QUICK OPINION

So far, Ambling has failed to impress. Read Gambit's Jan. 29 editorial for reasons for saying this (pg 2).

How could you hate this face? Well, FE 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).

We didn’t do the news this week
Sting Staff

Editor’s note: Please check out The Sting, 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.thesingleisland.com. If you don’t, this won’t make much sense. Watch all of The Sting 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 this week, We didn’t do the news this week. Because we’re better than you’re.

Big CJ here, I’m the editor I get stuck doing all the layout But if you hate The Sting then You could...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 caption 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 me.

SYLV, MOTHER****** YEAH, I WRITE **** FOR THE MOTHER****** STING

AND I’LL EAT YOUR **** KILL YOUR CHILDREN AND YOUR ***** WIFE RUN YOU INTO A CURB THEN RAPE 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 you

We didn’t do the news this week We didn’t do the newwww. www.thesingleisland.com

$100 cheeseburger confuses Maconites
Syl Turner

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."

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

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.
**Pining for residence life**

Remy Lebeaux  
**Staff Writer**

For those of you that don’t know, the new company that owns Commons is under completely new management. Residence Life, the previous company that owned and operated the units is gone, replaced by a new company named Ambling whom everyone hoped would be better. This new company could POSSIBLY be better than the previous company that owned Commons because it is owned by a different company. After just ONE encounter, ONE, I am fully convinced that the Commons and Courtyard management had been replaced.

I came to this conclusion after visiting the Housing office two days previous to writing this article. One week previous, it was assumed that something as simple as going to pay for rent would be a quick and painless task, but not with the Courtyard and Commons management.

Upon arriving, I noticed two patons, one a former classmate and one my lab partner in Physics qualifying with mild acne of said lab. The reason? There was no method to accept credit card payments, meaning you had to be paid 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) but it turned out they didn’t even agree to take my card number.

This is a life problem 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 writing this) is to write down your number on an open sheet of paper while you watch and then put that sheet in the envelope they have for you which they leave on your desk. If you apply to 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 $5 PER CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION! No one, NO ONE, has to charge that amount of money for a service with mild acne of said service. They’re losing money fast on unpopulated apartments by not accepting credit cards.

As for those of you keeping score this means that people living in the University Courtyard and Commons pay with a credit card have three options: drive to a bank and purchase a cashier’s check for five dollars, withdraw money from your account and pick up a money order, or pay the extra ten dollars per month to pay rent bringing your balance with you to the housing office.

I don’t know if you’re unsatisfied with the conditions of your lease or not, but very least, shouldn’t we be giving people gouge us on the transaction fee.

I am going to assume that by this time you have seen the many commercials for Enzyte, the pills for “manhood”. I am sure you have heard all their wonderful pudgy sales pitch, and yet, you have not seen their commercial.

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 and a bag of confidence pills, so therefore, you are assured that you are a bigger penis than before.

Now what can the rest of us learn and who is going to sit in your lap and give you the confidence to sit down in the roof.

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 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 you are satisfied. 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 some one hitting themselves with a rolled up newspaper feel free to help them get over their penis related confidence issues.

**Bob needs to go away**

F.J. Thought  
**Staff Writer**

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**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. Among the whol- e student today and a country that starts with a U and ends in an 8A 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 hold a cord and order a pizza. The machine kasses the deaths of thou- sands of innocent animals every day while the human race averts its eyes in amazement.

But on the flipside, the machine saves thousands of lives everyday in the form of hospitals, public transporta- tion and renewable energy sources. The machine (under many circumstances) can (and often does) benefit 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 un- til it’s gone. Personally, I hope it does.

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P.F. The more information, I am going to assume that by this time you have seen the many commercials for Enzyte, the pills for “manhood”. I am sure you have heard all their wonderful pudgy sales pitch, and yet, you have not seen their commercial.

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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 Northlake Highway, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our offices in A252, or e-mail stingereditor@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 and are subject to acceptance due to space, style, content 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 is NOT a job. "A cause a real job pays more."

**Deadline**

Deadline for the next issue is Thursday, February 17 at 5:00 PM. Articles submitted after this time will not be printed in the next issue of The Sting, except through special permission.

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Subscriptions to The Sting are $5 per 1000 words or $50 per semester for Southern Polytechnic State University copies of less than 0.25% of the print run of a particular issue is THEFT and criminal offense.

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Contact The Sting at (678) 915-7310 or stingereditor@gmail.com.
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 world. According to Hbcuconnection.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
- Morehouse College
- North Carolina Central University
- Savannah State University
- Tuskegee University
- Virginia State

The Service:

The Location: 1125 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW (Right in front of Babies "R" Us, pick yourself up eaters out there Sweet Tomatoes special occasions)

The Place: Sweet Tomatoes

The Location: 1125 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW (Right in front of Babies "R" Us, pick yourself up eaters out there Sweet Tomatoes special occasions)

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!)

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)

The Storyteller:

Remy Lebeaus 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 now switch to tracks to bring you a completely different and equally enjoyable dining experience. If you’ve got suggestions or just want to complain, invite you all to visit myself and the other members of the Sting staff on the Campus Forum at facebook.com/thesting.

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Internet Toxic Wastedump

**Blogs**

Syl Turner
StaffWriter

The biggest and most annoying rage of the World Wide Web are daily 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 sometimes for news items. At the national conventions, both parties had blogs on their websites. The "Person of the Year" issue even included a "Blog of the Year" award. With all the publicity surrounding these blogs these days, you might think they are valuable assets to the World Wide Web. Unfortunately, you are wrong.

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 partisans. Blogs give everyone who thinks they have something to say a chance to do so. The difference is the accessibility to an open audience.

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 about what you buy at Target or share a crush that you've now shared. Nobody cares about your shifty poetry. If your daily life is really that interesting, write a book!

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 bloggins 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 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, many years now, they have recently picked up some momentum. The blog movement is sad, continuing to grow. The only way the movement will stop is if people begin to realize what blogs really are: Internet toxic waste dumps.

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**An entertaining read**

Ross Cutts
StaffWriter

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 SPUSA have a female population? We'll start our little 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 this way:

When the Chinese jump up, they push the Earth down. The Earth then springs back up (being drawn down 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). In the end, so 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 feet above the ground (thus they didn't need to push up off the Earth).

Let's start the problem...

What we know:

China's population: 1.26 billion
Average human's weight: 160 pounds
Trip of gravity: 30m/s2 (rounded up to make the calculations easier)
Height of the drop: 2 feet
Mass of our Earth: 6 x 1024 kilograms, 588 million tons
Gravitic Energy (Joules) = Mass x speed2

**Start solving**

Earth's Energy = 588 x 302 = 532,400 X 1010 Joules
Mass would equal China's population x 1.26 billion pounds mass = 210,000,000,000 x 210.6 billion pounds or 100.8 million tons
The speed would equal 10m/s (they don't fall for longer than a second)

100.8 million x 100.8 x 1010 x 1010 = 1008 million Joules divided by 210.6 billion tons of TNT

30.48 trillion Joules divided by 210.6 billion tons = 144 Joules

So what does it all mean?

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**The Histories that Matter**

What did Tom ever do?

C Shrader
Editor-in-Chief

Because the editor is dumb, this didn't get printed last issue like it should have. So welcome back to another semester at SPUSA. 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 Matters.

Peeping Tom

First, let's start with a little legend about a man named Lady Godiva. Her husband, Leofric III, had recently imposed taxes on the people of Coventry, England. In protest, legends state 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. And he was probably a tailor. And he probably was struck blind. Well... you're 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 1595. On a trip to Coventry, England, Camden was shown a statue of a man staring blankly off into space. Probably as it was told, Camden was told that this was the statue represented Tom after being struck blind. I guess Camden took this as truth and propagated this news 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.

Naturally, the phrase "Tom Fool" eventually began to mean "a fool."

And 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 tomfoolery: a rude, spirited boy.

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

FS.- Still curious as to what Tom did do to be immortalized in all those words up there? He evicerated a pregnant grandmother and used her intestines to smother the unborn fetus. Have a good day.
The Sting  February 9, 2005  5

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 as old as a review, but that doing an article about the game and my experiences with it still would be 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 thought about 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 coming up and that I had about negative eight minutes to submit this article.

The game is THAT addictive. It’s far more potent than any drug an addict could consume, and far more amusing than any boring TV show a couch potato could view. So why I am 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 addicted to a game then I want it to be as addictive as possible (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 perusal.

What is it? World of Warcraft is a Massively Multiplayer Online Role Playing Game (MMORPG) that takes place in the land of Azeroth. While the game is based on characters 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 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 choose 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 elf) and a class (such as warrior, mage or priest).

How much do I have to pay? 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 Gold Edition. You’ll get one month of game-time to determine whether or not you really like the game. This is the time period your subcription fee begins. You’ll dish out $15 a month to play if you pay per-month, or you can get that fee knocked down to 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 at almost anywhere that sells PC games. Even though you’re given a month’s evaluation time, you still need a credit card number or a playcard to play when you initially install the game.

So, what’s all that hallucinations? I’m glad you asked. Amd even if you are a new guy you, ‘cause you hadn’t then this article would be really short. This game is designed by Blizzard, the happy people that brought you Warcraft, Starcraft, and the Diablo series. That means they know gaming and are familiar with online gaming practices. World of Warcraft manages to be somehow both simplistic enough for MMOG newcomers, like myself, to jump in and accumulate 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 MMOORPG one could think of. Rather than spending countless hours fighting Nameless Lizardmen, you perform quests for people that may be something as simple as killing a few really angry geese to more difficult tasks like taking on a heavily armed battle to fight the “boss.” If you WANT to go and fight Nameless Lizardmen, you may just end up being beaten, but you gain experience, then you’re welcome to the game as is open-ended.

The character, Brett (Jorma Taccone), sometimes played by Scrubs’ Sarah Chalke, other times by Chester Tam, and one time by a puppet), while Aaron (Andy Samberg) goes back to the way it gets back with Melissa. Meanwhile, on the other side of The Bu, mob boss Rob Buchenow (who is unfortunately able 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 long. 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 dialogue is so unbelievable it’s believable. You won’t look at television drama the same again. Hoo haah!

The Lunar New Year

Heather Ginex  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 animals that make up the lunar zodiac: the dog, bear, rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, sheep, and monkey. Much like the astrological zodiac, each animal possesses different character traits that can be found in the person born of that year and each type of animal holds a certain amount of compatibility with others.

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 should not be any cleaning on New Year’s Day for fear of sweeping good fortune out. All debts should be paid off and you should not lend anything on New Year’s Day. The superstition is basically that the debt 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. Your mom even took the day off as to 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 it (and the candy). Adults give children a little red envelope with crisp new dollar bills inside it.

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

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 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 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 with the Budget and Finance Committee. The requested funds were put to a majority vote before the SGA and approved.

The India Club requested $4000 to help cover the 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 inquiries 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.

Library discount blowout!

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 $1. 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 $1, while paperback books are usually 50 cents.

Announcing the T-Commons

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 Communications 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 http://spusu.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.

Organization

Homecoming Candidates

King candidates
Name - Nominated By
Brian Love - Sigma Pi
Marvin Broadus - SGA
William Saddler - Alpha Phi Alpha
Cecil Ware Norton - SGA
Syl Turner - The Sting

Queen candidates
Name - Nominated By
Heather Giroux - The Sting
Relia Streising - Women's Basketball
Sarah Gallina - Norton
Erica Appleby - IEEE
Lauren Shephard - Alpha Xi Delta
Cristina Willson - The Log

SGA has voting power over the annual budget and financial affairs of the university. The SGA is responsible for organizing and coordinating various events and activities on campus. The SGA also plays a significant role in representing the student body to the university administration and in advocating for the needs and interests of students. The SGA's role in approving the budget and financial affairs of the university is crucial in ensuring that the university's financial resources are used effectively and efficiently.
Alpha Xi Delta strives 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 members. 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 Achievement Program which encourages 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 Board.

In honor of their philanthropy Choose Children and with the assistance 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 Babes” 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 more information about Alpha Xi Delta please contact Erica at bunnie ROCK@earthlink.net or the website at www.geocities.com/alphaxideltas.

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-Ann

"Like 8 or 9."

Johnathan Chick
The Spectator
Valdosta State University

"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 Shader, Syl Turner, and Dave Bachtel.

The Sting writes this every year. During past conferences, The Sting says, "We've won awards. This year, we came home empty-handed, but that's ok. We don't mind."

The GCPA sometimes doesn't fully understand what The Sting is trying to accomplish. Sure, we want to bring you the news (We're collectively nervous 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 Girouxs Silly Valdosta State University beer articles, which she does for The Student Question, were properties like "That beer tasted like ass."

How would you conclude this? Some might even be about robots. We still wonder why angry man continues to ask us this. So we asked Chick. And what does Chick do? He turns right around and asks angry man.

We still wonder why angry man quit. Though, very newspaperly.

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 you'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 for!

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 join.

We need writers most of all, as anyone who has even glanced through this issue would know. There is so much going on around campus, more than you could possibly imagine, but 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.

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