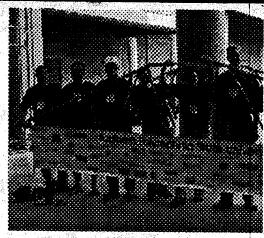


Organization

The Steel Bridge Team won first at the regional competition. Find out how they did at nationals.

Page 2



June 13, 2006

SGA attempts to re-write activities budget

Cristina Wilson
Senior Staff Writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) budget for the 2006-2007 school year has recently been released to clubs and organizations around campus, and these allotments will be in effect starting July 1st. Skepticism surrounds this budget as during the past week sources have revealed, and Dean of Students, Barry Birckhead, as well as advisor of SGA, has confirmed that the newly elected SGA has taken liberty to make changes to the budget.

The fiscal year budget is a long and arduous process for the Budget and Finance Chair of the SGA. Last year, Sean Olatayo was the chair of this committee and along with other SGA members created a budget for various organizations on campus, including the funding for the Student Center, competition teams, and student clubs. Organizations may apply for a suggested amount of money that they feel they will need in the next fiscal year, but the SGA makes the final decision as to how much each will receive.

This year the Budget and Finance Committee was given \$360,000 to divide amongst over 70 organizations. Accusations have been made by an anonymous source that many clubs were given too much funding, and some others not enough. For example, as stated below, the Steel Bridge team will experience a \$4,200 decrease in funds, receiving only \$300 this year even though they have won a regional title, and have competed against such prestigious schools as MIT. On the other hand, the Women's Lacrosse team will receive \$1,000, a \$350 increase from last year, even though they have too few members and are therefore unable to participate in competition.

Adding to these accusations, it is rumored that the previous SGA mysteriously misplaced requests for funds from various teams in the Construction Department. Therefore, the Construction Department received no money from the SGA in this year's fiscal budget.

Based on these misgivings, Barry Birckhead has confirmed that the current SGA (newly elected on April 27) has attempted

to take it upon themselves to rewrite the entire budget, something that he states is "fairly unprecedented". Concern surrounds this issue since the budget has been approved by the Student Life Committee, and organizations on campus have already been made aware of their future allotments.

Some students are also concerned that since the SGA makes the budget almost immediately at the end of their term, an SGA that rewrites a previously approved budget as well as their own at the end of their term will have too much power.

However, although arguments exist for both the changing as well as the preservation of the current budget, Barry Birckhead states

that "it would be inappropriate for the current SGA to develop a 'new' budget for the '07 school year", and suggests that allocations for the construction department be taken out of existing SGA funds such as Student Development, which currently contains \$55,600 (see below).

Birckhead also points out

that the SGA does have the power to amend the current budget, but that since it has already been approved they are advised not to completely overhaul. Listed on page 3 is the public record of how much money each group will be receiving compared to the last fiscal year.



The SGA office

Karen Asay / The Sting

Summer office hours

Cristina Wilson
Senior Staff Writer

Room 215 in the Joe Mack Wilson Student Center has recently been renovated into a smart classroom, due to a generous contribution from Vulcan Materials and Georgia Crush Stone. This past February, Dr. Ron Dempsey, Chief Advancement Officer, received a pledge of \$25,000 over a 5 year period from Mark Graham, SPSU Foundation Board member and director of Human Resources and Administration for Vulcan Materials.

Vulcan Materials along with Georgia Crush Stone has previously used the Student Center for employee training purposes. The new smart room will be for general use by SPSU students and faculty, but Vulcan Materials will have top priority.

Room 215 has been outfitted by the IT department. David Stone, Director of IT Services, states that the IT department has installed a custom lectern wide enough for a laptop, an Extron media controller, a DVD and VCR, 4 ceiling speakers, wireless microphones that feed back

into the computer for web-meeting purposes, a VGA high resolution document camera, and a smart board.

Stone also asserts that the design of the custom lectern is so desirable that the IT department may be looking to build their own for other smart rooms on campus. It is possible that if room 215 proves efficient, more rooms will be built like this in the future.

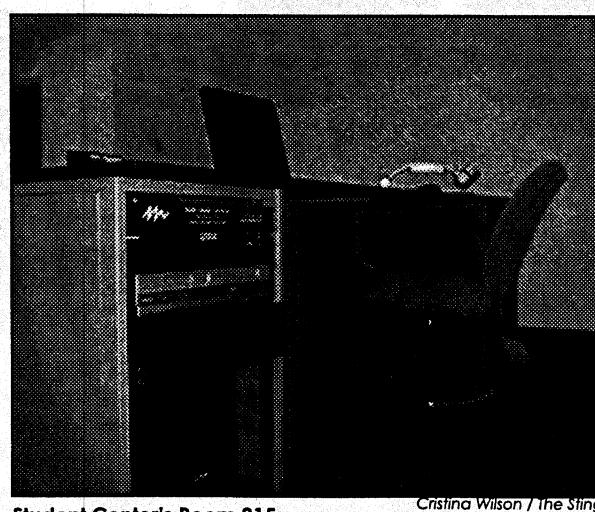
The \$25,000 pledge will be applied to the general SPSU Foundation

fund for use in outfitting room 215, along with additional funding by Georgia Crush Stone. \$5,000 will be given by Vulcan Materials each year for five years, and when 50% has been re-

ceived, room 215 will be named in their honor.

The \$5,000 annual donation will also account for a \$1,000 scholarship for students in the Civil Engineering Technology Department.

Student Center room 215 was completed soon after spring break. It is currently available for use by student group meetings or faculty, and can be reserved by appointment with Leigh Ann Holton, Assistant Director for Student Center Operations.



Student Center's Room 215

Smart classroom

Cristina Wilson
Senior Staff Writer

Office hours for administration buildings throughout campus were changed May 8th to prepare for the summer term. For the next 14 weeks, Office Hours for all campus buildings will be Monday – Thursday 8:00 am to 5:30 pm, and Friday 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Director of Facilities, John Mills, assures students that this change is only in effect for the summer term, and exists as an energy saving option for the university. During the summer, the cost to cool all the buildings with air conditioning can be an exorbitant amount, and SPSU is often required to pull money from other sources to fund this expense.

Mills states that during this time of "energy crisis", the cost of power to run air conditioning is climbing to heights not before seen on campus. However, the change of office hours will save Southern Polytechnic an estimated \$31,000 during the short 3 month span. This is money that does not have to be pulled from other funds, and can therefore be used to better serve the students and faculty.

Dr. Rossbacher, possibly act-

ing on persuasion from the Board of Regents, made the decision to shorten these office hours due to the significantly decreased number of students on campus during the summer semester.

Although some staff members may be unhappy with the cut of hours, and therefore a change from a full hour to a half hour lunch, cashiers at the Business Office are pleased. Daneir Pitts, cashier, enjoys the half day on Friday because she has small children that are out of school for the summer and she would like to spend more time with them.

Maralee Clarke, collections coordinator, states that the business office staff now rotates Fridays off, and an employee works the full day's shift, as compared to the 9:00 am – 6:00 pm or 8:00 am – 5:00 pm shift that they use during the fall and spring semesters.

Although the decrease in students during the summer semester may affect class size or housing, the business office rarely sees down time. The cut in hours may be problematic for some students who have mostly day classes, but employees seem to enjoy the brief change.

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Southern Poly Fashion Show

Hear about the new looks and good music presented at SPSU's fashion show.

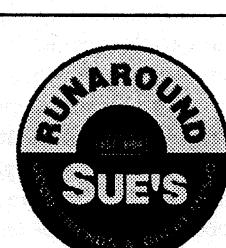
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Summer Fun!

Find out what there is to do in Cobb County. Clubs, bars, amusement parks, etc

Page 6



Ride Motorcycles!

Ride with Josh for a Cure! Find out about this motorcycle riding charity event.

Page 6

SPSU minds rank in the upper echelon in steel bridge building

Eric Ravanello

Staff Writer

Armed with nothing but the advisement of a professional and the minds of tomorrow, the SPSU Steel Bridge Team traveled to Salt Lake City, Utah to compete in the National Steel Bridge Competition.

From May 23 through May 28, Michael Orlandella, advisor of the SPSU Steel Bridge Team, aided a select group of students in building a steel bridge that would hopefully out-perform some of the best in the nation. The team, led by captain Amine Daoudi, took 14th place in the competition that included well over 40 participants from around the US and Canada.

"There was some stiff competition out there," said Nathan Griffith, "but it was fun and we will be better prepared to win next year." Next year's competition will be held at the University of California at Northridge.

The scoring for the bridges is actually a very tedious task where multiple factors are taken into account to calculate a team's final cost. The number of builders and time it takes to complete the bridge is entered into a set equation to output cost 1. The bridge is then loaded with a weight of 2500lb, and the deflection (how much it sags) is measured at three different points and then added together to get the aggregate deflection. The aggregate deflection and the weight of the bridge are then entered into a different equation to form cost 2.

Cost 1 and cost 2 are then entered into yet another equation and the final monetary cost represents the school's final score.

SPSU's bridge cost roughly \$6 million dollars, which was good for 14th place. The winning school was the University of North Dakota with a final bridge cost of slightly over \$3 million dollars. They have taken first place in this competition four times, so hats off to them for another job well done.

The SPSU Steel Bridge Team took first place in the Southeast Regional competition to go to the National competition. They were up against some pretty tough schools, but managed to lead the way and represent Southern Poly in magnificent fashion.

Sources have also confirmed that Southern Poly is the only school in the Nation to have competed in the National tournament in all 15 years of its existence. This is a great accomplishment in itself and we thank the 2006 Steel Bridge Team for continuing our unprecedented streak of success.

The 2006 Steel Bridge Team

consisted of the following people:

Michael Orlandella (advisor)

Amine Daoudi (captain)

Patrick Medley

David Grant

Stuart Erkes

Justin Leaders

Amy Ditzler

Olivia Gauntner

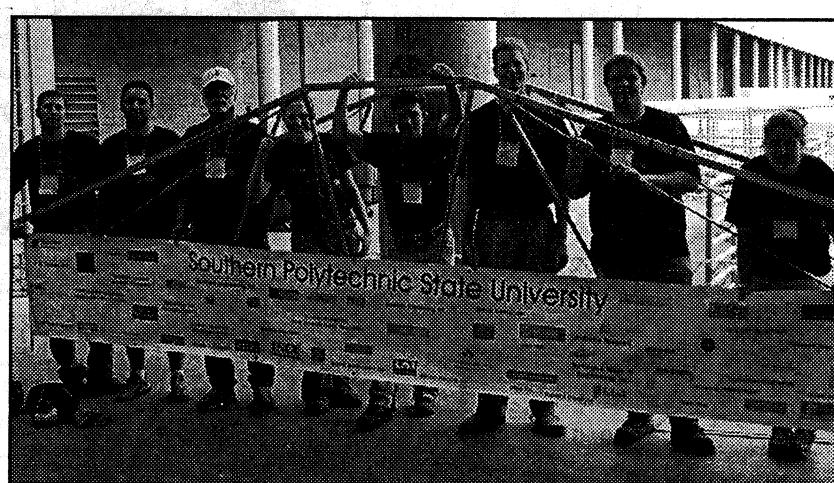
Marc Phillips

Joaquin Santamaria

On another note, this year's captain Amine Daoudi was recognized as the SPSU 2006 Civil Engineering Student of the year at a recent award ceremony. His contribution to the school goes beyond the Steel Bridge Team, and he is thanked for all his hard work and dedication.

"I feel Amine was a very effective leader," said Nathan Griffith, "and I hope he continues contributing to the Steel Bridge Team in the future."

A hefty "Thank You" is sent out to all who participated in the Steel Bridge competition for representing SPSU so gracefully.



The SPSU Steel Bridge Team at the National competition in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Fashion Show

Rultz Raymond

Staff Writer

On the evening of Thursday, April 13, 2006, Southern Poly got a little "taste" of some of the hottest new fashions that are on the market. Not only a "taste" of the fashions but also a "taste" of some of the hottest new sounds that will be hitting the airwaves in a few months.

Let me start with the fashion show. The fashion show was very "poly" chromatic. There was a range of clothing selections from urban wear to casual wear. Even, clothing trends in the Caribbean and Africa. This colorful spectacle was very pleasing to the eyes and minds those people who were in attendance.

The scenes of each fashion trend began with music that fitted with the clothing. Here are some examples. For one of the first few scenes, one of the models came out wearing a pair of body-contouring jeans and shirt while walking to R&B's 112, "Anywhere." She left jaws waiting to be craned back to their positions. Another model, who seemed really "tight" with her red dress, walked the runway

triumphantly, as spectators tried desperately to subside the fire building inside of them, to Jamaican artist, Sean Paul's "Temperature". The Caribbean models came in to traditional island music and Nigerian models came in to traditional African rhythms.

Just as the audience thought that things were about to cool off, acts from Georgia State's Caribbean dance crew truly heated things up with their dance. Now, that was breathtaking! To add to the momentum, local R&B artist, Rultz, brought in his musical talents to the stage from his performance of an original song, "Dirty Love." Following "Dirty Love" was another group known as The Nimrodz. This group of rappers truly came out with a strong vibe and their own creativity. The closing act was from a group known as JOB(Just Over-Broke), another group of equal and excellent caliber as the other performers before them.

This fashion show was truly incredible! The turnout was great, and there were even guests from other schools who were in the audience as well as in the fashion show itself. If you missed it this year,

make sure that next year, you write the date in your diary. Reserve a seat! Don't miss out on this spectacular ever again!

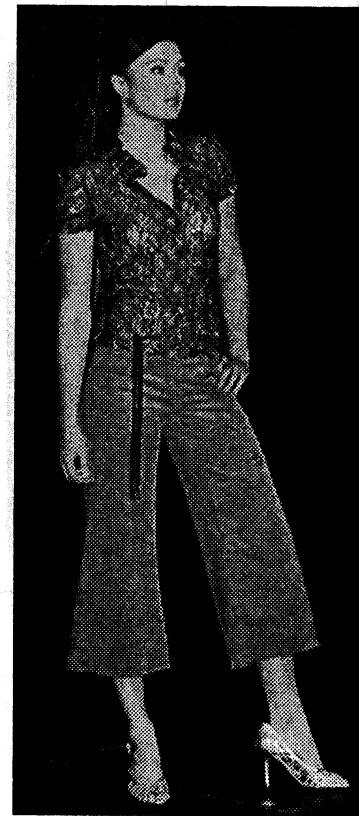


Photo courtesy Facebook/ Kenji Tillman
Rella Stresing at the Fashion Show

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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.

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Deadline for the next issue is **Thursday, July 6th 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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| Organization Name | 05-06 Budget | 06-07 Budget | Organization Name | 05-06 Budget | 06-07 Budget |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| AATCC | \$450 | \$0 | NAHB | \$450 | \$1,500 |
| ACM | \$1,000 | \$500 | National Panhellenic Conference | \$0 | \$200 |
| Aerial Robotics Team | \$4,000 | \$4,700 | NOMA | \$1,750 | \$0 |
| AGC | \$0 | \$250 | NSBE | \$4,000 | \$4,300 |
| AIAS | \$1,500 | \$1,000 | Outdoor Rec Club | \$0 | \$250 |
| AITP | \$500 | \$0 | Phi Alpha Delta | \$500 | \$0 |
| Alpha Phi Alpha | \$500 | \$0 | Phi Beta Sigma | \$0 | \$200 |
| Alpha Xi Delta | \$550 | \$200 | Phi Psi | \$500 | \$0 |
| Amateur Radio Club | \$500 | \$900 | Pi Kappa Phi | \$600 | \$200 |
| Ambassadors | \$1,500 | \$1,700 | Poly UNIX Club | \$0 | \$700 |
| ASQ | \$0 | \$500 | Rock Climbing | \$450 | \$0 |
| ASCE GO | \$2,500 | \$1,000 | SAFE | \$500 | \$700 |
| AUV | \$2,500 | \$10,000 | SAMSOG | \$450 | \$0 |
| AWIAASA | \$750 | \$0 | SASA | \$1,500 | \$0 |
| Bouldering Club | n/a | \$0 | SGA - CWSE | \$20,000 | \$12,600 |
| CAB | \$44,000 | \$45,000 | SGA - FE | \$2,000 | \$2,000 |
| CaribSA | \$750 | \$1,000 | SGA - GO | \$21,100 | \$18,000 |
| CCGA | \$500 | \$500 | SGA - SD | \$50,000 | \$55,600 |
| CFA | \$500 | \$400 | SGA - Homecoming Committee | \$0 | \$2,500 |
| Cheerleaders | \$3,500 | \$3,000 | SGA Endowment Fund | \$0 | \$2,000 |
| Club Cycling | n/a | \$2,500 | SHPE | \$1,000 | \$1,100 |
| Concrete Canoe | \$2,500 | \$5,000 | SIFE | \$0 | \$300 |
| Cultural Series | \$6,000 | \$6,000 | Sigma Nu | \$600 | \$200 |
| Delta Mu Delta | \$450 | \$250 | Sigma Pi | \$600 | \$200 |
| Forensics | \$450 | \$1,700 | SME | \$1,000 | \$800 |
| FSAE | \$4,000 | \$8,000 | SMV | \$3,000 | \$0 |
| Gamma Phi Beta | \$600 | \$200 | Student Honors Council | \$0 | \$300 |
| GEAR | \$2,000 | \$3,000 | Soccer Club | \$1,000 | \$1,800 |
| GSPE | \$1,250 | \$1,000 | SPSU Dance Team | \$1,000 | \$1,000 |
| Indian Cultural Exchange | \$450 | \$1,000 | SPSU Band | \$9,000 | \$3,200 |
| IEEE | \$3,000 | \$2,500 | START | \$500 | \$0 |
| IGC | \$1,000 | \$0 | Steel Bridge | \$4,500 | \$300 |
| IIE | \$3,000 | \$2,500 | Student Center | \$109,000 | \$113,000 |
| ISA | \$3,000 | \$4,400 | Tau Alpha Pi | \$450 | \$200 |
| ITE | \$450 | \$0 | Tau Kappa Epsilon | \$600 | \$200 |
| JFA | \$500 | \$0 | The Sting | \$12,500 | \$13,000 |
| Judiciary | \$2,500 | \$2,500 | TSA | \$450 | \$0 |
| MAA | \$450 | \$0 | Ultimate Frisbee | \$1,000 | \$900 |
| MBASA | \$0 | \$150 | University Roundtable | \$3,500 | \$4,000 |
| Men's Lacrosse | \$650 | \$0 | WGHR | \$7,500 | \$6,500 |
| MOSTT | \$500 | \$250 | Women's Lacrosse | \$650 | \$1,000 |
| MSA | \$500 | \$250 | Zeta Phi Beta | \$450 | \$200 |

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for my beer

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got owned

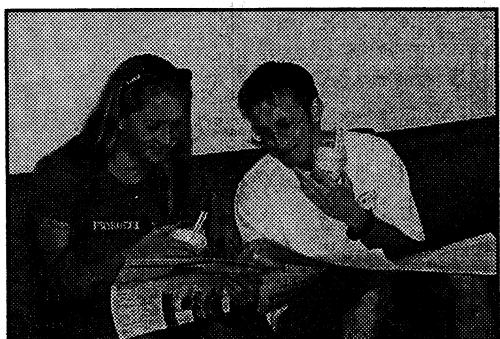
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Letter to the Editor

Don't give up on the system; step up

Donald Norman

Contributed

I read with interest Twila McConnell's opinion piece in the April 26 edition of The Sting. I did find something to agree with her on; the parties have, in recent times, begun to "adopt planks" from one another. As a long time observer of politics, I was born in 1958, I find this quite troublesome. Through the years I have voted for the likes of Jimmy Carter and Michael Dukakis, as well as, candidates named George Bush, four times. As I have become more defined in my perspective, it seems that candidates become more and more general.

Back to the Twila's article. I am sorry to say, she seems to personify today's youth. She has plenty to say about what the politicians are not doing or saying, but has no solutions. I find, unfortunately, that a whole generation of people has been raised up to look at, "what's in it for me?"

When I turned eighteen, I could not wait to vote. It was a duty to be taken seriously and an honor to participate in. I listened to the candidates and read the news because I wanted my decision to be informed. While I still take the matter seriously and consider it my duty to vote, my vote is cast for the one I believe is best for the country or the locality in elections closer to home.

In her article, Twila states, "This is true in the last two elections which were clearly not won by landslides, as well as the low voter turn-out rates." While the presidential election in 2000 was very close, although far from the closest, the 2004

election was decided by over 3,000,000 votes. (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0781450.html>) and the voter turn out was the highest percentage since the 60's as well as the most actual voters ever. (<http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0781453.html>)

She also indicated that the last presidential campaign was inconsequential to America at large. "Kerry gave high hopes with no backing and Bush threw us the same old bone," was her take of the candidates' position on Iraq. She is correct in her assessment of Mr. Kerry's position as he said that he had a plan to win the war in Iraq, but could not tell us because it is secret. But the "same old bone" that Mr. Bush threw us was also his position clearly stated; we will remain until the new Iraqi government and defense forces can take care of the country. She may not like the answer, but at least he took a position.

As to the positions and issues of candidates Twila says,

"We're so wound up in issues that have nothing to do with anything, issues that simply distract us from the serious issues that are really at hand." And what does she turn to as the really important issues facing the country? The national debt, unemployment and health care.

The national debt is an inconsequential 3% of the GDP. It can be quickly wiped out if congress were serious about it. On that note all national spending is initiated by the House of Representatives, not the president.

Turning to unemployment, Mr. Bush had addressed it from the beginning. His tax cuts have led to steady economic growth.

We now stand at what economist term full employment and a miracle considering 9/11 and Katrina. John Kerry, on the other hand, promised to create 10,000,000 new high paying jobs without giving a clue as to what he would do to accomplish that.

Then there is the matter of health care. There is good reason it seldom came up on the campaign trail. The majority of the country wants the government to stay the heck away from health care. The reason we have the best health care in the world is because the government has refrained from taking it over. Look at the countries with socialized medicine. Doctors are mandated to treat an unrealistic number of patients every day. Patients have to stand in line for basic care and anyone with serious problems fears for their life because there is such a backlog for services. Anyone suffering serious problems in one of those countries, who can afford to, come to America, where they can have the best treatment the world has to offer.

Just to make a point, I'd like to tell you about a friend of mine.

He has always wanted to be a doctor. When it came time to apply to medical schools, he could not get accepted to a single school in the U.S. So he applied to schools in Great Britain where he had no trouble being accepted.



Step up and stir things up

Photo courtesy library.thinkquest.org

Now it is time for his internship and he is having trouble finding a hospital that will take him. The point is that the state of socialized medicine is so bad that the talented people in those countries won't even go into practice so the standards of who can go to medical school are lowered in order to fill the roles.

Originally, I lamented as to the condition of the younger generation. I hope that I am wrong. I want to see young people desire to make a difference in the country. I don't really care whether they are conservative or liberal. I just would like to see the desire to jump in and make a

difference. Twila says, "younger people are left thinking 'they're all the same anyway, why does it matter?' And they are. They'll sell themselves out to win on both sides."

She is half right here; too many politicians are willing to sell out their convictions to get elected. That is why it really does matter what young people think. Very little of consequence is ever accomplished by people my age. We have become old and mellow. Great things come to pass when young men and women full of ideals take actions and hold to their convictions. So please don't give up; stir it up.

Letter to the Editor

Fundamental wrong in our political system

James Robinson

Contributed

I sympathize with Twila McConnell's indictment against our politicians in her article on April 26, 2006, but I see a way to make the attack against the politicians more stinging. The majority of our politicians suffer from a severe case of myopia of the mind. What they consistently fail to focus on is the one issue in political philosophy that conditions the approach to any and all other political issues. I am, of course, referring to the issue of whether individuals are to deal with one another by voluntary means in the manner of traders or by coercive means in the manner of masters and slaves. Philosopher and novelist Ayn Rand identified this issue 60 years ago, who wrote, "No man has the right to

initiate the use of physical force against another man."

Freedom vs. coercion is the primary issue. All of the other issues are merely derivatives. Today's politicians routinely threaten or violate its citizen's right to live free from coercion, instead of protecting that right. All of the issues that Ms. McConnell mentions are issues whose root involves politicians choosing unwisely on the fundamental issue of freedom vs. coercion:

1. The government coerces its citizens into financing it. Much of this financing, however, goes towards uses that have nothing to do with protecting the rights of its citizens. These unnecessary uses represent an undue burden on the government's budget.

2. The government coerces both employers and employees by coercively and arbitrarily determining the range of wages, instead of letting the free market set the range through voluntary and objective means, thus creating unemployment.

3. Politicians are seriously considering abrogating a woman's right to the use of her own body in getting an abortion.

4. The government has undermined the right of its citizen's to armed self-defense.

The problems in our political system will persist until politicians and their electorates understand true foundational principles in economics and philosophy.



Right to armed self-defense?

Photo courtesy www.fancydresscostumeshop.com

Fun stuff near SPSU

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

Bored? Stuck at SPSU and don't have anything to do? There are night clubs, bars, amusement parks, hiking trails, bowling alleys, movie theaters, and more all in Cobb County. Read on to get some ideas to liven up your summer.

Night Life

For those who enjoy dancing, music, and/or drinking, there are some night clubs and bars in the area. The Q Lounge and Enigma Latin Club are both in the strip mall on the corner of Franklin Road and South Marietta Parkway. The Q Lounge is a rap and hip-hop club and the Enigma Latin Club is, as you probably have guessed, a salsa club.

Runaround Sue's and Cowboys are two more night clubs in Kennesaw. At Runaround Sue's, you will hear the latest dance music Fridays and Saturdays. They, also, do a charity Texas Hold-em' Tournament every Thursday at 7:30 pm. Runaround Sue's is open until 3:00 am everyday, except Sunday. Cowboys is a country club, with live music every Thursday thru Saturday. Thursday is ladies night so ladies you get in free, and for those that don't know how to dance, there are free dance lessons every Thursday and Saturday at 7:00 pm. For more information about these clubs, you can visit www.runroundsues.com or www.cowboysatlanta.com.



Photo courtesy www.runroundsues.com

With the registration fee, you get two lunch tickets, one ticket for a prizing drawing, and a T-shirt. The 50 mile trip will be through the North Georgia country side and will end at Jasper's Pickens High School. At the high school, lunch will be served, the prize drawing will take place, and a local band named CC Morgan Band will be keeping the music going.

ITP is an autoimmune disease, which is a disease where a person's immune system starts attacking a normal organ system. In ITP, the organ attacked and destroyed is the platelets in the blood. Platelets are the part of your blood the clots when you get cuts or bruises and they also maintains the integrity of the blood vessel walls. Without enough platelets, a person suf-

fers from spontaneous bleeding or bruising. People with this disease often have bruises or petechiae, small purple spots on the skin, where their blood has leak from their veins. Adults with this disease normally will have it the rest of their life, but children's bodies normal go back to normal. Unfortunately, Josh's body is not going back to normal.

Ride with Josh for a Cure

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

On Saturday, June 17, motorcycle riders will meet at the parking lot of Freedom Power Sports on Highway 41 in Kennesaw to prepare for a 50 mile ride. This ride is not just for fun, though; it is an effort to raise money for research to find a cure for Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a rare blood disorder. Jessica Carter, the student activities office secretary and Josh's aunt, has been advertising this event around Southern Poly.

Registration for this event is \$30.00 per bike and starts at 8:30 am in the parking lot of Freedom Power Sports. The address for this store is 3102 Cobb Parkway, Kennesaw, GA 30152, if you need to get directions.

too big a risk of him getting hurt. With the low platelet count that is caused by ITP, he might not survive a small injury like being hit with a paintball.

F or more information about this event, you can call Ken Carter at (678) 232-9633 or Jim Sprankel at (678) 760-8290.

Josh

Photo courtesy Jessica Carter

There are many bars in Cobb County, but I am only going to talk about Sideline's and Hemingway's. Sideline's is off Rowell Road less than a mile from the Big Chicken. Every Tuesday night, Sideline has a trivia contest and, if you like reggae, Wednesday nights, they have a reggae band perform. This place is also has pool tables and video games. Hemingway's is on Marietta Square. It has a trivia night, too, Wednesday, but the main appeal of this bar is its Friday and Saturday night live music.

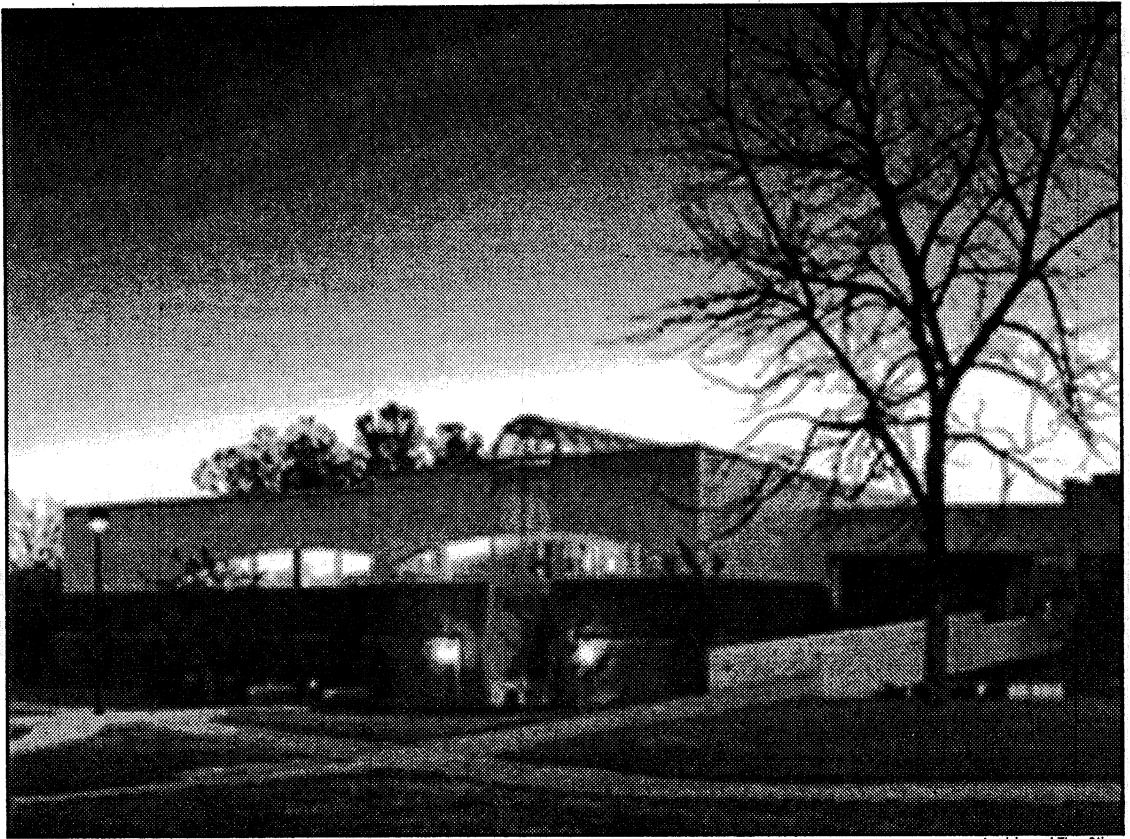
Amusement Parks

For those of who might not know, White Water is less than 10 minutes down Cobb Parkway from SPSU. This place is a bit expensive but it is a good day trip. You could also get a season pass so you can go for a few hours here and there and not feel bad about spending the money.

There is also Mountasia, which has go-karts, bumper boats, miniature golf, and an arcade. This place is also kind of expensive, with miniature golf being \$6.25 a game and go-karts being \$4.95 a ride. There are discounts, though, if you buy multiply rides or games. To get to Mountasia, you should take I-75 to Barrett Parkway, take a right on to Barrett, and it will be an immediate right.

Hiking Trials

There are two good places to hiking, Kennesaw Mountain and Silver Comet Trial. Kennesaw Mountain has a few different trails to hike, and is a great place to go for a picnic. The Silver Comet Trial is a paved walkway that stretches many miles, and actually goes into Alabama. This trial is excellent for walking, running, rollerblading,



Play pool, ping-pong, or Halo at the Student Center

Archives / The Sting

ing, biking, etc.

Bowling Alley

AMF Marietta Lanes and Brunswick Zone are the two closest bowling alleys. Marietta Lanes is right across the street from SPSU on Cobb Parkway. It has specials on Tuesdays, \$8.00 all you can bowl from 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm, Thursdays, \$1.50 a game from 10:00 pm - 1:00 am, and Sundays, which has the same special as Tuesday. Without the specials, games are \$3.00 before 6 pm and \$4.00 after 6 pm. Brunswick is off Delt Road between I-75 and Powers Ferry Road. It has a deal Wednesdays, where each game is only \$1.00 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and a deal on Fridays and Saturdays, where a lane costs \$14.99 per hour from 12:00 am - 2:00 am.

Movie Theaters

There are three big movie theaters near SPSU, the AMC at Parkway Pointe, the AMC off Barrett Parkway, and the Regal Cinema at Town Center. All of these have a student discount but they still cost \$6.00 to \$8.00 a movie. There is a smaller, cheaper theater named Picture Show on Roswell Road

a little past Johnsons Ferry Road on the right coming from SPSU. Movies are \$1.00 before 6:00 pm, \$1.75 after 6:00 pm, and they have a special on Tuesdays, where movies are \$0.50.

Other

For those that just like playing video games, there is Battle and Brew. Battle and Brew is located in the shopping center at the corner of Powers Ferry Road and the 120 Loop. This place has Play Station and Xbox, along with computers so you can play LAN games.

Also, don't forget the number of different things you can do on

campus. There is a basketball court and a sand volleyball court near the Courtyard. There is a big open area between the dorms, where you can play football, Frisbee, soccer, etc (be creative). There is the Recreation Center, which has a weight room, more basketball courts, racket ball courts, and swimming pool. Lastly, the Student Center has pool tables, ping-pong tables, and TV you can play Xbox or Play Station on.

There is a lot to do around Cobb County; you just have to go looking for it. Enjoy your summer.

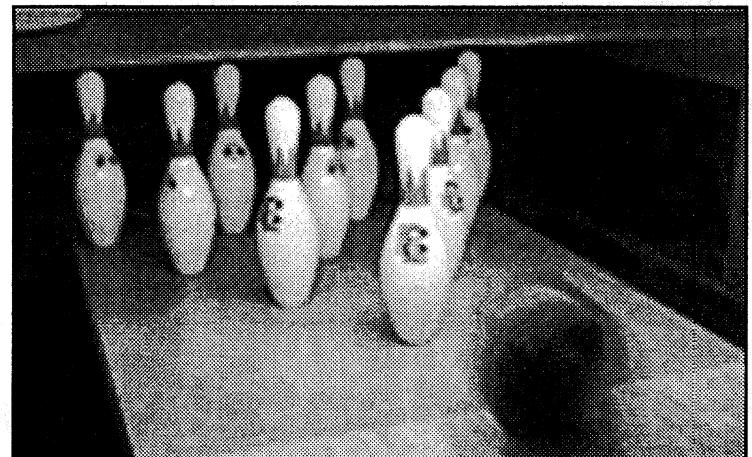
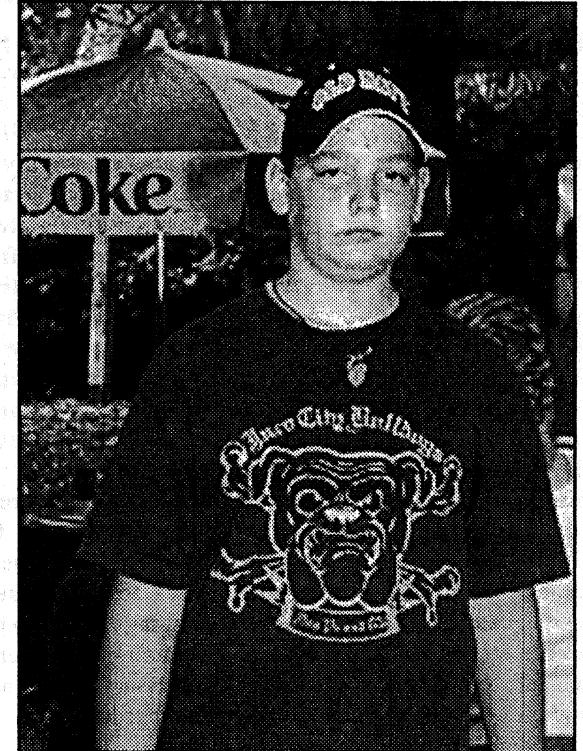


Photo courtesy www.bowlbrunswick.com



Josh

Photo courtesy Jessica Carter

Good Omens by Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett

Eric John
Web Manager

Perhaps you're a bit sick of the same books over and over again. Dealing with the generic 'whodunit' mysteries, or a kid from a quite town grows to save the world from darkness and dragons, or another Tom Clancy book about military technology. For those of you who want a change of pace, but don't find travel brochures interesting, I recommend the novel "Good Omens," which is written by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett.

More than likely, you never heard of either of them or maybe just one, if you're lucky. If you have heard of both of them, or more importantly have read works by both of them, you might be as surprised as I was when I first saw the book. For those of you who aren't familiar, here's a basic rundown of the writers. Neil Gaiman is the author of books like "American Gods" and The Sandman series. I've personally only read the Sandman Series which follows the seven siblings who represent various aspects of life like Death and Dream. However, in that series Gaiman's major ability lay in his intricately crafted characters and storylines, where every person and action was critical and methodically planned out in advance. Gaiman gives a somber and serious look

at life and people, and keeps you vaguely informed and on the edge of your seat.

To contrast perfectly, Terry Pratchett is an excellent comedy writer, who is often mentioned along with Douglas Adams. Terry Pratchett is well known for his Discworld series, which revolves around a comical opposite of our world. The Discworld is just a large disc that rests on the back of four elephants, which are standing on the back of a massive sea turtle. The characters, like Rincewind the inept wizard and Death, who is the black-robed skeleton with a scythe, add comedy while also managing to do something which vaguely resembles an amazing plot hidden underneath tons of jokes.

Now that the introductions are out of the way, both Gaiman and Pratchett merge their style and skill together to create "Good Omens." The story is generally a comedy, but even with Pratchett's comedy making you laugh every page, you can feel those subtly working fingers of Gaiman weaving all the characters and events together in a way that requires more than four dimensions to explain. And where as I originally thought their writing might clash, "Good Omens" just further explains how amazing Gaiman and Pratchett are at writing, and how their two unique takes on series can come together

Neil Gaiman & Terry Pratchett



GOOD OMENs

THE NICE AND ACCURATE PROPH

Terry Pratchett & Neil Gaiman



GOOD OMENs

ECIES OF AGNES NUTTER, WITCH

Check this book out!

Photo courtesy www.neilgaiman.com

so well.

Good Omens is about the end of the world, Revelations style, where heaven and hell have grown accustom to the world, and the four horsemen of the apocalypse have been at work in the world, adapting as they have to while civilization changes around them. Gaiman and Pratchett have put together a masterpiece which needs to be read

misplaced, the earthly representatives of heaven and hell have grown accustom to the world, and the four horsemen of the apocalypse have been at work in the world, adapting as they have to while civilization changes around them. Gaiman and Pratchett have put together a masterpiece which needs to be read

to be fully enjoyed, and anything more might give away part of the marvelous storyline. If there were a numerical system with which books were rated, this would receive the highest score. Pick up a copy next chance you get, and be prepared to be glued to the book, laughing hard and never putting it down.

Thirsty? Summer drink ideas

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

It is summer, which means you need to drink more to stay hydrated. Who wants to drink water all summer, though? Here are some fun drink ideas for the summer. Some are alcoholic, which isn't going to help with the hydration but might help with parties, and some non-alcoholic ones.

Alcoholic Drinks

Some tips before you read the recipes. A part can be one shot, half a shot, or even a smaller fraction of a shot, depending on whether you want a drink or a shot. For example, a kamikaze is one part vodka, one part triple sec, and one part lime juice. If you want a Kamikaze drink, you would mix up one shot of vodka, one shot of triple sec, and one shot of lime. However, if you only want to

be a shot, you would estimate and pour a third of a shot of each ingredient into the shot glass. There are some drinks that have a lot of ingredients in them, like Death by Sex, which is three parts vodka, one part Southern Comfort, one part amaretto, one part sloe gin, one part triple sec, two parts peach schnapps, a splash of orange juice, and a splash of cranberry juice. For drinks like this, you might want to have a part be half a shot.

Sweet Summer Breeze
2 parts brandy
1 part Cointreau
1 part peach brandy
4 parts orange juice
dash of grenadine
dash of champagne

Bahama Mama
2 part dark rum
1 part 151 proof Demerara rum
1 part coconut liqueur
1 part coffee liqueur
fill with pineapple juice
dash of lemon juice

Long Island Ice Tea
1 part vodka
1 part gin
1 part rum
1 part tequila
1 part triple sec
coke
sweet & sour mix

Cool Breeze
1 part melon liqueur
1 part gold tequila
1 part cranberry juice

Midsummer's Night Dream

3 part silver tequila
1 part pineapple juice
1 part lime juice
dash of grenadine

Fourth of July
1 part bourbon
1 part Galliano
1 part coffee liqueur
1 part orange juice
1 part half & half
ground cinnamon

Lucky Summer
1 part whiskey
1 part triple sec
1 part orange juice
½ lemon juice
dash of grenadine

Bikini Line
1 part vodka
1 part Tia Maria
1 part raspberry liqueur

Sex on the Beach
1 part vodka
1 part peach schnapps
1 part cranberry juice
1 part grapefruit juice

For those of you that have a blender, here are some good frozen drinks.

Banana Boat
1 part white rum
1 part white crème de cacao
half a banana, peeled
2 scoops of vanilla ice cream

Frozen Margarita
1 part tequila
½ triple sec
sweet & sour mix

Strawberry Daiquiri

1 cup of ice

Strawberry Daiquiri
1 ½ part light rum
1 part lemon juice
4 strawberries
1 tsp sugar
1 cup of ice

Mudslide
1 part vodka
1 part Kahlua
1 part irish cream
1 cup of ice (or 2 scoops of vanilla ice cream)

That is it for the alcoholic drinks. Remember to drink responsibly and don't drive if you have been trying some of these out.

Non-alcoholic

The non-alcoholic recipes are a little more involved than the alcoholic ones but, normally, they taste better and are more refreshing.

Lemonade (recipes.epicurean.com)

2 ½ gallons ice water
1 quarter lemon juice (approximately 36 lemons if you want to squeeze them yourself)
4-6 cups sugar (depends on how sweet you want it)

This recipe makes around 2 ½ gallons of lemonade. You begin by dissolving the sugar in the lemon juice. After the sugar is dissolved, add the ice water.

Strawberry Banana Smoothie
(You need a blender.)
5 ice cubes

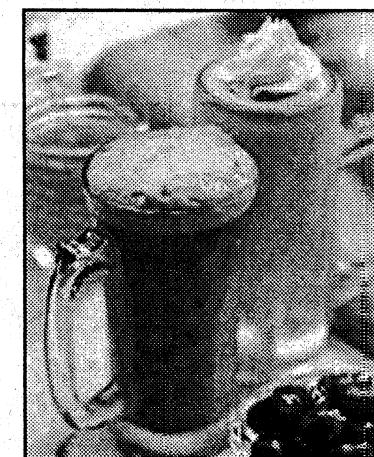


Photo courtesy www.honey.com

Root Beer Float

1 cup milk
1 banana, peeled (You know there is someone out there that would forget to peel the banana)
4 strawberries
1 ½ tsp sugar

You put all the ingredients in the blender and blend until ice is all broken up.

Milkshakes
(You need a blender.)

2 scoops of whatever ice cream you want
1 cup of milk

Again, just put the ingredients in the blender and wait a few seconds.

Root Beer Float (www.fatfree.com, edited so it's not fat free)
2 scoops of vanilla ice cream
12 oz root beer

You fill the cup half way with root beer. Then, you put the ice cream in, and fill the cup the rest of the way up with root beer.

Well, that is it. Enjoy your summer.

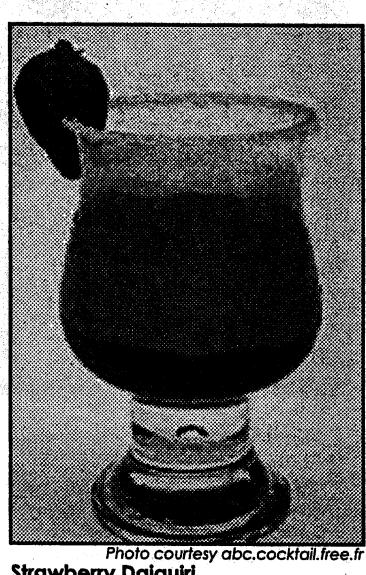
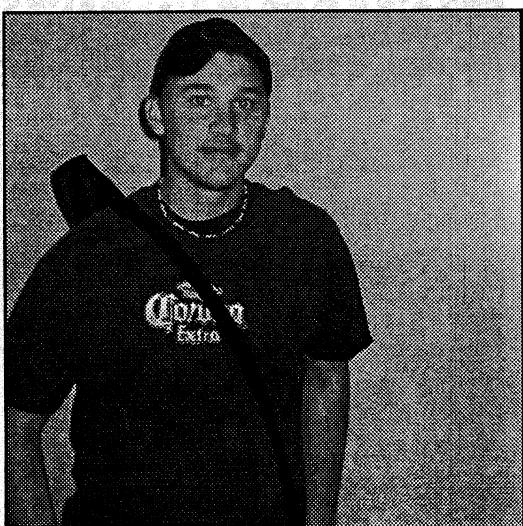
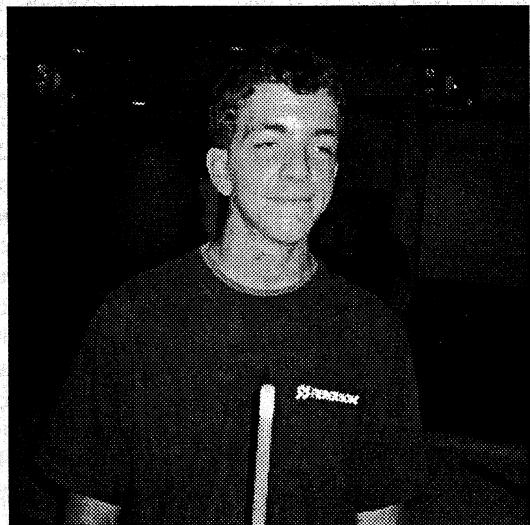


Photo courtesy abc.cocktail.free.fr

Student Question**What do you fear most?**

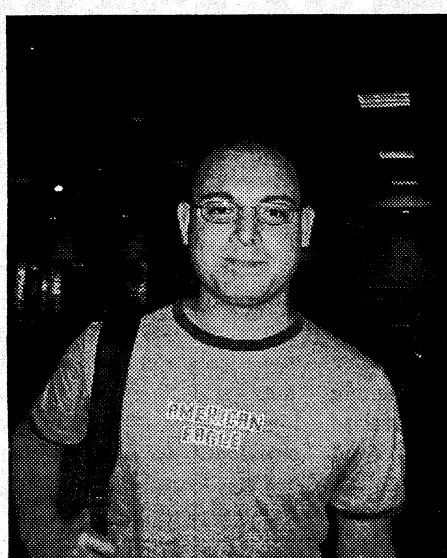
"Having nitric acid poured on my leg again."

Kevin Hasty



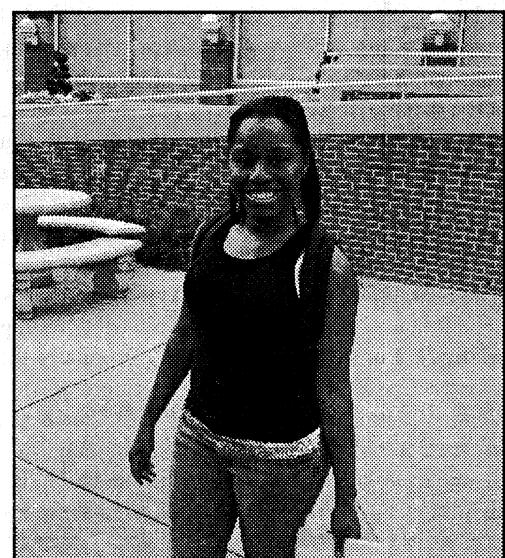
"Snakes."

Nathan Caine



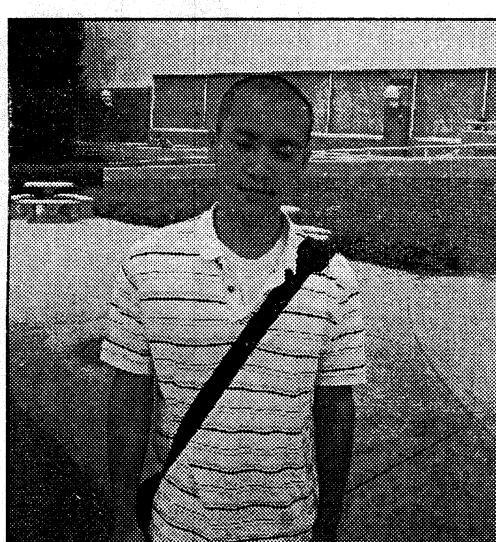
"A Chuck Norris roundhouse kick to the face."

Dominick Simeone



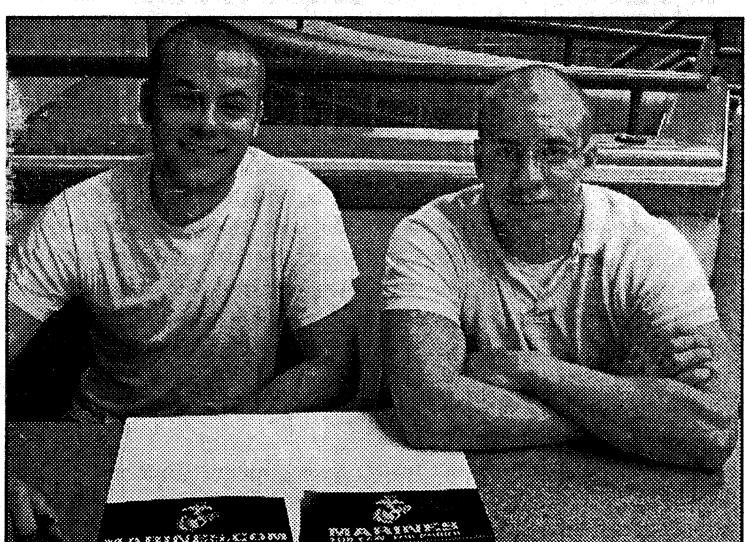
"Broke Men."

Donna Washington



"Final Exams."

Kevin Tran



"Not becoming a Marine Corp Officer."

Patrick Davis, Manny Sosa

From The Sting archives, published July 7, 2003

President Outlines Budget Plans

Miranda Bennett
Editor Emeritus

Southern Polytechnic State University's priority continues to be protecting positions, said President Lisa Rossbacher during a budget meeting she held on Wednesday, June 25. However, her focus quickly shifted to the 15% tuition increase recently approved by the Board of Education.

Rossbacher warned that there would be no increases in salaries in the upcoming year. However, she stated that the raises put in place for FY03 and deferred for three months would show up in staffer's checks. In other words, there will be no increases this year but the bottom line will be higher.

According to Rossbacher, the

15% tuition increase sets a powerful precedence by aligning SPSU with research universities—most state universities only received a 10% tuition increase. This alignment with research universities will insure that special treatment given to them will be afforded to SPSU in the future. Additionally, Rossbacher asserted that the increase gives official recognition in BOR minutes to SPSU's focused mission and costly curriculum.

The additional 5%, which will approximate \$390,000 this year, is slated for instructional equipment and academic programs. Of the other 10%, 5% (between \$300,000 and \$400,000) will be allocated rapidly according to priorities set by the departments and 5% will be held back to compensate

for future budget cuts by the state. According to Rossbacher, she expects SPSU to take a 2% hit in FY04. SPSU has traditionally held back a percentage of their budget to deal with decreases in state allocated budgets.

In related news, Rossbacher announced that she is serving on the President's Advisory Committee for FY05 budget planning. The priority for the committee is to encourage full funding of the state formula. The committee is also working towards re-establishing funding for maintenance, repairs and renovations. Another concern has risen at the prospect of no salary increases for FY05. Rossbacher asserted that the committee is trying to make the case that not allowing salary increases affects

recruitment and retention. The committee is calling for cases from department heads that illustrate this point to the state legislature.

In further discussion, Rossbacher revealed SPSU plans to argue for tuition increases and fee increases for FY05 to send the message that SPSU is a special purpose university. However, she acknowledged that SPSU would have to shoulder the responsibility for generating more scholarships. Rossbacher named the athletic fee and technology fee for future increases. In addition, she forwarded the idea of instituting a special fee that would specifically recognize SPSU's special purpose but admitted that the idea was "dangerous territory."



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"If you think I'm not taking flak from my colleagues for this, you're wrong," joked President Lisa Rossbacher while explaining how SPSU was recently aligned with research universities in Georgia.