down \$50 for the normal edition and \$70 for the collector's edition. You'll get one month of play-time to determine whether or not you really like the game, and after that time

period your subscription fee begins. You'll dish out \$15 a month to play if you pay-per-month, or you can get that fee knocked down a few dollars if you pay for several months in advance. To subscribe to the game, you'll either need a credit card OR a 60 day playcard which can be purchased almost anywhere that sells PC games. Even though you're given

a month's evaluation time, you still must enter either a credit card number or a playcard number when you initially install the game.

So, what's all the hubbub? I'm glad you asked. Seriously I am, 'cause if you hadn't then this article would be really short. This game is designed by Blizzard, the happy people that brought us Warcraft, Starcraft, and the Diablo series. That means they know gaming and are familiar with online gaming practices. World of Warcraft manages to somehow be simplistic enough for MMORPG newcomers, like myself, to jump in and acclimate themselves while hardened gamers can jump in and gain experience quickly. Speaking of experience, the level gaining in this game is far more rewarding than just about any other MMORPG one could think of. Rather than spending countless hours fighting Nameless Dragondude, you perform quests for people that may be something as simple as killing a few really angry beasts to more difficult tasks like taking on a heavily armed battalion to fight the "boss." If you WANT to go and fight Nameless Dragondude over and over until you gain experience, then you're welcome to as the game is open-ended

enough to allow you to eschew its trappings and adventure as you please.

Those of you that have a serious urge to slap the oil out of the face of your friends will be pleased to know that the player-vs.-player (PvP) in World of Warcraft is easy to get used to, but hard to master (with some glaring balance issues between the classes). In some games, fighting other players can be undesirable since it can result in the loss of your hard-earned money or even GEAR! However, WoW allows you to duel other players, with the match ending when one of the players gets down to almost no en-

What's bad about it? First of all, the price. Think about it, you're paying fifty dollars for the game, then (if you don't buy months in bulk) you're paying another 15 bucks for the next 11 months. That's \$215 for a year's worth of playing just one game. That's a SERIOUS amount of money if you stop and think about it for too long. My advice? Don't think about it, it'll make you sad and then you'll get depressed and devour an entire sheet

The sheer demand for this game has also caused serious server load problems. Forum-based news website Slashdot provided a link recently that had an interview in which Blizzard openly admitted the servers in place couldn't support the loads they were being confronted with. The result? Serious, mind-boggling, face-to-keyboard slamming latency issues (lag) at

Finally, some set up decisions and balance issues are prevalent. First of all, most of the realms I've made characters on are PvP realms. If you enter a contested territory or, even worse, enemy territory, you're fair pickings for a level 7 billion cowdemon thingy or dwarf sword-guy to put a hurting on you. Also, as of this writing, some of the classes (*ahem* rogues) are fairly potent and can make short work of other classes (like peace-loving warriors).

In the end? Failings aside, this is a tremendously fun and addictive game that everyone should try. You'll need a computer with a decent amount of RAM to run the game (768MB should be more than enough, but I play with 512MB because I'm broke) and you can forget about feeding the dog/baby or playing any other game. This game can consume you, and you'll enjoy every second of said consumption whether you're looking to become a level 60 human paladin or a level 14 troll mage/fisherman.

Parting shot: If you're just getting into the game, and looking for people to play with, you can start with SPSU's very own Sting forum at forum.thesting.org. About half of its participants play the game actively and are more than willing to assist you.

Editor's note: This is totally a review!



WoW! Nothing is more fun than mounting a goat.

The 'Bu Review

Syl Turner Staff Writer

The Lonely Island webpage: www.thelonelyisland.com Channel 101 webpage: www.channel101.com

Watch out The OC, there's a new teen drama taking the World Wide Web by storm. The 'Bu is a teen drama parody by the clever boys from The Lonely Island. Produced for the monthly online short film contest "Channel 101," The 'Bu takes ridiculous television dramas to the limit.

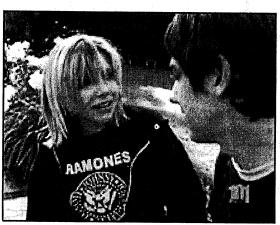
The 'Bu takes place in Malibu, where rich, beautiful adolescents deal with the serious issues of our time, such as underage drinking and prejudice towards ninjas. The main

character, Brett (Jorma Taccone), loves Melissa (sometimes played by Scrubs's Sarah Chalke, other times by Chester Tam, and one time by a puppet), while Aaron (Andy Samberg) comes back to The 'Bu to get back with Melissa. Meanwhile, on the other side of The 'Bu, mob boss Red Stanton, who's responsible for killing Brett's brother, wants Brett out of The 'Bu, dead or alive. Red uses his son, Craig, to do the dirty work.

The story gets progressively more convoluted throughout eight episodes, each about five minutes

The 'Bu is able to parody nearly every teen drama of the past 10 years in less than 40 minutes. Every aspect of the show is superb and exactly like a teen drama. The

> acting is outstandingly bad. The dialog is absurd. The entire storyline is so unbelievable it's believable. You won't look at television dramas the same way again! Hoobastank!



It's the girl from Scrubs! On the internet!

The Lunar New Year

Heather Giroux Senior Staff Writer

Though it is usually referred to as the Chinese New Year most oriental countries follow the Lunar Calendar. This calendar dates back to 2600BC when the first cycle of the zodiac was introduced. A complete year is nearly the same as the Western Calendar, but the beginning of the year is determined by the cycles of the moon which is why the date of the new year changes.

This year is the Year of the Rooster which begins on Wednesday, February 9th. It is said that if you are born the sign of the rooster you are hard-working and not afraid to speak your mind. There are some famous people born under this sign including Yoko Ono, Eric Clapton, and myself. There are eleven other

diac: the dog, boar, rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, and monkey. Much like the astrological zodiac, each animal possesses different characteristics that can be found in the person born of that year and each type of animal holds a certain amount of compatibility with

There is a lot of tradition and superstition connected to the Lunar New Year. In the Western World, people make New Year's Resolutions to try and better themselves and their life as a whole. The following Lunar New Year traditions are not entirely different. Your house should be completely cleaned before New Year's Day; there must not be any cleaning on New Year's Day for fear of sweeping good fortune out. All debts

animals that make up the lunar zo- should be paid off and you should not lend anything on New Year's Day. The superstition is basically whatever you do on New Year's Day will follow you the rest of the year. Therefore, if you are still in debt on that day you will be in debt for the rest of the year. My mom even took the day off so as not to be cursed with always working too hard the rest of the year. Children especially like New Year's, not only because of the fireworks but also the tradition of lai see (pronounced lee see). Adults give children a little red envelope with crisp new dollar bills inside for good fortune.

> Hopefully this article has shed some light on one of my favorite times of year. Yeah, it's cool to get Chinese food on "Chinese New Year", but there's so much more to it than that. Happy New Year!

SGA happenings this week

CJ Shiflett Staff Writer

The Student Government Association rejected a plan at its February 1st meeting that would have brought a major concert to Southern Polytechnic during the 2005 Spring semester. The Budget and Finance Committee recommended \$40,000 to fund the concert. The funding request was denied by a majority vote of the Student Council. In response, a motion was made to reconsider the concert at a reduced funding level of \$35,000 and a concession that the concert could be held during a later semester. The request was put before a majority vote and again denied. The concert would have boasted an as-yet-undecided hip-hop artist as well as at least one unannounced cover band. The concert's promoter recommended that the entire idea be scrapped, citing a lack of commitment on the part of the SGA Council and Executive

The India Club requested \$400 to host movie night events. The India Club intends to host at least 2 movies per semester. The Budget and Finance Committee recommended reducing the amount by 50%, citing the amount of time left in the semester and the activity of the organization as reasons for the reduction. The request was put to a majority vote and the India Club was awarded \$200 to host movie night events.

The fraternity Phi Psi requested \$3000 to help with an annual conference being held at Southern Polytechnic this year. The school will be host to six chapters of the Phi Psi fraternity during the conference, with an expected turnout of 70 members. The requested \$3000 was reduced to \$1750 at the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee. The requested funds were put to a majority vote before the SGA and approved.

Karl Stabler, director of the Recreational Sports and Athletics Department, asked if the SGA would assist the student body by purchasing 100 tickets for this year's Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) basketball championship series. The series will be hosted at Southern Polytechnic and SPSU's Running Hornets will be participating in the tournament. The tickets would cost the SGA \$3 each, for a total cost of \$300, and would be provided to the student body free of charge. The Student Council approved purchase by a majority vote, with the option to purchase more

tickets if demand is sufficient. The recently formed PolyUnix Club personally requested a budget from the SGA to get their organization started. The PolyUnix Club was awarded the standard starting allocation of \$450 and informed that any additional monetary requests should go through the Budget and Finance Committee.

In a previous session, the Student Government Association allocated \$500 for an annual Engineer's Week luncheon. Upon further review of the luncheon's financial situation, the Budget and Finance Committee requested an additional \$326 to help cover the luncheon. The recommendation was based on the previous SGA's allocation of \$1000 for a previous Engineer's Week luncheon. The recommendation was approved by the Student Council by a majority vote.

The SGA also revisited last meeting's decision to not fund the Soccer Club. Additional inquires revealed that the Soccer Club had engaged in vigorous funding raising efforts and did pay dues, a fact unknown to the council at the last meeting. In response to the show of good faith made by the Soccer Club, \$1950 was recommended to assist with the cost of conferences and tournaments and awarded by a majority vote.

Homecoming Candidates

King candidates

Name - Nominated By

Brian Love - Sigma Pi Marvin Broaddus - SGA William Saddler - Alpha Phi Al-

Cecil Ware - Norton Syl Turner - The Sting

Queen candidates

Name - Nominated By

Heather Giroux - The Sting Rella Stresing - Women's Basketball

Sarah Gallina - Norton

Erica Appleby - IEEE Lauren Shepard - Alpha Xi Delta

Cristina Wilson - The Log



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Library discount blowout!

Remy Lebeaux Staff Writer

The SPSU library (now with copiers!) holds a book sale once a year and this year's sale is sneaking up on you like a well-oiled trout on a cold winter's night. This book sale takes place in the Student Center near the campus bookstore and features hundreds of old textbooks, paperback novels, hardback novels, periodicals, and any number of other

naterials that are just begging to

All of the books are donations that come from faculty, staff, and any generous people that are looking to make space in their house and all of the items cost a maximum of one dollar (that's usually just for hardback books). The books that are donated by the faculty can prove to be incredibly valuable, as I actually found my current textbook at last year's sale and got said book for only a dollar. Come early, come

must go! Nothing more than \$1! often, and don't be afraid to spend your entire paycheck finishing off

> your Judy Blume collection. The Date: Monday, February 28th and Tuesday March 1st.

The Place: Right next to the SPSU bookstore (you know, where you lost all of your money).

The Prices: Hardback books are while paperback books are usually 50 cents.

Announcing the T-0 Lommons

A.L. Johnson Staff Writer

Now there is a group on campus for students, alumni, faculty and professionals to network for the purpose of supporting technical communications - whether they are directly related to the field or not.

Southern Polytechnic State University's Technical Communication Program Alumni Advisory Board (TCOM AAB) is referred to as the T-Commons Community by those who are too busy to say the official name. The purpose of this organization is to provide a "common ground" environment for those who have an interest in the field of technical communications. T-Commons is the offspring of a group formed years ago for a similar purpose. The focus of that organization was to help keep those in the field abreast of current events that might affect them.

The president is David Batley, the communications chair is Steve Knapp and the faculty advisor is Dr. Carol Barnum. So far, this community has the support of many students, current and former, and faculty.

Anyone who is interested in joining or learning more about T-Commons may log onto htc.spsu.edu/tcommons for more information. It is a temporary site, and the permanent more elaborate site will be available in a few months. There is no launch date as of yet.

Anyone who is interested in serving on the advisory board should contact Dr. Carol Barnum at cbarnum@spsu.edu.

Adventures in Rock Eagle with the ISA

A.L. Johnson Staff Writer

Some people seem to think that nothing interesting ever happens at SPSU. Well, after the Leadership Conference last weekend, I am sure there are those that would beg to differ. Omar, of the Inter-

national Students Association (ISA), remembered how fun it was last year and couldn't wait until this year's conference. They are ten in all from SPSU, including ISA President Diana, VPOmar, PR Officer Lina, and Secretary Mehtab, among others.

Well, to start, anytime you leave Atlanta going anywhere on the eve of a much publicized storm, you are bound to get stuck in traffic. The ISA group was no different. Normally, it only takes a little less than two hours to get to Rock Eagle where the conference was being held, but the drive lasted almost three, causing them to get there late, but apparently that didn't stop them. First they went to a mingling session where they were given 20 business cards each. On the cards were

their name, country of origin, the school they represented, phone number and email address. The idea was to trade business cards with people as you met them so not only would you not end up with a million slips of paper to lose, but it served as a very innovative way to break the ice. As with any school related function, the food was nothing to write home about.

planned, from DVD rooms to board game rooms, and later that evening there was a dance that played music from all over the world. Everyone got to contribute a CD so there was Arabic, English, Indian, and Spanish music. As if that weren't

There were many activities in which every table was given a different set of rules and were not allowed to communicate physically or verbally. The purpose was to teach everyone how different cultures could be. There also an educational seminar on HIV/AIDS prevention, so there really was some-

fore had broken off and caused the hours, so, for fun, they began mak-

power lines to snap. One of the live wires fell on a Georgia State van, causing it to blow up, right in front of Omar's Cabin. After that, no one was allowed to go outside for two ing beats with their fists on the over the world, and give them stories to talk about for many months to come. In all there were about 200 people from 62 different cultures

The International Students Association would like to invite anyone who is interested in learning about other cultures to the

> weekly meetings in Rm. 215 in the Student Center every Tuesday at 12pm. This includes Americans as well!

Each week will feature a presentation about a country represented by one of our students, upcoming events, and free food. Friends from the community join us each week to help organize events that better exhibit American cul-

The Leadership Conference held the weekend of January 28-30 was just one of many exciting events that will be held this semester. Already ISA has had a ski trip and a welcome dinner. Also, later this semester there will be the annual CultureFest. It is one of the biggest events of the semester. Every country cooks a native dish and there is a talent show that includes singing and dancing from many parts of the

world, and finally a fashion show. It usually lasts about three hours and will be held in March. The specific dates have yet to be announced. Keep reading the STING to find out any updates about this event.

For more information, join Yahoo Groups SPSU-ISA to receive weekly reminders and updates.



While we were at home freezing in the ice storm (No Saturday classes, yay!), the International Student Association was up north, well, freezing in the ice storm. They don't look too bummed out about it, though.

enough, around midnight everyone crowded into a cabin to play cards into the wee hours of the morning.

The next day, after breakfast, the purpose of the conference came into play as many seminars were offered. Some of the ones attended by the representatives of our school were on marketing skills and leadership skills. There was also a seminar that involved a silent card game thing for everyone. The only catch was that only 45 people were allowed in any one seminar.

Later that day the adventure continued as everyone practiced for the upcoming fashion and talent show. Diana and Lina planned to do belly dancing to represent their culture, when, all of a sudden, the lights went out. Branches weighed down by the ice from the night betables and singing random songs.

Later, after they were all safe in the cabins, everyone talked and got to know each other, and according to Diana, some of the major topics were boys and traveling.

The next morning they packed, took pictures and headed home. Everyone felt as though it was a fun, educational weekend, one that allowed them to meet people from all

Alpha Xi Delta's strive for high academics, standards

Erica Appleby President, Alpha Xi Delta

Following the announcement of Fall 2004 grades, Alpha Xi Delta Women's Fraternity was given an award for achieving the highest

GPA among all Inter-Greek Council Achievement Program which enmembers. This is Alpha Xi Delta's second semester on the SPSU campus and has boasted a high GPA among Greeks since its inception. The Chapter attributes the success to the Fraternity's Academic

courages good study habits, tutoring, and positive motivation. Individually, Valerie Wade was recognized for highest women's Inter-Greek Council GPA for Fall 2004 with the Women's Academic Award and

Olivia Gauntner was recently awarded a scholarship from the National Fraternity for her academic excellence.

Alpha Xi Delta's four newest sisters Karen Asay, Erin Clark, Morgan Groce, and Lauren Shepherd contributed to the high academics and added new life and excitement to the organization. These sisters contributed to the University through The Sting, SPSU's new cheerleading squad, Inter-Greek Council, and Campus Activities

In honor of their philanthropy Choose Children and with the as-

sistance of generous SPSU students and faculty, Alpha Xi Delta donated puppets and a monetary gift to Childkind, a facility for medically fragile children. The Chapter also made blankets for My House, which supports "Boarder Babies" from newborn to four years of age. In addition to supporting the community, Alpha Xi Delta participated in Emotional Intelligence programs designed to enhance skills for women in the workplace. These programs included Leadership 101 workshops, Three A's of Stress Management, Personal Skills Inventory, Understanding Complimentary Differences, and an Emotional Intelligence

Evaluation. Alpha Xi Delta is looking forward to another successful semester at SPSU in Spring 2005. If you would like information about Alpha Xi Delta please contact Erica at bunniesrock@earthlink.net or the website at www.geocities.ccm/ alphaxideltaspsu.



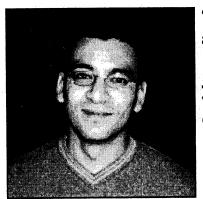
Alpha Xi Delta out actively striving for high academics, a comma, and standards. Look closely and you might spot a former editor, Karen Asay. Everyone wave!



Georgia College Press Association Question

How large is your staff?

We asked five separate newspapers at the Georgia College Press Association's annual Better Newspaper Contest a single question. Then we threw in our own response because we think we're funny.



"It's split... about 10."

Jerry Calbos The Compass Gainesville College



"23, something like that."

Josh Grubbs Six Mile Post Floyd College

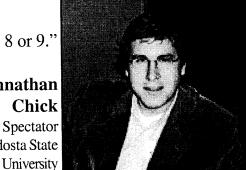


"The whole thing? 30, I guess."

Brian O'Connor Georgia Southern The George-Anne

"Like 8 or 9."

Johnathan Chick The Spectator Valdosta State



"I'm looking now...15."

Laura Anderson Hilltop News Lagrange College



Between 2 and 10 inches."

These Guys The Sting **SPSU**



Consensus Editorial

Help us help you ... or, we need more writers, please

The Sting This whole paper

Where should we begin? Truly, this should probably have been two or three separate consensus editorials, but that'd be silly, right?

The GCPA

For those who haven't figured it out yet, five members of The Sting attended the Georgia College Press Association's annual Better Newspaper Contest on February 5. The members who attended were Chris Colyar, CJ Shiflett, CJ Shrader, Syl Turner, and Dave Bachtel.

The Sting attends the GCPA every year. During past conferences, The Sting has brought home a few awards. This year, we came home empty-handed, but that's ok. We don't mind.

The GCPA sometimes doesn't his face, so we swarmed to him. fully understand what The Sting is trying to accomplish. Sure, we want to bring you the news (We're collectively nervously shuffling our feet as we say that), but we also want to make you laugh. But our sad attempt at humor gets the articles that we submit for awards some odd critiques. For example, some of the comments left on Heather Giroux's beer articles, which she does for most issues, include "Is a beer column appropriate to a wide audience?" Of course it is!

The critic went on to ask "Would they relate to a description that a beer 'tasted like ass'? How would you conclude this?" How would she conclude this?! That's simply silly, just plain silly.

Comments on "The Histories that Matter" stated that it had a voice that could be described as "immature or snarky." We're not

really sure what snarky means, but we feel that the point of the article is to be a little immature and snarky. A stuffy, straightforward article wouldn't be as much fun, would it?

you're curious, Dictionary.com says snarky means "Irritable or short-tempered; irascible.")

There's always next year. We have some amazing writers and we're sure to win something then. At least we learned a thing or two (check out the front page for a more precise list of what we learned).

Here's a funny story. See that guy directly above this article? Yeah, Johnathan Chick of Valdosta State University. You see, he wasn't the first one we asked that question to. There was a guy sitting next to him with an angry expression on

"I don't know, I just quit the staff," the angry man said, and then pointed to Chick. "You'll have to ask him."

So we ask Chick. And what does Chick do? He turns right around and asks angry man.

We still wonder why angry man quit, though. Very newsworthy.

Silly Valdosta State University. The Student Question

This is where we need the world to work with us. The purpose of the question is to be funny. Be funny! We set up everyone at the GCPA with a potentially funny question, but no one answered it properly. So we had to do it ourselves. And if you still don't get it, then we're not going to explain it to you. Someone else will.

Next time you're roaming around campus and some creepy person claiming to be from The Sting

asks you a question and takes your photo, take the extra moment to add a bit of humor into it. Honestly, which would you rather see, a funny student question about superhero genitalia or a serious one about spring break? We're all about genitalia at The Sting.

Writers, assemble!

Are you a semi-decent or better writer? Can you form a simple sentence correctly? Then you're exactly what The Sting is looking

Do you hate The Sting? Do you wish it was more like a real newspaper? Then you're also exactly what The Sting is looking for! If you want The Sting to change, then come actively make the changes through your writing. If you're paying activity fees, you can

We need news writers most of all, as anyone who has even glanced at this issue would know. There is so much going on around campus, more than you could possibly imagine, yet we don't have enough writers to cover it all. Writing news is pretty fun and easy and you learn so much about campus that you never thought was possible.

"But I don't know how to write news," you whine. The Editor-in-Chief of The Sting can certainly show you the ropes and help you get started. We even have a lot of leads just waiting to be covered. Some might even be about robots.

Meetings are in the Student Center, room A252, at 1:00 PM on Fridays. Can't make the meetings? No problem, just submit your articles through e-mail anyway.

So what's stopping you? Nothing, that's what.

h4x0rz k0rn3r

Dave Bachtel Staff Writer

Like I said, I promised a better one and here

Let \$sol = the solution.

Take the rot13 of \$sol

and append to LKdev.com/

The hint is the mistake, but it's not

