

Read what a first timer thought about Anime Weekend Atlanta, and his experience with Hinti...

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CAB brought Recycle Percussion to campus. If you didn't come, see what you missed.

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September 28, 2006

Yay! Computer Science is FINALLY accredited.

Volume 61, Issue 3

## Sexual assault on campus

**Cristina Wilson**  
Senior Staff Writer

On the week of September 5, 2006, a Southern Polytechnic female student was sexually assaulted in the 3000 building of the Courtyard Apartments. According to Chief of Campus Police, Gary Chasteen, an arrest has been made in this case of alleged "acquaintance rape". The charged assailant was not a student, but was visiting campus.

According to the SAFE: Sexual Assault Facts and Education website (<http://rivervision.com/safe/index.html>), acquaintance rape is defined as "any non-consensual sexual activity between two or more people who know each other". This is the most common type of rape, occurring to 60% of the women who report their assault.

The SPSU campus is by no means immune to this kind of violence. Chasteen states that several charges of acquaintance rape have been reported over the years. On any college campus, the most common type of sexual assault occurs between two students who know each other.

Chasteen believes that although this type of conduct is

especially disturbing, the SPSU campus is still a remarkably safe place for students to live and learn. However, he admits that the low percentage of crime on campus is mostly due to luck, along with the hard work of the officers on duty.

Every 3 minutes someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. One in four college women will experience some sort of sexual assault. Although these facts can seem somewhat bleak, Chief Chasteen acknowledges that there are many ways female students can protect themselves against this type of act.

Students should always travel in groups. Whether this is a walk across Cobb Parkway to the bowling alley or simply a short stroll to an evening class, female students should never feel embarrassed to walk with a well-known friend. When dating someone new, students should always take their own transportation, or make it a party by double dating.

While attending a party either on campus or off, a female student should never leave her drink unattended, nor should she accept a drink (either alcoholic or non) from a stranger. The small campus of

Southern Poly may portray a false sense of security. Never forget that this area is fully open to surrounding Marietta, and anyone may enter.

Heightening resident awareness will help reduce the amount of crime on the SPSU campus. Chasteen suggests that all suspicious characters should be reported to the police. Since the campus is so small, spotting an unfamiliar face can sometimes be fairly easy. SPSU officers are committed to a strong presence on campus, and agree that questioning any suspi-

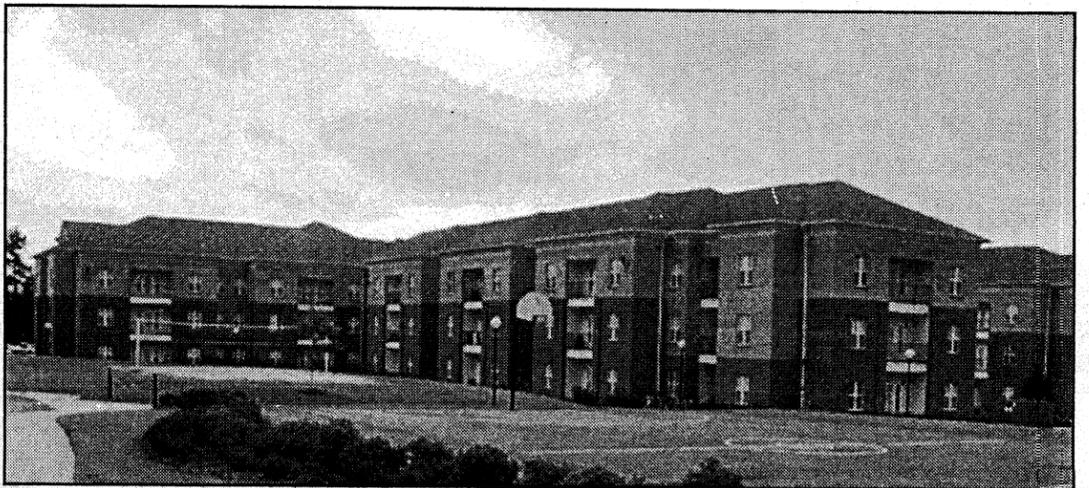
cious person in a non-accusatory manner is a good start to preventing crime.

To increase resident awareness as well as to familiarize students with officers, Captain John Bauer has newly instituted the Good Neighbor program. Bauer recognizes that many violence problems on campus can be easily prevented by informing students as to their responsibilities in a dorm or apartment setting.

In the Good Neighbor program, each officer will create an open line of communication with

students. The hope is that students will feel comfortable with officers and not think of them as intimidating or unapproachable. According to Chasteen, the ultimate goal of the campus police is to see each student walk across the stage at graduation.

Although recent events have shaken the comfortable feeling of security on campus, students should recognize that knowledge as well as cooperation with the police staff will create a safe atmosphere for all.



Courtyard Building 3000

Steven Fyffe / The Sting

## State of the University Address

**Cristina Wilson**  
Senior Staff Writer

On September 12th, President Lisa Rossbacher gave her annual State of the University address. This year the address was tied in with the fall convocation - recognition of the Dean's List and Teacher of the Year.

President Rossbacher began the ceremony by confidently acknowledging, "the state of the university is...great". Fall attendance this semester is 10.7% higher than the 2005 semester, and 5% higher than the previous attendance record set 17 years ago. So far, the University is within 12 students of reaching its enrollment goal for 2007.

Southern Polytechnic is growing substantially in numbers as well as diversity. According to Rossbacher, as of last July SPSU has been officially designated as a "comprehensive university". Although maintaining the original goal of a hands-on practical application of learning, SPSU is broadening its horizons by means of offering new majors and producing well-rounded graduates for today's workforce.

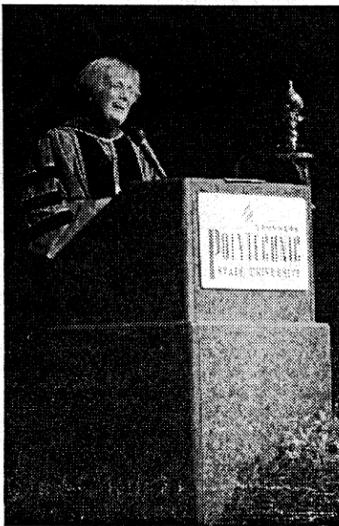
For the 2006-2007 school year, SPSU has three main goals: to become more comprehensive in scope, to increase enrollment, and to increase a sense of ownership in the success of the university among all members of the university community. At least two of these three goals are well on their way to completion.

A few business, as well as facility, goals will be implemented during the upcoming school year. Thanks to a suggestion from Brianna Morrison, the newly acquired Elks Lodge will simply be referred to as "The Lodge". Six Sigma Training, a program of applying business goals to work practices, will facilitate in the ongoing attempt to improve customer service.

The Portal Project has been delayed once again, but President Rossbacher believes that this will benefit the university as a whole, giving facilities time to work with the city of Marietta in determining SPSU's future growth and capacity.

President Rossbacher also shared with the student body keys to success given by alumni, faculty, and staff. These comments included a

wide variety of advice from previous students who wish to see SPSU become one of the top Technology Universities in the Southeast. Many congratulations go out to the Dean's List Students for 2005-2006, of which there were too many for Vice President Zvi Szafran to individually name. Dr. Gouranga C. Banik, associate professor of Construction Management, was named Teacher of the Year for 2006-2007.



President Rossbacher

Matt Finn / The Sting

## New sound system

**Cristina Wilson**  
Senior Staff Writer

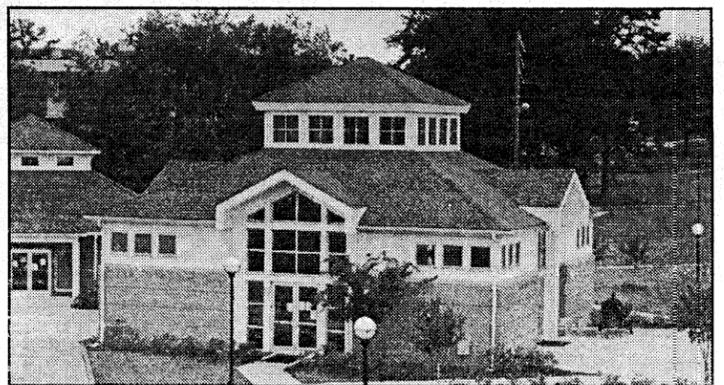
Equipment for a new sound system has recently been installed in the Community Center, providing an easily accessible entertainment space for students and faculty. Kasey Helton, newly hired Student Activities Director, has a goal of greater student involvement with activities on campus and noticed that the addition of these materials would benefit all members of the SPSU community.

Her first week at work, Helton noticed that any loudspeaker or music

equipment needed to be dragged across campus from the student center. This often meant raiding many offices to find lost wires or required materials. She noted that this equipment should be available at all times to students who wish to meet for their organizations or classes.

The Community Center, conveniently located near the center of campus, was initially built as an easily accessible area for students to meet and study. The recent addition of a Starbucks Coffee House has increased interest in the space. The

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The Community Center

Steven Fyffe / The Sting

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**Basketball!**  
New writer Jonathon List gets us up to date with basketball before the season starts.

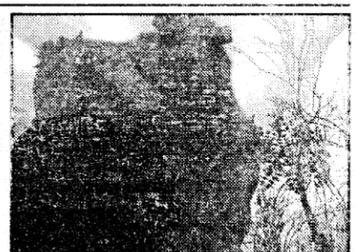
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**Christiaan is stirring up trouble again!**  
See what Christiaan is criticizing this issue.

Page 5

**Shadow of the Colossus!**  
Sean review another underrated game. Check out if you have been miss out on a great game.

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**Sound System**

Continued from Front Page

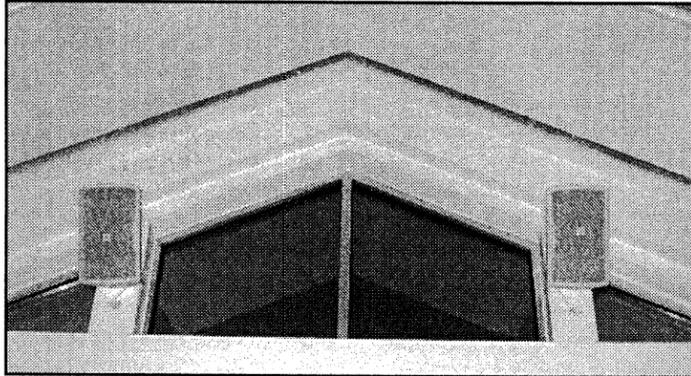
installation of media components will hopefully create a hangout space to draw in students. Audio equipment installed includes a tuner, cd player, amplifier, sound board, speakers indoors and outdoors, and six microphones, stands, and cords. This equipment was installed in such a way that a student or professor will simply need to push only a few buttons and begin their activity.

SPSU's facility department installed the additional electricity needed to accommodate the extra workload, along with boxes and shelves for the speakers. In the near future, Helton hopes that facilities will build a stage for coffee house performers.

Funding for the \$7200 purchase came a variety of sources. Campus

Activities Board (CAB) supplied \$1,000 from their annual budget. SGA and the Auxiliary services budget split the remaining costs. The Auxiliary budget comes from fees paid by companies such as the Barnes and Noble Bookstore as well as Carlyle Food Services. Carlyle is responsible for the recent addition of Starbucks, and they are

committed to keeping the coffee house open as much as possible. This will require student participation and patronage. Tuesday, September 26th will be the unveiling of the new sound system, and all students are invited to attend a live concert by two local Atlanta bands: Sam Thacker, and Crumbling Arches. Activities will start at 7pm.



Community Center's outside speakers. The ones inside are way cooler)

Karen Asay / The Sting



Matt Finn / The Sting

(Top) The Spanish Rock Band in action  
(Bottom) Three of the Coffee House employees.

**Coffee House Grand Opening**

Tuesday, September 19th was the Community Center Coffee House's Grand Opening. There were free samples of treats given out and drinks were discounted. The Coffee House also did a raffle for an iPod Nano. During the evening, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, SHPE, added to the celebration by having a Spanish Rock band play. This event is only the beginning since many organizations on campus have planned or are planning events that will be in the Community Center.



Matt Finn / The Sting

**The B.S. degree in  
Computer Science  
is now ABET  
Accredited.**

More information to follow in the next issue of The Sting.

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www.thesting.org

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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. 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 12:00 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, October 12 at 11:00 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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## Career Connection Basics for planning your career

**Bridgette McDonald**  
Career Coordinator

### Career Planning and Your Job Search

Are you wondering which career direction is right for you? Whether you're a college freshman, preparing for graduation, or an established professional unsure about a midlife change: deciding upon a career can be difficult. An important part of the process is self evaluation and exploration in which you figure out what you know about yourself, the world of work, and how to find occupations that are suitable for you. This is no easy task.

Your decision may have lifelong ramifications; for example, your choice of career can play a major role in determining your income, status within your community, opportunities for success, and perhaps your circle of friends. The career you choose will no doubt be one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

After 17 years of assisting students and alumni with major career decisions, one thing I have noticed is that most are unaware of how to properly develop a plan for their career and search for employment. I have put together the basics and hope that you will find them useful and as always come to the Career and Counseling Center for additional information and assistance to make the transition from career planning to the job search a successful one.

### Career Planning and Job Search Basics: Develop a Career Plan

You have a much better chance of succeeding in your life and work if you devote time and energy to think about why you are choosing a certain career. It is very important in your career plan to allow time for self evaluation. This is the time to identify your skills, strengths, weaknesses, values and interests.

### Identify Prospective Employers

Many students never devote time to think about who they might want to work for. Most simply say it does not matter. When maxi-

mizing your career planning and job search skills you will want to devote time to matching your skills and interests to specific types of work and some ideal employers you would like to work for. This does not mean you should limit yourself but it assures that you will hopefully find job satisfaction early in your career.

### Networking

Not only should you utilize your career and counseling center but others in your network. This should include professors, friends, classmates, student/professional organizations, alumni, and anyone else you can think of that may assist you in your career search.

### The Resume and Cover Letter

The most important tool in your job search is a well written and error free resume. This is your marketing tool and it is the connection to reaching the next step, the interview. Resume is a French word meaning "summary" and that is precisely what your resume should be... a summary. The purpose of the cover letter is to generate interest in your resume and to encourage the employer to hire you.

### The Interview

Getting the interview is the ultimate goal of the resume and cover letter. This is the step that ultimately decides if you receive the job offer. There are several things you must do in order to do well during this part of the job search process:

- Review your resume
- Research the company and the industry
- Dress for Success
- Arrive early (10-15 minutes)
- Practice, practice, practice
- Always be positive
- Market your strengths and be prepared to discuss your weaknesses but do not dwell on them
- Ask questions

### Post Interview

- Evaluate the interview
- Write down the positives and negatives
- Write a thank you letter to the interviewer

## What about the Libertarians?

**Jonathan Meek**  
Staff Writer

Once you saw the words "Libertarian Party", you probably wondered why the editor wasted good column space for an article about a third party. They don't win elections anyway... Well, while that may be the case for the most elections, I would not count out the Gubernatorial Libertarian Party Candidate, Mr. Garrett Hayes. According to a recent Wall Street Journal poll, Mr. Hayes is polling at 8.1 percent, which drops both Perdue and Taylor below 50 percent. This in turns means if the elections were held today, then Perdue and Taylor would have a runoff election. However, in my interview with Mr. Hayes, he believes this is the starting point of it all.

"We've lit the spark on voter discontent, and it can only burn brighter from here. Remember Jesse Ventura? He was only polling about 10 % before the debates in 1998, and went on to win the Minnesota Governor's mansion. Our debates are still to come, so you'd better keep watching..."—quote from Mr. Hayes campaign website.

The first item of business for my interview was the HOPE scholarship, and his plans for the future of it. Mr. Hayes says that the HOPE scholarship is a great idea and has worked well for Georgia. However, he would like to see a qualifying exam for the scholarship program as seen in other states in order to curb the chances of "grade inflation" by high school teachers.

When asked about how to retain current teachers and recruit new teachers, he believes that the school systems should have open enrollment under the condition that the school has the resources to effectively teach the child, along with a completely open voucher system, which would allow any parent to use the funds for their child's education and put into any school they so desire. He said, "The deci-

sion should be in the hands of the parents, not the politicians".

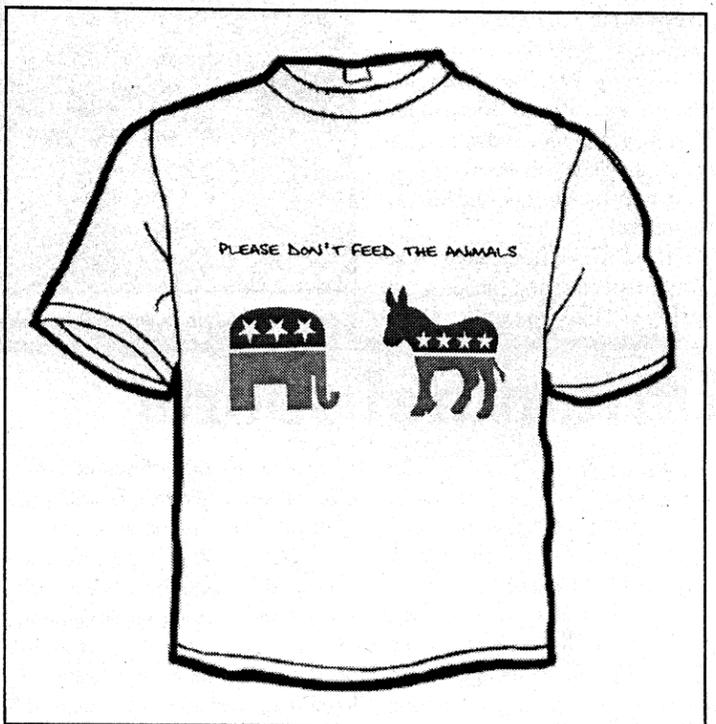
After education, we moved right along with the economy. Mr. Hayes believes that the key to more jobs here in Georgia is the abolishment of the state income tax. "With the removal of the state income tax, small businesses, which make up 70-80% of the businesses in Georgia, will be able to thrive. It will take our economy from humming to zooming... Get government out of the way" was his response to me. To be honest, I was not sure about that idea, so I asked him how the government would handle such a loss in revenue. He responded that the government would need to decrease spending in order to handle this loss in revenue. He said, "We need to look at the revenues first, then decide what to spend it on.... Government has been doing it backwards for a long time."

Of course, economy lead into personal finance, which he said he was in favor of a credit freeze. After you get the amount of credit you

want, you can close your account so no unauthorized person can gain access to your credit and use your identity. Mr. Hayes said that he believes this because it our money belongs to us, not the banks, not the government, it belongs to us.

As further protection for consumers, he believes that lawsuits should have a "loser-pays" clause. For example, if someone sues a corporation, puts up \$10,000 into the lawsuit and loses, then the "loser" should be responsible to pay up to \$10,000 for bringing up the lawsuit. This would help deter people from filing bogus lawsuits and driving the price up for a certain product because businesses pass on the increased cost to the consumers.

Mr. Hayes was quite an interesting man to interview, and to be honest, I am going to keep up with this election to see how he does. Who knows... Mr. Hayes might be on the same track as Ventura was in 1998... Only time and our votes will determine that one.



Libertarian party support T-shirt

Photo courtesy unknown website

## Community Center Coffee House

"Fun, Social and Leadership Development"

We all made it happen, the Student Government Association proudly announces, SPSU's Coffee House with Starbucks Coffee officially inaugurated! The Grand Opening that took place on Tuesday, September 19, ALL DAY LONG was a complete success. We had wonderful things happening:

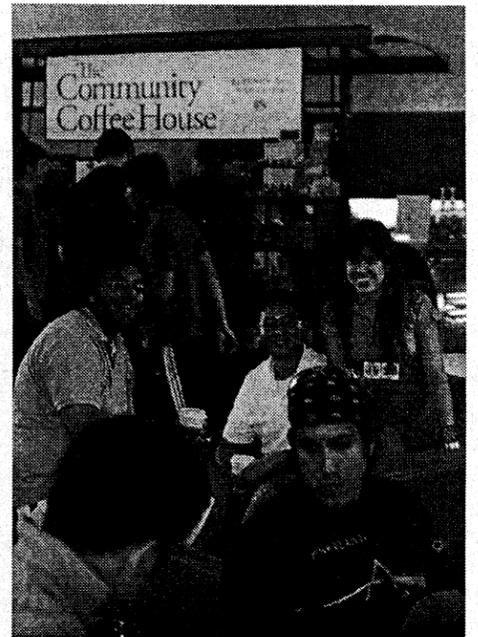
- Many students, faculty and staff helped out
- We have a new surround system sponsored by SGA. We want to invite everyone to pick the choice of their favorite music: Classical, Jazz, House, Spanish, French, Portuguese, or any other music you would love to listen and share with us
- Housing raffled an iPod Nano
- We had free samples of all our treats: brownies, marble cake, muffins, cookies and many others
- We have our own Coffee House Logo designed by two ar-

chitecture students, Maria Carolina Montilla and Matt Finn  
• Rock Spanish Concert  
Sponsored by SHPE  
at 7PM

Our goal is to continue offering our best to the student body, faculty and staff. The Coffee House is a place full of inspirations in music, specialties in coffee, teas, and sweet treats. Some of the events we are planning to have are SGA Open Forums, Book Fairs, Student Organizations, Gatherings, Coffee Nights, Art Exhibitions and many other exciting events that will make your stay and day in SPSU more enjoyable.

The Coffee House will be offering weekly specials, and we will be having Gift Cards for

any special events.  
Thank you,  
Carolina Daza



Matt Finn / The Sting

Students enjoying refreshments during the Community Center Grand Opening.

## WANTED Co-op & Intern Students of All Majors

Companies Hiring:  
Norfolk Southern,  
Southern Company,  
Georgia Pacific,  
New Energy Associates (A Siemens Company),  
Shaw Industries, and more

## Introduction to basketball

**Jonathan List**  
Staff Writer

Over the past few years I have found that one of the biggest draws on a college campus would be the basketball team. This is just as true on the SPSU campus as it would be on any campus across the nation. It's almost enough to make you feel like you are on a real college campus!

SPSU fields both a men's and a women's team in the sport. They compete in the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC) which is a conference found within the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). This association was created to allow smaller schools to compete with each other on a national level. Most people are familiar with the NCAA but that is generally aimed at larger schools.

The SSAC is a grouping of other schools, usually in a similar region of the country, that they compete with on a regular basis. Most schools play the other schools in their conference two times a year, once at home and once away. The school that wins this conference will usually earn an automatic berth in the national tournament. Other local colleges in our division include the State University of West Georgia, Berry College, and Mercer University.

The metro Atlanta area tends to be a hot bed for basketball success, especially at the college ranks. SPSU

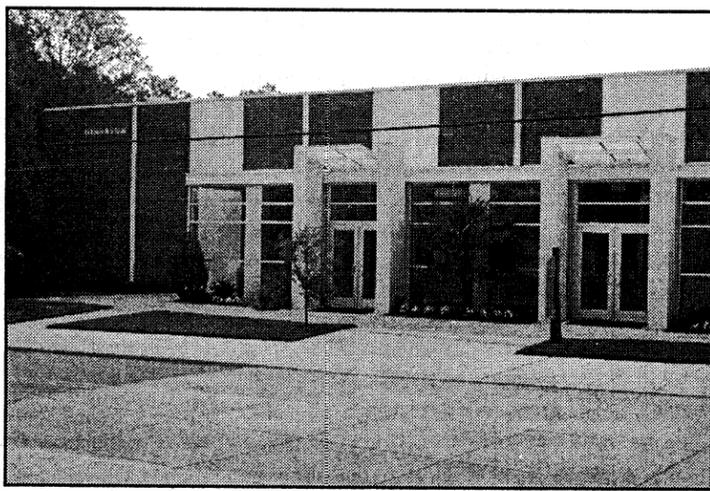
is no stranger to this success either. The men's program has been ranked as high as #1 in the country in recent years and that success seems to be lingering. The men's program has reached the NAIA tournament in six of the last seven years and have reached the Sweet 16 in each of the last two seasons. As you can see, accomplishment in basketball isn't just for the likes of Kennesaw State and Georgia Tech. SPSU can now be seen as a perennial basketball powerhouse.

And don't let the accolades of the men's program lead you to think that the women's team isn't talented. The only thing holding them back is a lack of time. The women's basketball team at SPSU has only existed for four years. Look for the women's Runnin' Hornets to try and make this a statement season. The head coaches for each squad

put in a lot of effort year in and year out in order to make sure their teams can compete at this elite level. Coach Jeffrey Jones of the men's team and Coach Nate Teymer both come from very accomplished backgrounds. They possess the coaching tools that any basketball team would love to have in order to succeed.

Students on campus should have more than enough to be excited about when it comes to this year's basketball program. Games can be seen on campus at the Athletic Gymnasium which is located in front of the baseball field.

The Runnin' Hornets should be able to heat up the SPSU campus during those few cold months in Georgia and chances once the weather warms up the teams should be looking at another successful campaign.



Come to the Gym to watch the basketball games.

Steven Fyffe / The Sting

## Men's Basketball Team Roster

Num.	Name	Yr.	Pos.
1	Darnell Richardson	Sr.	G/F
3	Mike Woodard	Sr.	G
4	Robert Cox	Sr.	G/F
10	Doug Underwood	Sr.	G
12	Terrez Dewalt	Sr.	F
20	DJ Gibson	Jr.	G/F
22	Travis McCarn	Fr.	G
23	Allen Smith	So.	G
24	Chase Armstrong	So.	G
32	Ryan Edge	Jr.	G
33	Preston Dennis	Sr.	G
34	Isaac Jones	Sr.	F/C
44	Anthony Bowman	Sr.	F/C
54	Rashawn McCormack	Jr.	F/C

## Fall Intramural Schedule

Activity	Entry Period	Activity Begins
Welcome Back Softball Tournament	Aug. 21 - Sept. 7	September 11
Ultimate Frisbee	Aug. 21 - Sept. 11	September 13
Flag Football	Aug. 21 - Sept. 11	September 14
Racquetball Tournament	Sept. 5-26	September 28
Golf Tournament	Sept. 11 - Oct. 10	October 13
Volleyball	October 2 - 19	October 23
Badminton Tournament	October 12 - Nov. 3	November 7
Basketball Challenge	October 30 - Nov. 10	November 13

## Intramural sports

**Eric Ravanello**  
Staff Writer

I want to begin this article with an apology that I didn't get it out sooner because it is too late to sign up for some of these activities, but hopefully it will encourage you to get involved in an up and coming activity.

I am going on my fourth year here at SPSU, and needless to say, there are not a lot of students here interested in playing, watching, or even reading about sports, but athletic activity has a number of benefits for any human being and I believe it is my duty to at least open the door for activity. It is up to you whether or not you want to walk through that door.

Our school has a large variety of sports that will be covered in this section of The Sting when they are in season, but for the time being there are plenty of intramural activities going on that even non-athletes can partake in. At this point, I hope this is not the first time any of you are hearing about intramurals, but I do hope you care enough about yourselves to read through and find something of interest. At a demanding technical school such as Southern Poly, it is hard to find time to even relax let alone finding more activity to participate in, but physical and mental exhaustion are two very different things. I am confident we have all been mentally exhausted since the first week, but physically

there may be a lack of productivity, especially the architecture students. I know because I used to be one.

Now many of you are already dedicated to some form of exercise and are just looking for something fun to do, and then there are others who need something to do - I know you freshmen have heard of the Freshman Fifteen. Either way, learning and playing a sport is fun, productive, and social. I have heard the excuses like "I am too uncoordinated and will get heckled for trying" or "I already have too much to do." Well the bottom line is, make it happen! Take some of those calories that you intake all week and leave them on the basketball court, the racquetball courts, or even the softball and flag football fields. There is plenty to do, you just have to do it, and I personally guarantee that you will have fun and meet new people in the process.

This is a timetable for the currently scheduled activities, but don't let that limit you. If you want to start a wiffle-ball league,

volleyball league, ping-pong/pool tournament, bowling tournament at the local bowling alley, or have some other fantastic idea that you want to get people involved in, contact Brandon McLain in the recreation and wellness center. He may not be able to start a league immediately, but he could definitely send you in the right direction.

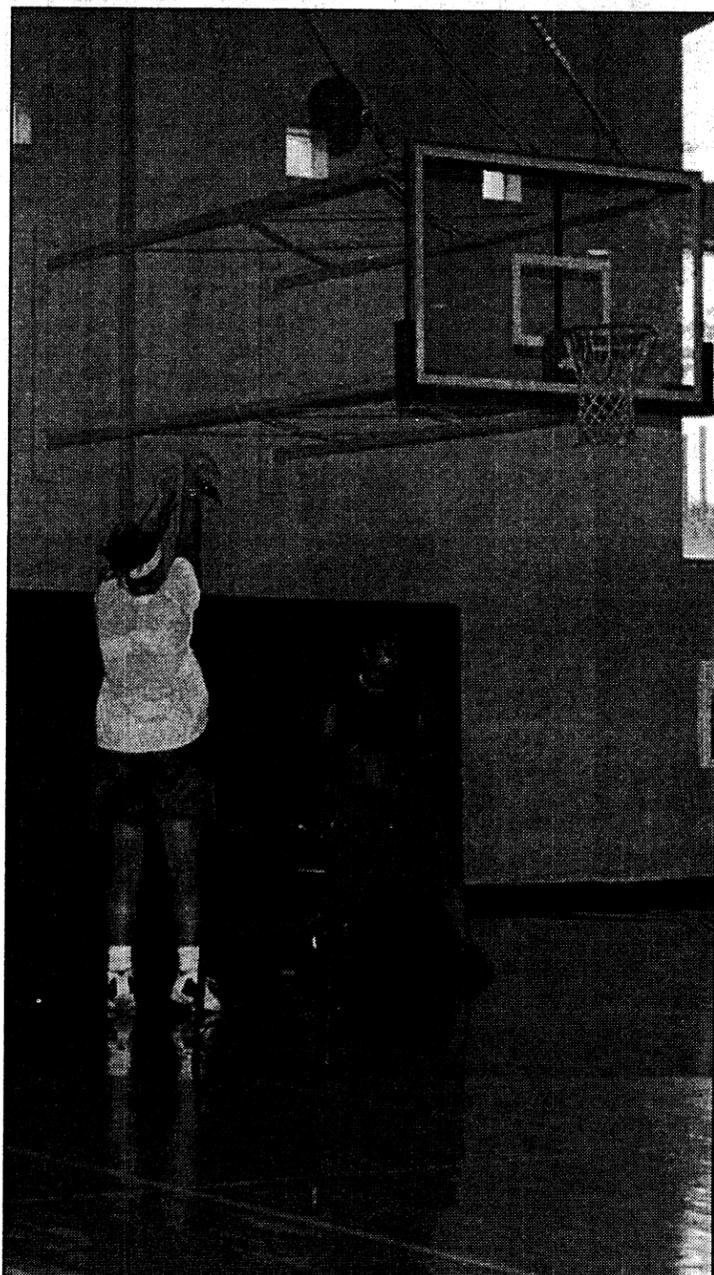
On a side note, intramural activities are not intended solely for athletes, they are for everyone. So don't be discouraged. If you don't know how to play a sport, but are interested, learn it...if you do know how to play, teach someone who wants to learn. Either way, do something other than complaining about there being nothing to do, if you are one of the people who do that of course.

Feel free to consult our website for more information on intramural sports and the Google search engine for related articles on health. Let the experts tell you why exercising and physical activity are beneficial for you.



At the Rec. Center, you can sign up for Intramural Sports

Matt Finn / The Sting



Exercise is healthy. Try to make time for it.

Steven Fyffe / The Sting

## The Middle:

# Stand up for what you believe in!

**Christiaan Funkhouser**  
Senior Staff Writer

Back in the 14th century, the ruler of Constantinople was talking to someone about the differences between Islam and Christianity. The emperor told him, "Show me what Muhammad brought that was new, and you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached." The newest pope quoted these words and the Muslim community across the world rioted, murdered, and pillaged in retaliation because the words did not characterize the Islamic religion as one of peace. In Mogadishu, Somalia (the city where Black Hawk Down took place) according to Reuters a catholic nun was working in a children's hospital when Muslims came in, shot the bodyguard killing him instantly, and then shot the nun four times, in the chest, stomach, and back. Reuters commented that the crime was most likely done by angered Muslims who thought [the Pope's comments] showed their religion to be innately violent.

It's amazing... let's not forget what the Muslims did to France, or what happened to Denmark and across the world because of a cartoon. A cartoon that Muslims claim made their prophet appear as a murderer. What if instead he was painted with a picture of him and his eight year old wife. What

would the Muslim world of said to the truth that Mohammed was a pedophile? In Mohammed's defense, he did respect his little girl enough to wait and de-virginate her until she was eleven. What about a cartoon of Mohammed cutting off someone's head. The up-roar would be un-imaginable.

If I wanted to put scripture from the peaceful Qu'ran in I could quote, Sura 47-4: "When you meet the unbelievers, strike off their heads; then when you have made wide slaughter among them, carefully tie up the remaining captives" or IV 9.5: "So when the sacred months have passed away, then slay the idolaters wherever you find them, and take them captives and besiege them and lie in wait for them in every ambush." Supporters of Islam would throw back at me, Ester 8:11 "The king's decree gave the Jews in every city authority to unite to defend their lives. They were allowed to kill, slaughter, and annihilate anyone of any nationality or province who might attack them or their children and wives, and to take the property of their enemies."

Therein lies the difference. Christians today are not taking that kings decree and using it to slaughter women and children. Christians today aren't taking prisoners and singing to God, while sawing the head off of a non-Christian.

Christians today aren't kidnapping non-Christians, mutilating their bodies, sawing off their heads and sticking appendages in the sawed off head's mouth. And Christians who allegedly disagree with the aforementioned actions don't DEFEND the "people" who commit those actions. Christians, on average, come out against those who butcher their faith.

My problem with Muslims in America and around the world is their apathy that their religion is being hi-jacked. This leads me to believe it's not really being hi-jacked. There was a writer for The Sting that justified the actions of terrorists, justified the actions of the 9-11 hijackers by saying they were like United States Soliders, stating, "[Americans and Hollywood] identify us with people hijacking planes and being suicide bombers. But is that really as bad as giving your men and women guns and sending them off from their families, then giving them a medal for shooting someone if they come out alive and successful?" This article can be found on "The Sting's" website [http://www.thesting.org/display\\_article.asp?id=1875](http://www.thesting.org/display_article.asp?id=1875).

Part of this stems from the anger and frustration I have when I see someone mis-representing my religion. I can't stand to see people holding up signs yelling though

bullhorns, "Repent or face Hell's Fire", "Faggots Go to Hell", or "Jesus Hates Sinners". I cannot stand it when people completely ignore the story in John where some chick was sleeping with a guy. The leaders of the time, were like, "here's the law, it says to kill her." And Jesus responded, "Whoever's never made a mistake go ahead." Then everyone left and Jesus was like, "Who's here to condemn you." She responded, "No one." Then he replied, "Then, I don't condemn you either."

The thing that these bullhorn people don't understand, as Christians, if the creator of the universe doesn't condemn PEOPLE as bad, then why the heck do some Christians think they can. My point in bringing this up was made real this past week, when I stopped to talk to one of these, "bullhorn" people who walks up and down Barrett Parkway. He had a lot of truths in what he said. And I agree with a lot of what he believes, that the church is messed up in a lot of areas. But, he believes that when you say the truth you need to be offensive because it's the only way to get peoples attention. I disagree, and I strive to prove otherwise in all I say or do.

Readers of this article may be offended, but I did not intend to be offensive. I needed to build my case. My point is this: If someone claims to be apart of something

you believe and is misrepresenting it then you need to stand up against it! Go out and do your best to prove it wrong. When Arab Muslims are being taught that Jews are dogs at the age of 3, and American Muslims are saying that Jews should be respected, there's a problem. They both claim to be Muslims, yet they say different things.

American Muslims who believe in and follow the Islamic sect that believes in peace and tolerance versus the sect of Jihadist and terror, need to stand up and take back the religion that is being stolen from them!

Christians, you need to put the bullhorn down and pick up a bible. Stop speaking for God, before you even know what he's like. Stop telling others to turn to Christ, and follow him, when you don't even know what Christ taught.

For those of you who are part of any other religion, whether it be Buddhism, Scientology or Atheism, stand up for what you believe in. If someone questions what you believe, seek an answer for it. If someone claims to believe what you do, and they're butchering it, stand up, and talk to them, find out why they believe it, it may be that you're butchering what you believe...

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to look me up on The Sting's website and have an awesome day.

## Reply to 'The Middle' - or perhaps the extreme?

**Twila McConnell**  
Copy Editor

As an atheist, I feel I tend to have a pretty unbiased view of religions. I don't particularly care for them, but I sit down, shut up, and make do. No one wants to listen to an atheist anyway. But upon reading my fellow writer's article, I feel I need to speak.

Firstly, he compares Sunni Muslims to Shi'a Muslims without really acknowledging that. From my admitted limited and unprofessional understanding, Sunni is not 'the peaceful sect' and Shi'a 'the violent sect' as he seems to infer. Their differences branch from the decided leader after Muhammad's death. There is a very long and complex history following this which you can e-mail me about or look up on your own but it lead to Shi'a Muslims being the minority and Sunni Muslims being the majority. Therefore, the Sunni have enjoyed all the wealth of conquests while Shi'a Muslims have been poor and oppressed for most of their existence. Often times they were persecuted and made to suffer. Of course, there is some tension there.

And to act like the only Sunni Muslims in existence live in America is ridiculous. This is what he leads you to believe by mentioning the 'peaceful American Muslims'. However, in 2000 there were 1,188,242,789 recorded Muslims. Only 170,100,000, or 2.8 percent of the entire population of

19.6 percent of Muslims, are Shi'a Muslims. These statistics were taken from the site (<http://www.bible.ca/global-religion-statistics-world-christian-encyclopedia.htm>) which is quite fascinating. And even within the given data are break downs further by sect. I severely doubt all of these people are violent killers as he might lead you to believe because the Muslim religion was started by a 'pedophile'. I'd like to see a reference here. He seems to have a bad case of the patriotic American scare which causes one to be overcome with blind prejudice.

Now, I'm not defending the terrorist acts performed by people of faith. I certainly wouldn't condone the slaughter caused by the Christians during the crusades, especially the children's crusade. I would hope Christiaan would do the same. So I certainly couldn't condone the actions of 9/11. But I must point out that Christianity has it's own violent times. Even today Christians commit violent acts. What about Andrea Yates who killed her five children because she believed she was a bad mother, she needed to be punished, and that God would take care of them? Okay, so maybe they are better in God's hands, but from an atheist's perspective, this is insane! If she hadn't believed they would be better in God's hands, if she knew of no God and only existence on earth, would she still have killed those children? Perhaps. But then she would have just killed her children. They would have no better

place to go to in her mind.

I'm sure that every day acts from a violent terrorist Muslim group affect someone. But I am also positive that every day Christian intolerance affects someone as well. Now, I understand that killing someone in a brutal way is generally morally worse than intolerance, but the standards of living are different for a person in American than in Iraq. I'm not saying that's fair or right, but it's true. And while it's morally not as bad, it is still unacceptable and hurtful on a personal level. It's the old 'oh, it could be worse, you could be starving in a third world country' when you just broke up with your boyfriend. That's not what you want to hear.

That's how I feel almost every day. Christiaan says 'stand up for what you believe in', well, okay. He says there's a problem when "Arab Muslims are being taught that Jews are dogs at the age of 3, and American Muslims are saying that Jews should be respected". I'm not even going to start talking about how 'Arab Muslims' is a pretty broad phase and probably not what he meant at all since he has never lived in an Arab nation or probably even visited one. But I'll tell you what's also a problem then: when Christians judge others before God gets to. I hear a 100 different things from different Christian's all the time. One will say that God never actually condones homosexuals, then they'll say 'all fags burn in hell'. Some sects of Christianity will build huge

elaborate churches - especially the Southern Baptists - while some will say that you should be able to worship anywhere because God will always listen and that piety is better than power, and wealth should be donated to the poor. Some will turn the other cheek when other's will be the first to smack you. I'm not going to even get into the differences between Catholics and Protestants. Maybe all of you should make up your mind there, huh? There's a real problem. The bickering between sects of Christianity. It's enough to make one's head spin.

I suppose as an atheist, I just feel that Christianity is constantly telling me to sit down and shut up. Why does it matter if we post our religious doctrine on the walls of a courthouse, you don't believe in it so why do you care? Why does it matter if we pray in schools? You don't believe in it so why do you care? Basically they say: let us do what we want, and you shouldn't care.

Why shouldn't we care? If Muslims came in and took over America and started blasting the Muslim call to prayer over cities oh you bet Christians would be freaking out. And you know what I'd hope they reply? You don't believe in it, why should you care?

It's simply blatantly disrespectful. Our country was founded on separation of church and state and why shouldn't it stay that way? You can't hold me to standards I don't believe in. And on the same

note, I don't want to be held to those standards! As a child growing up and being forced into a moment of prayer... it's embarrassing. Constantly, you feel like you're doing something wrong or you're a bad person for your lack of belief. Other kids tell you they can't be your friend because you're not going to heaven. And unfortunately all that childhood intolerance usually just goes into stronger, more resentful adult intolerance.

The more mainstream Christianity becomes, the more it crosses over into state functions, the more power it gives intolerance to just slap the minority in the face. I know our country was founded on something grander than this. I simply hope I live to see it maintained.

So, in the end, I know I got off track. But then again, so did my fellow staff member. I want readers to know we both know we have varying opinions and accept our differences. But honestly, do some homework, learn more about the Muslim faith before you attempt to write in depth about it or judge it. Sure, he has some fancy quotes, and some violent language, but is that all there can be to something as complicated as a religion which has existed thousands of years? I think not.

Nothing is being stolen from anyone. The religion just split as did Christianity. Maybe the Catholics should all just fight back against the Protestants then? Well, it would be interesting, anyway.

## Political Correctness Corner

# US is not a democracy

Getting Involved  
Anonymous Writer

The differences in a democracy and representative republic are minimal, but it is different. Here is Webster's definitions of each form of government. If you read closely you can see the major difference in a democracy and representative republic.

The major difference is that a democracy is ruled by the majority, which could be 1 person. In the United States we elect representatives by a majority of the vote (a percentage) to represent us on governmental issues. In actuality, we do not elect the President. We elect the representatives who choose the Electoral College that chooses the President.

The Factbook on the web lists our form of government:

Constitution-based federal republic; strong democratic tradition

re•pub•lic  
Function: noun

l a (1) : a government having a chief of state who is not a monarch and who in modern times is usually a president (2) : a political unit (as a nation) having such a form of government b (1) : a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law (2) : a political unit (as a nation) having such a form of government c : a usually specified republican government of a political unit <the French Fourth Republic>

Main Entry: de•moc•ra•cy  
Function: noun

l a : government by the people; especially : rule of the majority b : a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections

2 : a political unit that has a democratic government

## You, Me, & Dupree

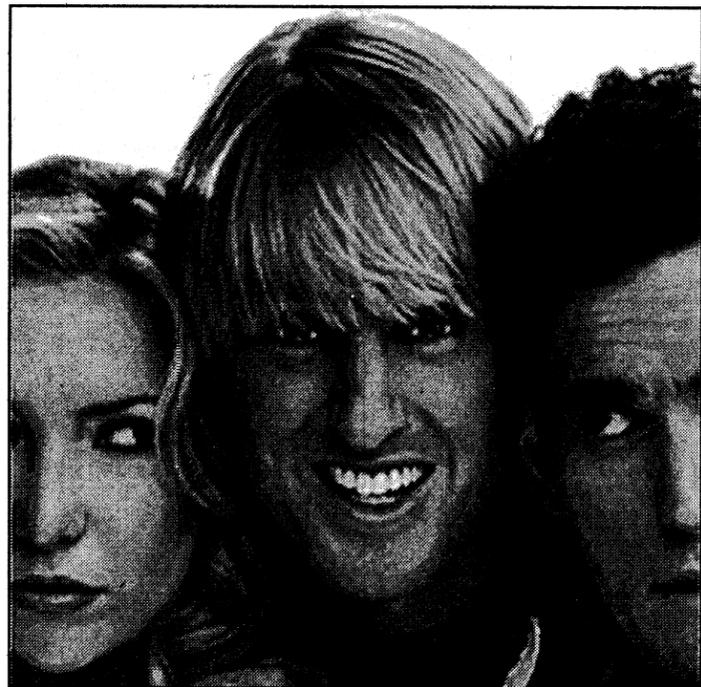
Jonathan Meek  
Staff Writer

So you are looking for a great movie that you and your girlfriend might enjoy...and nothing comes to mind. What do you do? Here's the bigger problem: you would like see something with lots of humor, but your girlfriend is looking for something that's sweet and "romantic". (Quick Tip: When in doubt, go with sweet and romantic... The girls love that in a guy). I digress back to what I was taking about, the movie that has the best balance between the two is You, Me, & Dupree, starring Owen Wilson, Matt Dillon, and Kate Hudson.

Dupree (Owen Wilson) is the lovable slacker, the "happy-go-lucky" best friend, who gets vacated out his only home. So, Carl (Matt Dillon) being the great best friend that he is invites Dupree to live with his newlywed, Molly (Kate Hudson). Nothing could go wrong with this picture, right?

Wrong! Within two weeks, Dupree ends up accidentally causing more house damage than most college frat boys cause within a year. As all this is going on, Carl begins experiences problems at work. Molly's Dad (Michael Douglas) asks Carl to hyphenate his last name and to look into getting a vasectomy. And he gets into trouble at home. Dupree is accidentally caught watching some of Carl's "foreign" films. After Carl storms out, Dupree realizes he is the only who can fix this whole thing and does so.

In my personal opinion, the humor is awesome because the humor is almost completely implied. Owen Wilson does a wonderful job in presenting Dupree as this character which at the end we really do not know how take him other than a good friend. I recommend this movie to couples trying to reach a compromise in taste, but it would be a movie that I would not suggest taking any family to if they are sensitive to sexual humor.



The look on your face means that your man ain't getting laid tonight. Photo courtesy www.theepochtimes.com

## Vermilion Pleasure Night

Jasmine King  
Staff Writer

If you've ever wondered what comedy television would be like if it were written by overexcited rave kids who have gotten their hands on a bunch of back issues of Playboy, then Vermilion Pleasure Night is definitely up your alley. "COME ON—TOUCH IT," the brightly colored DVD cases declare, automatically grabbing people's attention before they even see the show.

Originally aired on late-night Japanese television, VPN is an odd sketch comedy show that overloads the senses and leaves one slightly confused (and sometimes even disturbed) all at the same time. It almost oozes sex appeal—the whole cast is made up of curvy women, usually dancing, occasionally smacking or shooting each other, but always being funny. The segments on VPN run the gamut from being nonsensical (for example, "Cathy's House," where a group of women move, fight, and dance like Barbie dolls), to action-packed (one of the sketches is strangely reminiscent of a warped Charlie's Angels), and some of them will have you laughing for no apparent reason (mainly the ones

that feature mannequins).

...Yes, you read that right. Mannequins.

Possibly the most well-known VPN segment, "The Fuccon Family," is about a family of absent-minded American mannequins who move to Japan for seemingly (like nearly everything else in the show) no apparent reason. It became so popular that another, less adult-oriented series—simply titled "The Fuccons" over here in America—was released with more stories about the

zany mannequins.

The show uses a couple of Japanese pop-culture references that most people won't understand, but it still manages to maintain its universal appeal. If you enjoy obscure, random comedy (or maybe even if you don't!), then Vermilion Pleasure Night will make itself at home in your DVD collection.

Volumes 1 and 2 are out now, and more are expected to be released in the future. GO ON—TOUCH IT.



The Fuccon Family

Photo courtesy www.neowing.co.jp

## Lady in the Water

Sean Fine  
Staff Writer

Director: M. Night Shyamalan  
Genre: Suspense

To be honest, I'm quite a stranger to Shyamalan's movies. Sure, I've seen some of his works, like 'The Village' and 'Signs', but I've never seen 'The Sixth Sense' or any other of his films. So this review is coming from a reviewer who has hardly seen much of his works. That said, lets continue to the actual movie. Seeing various previews, and clips from the Daily Show, I thought the movie was going to be ridiculous silly instead of scary, but when I decided to see the movie (my brother had a free ticket), I was pleasantly surprised. In today's world, people who want scary movie seem to want more jumps and tense moments that'll result in someone usually dying and don't really care much for the story section of the film. From what I've seen of Shyamalan's works, he focuses more on the story and deep meanings behind his films rather than cheap thrills. This, I like.

The movie is about a man named Cleveland. He's your simple average landlord with a stuttering problem who takes care of an apartment complex with a pool. One night, he meets a mysterious woman named Story who says she's from the Blue World and has come to meet a certain individual and then return to the Blue World. However, things are not as simple as they seem.

The main theme of the movie is purpose. They talk much about people having purpose in life and how one knows what their purpose is. It's a very intriguing idea to have in a movie and without trying

to spoil the movie, one of the joys you might have while watching this movie is finding out what a certain character's purpose is.

Nearly everything within the movie has some sort of explanation, even if some of the more confusing actions of the characters don't make much sense. Also, there are several clever scenes involving a critic character talking about how predictable movies are. However, there seems to be some sort of aura that's missing from this movie that glows within Shyamalan's other films. Not that it makes the movie unwatchably bad, but it did seem to miss something, even if I'm not quite sure what it is.

For the most part, the acting is pretty decent, but there are a few scenes that didn't seem too... well... good. I will name only two. One is a scene where Cleveland is carrying Story through the dark night and then they see the antagonist of the film and they scream, running

back to Cleveland's house. It actually seemed silly how the entire screaming part of the scene went, almost like the thrill of the movie is tacked on.

Secondly is a scene where Story is answering questions through... well... not saying the answers but through hand motions. I'm no sign language expert but I doubt most of the actions shown were the correct signs and even if they were, how would a woman from a whole another world know such signs? It's just a little problem that sort of bugged me.

Overall, the movie is really enjoyable and doesn't have crap twists like "the monsters we're afraid of are really just the village elders!" or at least, I don't see such bad twists. The beginning may seem slow and certain 'scary' scenes just plain silly but compared to the other movies that cash in on explosions rather than actual story, it's a good watch. I'd rate it 7/10.



This picture is creepy, but it is part of the cover. Photo courtesy www.impawards.com

## Places in Marietta: Japanese Restaurants

**Twila McConnell**  
Copy Editor

Okay, so you just got back from AWA or Japan Fest and you want to recapture that spirit. Or maybe you didn't. Maybe you just have a strange craving for seaweed that just won't go away. You must know what I mean. Either way, here are a few of my favorite and the finest Japanese restaurants in the Marietta area, all for different reasons.

**Where:** Umezonos

**What it's Like:** This is a super traditional Japanese restaurant. Their patrons are mostly Japanese and the staff can sometimes be a bit distant to Americans. The feel is very austere and respectful. If you've never had real Japanese food before, you're in for a very different experience. I wouldn't recommend this restaurant for first timers because there is nothing for the American palate. Dishes you might normally order at a more Americanized restaurant are going to taste different here, often times a bit more bland than you're used to. However, I would definitely recommend it if you want a more cultural atmosphere. And if you really hate it, you can just go next door to the Boomers!

If you have a large party you can even request a private screened in room. The tables are low with a shallowed out dip underneath them which is very traditional. It is even recommended for you to take off your shoes before you walk into these private rooms.

Another benefit of this location is right next door there is a Japanese grocery store which has a wonderful selection of Japanese products, foods, and magazines.

**Cost:** \$\$ - more expensive than

most Japanese restaurants in the area, but not terribly so. About what a higher end chain like P.F. Chang's might cost.

**How to Get There:** If you're leaving SPSU's Campus take a right on South Marietta Parkway. Take an immediate left on Cobb Parkway SE also known as Highway 41. Travel about five or ten minutes depending on traffic until you reach the intersection of Windy Hill Road. It's right there on your right.

**Where:** RuSan's in Kennesaw

**What it's Like:** This is typically what American's like to think of Japanese restaurants like. There is an eclectic group of people who come here and people watching is always a great experience. Techno music is usually blasting and people are doing Jagger Bombs or drinking from an outrageous beer bong. The sushi is colorful and amazingly designed, the food obviously catered towards an American tongue. Although trust me, there are some interesting dishes I would definitely avoid, such as fried baby octopus. The best part - you can get many different rolls for a dollar or two along with tempura (deep fried insert-vegetable-of-your-choice-here) and teriyaki.

And if you want to try what real ramen tastes like, you'll get a bowl big enough for three of the most amazing ramen you've ever had for seven or eight dollars!

There are other locations locally including one near Windy Hill Road but this is the only one I have ever been to.

**Cost:** \$-\$\$ - it really depends on what you order. I've been able to get out of there without spending \$10 total including the tip and I've been full but other times you might want to splurge a bit and then it can

reach between \$15 to \$20 - not including alcohol.

**How to Get There:** If you're leaving SPSU's Campus take a right on South Marietta Parkway. Take an immediate left on Cobb Parkway SE also known as Highway 41. Travel about ten to twenty minutes depending on traffic until you reach Barrett Parkway. Take a right onto Barrett Parkway and travel 5-15 minutes depending on traffic and it will be on your right in the Town Center Plaza with Michaels and New China Buffet. The physical address is 425 Ernest W Barrett Pkwy NW, Kennesaw, GA 30144.

**Where:** Circle Sushi

**What it's Like:** This place is crazy! I would definitely recommend not wearing jeans. Although a bit far away, I thought it was a great inclusion just because how wonderful the atmosphere is here. It's really beautiful, sleek, and expensive feeling for the rundown area surrounding it. Everything seems to be done up from a minimalist perspective which gives Circle Sushi it's elegant feel. There is a gracious amount of space between tables for a restaurant this size. Their plates are excellently presented on fine stoneware and every item on the menu has an amazingly different display. The most memorable item, although I didn't order it, was the bento box. You could choose what went in it and it was presented in a stoneware box and all.

I would definitely recommend this as a date idea. It will be sure to impress a sushi loving girlfriend, especially when you pick up the tab!

**Cost:** \$\$\$ - definitely higher end and more expensive but completely worth it everyone once and a while.

**How to Get There:** If you're leaving SPSU's campus take a right on South Marietta Parkway. Get off on the Marietta/Roswell exit and then take a right onto Roswell Road. Travel all the way down Roswell Road, which should take about 20 minutes, until you reach Atlanta Street. Take a right onto Atlanta Street and it will be on your left after about 5-10 minutes in a shopping center with Publix. Their physical address is 8725 Roswell Rd Ste 7, Atlanta, GA 30350-7527 They also have a website which is: <http://www.circlesushi.com/>.

**Where:** Fuji Hana Steak and Sushi Bar

**What it's Like:** Okay, you may have been to one of these before. It's your typical Japanese restaurant with hibachi grill. But if you've never done hibachi before then I'd definitely recommend it. Hibachi is where you sit down at a grill, which generally seats eight, and a cook comes out, takes your order, and prepares it in front of you. It's really more of a form of entertainment as he makes corny jokes and attempts to get everyone in the party to catch

food in their mouths. Although it's a load of fun for a special even like a birthday, and I'd definitely recommend it at least once.

Their regular menu is also extensive. They have a good assortment of sushi as well as other more traditional dishes. It's a well decorated restaurant with a friendly staff and is quite large with rarely a wait time.

**Cost:** \$\$-\$\$\$ - be warned hibachi is expensive, usually at least \$19 a plate all the way to \$25! Their regular menu is typical of a Japanese restaurant though, sushi ranging in price from \$3 to \$15.

**How to Get There:** If you're leaving SPSU's campus take a right on South Marietta Parkway. Get off on the Marietta/Roswell exit and then take a right onto Roswell Road. Travel Roswell Road for 10-15 minutes until you reach the intersection of Johnson Ferry. Take a right onto Johnson Ferry and you will see Fuji Hana on your right in a shopping center with Atlanta Bread Company and Merge. Their physical address is 1255 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta, GA 30068.



Sushi Rolls, Sushi Rolls...again...Sushi Rolls

Photo courtesy [www.petecarpenter.com](http://www.petecarpenter.com)

## The trip to AWA....and back

**Jonathan Meek**  
Staff Writer

After I accepted the assignment of writing about Anime Weekend in Atlanta as a first-timer to any convention period, I began to think about what I had just volunteered myself to do. Originally, I thought I was going to regret writing this article and going to AWA. Now after going, I wouldn't miss it for the world next year.

Personally, I have never been big into anime. I knew it was cartoon animation from Japan that could be a little more "explicit" than what we are use to in the US. that was it. So when I walked into the artist gallery, I was not prepared for anything at all. In the artist gallery, I saw art that was spectacular. It was everything from common anime characters such as Naruto to original creations. They sold all sorts of prints as well, from wall posters to keychains. My favorite stand had taken the characters from the movie, Serenity (by the way, it is a great, hardly known movie by Joss Whedon, creator of the TV series Angel) and had drawn them in an anime format. I was taken aback

by the fact some of my favorite sci-fi was involved with anime.

After visiting the artist gallery, I went off to the Anime Music Video Awards to go vote for an original video edit of anime put to some music. I was expecting for all the music to be in Japanese, but once again, my guess was wrong... very wrong. Most of the music videos were songs off of movies or sound clips from movies. They ranged from Dr. Evil's rendition of "It's a hard knock life" in Goldmember to "Peanut Butter Jelly Time" from Family Guy. I have never laughed so hard in my life over sound clips from movies, some the sound clips were funnier in the music video than in the original movie they came from.

To end my day at AWA, the group I was with went and saw Hellsing:Ultimate, which is very similar to the movie Van Helsing with Hugh Jackman. Basically, it

was story of a secret organization of the Protestant church that hunts down monsters, vampires, and all other horror creatures in England. The best man in organization is Hellsing, a vampire who has sided with the humans. It was a very good movie and I personally plan on buying it.

All in all, AWA is a very good way to be exposed to the world of anime and to learn more about the culture. Personally, I am thinking of writing a couple of fan fictions for some of the other anime comics I saw. As long as you go to AWA with an open mind, you should be okay and you may come to like it as I did. I plan on going back next year, however, I do offer this piece of advice: Guys, no matter how pretty the girl is, DO NOT GO TO A YAOI SHOWING, YOU WILL BE SCARED, JUST TRUST ME ON THIS...



Photo courtesy [www.kill-no-fansub.com](http://www.kill-no-fansub.com)



Eric John's brother and future sister-in-law dressed as characters from Trigun

Photo courtesy Stephanie Asay (Karen Asay's sister)

# Shadow of the Colossus

Ico's more exciting big brother

Sean Fine  
Staff Writer

Game System: Playstation 2  
Genre: Adventure

When you first start up 'Shadow of the Colossus', you're treated to the sight of misty mountains with a wanderer traveling upon his noble steed across a narrow path. Ultimately, the path comes to a vast bridge stretching as far as the eye can see. At the end of the bridge is a temple, ancient and crumbling, and around the temple lies a vast land scattered with remnants of a civilization lost long ago. If it weren't the end of the earth, this place could possibly be paradise. But you and the wanderer will soon find out, the sheer enormity of the land is rivaled by the living mountains within it.

From the team that created the rare gem 'Ico' comes 'Shadow of the Colossus', a game about how far a single wanderer will go for the love of his life. Like 'Ico', 'Shadow of the Colossus' lacked the advertisement that franchises like 'Final Fantasy' or 'Halo' obviously have. Because of that, sales of the game didn't do so well. Luckily for you gamers, it should be a relatively easy game to find, but does it live up to the beauty that was 'Ico'?

Story: You are a wanderer with no name (or at least, it's never mentioned) who has traveled to the end of the earth with his black horse, Agro, and a young dead girl. At the temple, you set the girl upon an altar and are greeted by a big, booming voice in the sky after noticing you have an ancient

magical sword. Upon questioning, you state that you have come to ask for the return of the girl's soul. The voice agrees but only if you slay 16 mighty Colossi throughout the land and thus you ride off to complete the task.

'Shadow of the Colossus' story is (like 'Ico') very subtle and told more through visuals than words. It's a tale about how far this wanderer will go to revive his dead love and yet, it is also the tale of self-destruction as you'll notice your hero physically change little by little. There are not many cut-scenes but the ending explains well enough some questions built up during the course of the game.

Gameplay: Again, like 'Ico', 'Shadow of the Colossus' is a thinking man's (or woman's) game, but there's quite an obvious difference. Where 'Ico' had the simple combat combined with puzzle solving and escorting the heroine of the game throughout a large temple, 'Shadow of the Colossus' takes out the escort part, makes the combat more complex and changes the one large temple into 16 slightly smaller giant monsters. A fair trade? I certainly think so.

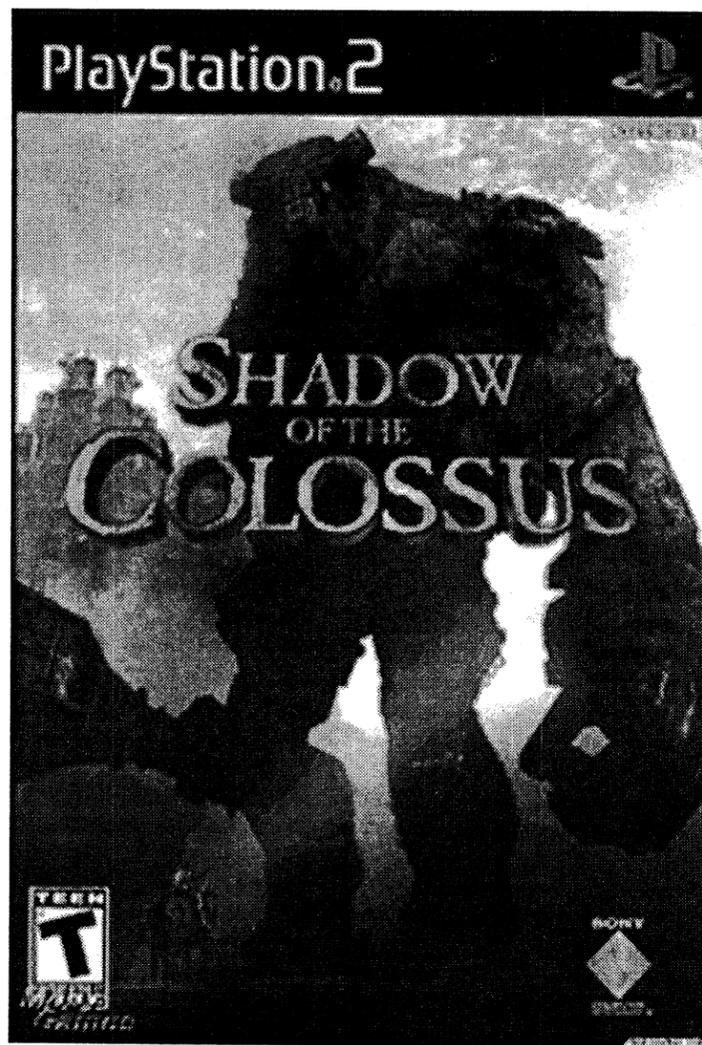
Finding each colossus is simple enough, your sword reflects a narrowing light that points to the next selected colossus and once you find them, then the fun starts. Each colossus has a specific way to climb atop of them and bring them down by finding their magical seal and using your mighty blade to damage them. Even if you find a way up onto the colossus, it's not going to let you just kill it without resis-

tance. As the heat of battle builds up, you feel like you're clinging on for dear life and to win requires valor, strength, speed, and the will to acquire victory. Of course, no one's grip can hold on forever and the same is true for the nameless hero. Eventually, your 'grip meter' will run out and you'll be forced to submit to gravity, so make sure to find spots to rest on your foes as you continue the fight. Needless to say, the fights are long and exciting. Furthermore, if you're amused by how the first three colossi fights go, then you're in for a wild ride.

Every battle feels more epic than the last and by the last colossus, you are filled with dread against the sheer enormity of your final adversary (that is, if you weren't intimidated by the 15 already fearsome colossi) and one of the surprising things is you don't get any sort of special items like in 'Legend of Zelda' or other famous titles. The only tools at your disposal are your sword, your bow, your ever faithful horse, and most importantly, your wits.

Additionally, riding along your horse feels just like riding an actual horse. If you're headed toward a rock, your horse will just slightly move around it (unless it's too big and you're headed right for it) and sometimes might not cross a specific point if it can't climb it or knows that the jumps would be too hazardous. The riding feels so life-like that to ride around the expansive land of the end of the earth and ride every little area is actually quite a fun part of the game.

In short, 'Shadow of the Co-



Shadow of the Colossus, One of the greatest underrated games out there.

lossus' takes the puzzling element from 'Ico' and adds an exciting action mix to it, making battles with the 16 colossi both challenging and extremely fun.

Graphics: Just like 'Ico', another one of 'Shadow of the Colossus' strengths is its amazing attention to detail. If the gorgeous fields and the crisp misty hills aren't enough to amaze you, the way each colossus looks as though their very being has existed for all of eternity is breath-taking to say the least. It's hard not to appreciate the art style of the game and how each (albeit few) character looks amazingly real for a game character.

Also, elements like motion blur during a powerful strike near you and dust particles really add to the fights and make them larger than life and that's always a nice touch.

But one of the most amazing sights is watching the animations of your hero as he gets swung around and topple over as your giant adversaries desperately thrash about to get you off. Even watching your hero ride across vast plains on Agro and witness his cloak and your horse's mane whip around in the wind is remarkable. It's because of these life-like animations that you connect and relate with the hero during his intense quest. Simply put, the graphics are amazing.

Sound: Once again, just like 'Ico', 'Shadow of the Colossus' retains that lively yet subtle aura that surrounds you in the outside areas of the world (which pretty much counts for 95% of the time). Birds chirping, wind blowing, colossi making earth shattering smashes with their weapons and hooves. Yea, this only adds to the games beauty.

However, other than the improved emphasis on combat, one of the Shadow's greatest upgrades is

the music score. When confronting a colossus, you're first treated with a soft melody that almost seems haunting as you stand within... well... the shadow of the colossus, and then you fire your first arrow at it and the colossus turns around, seeing you. Immediately, the music builds up to a lumbering beat of horns and drums as you work your way under its legs and narrowly dodge that gigantic mace coming down at your body.

Eventually, you find yourself climbing up the beast's leg. Now the music has quickened to a fast tempo with trumpets and stringed instruments. Then, you find the beast's magic seal and start stabbing at it, and the music forms into an acknowledging string piece as you continue to weaken your foe and finally, the final blow is struck. The music stops and a haunting choir echoes throughout the valley as the colossus collapses to the ground and dies. It's almost like you're playing a really good movie just because of the beautiful sound track.

Fun factor: Is 'Shadow of the Colossus' fun? You bet your college diploma it is. Although the game may seem short and some of the enemies ridiculously difficult, you'll be rewarded with a bundle of extra goodies that come in the form of a hard mode and time trial mode where you can win special items to further have fun with the 16 enemies of the game. Also (though I have not seen it myself), there is a 17th colossus as well, acquired through completing every other little thing and trust me, it can be tough to complete every little thing. It's a game you can easily pick up, but it's almost impossible to put down. With hardly anything bad to say about this game, I give it a 10/10.



Some battles require everything, including your faithful horse

Photo courtesy www.nsc-uk.com

## Cycling club update

**Andrew Young**  
Cycling Club Member

I hope each of you is having a good semester (and riding a lot). We've had a change of leadership this year (Thomas Hallman is now acting president) and a generally rough start getting everyone together for a meeting. Hopefully, this newsletter will draw a few more of you out and inform you of this semester's team news. This newsletter will include:

- Meeting(s) info.
- Group ride info.
- Upcoming races/events
- General team info.
- \*team website: <http://spsucycling.tripod.com>

### Meetings

So far this semester, the meetings (we've had two this semester) have been announced on the message board on the team website. That message board is the primary means of communication between members, so please check it and the website regularly. The meetings are going to start being announced through BOTH the website and e-mail. As per SPSU's requirements, we will be having meetings at least once a month. Please try and attend (we wanna see you). The next meeting needs to be planned. If you have a better suggestion than 8PM on a Sunday night, send it to [spsucycling@tripod.com](mailto:spsucycling@tripod.com)

The next meeting will be planned soon, so check the website or your e-mail at least twice in the next couple of weeks.

### Group Rides

Group rides are what this

team is all about (that and racing, bike talk, friendship and anything to do with the world of cycling). The best way to get a ride going is to post on the message board. Anytime you feel like it, just name the time/day/location (easiest to simply meet on campus). Coming to a meeting (hint, hint) will also allow you to find someone with a similar schedule to yours.

### Upcoming Races

Cyclocross season is just around the corner. If you have any interest in xc mountain biking or cyclocross itself, try one of these races. They're only \$20 + \$5 one day NORBA license. First race is in Conyers on Oct. 15. Check the website for more info: <http://georgia-cross.com/>

Road season is winding down. The Georgia Cup series has some good events. Check 'em out if you like road riding. Langrange (race 7) is this weekend and Atlanta (the final event) is on Sept. 30th. More info on website: <http://georgiacup.com/>

### General Information

The current team positions are listed in the 'Athlete Profile' section of the website. In other news, the team account is in the process of being transferred to a different name. The team has a bigger budget this year, but we still would like some sponsors. Ask anyone you think might sponsor us! It will be time to order more uniforms soon. Any potential sponsors need to be confirmed before we order uniforms (more on this at the next meeting).

## What's new with the TKE

**Anthony Aksentis**  
TKE Member

Well guys....and ladies, another year of school has started again, and TKE has been busy this year and we have some stuff to show for it.

This summer our Xi-Chi chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon was awarded three new awards; Alumni Involvement, Initiation Rates, and Community Service & Outreach. This summer our chapter was also able to send one of our brothers, Andrew "Rick James" Pankopp, to TKE Leadership Academy. An all paid trip for Andrew to go learn leadership roles and teamwork abilities from prominent fortune 500 business owners and CEOs.

When school started to come around and summer winded down, the Tekes started Rush, beginning with freshman dorm move-in. When school started and Rush as well, we kicked-off our semester with our annual milk chugging contest, and created our first 10 foot banana split ice cream tray. When Rush ended we are proud to say we were able to find 10 good quality guys who will make excellent future Tekes.

We are also proud to have two other Tekes transfer over to our chapter; Lee Wofford and James Williamson.

Us Tekes are also glad to let you know on October 14th, a Saturday, our Alumni Association will be hosting our first Annual Chili Cook-off to raise money for Alzheimer's. You can checkout some information

on the cook off at our website [www.tkexichi.com](http://www.tkexichi.com).

We also can't wait for Goat Night in October. We are going

for the first place for our third year in a row. That's right Sigma Pi... YOUR GOING DOWN!!!

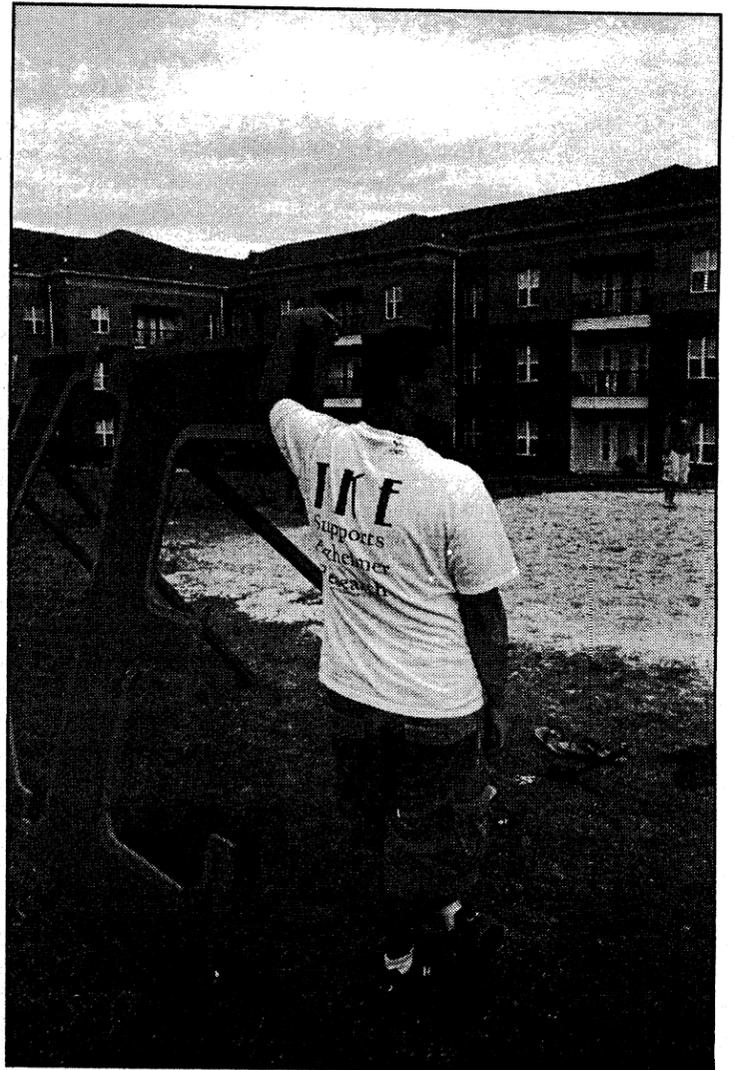


Photo courtesy TKE

(Top & Bottom) TKE Rush



Photo courtesy TKE



Cycling Club Logo

Photo courtesy Cycling Club

## Collegiate Order of the Arrow! Scouting's Premiere Service Organization is at SPSU!

By: **W. Stuart Michelson: [wmichels@spsu.edu](mailto:wmichels@spsu.edu)**

The Order of the Arrow is Boy Scouting's National Honor Society. It was founded in 1915 upon the lofty principles of brotherhood, cheerfulness, and service. Since that time, the organization has grown in size and is made up of thousands of Scouts from across the United States.

In 2003, a group of students at Georgia Tech came up with the idea of forming an Order of the Arrow group on their campus so that they could remain active in the organization while in school. The program they started has been highly successful and is built around three types of activities: Service to your campus, service to your community, and service to Scouting. In addition they participate in traditional scouting activities such as camping. Simply put, this revolutionary program keeps Scouts in Scouting through college. If you are a scout, the journey you started long ago does not have to end with college!

Seeing the success of the group at Georgia Tech, I have established the program here at Southern Polytechnic. If you are a member of the Order of the Arrow, whether you have been active or not, please contact me so you can learn more about this great opportunity. You do not have to be a member of the Order of the Arrow to join this organization. You can read more about the Collegiate OA program at [www.collegiateoa.org](http://www.collegiateoa.org)



## Recycled Percussion

Twila McConnell  
Copy Editor

I will start off by saying that this is the most amazing thing to ever come to SPSU. Now, trust me, I had my reservations at first. The beginning was pretty cheesy as they started off with an empty stage and a voice recording of all the grueling work they do to bring you a performance that will 'punch you in the face' However I'm not a big fan of cute word phrases like 'Rock your Junk' that other people find cool and intriguing. But a noticeable amount of people were willing sitting in the front rows of the auditorium and that was amazing in and of itself.

Once all four guys got on stage I had much higher hopes. One in the back was dedicated to a turntable and the mix of rock, hip hop, and techno was a nice addition to what would come for the other three were sitting in front of the most eclectic drum sets I've ever seen. Thirty gallon buckets, trashcans, and fire hydrants are a few of the instruments you saw on stage.

When they started, I knew at least that they were good. They kind of reminded me of the Ricky Bobby of the drummer world, the one kid you always had in band class that simply always wanted to go faster. However a bunch of guys banging as hard as they can on trash cans... I've seen it before. I was still looking for what was so great about Recycled Percussion.

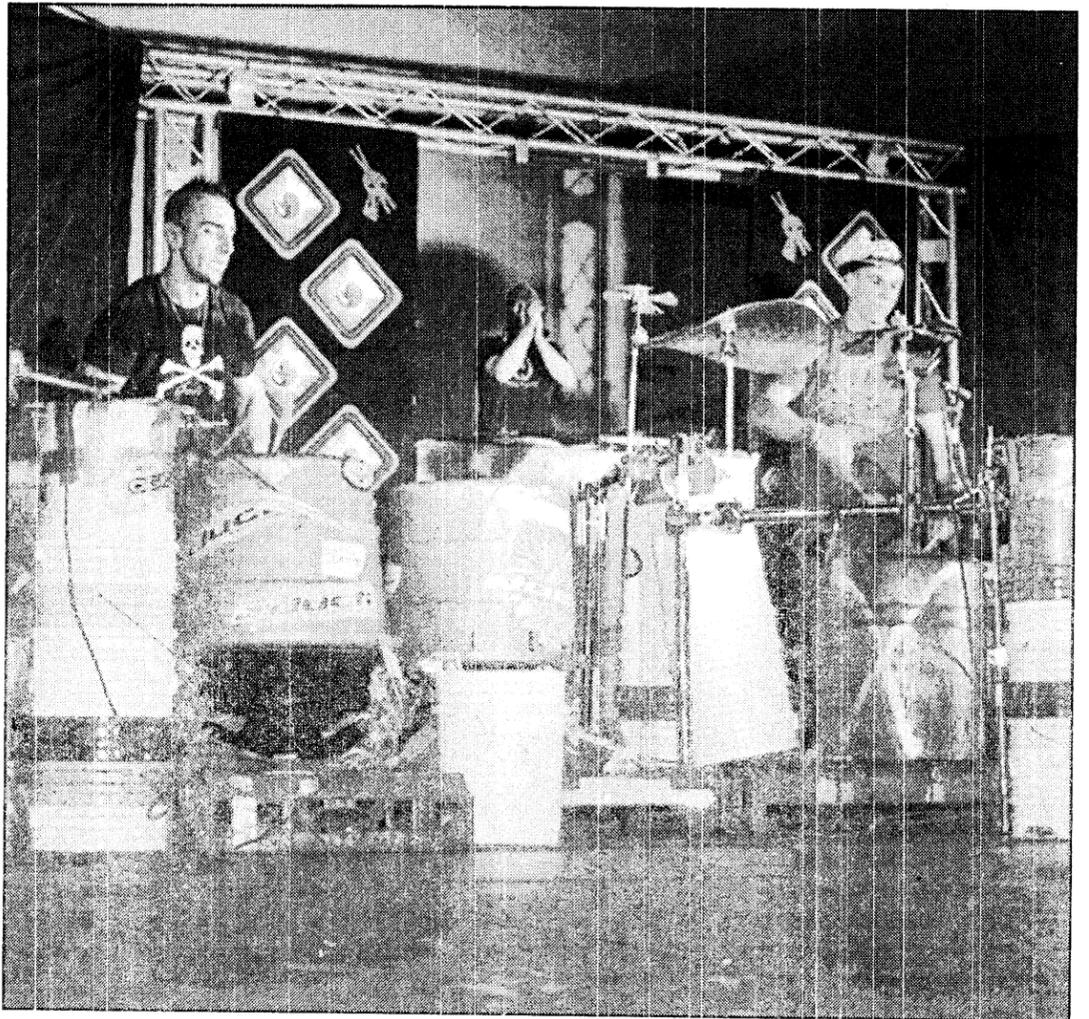
Soon, however, I found it. They really got the audience involved, which was awesome for such a small campus like SPSU. Unfortunately they also thought we were supposed to have beat, but we techies proudly proved them wrong as they lead us in an exer-

cise in clapping. They also throw drumsticks out to the audience and we threw them back and they tried to catch them. I will definitely say this was a really great feature of the show. It had everyone laughing and enthused.

Another more spectacular element were the few segments they did that really did distinguish them from other 'junk rock' bands. For one they brought out fifty gallon drums, pitted sanders against the metal frame of their stage construction causing massive sparks to fly and light up the stage, and set up ladders which they climbed up and slide down, drumming all the way.

This show really encouraged awe and laughter and the students and staff at SPSU had an excellent time. Many staff members came out with their children to watch the show and it was just great that the entire campus could get involved in such a powerful event. The auditorium was at least ¾ full, people hung around and waited to buy merchandise and greet the performers for a full hour after the show let out, and the general consensus among viewers after the show was 'awesome!' and 'amazing!' This was definitely one of the coolest things to ever grace SPSU's campus. If you happened to miss it, their website is: <http://www.recycledpercussion.com>. I would also definitely recommend going to The Sting's website ([www.thesting.org](http://www.thesting.org)) and viewing the pictures online in color.

I hope, as I'm sure the rest of the campus does, that CAB continues to find excellent activities like this in the future. Thank you and keep it up!!



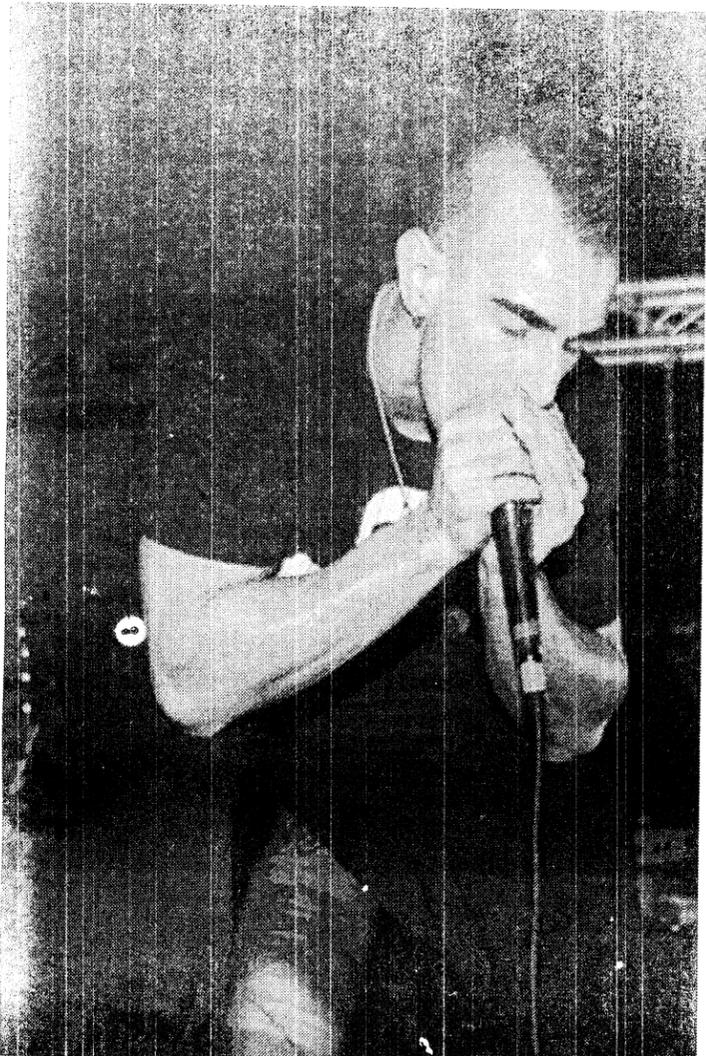
Introduction of the performers.

Steven Fyffe / The Sting



The fastest drummer in the world shows the audiences what he can do.

Steven Fyffe / The Sting



The group also made drum beats with their voices.

Steven Fyffe / The Sting

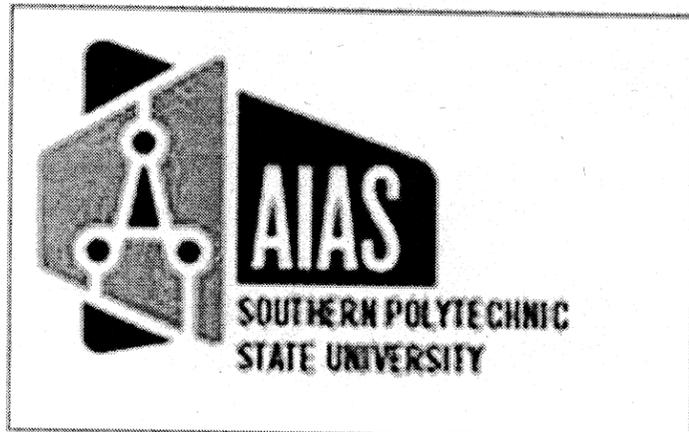
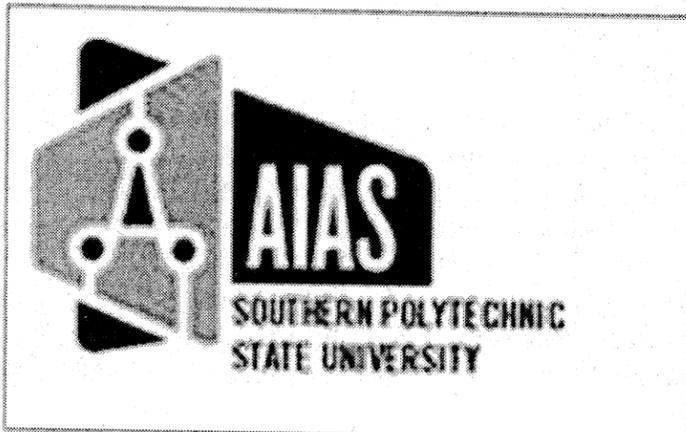


CAB members and the members of Recycle Percussion

Steven Fyffe / The Sting

# SAVE THE DATE!!!

The AIAS Chapters at GT and SPSU have organized a social gathering to bring together professionals, students and faculty in an event to show case the school's work and students. We are looking forward to a dynamic event that will initiate dialogue between academia, practice, and profession. Thank you for your support to better the channels of communication!



The Officers and Chapter Members of the Georgia Tech & Southern Polytechnic State University, American Institute of Architecture Students are pleased to announce this joint event:

## Open House hosted by the AIAS

**Thursday, October 12, 2006 at 8:00 PM at  
Southern Poly**

and

**Thursday, October 26, 2006 at 8:00 PM at  
Georgia Tech**

The Open House Social will begin with light refreshments followed by a presentation and building tours to showcase exhibits of students' work throughout the Architecture Program.

JW Blanchard – SPSU AIAS President – [jw\\_blanchard@comcast.net](mailto:jw_blanchard@comcast.net)  
Blue Marshall – GT AIAS President – [blnmarshall@gmail.com](mailto:blnmarshall@gmail.com)



Photo courtesy Alpha Xi Delta

Alpha Xi Delta wants to Congratulate to all of our wonderful the New Girls, Carrie Cannon, Tiffany Nasert, Crystal Johnson, Jennifer Smith, Laurynn Saulino, and Kaite Bowar. We Love you all.



Photo courtesy Alpha Xi Delta



Crumbling Arches

Karen Asay/ The Sting

## Concert Series

The Concert Series by CAB kicked off with Sam Thacker and Crumbling Arches. Both bands were MySpace bands and were good. Sam Thacker was a solo act, while Crumbling Arches was a five member band. If you are interesting in hearing these bands, Sam Thacker's site is [myspace.com/samthacker](http://myspace.com/samthacker) and Crumbling Arches's is [myspace.com/crumblingarches](http://myspace.com/crumblingarches).

CAB will hold a concert every second Tuesday of the month. The next concert is October 10th. Don't miss it.



Sam Thacker

Karen Asay/ The Sting

### Bulls Eye Radio Show on WGHR

Listen to DJ Reec every Tuesday 7:00 - 9:00 pm and Friday 7:00 - 8:00 pm on WGHR's website, [wghr.spsu.edu](http://wghr.spsu.edu)

## Event Calender for SPSU

### September

Thursday, Sept. 28

- How to Negotiate the Salary you want in Ballroom - 5:00 pm - Career Center
- Super Smash Brother Melee in SC Rec. Room - 7:30 pm
- Bowling Night at AMF Lanes - 10:00 pm - ISA

Saturday, Sept. 30

- Halo 2, 2v2 teams in the Community Center - 10:00 am
- High School Computer Competition - 8:30 am to 1:00 pm - CS Dept

### October

Monday, Oct 2

- How to use Career Lane? in SC Rm 215 - 3:00 pm - Career Center
- Mainframe Competition Starts - IT Dept

Tuesday, Oct 3

- Forum with SGA & Uni. President in Ballroom - Noon - SGA
- Hispanic Influence Discussion in SC - Noon - ISA
- Resume Critique Day in SC Lobby - 4:00 to 6:00 pm - Career Center
- Movie of the Month between the dorms (Dane Cook) - 7:30 pm - CAB

Wednesday, Oct 4

- Working a Career Fair in Ballroom - Noon - Career Center
- Movie Showing, Maria Full of Grace in Community Center - 6:00 pm - ISA

Thursday, Oct 5

- What you need to know about working in Asia in SC Rm 216 - 4:00 to 5:00 pm
- Budget and Finance Meeting in SC SGA Office - 5:45 pm - SGA

Saturday, Oct 7

- Night on the Town - 8:00 pm - ISA

Tuesday, Oct 10

- SPSU President presents Argentina - Noon - Friends of International Studies
- SGA Meeting in the Rotunda - Noon - SGA
- Concert Series in Community Center - 7:00 pm - CAB

Wednesday, Oct 11

- Career Exposition (Arch, CET, and CNST) in Ballroom - 3:00 to 6:30 pm
- Comedien Craig Carmean in Community Center - 8:00 pm - CAB

Thursday, Oct 12

- Political Discussion Dealing w/ Immigration Reform in SC - Noon

Friday, Oct 13

- ISA Coffee Night in Community Center - 7:00 pm - ISA

Tuesday, Oct 17

- Resumes for Today's Job Market in SC Rm 215 - 3:00 pm - Career Center

Thursday, Oct 19

- Budget and Finance Meeting in SC SGA Office - 5:45 pm - SGA

Friday, Oct 20

- Poker Night at the Community Center - 8:00 pm - CAB

Tuesday, Oct 24

- SGA Meeting in the Rotunda - Noon - SGA
- Conducting an Effective Job Search in SC Rm 215 - Noon - Career Center

Wednesday, Oct 25

- Interviewing Skills that Work in SC Rm 215 - Noon - Career Center

Thursday, Oct 26

- How to Use Career Lane? in SC Rm 215 - Noon - Career Center

Saturday, Oct 28

- Weekend Career Series in M-100 - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm - Career Center

Tuesday, Oct 31

- Halloween Movie between the dorms - 8:00 pm - CAB