

Iraq is a big topic this issue. Find out what Jon Meek has to say about Iraq, and how Merius Atangcho says to fight terrorism.  
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SPSU's Legacy Band has did a concert at Greenfield Hebrew Academy. Find out how it went.  
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January 18, 2007

We take the news out of newspaper

Volume 61, Issue 7

## Mirapoint is the new e-mail system

**Karen Asay**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Over winter break, the IT Department switched the e-mail system from an open source system to a commercial system called Mirapoint. This new system does have some advantages over the old, like improved spam detection, but there were some trade offs, like students don't have POP access.

The IT Department did the system conversion on January 3rd. The conversion went extremely well, according to Ron Skopitz. There were problems when the new system came on line, but the IT Department has fixed many of them already and will be fixing the rest of the problems soon.

Two early problems were with the old e-mail account tools that the IT help desk used to reset passwords for students and with spam filtering. The account tool problem was fixed within four days, and was matter of the old account tools not being compatible with the new e-mail system. The spam filtering problem only affected a group of e-mail accounts. This group of accounts had problems with their personal filtering list,

which cause most spam e-mails to come through. The problem has been temporarily fixed with a global filter put on the system, but the IT Department will be fixing the personal filtering settings soon, if they haven't already.

One problem students are having that will not be fixed, because it is one of the disadvantages of moving to the new system, is no POP access for students. This means that students can use Outlook, Eudora, Thunderbird, etc. to check their e-mail. The system does have POP access, but the Southern Poly would have to pay a set fee for each account that was allowed POP access. This fee made it so only faculty and staff will have POP access.

The system has its short comings but it also has its benefits. The new e-mail has an improved spam filtering system that has "several layers of spam prevention/detection" according to the Southern Poly website. The system also has personal spam white/black list, which allow the user to specify what is and isn't spam. The new system's calendar program has shared and group calendaring. Shared calendaring

allows individual users to view and maybe update another user's calendar based on permissions that user has decided. Group calendaring is a calendar that is specific to a group and that can be viewed by others.

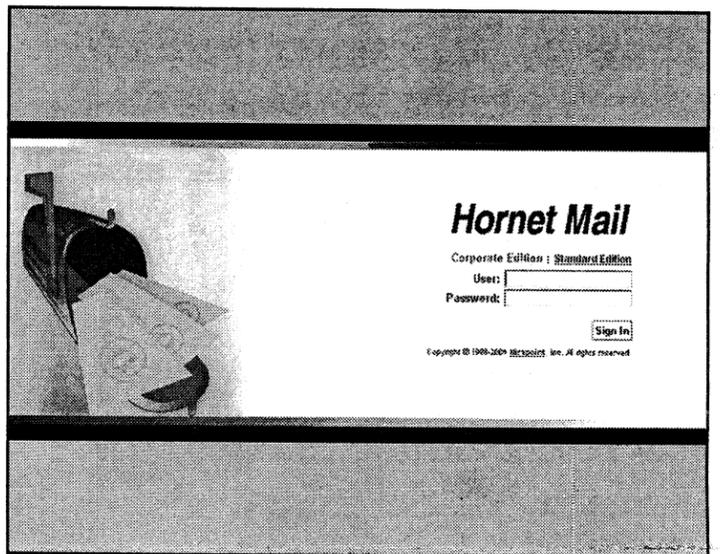
Besides for no POP access for students, there are a couple other disadvantage with the new e-mail system. One, students do not have a personal calendar via SPSU e-mail. Two, the new e-mail system can not archive e-mails. The IT Department is going to add the ability to archive this semester but it will not be a direct function of the e-mail system.

The new e-mail system came about as a solution for faculty and staff's need for shared calendaring. The IT staff did not start off looking at new e-mail systems but at different shared calendaring systems but none of them really worked. The IT staff then started looking at many commercial e-mail systems, like Oracle, Groupwise, etc, which all came with shared calendaring. Around this time, Ron Skopitz was told about Mirapoint. Mirapoint is an appliance-based e-mail system, which means the e-mail system

is mainly hardware. Mirapoint was expensive but it came with its own hardware and it allowed for an easier migration from the old system. Another advantage was that the system came with virus and spam detection.

When the IT staff started talking to Mirapoint, the staff was offered incentive pricing, if Southern Poly bought the system by October 21. Since Mirapoint would save the campus money

in the long run, because it would free up the 22 servers that the old system was using and it came with virus and spam detection that the school was currently paying for. Also, since the Mirapoint system would be easier to maintain and update than the old system, less man hours would be spent on the e-mail system. All these reasons convinced the administration to purchase this system.



The login page for the new e-mail system.

Photo courtesy webmail.spsu.edu

## Bridgette McDonald resigned

**Karen Asay**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

Many students were surprised to hear Bridgette McDonald, the Co-op and Internship Coordinator, was not going to be returning to Southern Poly this semester. Ms. McDonald is now working at Clayton State University as their Assistant Director of Career Services.

"We are going to miss her," said Phyllis Weatherly, the Director of the Career and Counseling Center. Ms. Weatherly described Ms. McDonald as an extraordinary person and a true friend to the students she worked with. Ms. McDonald's resignation was not a surprise since she informed Ms. Weatherly that she was applying for the position. Ms. Weatherly stated that this position was a great opportunity for Ms. McDonald to advance.

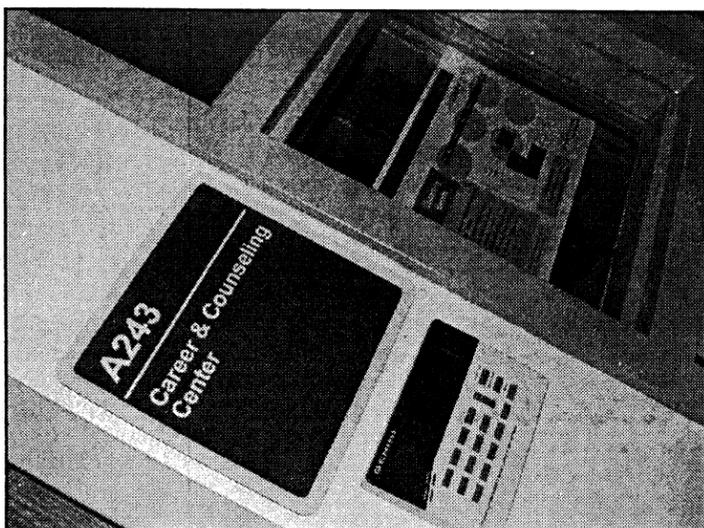
Before leaving, Bridgette McDonald said she was going to miss everyone at Southern Poly: the students, faculty, and staff. When asked what she would miss the most, she stated everything but if she had to choose it would be the students. She also stated that she loved working at

Southern Poly but this new position held a lot new challenges and opportunities for her. Another benefit was that Clayton State was a lot closer to home for her so she would have more time to spend with her family.

The Career and Counseling Center is now in the process of filling Ms. McDonald's position. Ms. Weatherly has already put in a request to the school for permission to fill the position. Once permission

is granted, the position will be posted and Ms. Weatherly expects to get resumes pretty quickly, afterwards. She is hoping to fill the position by March 1st, but until the position is filled, Ms. Weatherly and Jill Forest, the Employer Service Specialist, will be splitting up Ms. McDonald's work.

Bridgette McDonald will be missed but a lot of luck to her at her new job.



Career and Counseling Center

Twila McConnell / The Sting

## IT accreditation

**Karen Asay**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

The Computer Science (CS) Department was not the only one in the School of Computing and Software Engineering (CSE) looking for accreditation, recently. The Information Technology (IT) Department also started thinking about setting up their curriculum to meet ABET's criteria last spring and are expecting to be accredited by the end of next year. One minor issue is that ABET does not have a finalize criteria for accrediting an IT degree.

According to ABET's website, ABET has been working on defining the attributes a student should have after graduating with a degree in Information Technology since 2002. Dr. Becky Rutherford, the person over seeing the IT accreditation process, says ABET will be doing their final review of the criteria for accreditation and voting on it in May, this year.

The IT Department has an idea what the criteria for accreditation will be so they have already started to prepare for their ABET visit. This year is going to be their

building year, as Dr. Rutherford put it. This statement means the IT Department will be putting in place the learning objectives and the assessment methods they have established for both individual courses and the program as a whole. The learning objectives for all IT course can be found on the syllabi of the course, and the program's objectives can be found on the IT Department's website under IT Accreditation.

The IT Department also has many assessment methods it will be putting into place. In Fall, IT professors started filling out FCAR's, Faculty Course Assessment Report, for all their classes. This semester, the IT Department plans to survey students, alumni, employers, and the Industrial Advisory Board (IAB). For the student survey, the department will be setting up focus groups, where low level student, freshmen and sophomores, and high level students, juniors and seniors, will be asked questions about the degree program. The IAB was to informally look over the degree program during fall, and will be back this spring for a formal meeting with  
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<b>SGA Update</b>	Find out what the SGA has been up to lately. It is also a reminder that organizations need to send the SGA an update roster or your funds will be frozen. <b>Page 7</b>
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<b>God bless America!</b>	Christiaan believes that God has already blessed America! Find out his reasoning behind this belief. <b>Page 4</b>
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<b>Mortal Kombat: Armageddon got a bad review</b>	Why did Sean give this game a bad review? Were there any redeeming qualities? Find out, read the article on: <b>Page 6</b>
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**IT accreditation**

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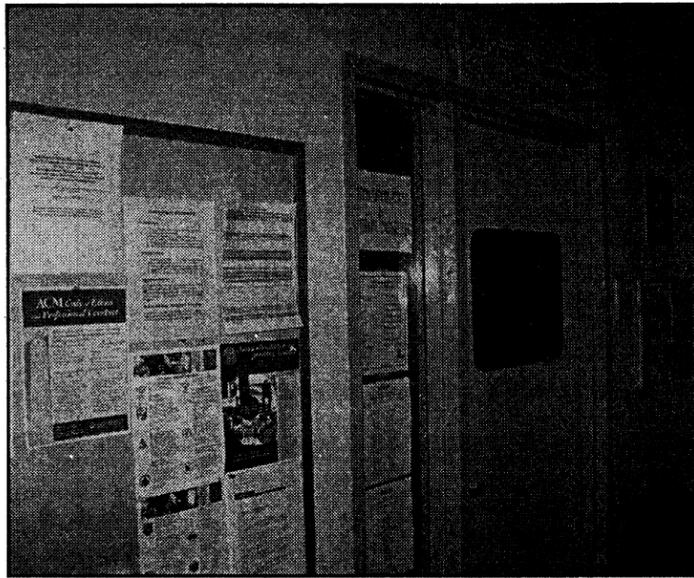
the department.

Dr. Rutherford stated the IT Department is having a little easier time setting up for their accreditation visit than the CS Department because they were able to learn from the mistakes the CS Department made. The IT Department also has the benefit that the campus facilities, like the library, the computer labs, etc, were already looked at and found acceptable by ABET when the Bachelors of Science in Computer Science had their accreditation visit, last spring. This fact allows the IT Department to focus on the curriculum criteria more.

The projected timeline for the IT Departments progress in preparing for their accreditation visit is as follows. This spring, the department will be organizing and gathering the information they need for the visit, like survey results, sample tests,

and course objectives. This summer, they will be conducting their self study and have an outside organization do a mock visit. This fall, they will apply for their ABET visit. In

Spring 2008, ABET will conduct their two and half day visit. Lastly, in late summer or early fall 2008, the department will find out if they received their accreditation.



IT department door

Twila McConnell/The Sting

**Career and Counseling Workshop/ Event Calendar  
Spring Semester**

<b>HEALTHY WEIGHT WEEK</b>	Jan. 16-20		SC Lobby
Internship Orientation	Jan. 17	3pm	M100
Co-op Orientation	Jan. 23	Noon	Rm 216
Co-op Orientation	Jan. 23	5pm	Rm 216
Senior Career Orientation	Jan. 30	Noon	Rm 215
Resume's For Today's Job Market	Jan. 31	Noon	Rm 215
<b>EATING DISORDERS MONTH</b>	February		SC Lobby
Networking 101	Feb. 7	Noon	Rm 215
<b>CAREER WEEK</b>	Feb. 12-15		
Resume's For Today's Job Market	Feb. 12	5pm	Rm 215
Interviewing Skills That Work	Feb. 13	Noon	Ballroom
How to Negotiate The Salary You Want	Feb. 13	5pm	Rm 215
Sex: Myths, Lies, and Straight Talk	Feb. 13	7pm	SC Theater
Conducting An Effective Job Search	Feb. 14	Noon	Rm 215
Dress 4 Success	Feb. 15	Noon	TBA
Working A Career Fair	Feb. 15	5pm	Rm 215
<b>MOCK INTERVIEW DAY</b>	Feb. 19	9am-5pm	CCC Office
<b>RESUME CRITIQUE DAY</b>	Feb. 21	3pm-6pm	SC Lobby
<b>CAREER NETWORKING 2007</b>	Feb. 28	Noon-4pm	Rec Ctr
Time Management	Mar. 13	Noon	Rm 215
Test Taking Strategies	Mar. 14	Noon	Rm 215
<b>GACE CAREER WEEK</b>	Mar. 26-29		
Conducting An Effective Job Search	Mar. 26	Noon	Rm 215
Working A Career Fair	Mar. 27	Noon	Rm 215
Interviewing Skills That Work	Mar. 27	5pm	Rm 215
Resume's For Today's Job Market	Mar. 28	Noon	Rm 215
Salary Negotiations	Mar. 28	5pm	Rm 215
Networking 101	Mar. 29	Noon	Rm 215
<b>RESUME CRITIQUE DAY</b>	Apr. 3	3pm-6pm	SC Lobby
<b>WEEKEND CAREER SERIES</b>	Apr. 7	9am-pm	Rm 215
Resumes, Interviewing, Job Search, and Salary Negotiations			
<b>GACE CAREER FAIR</b>	Apr. 10	Noon-4pm	Cobb Galleria
Senior Career Orientation	Apr. 12	3pm-5pm	M100
Resume's For Today's Job Market	Apr. 17	5pm	Rm 215

The  
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www.thesting.org

Karen Asay, Editor-in-Chief

Eric John, IT Manager

Twila McConnell, Copy Editor

Sean Fine

Jessica McNally

Matt Finn

Jon Meek

Steven Fyffe

Stuart Michelson

Christiaan Funkhouser

Eric Ravello

Jasmine King

Rulfz Raymond

Korey Kolberg

Cristina Wilson

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## Independence from Britain and dependence on God

Stuart Michelson  
Staff Writer

The title of this article I'm sure has many readers rolling their eyes in disdain. I am borrowing the phrase from David Barton's book "Original Intent" which examines the Founding Father's original religious intentions for America using their own quotations as proof. I highly recommend the book as a source for anyone who wants to learn more about the intended role of our Courts as well as the scope of Federal Power in America from it's founding to today. However, my purpose for this article is not to push a political or religious agenda, but rather to expose facts and clear up some misconceptions about our nation's foundation. The term "Separation of Church and State" will be my main focus. We'll examine where the term came from, what it means, and why it should be important to every American to understand what it really means.

"Separation of Church and State." This phrase is thrown about quite carelessly today. The media has advertised it so much that many victims of misinformation actually believe that it is written into the Constitution. The phrase is taken from a letter that Thomas Jefferson wrote to the 'Baptist Association of Danbury.' Jefferson made it very clear, within the very same correspondence that in no way was the government to ever restrict or regulate religious expression. If "Separation of Church and State" were to have the meaning that modern irreligious activists would like, then Jefferson contradicts himself, and is not worth listening to anyway. So what did Jefferson mean when he said it? That depends on how we define

religion.

Definition of "Religion." One of Jefferson's stated purposes in writing his letter to Danbury was to make it clear to them that the First Amendment (this is the one people claim is separation of church and state) was designed to protect them from the federal government attempting to establish a national religion or denomination. Many Americans had fled Europe because of religious persecution for failure to comply with the state religion. When the Founding Fathers refer to "religion," they are referring to a denomination or particular sect of Christianity. Many Founders (not just Jefferson) make note that no exclusive sect of any religion should be favored over any other, but this in no way conveys that the Church doesn't have or even shouldn't have a relationship with the state. And yet in America today many use the Constitution's prohibition against "an establishment of religion" to mean that religion should be barred from public life, public expression, and government. Those with a secular agenda have redefined the word religion and imposed the exact opposite of what the Founders intended on the nation.

What the Founders intended: There is not enough room in the entire newspaper to fit everything the Founders had to say about religion, however I'll point out only a few examples, and encourage readers to research the subject in more depth on their own. In 1620, the Mayflower Compact begins with the statement, "in the presence of God," and continues to say, "Having undertaken for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian Faith." Perhaps the earliest constitution

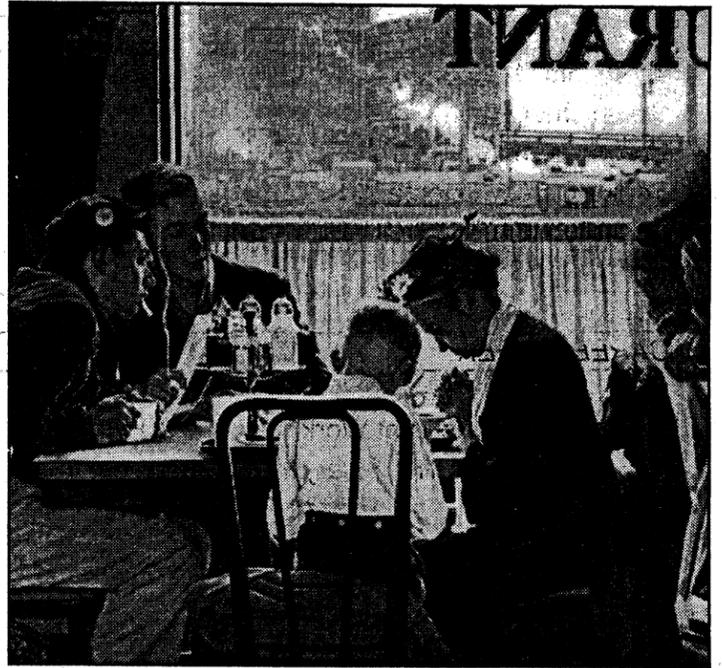
in America, the "Orders of Connecticut" state that "We profess the Gospel of Jesus Christ." The Declaration of Independence (1776) calls us "One Nation Under God." In 1777 the Continental Congress ordered that the Bible was to be the "textbook" of this new Nation. Most history books and professors ignore the religious convictions of our Founders and in their incongruence with logic, dare to propose that men of such religious conviction would write a government system that would limit expressions of their own faith. Followers of the misinformed concept of irreligious Founders distort reality and discredit true reality because no one can conduct an extensive study of the Founders and come to the conclusion that they were irreligious, or intended to bar religion from government and daily life. The Founders believed that the only power of a government was given from God. Samuel Adams argued this saying, "Civil Government is of God, the administrators of it were originally the whole people." The Declaration of Independence also reflects this attitude. John Quincy Adams said that the Bible's Gospel was the standard rule of conduct and that all men are bound by the law of God. I could go on and on with examples, however all of this goes to show that any student of history who thinks otherwise is, either willingly ignorant of the facts, or a victim of a lie.

So What? The result of the Founders' creation of a sound product after a series of debates and contemplation over justified social philosophy has led to the formation of the oldest ongoing Constitutional Republic in the history of mankind. The Founders

molded their entire government on the principles of the unchanging laws of Christianity found in the Bible. The Founders' actual intentions should be important to all Americans because if society had remained in the hands of those who realized them, perhaps many of our precious moral values would not have been struck down in the courts. The American people would not replace the Ten Commandments with manmade laws that lead to immorality and destruction. The result is society placing more value on the convenience of a mother than the life of her unborn child, and allowing the minority to remove the majority's right to prayer in public places. All of this can be traced to relativistic thinking which says that God must be removed from our decisions and laws must evolve with time. We live in a society in which protesters wave signs

saying "God is USA's Terrorist." Reckless and Godless decision making is wrecking America.

So next time you are in history class, or reading a textbook, remember to keep an open mind. Do not allow revisionist authors to mold your opinion without first looking up the truth from other sources. Do not let the fiction they elevate as fact ruin your perception of the Founders' motivations. Do not ignore etymology, that is, bear in mind what words meant then, and what they mean today. Be wary of books that have large omissions from the section of our founding. Finally, attempt to trace the sources provided in these textbooks, you may find that they have no primary sources, or are misrepresenting the information they cite. In so doing, you may find that it was a Declaration of Dependence on God after all.



Praying before dinner

Photo courtesy www.abbeynews.com

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## The Middle God already blessed America

Christiaan Funkhouser  
Senior Staff Writer

"Puff the magic Jesus, Floats around the universe, The United States is His favorite place on the whole entire earth." Are the opening words to "What about them?" A track off of rapper John Reuben's "The Boy Versus the Cynic" CD. A few verses later he writes, "Remember to say grace before we scrape our plates, and ignore the crying outside the door. Sure, you'll pray for their burdens but you don't want to make it yours. So, crawl back into your happy existence and feel the bliss of ignorance keep you warm, Blessed are those who mourn but it's so foreign.

The more you have the less you care, The less you care the more you become unaware

And sure life's not fair but it favors us apparently."

God Bless America. It's an overused phrase that shows a lot about the American culture. The richest one billion people in the world make about \$70 a day. Half the population of the world lives on either two dollars or less, one third of those three billion live on less than a dollar a day. Forty percent of the world lacks basic sanitation. While Americans consumed 26 billion liters of bottled water, one billion people in the world don't have safe drinking water. Two third's of Americans are overweight, while every 16 seconds someone in the world dies of hunger. We spend more annually on trash bags alone, then half of the world does on all goods.

Eighty percent of the world lives in sub-standard housing while average square footage in new houses being built in the U.K., Ireland and Japan are: 815, 930 and 1,000 square feet. The average square footage in new American homes are double, and close to triple, at 2,349. Two billion people in the world have no electricity.

One billion people cannot sign their name. One percent of the world owns a computer, and one percent of the world have a college education. Four out of five

American adults are high school graduates, while 1 of 4 children in the world have to work instead of going to school.

Hasn't God already blessed America? Look around you, what kind of clothes are you wearing? You have clothes to wear, sure there's probably someone with nicer clothes, someone who drives a nicer car, and someone with a better cell phone and Ipad. A lot of times we believe that we're poor just because someone else is richer. Someone in a trailer park that's on the Jerry Springer show and Bill Gates have something in common. They're both in the top richest percents of the world.

In 2001, 22 million people died from a preventable disease, nearly half of those (10 Million) were children.

The estimated amount of money spent on video games, Starbucks, halloween costumes, movie tickets, DVD's and Pornography are as follows, \$10 billion, \$1.6 billion, \$3.3 billion, \$9.2 billion, \$24.1 billion, and \$14 billion. An estimated \$62 billion is spent on frivolous things, on entertainment that was not necessary to exist.

To give basic education for all people on earth it would cost \$6 billion, water and sanitation: \$9 billion, reproductive health for all women: \$12 billion, basic health and nutrition for all people on earth: \$13 billion. The sum of these basic necessities would be \$40 billion. The same amount Americans spend on purchasing DVD's, Starbucks, and porn.

Maybe the phrase God Bless America is a way to be patriotic without actually caring about whether or not God blesses America. Maybe it's a prayer to the god of consumption, to bless America with more things to consume.

In a letter to Timothy, a fundamentalist Jewish lawyer turned Christian named Paul wrote, "Command those who are rich in the things of this life not to be proud, but to place their hope, not in such an uncertain thing as riches, but in God, who generously gives us everything for our enjoyment. Command them

to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share with others. In this way they will store up for themselves a treasure which will be a solid foundation for the future. And then they will be able to win the life which is true life. (1 Timothy 6:17-19)"

We have the ability to change the world. Never before has so much of the world's resources and money been in the hands of so few. The United States of America has so much. Maybe your New Year's resolution was to make yourself a better person. What if the best way to make yourself a better person was to help other people? What if you're being blessed, so you can bless others? Maybe instead of placing our hope in uncertain things like money, we should place our hope in helping other people.

Would it really be that hard to give a pan-handler a dollar? Sure, you can use your own excuses about how they'll probably use it on beer. But there are ways around it. Go to a drive through for them. I cut down the amount of times I eat out, and sometimes skip meals, so I can pay the \$30 dollars a month for my child sponsorship.

Uncle Ben repeatedly told us in Spiderman, "With great power comes great responsibility." So as long as you live in America you have great power. Use it to help make the world a better place, whether it be holding a door open, going on mission trips, or giving up one of your many coats for someone who doesn't have one.

There is a man named Rob Bell, he's a teacher at Mars Hill Bible Church. He is one of the most brilliant, and fascinating teachers, I've ever heard of and from. Rob Bell compiled a lot, but not all, of the statistics in this article. He closed a video about being rich with:

"May you come to see that you are rich, and your possessions, they're luxuries that most of the world doesn't have. And may you do what Jesus says, may you step into your divine responsibility to give, and when you do, may you take hold of a life that is truly life."

## Higher Education

Merius Atangcho  
Contributing Writer

Concerning automation, one might think of automatic sliding doors. Or, on a more serious note, one might consider the elimination of laborers in favor of machines that can do their work faster and, perhaps, better, supposedly increasing efficiency. It may appear that this assault on professionals would not be seen in higher education; however, higher education has been under attack and continues to be.

David F. Noble, historian of technology and professor at York University, studied the process of automation in industry and published a book on the subject. He later published a journal ("Digital Diploma Mills: The Automation of Higher Education") and then a book on the automation of education. He discusses two phases by which higher education has been, and is being, commercialized and, in the process, automated.

The first phase, "the commoditization of the research function of the university," has been a major part of industrial capitalism in the U.S. and practically no form of industry escapes this mode. Basically, the State Department and Department of Defense (Pentagon) are funnels for taxpayer dollars towards research and development (R&D), conducted by universities, and, when successful, the products of R&D are sooner or later handed over to corporations for commercialization. Noble describes this process appropriately as a way to "socialize the risks and costs of creating this knowledge while privatizing the benefits." This "knowledge...became...intellectual property" owned by universities, yet funded by taxpayers. University resources were pushed "toward its research function at the expense of its educational function." The greater university-corporate ties led to "students...paying more for their education and getting less, and the

campuses were in crisis" as "Class sizes swelled, teaching staffs and instructional resources were reduced, salaries were frozen, and curricular offerings were cut...."

Efficiency in corporations is tied to cost-benefit analysis—usually strictly in terms of capital. A cost-benefit analysis (for example, in education) should not be done only in terms of capital because it may jeopardize the true value of the endeavor—the (intrinsic) value to the public. Moreover, judged in terms of capital, corporations are not very efficient anyhow because the majority rely on a huge public subsidy—almost never called a subsidy but a tax cut or tax break.

The second phase, "the commoditization of instruction," "is touted as the solution to the crisis" caused by the first phase. Instruction is computerized to increase "the efficiencies of already overextended teachers," a not too unfamiliar affair with corporations when profits decrease. Efficiency is again called into question because "Experience to date demonstrates clearly that computer-based teaching... costs more not less than traditional education... hence the need for outside funding and student technology fees." Once again, while hi-tech industry profits from the commoditization of instruction, its inefficiency, both in cost and intrinsic value, will be borne by the public, who will pay the difference and lose the benefits. In essence, we get quantity over quality; however, "Quality higher education will not disappear entirely, but it will soon become the exclusive preserve of the privileged, available only to children of the rich and the powerful." We will enter a "new era of higher education." However, "teachers and students are reluctant to embrace this new panacea." Being aware of these technological changes around us and ensuring that the changes are democratizing in nature can result in more positive implications for the automation of higher education.

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God bless America

Photo courtesy groups.msn.com

## What should be done about Iraq?

Jon Meek  
Staff Writer

In the past week, the news has been flooded about the President's announcement of sending over 20,000 more troops into Iraq. This announcement has caused many congressmen to say that they will not support further funding of the Iraq war. So, what should be done about Iraq?

Well, I would think that Congress and the President would at least give these 20,000 troops the minimum protection but as we seen in the past, Congress never seems to give the soldiers the funding they deserve. I think we can come to this conclusion based on bitter reaction by Congress to the President's State of the Union Address. Therefore, the first order of business would

get these troops the funding they deserve. They might have a chance at returning to their families alive, not in a coffin. We owe it to the ones who serve so much.

The next question everyone should be asking is what will these additional ground troops be doing? Are they going to replace the ones killed in Iraq or they going to help in transferring power to the Iraqi government? If they are going to help transfer power to the Iraqi government, then fine. However, I believe firmly they should not be sent for the sole purpose of replacing fallen soldiers. Just throwing resources at a problem doesn't solve the problem, it only helps create more problems. It should be the goal of the United States to transfer power to the Iraqi government as soon as possible without leading

to internal instability. I believe a reasonable timeline would be 2-3 years, this gives those who have trained at the beginning enough experience to be able to train their own forces.

Most people would think that getting out would be the best solution right now, but I disagree. Here is the thing: We have created a problem in Iraq. Now if you make a mistake on a project at work, do leave it for the next guy to pick up and try to fix? No, you don't. If you are a good employee, then you admit you have made a mistake and correct the mistake.

With Iraq, the US has gotten too far involved just to pull out, now the US has to come up with a solution that will fix the mishandling that has happened.



Photo courtesy www.arcnet.army.mil

While impervious to the naked eye, most of the utility vehicles in Iraq lack basic armor to protect the troops from roadside bombs or other guerrilla explosives.

## How to Fight Terrorism

Merius Atangcho  
Contributing Writer

In the 1980s, a "war on terrorism" was declared by the Reagan administration. In Reagan's address to the United Nations General Assembly, he described terrorism as "the crime of cowards—cowards who prey on the innocent, defenseless, and helpless." He informed the General Assembly that the U.S. had "taken steps to counter terrorism directly, particularly state-sponsored terrorism." And he made clear that the U.S. would help any "law-abiding nations threatened by terrorist attacks."

A leap forward in time to the atrocity that was the second and successful attempt to explode the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 and one could conclude that Reagan's war was a failure. In fact, one need not look that far ahead. Among many third world nations affected by Reagan's war, Nicaragua serves as a good example of that failure. The Reagan administration's financing, arming, and training of the Contra (guerilla faction) to fight the supposed terrorist Sandinista government of Nicaragua earned the U.S. a World Court condemnation for "breach of its obligation under customary international law not to use force against another State." The U.S. was ordered "immediately to cease and to refrain from all such acts" and "make reparation to the Republic of Nicaragua for all injury caused to Nicaragua." Although the U.S. accepts the jurisdiction of the World Court, it does so with two provisions, one of which is if the "United States of America specially agrees to jurisdiction." That particular, contradictory provision enabled the Reagan administration to reject the World Court ruling and continue to sponsor the Contra. So in its pledge to help "law-abiding nations threatened by terrorist attacks," like Nicaragua that brought its case before the World Court, the Reagan administration unlawfully used force—terrorism by definition in military manu-

als—against Nicaragua, preying on "innocent, defenseless, and helpless" Nicaraguans, leaving tens of thousands dead. A similar, at times even more brutal, account can be given of other third world nations' experience with Reagan's war on terrorism.

This glimpse into the Reagan administration's war on terror provides us with a good idea of how not to "counter terrorism directly, particularly state-sponsored terrorism." One does not fight terrorism by participating in acts of terrorism—"the unlawful use of—or threatened use of—force or violence against individuals or property to coerce or intimidate governments or societies, often to achieve political, religious, or ideological objectives." Not being part of the problem should be the obvious starting point in finding a solution.

Now in the midst of a second war on terrorism re-declared by the Bush II administration, it appears not much has changed since the Reagan years. This war on terrorism has seen civilian death tolls mounting far beyond those suffered during the attacks on the World Trade Center and destruction far greater. But comparisons of casualties and destruction serve no moral purpose, only an illustrative one. Furthermore, pronouncements of regime change in both Afghanistan and Iraq, which constitutes political and ideological objectives, backed by would-be unlawful use of force, at least by international standards, would satisfy the definition of terrorism. Since the U.S. accepts World Court jurisdiction when it "specially" pleases, holds veto power in the UN Security Council, and its negative vote in the UN General Assembly, where there are no vetoes, could amount to a veto, it is practically impossible to condemn the U.S., or its client states, for acts of terrorism, except as an exercise in futility and moral outrage. In a world where peace and justice are desirable, this does certainly pose a problem, but that is not the topic of discussion.

I should make clear that the issue is not the removal of the former, undeniably brutal governments of Afghanistan and Iraq, just the manner in which it was done. According to the National Intelligence Estimate, the war in Iraq is "shaping a new generation of terrorist leaders and operatives." Moreover, the conflict is "breeding a deep resentment of US involvement in the Muslim world and cultivating supporters for the global jihadist movements." Overall, jihadists are "increasing in both number and geographic dispersion." This assessment underscores the necessity of avoiding participation in terror and avoiding responsibility for acts of terror in efforts to fight terrorism, which I hope would be obvious, at least to rational persons.

Before I continue, I would like to briefly consider how one effectively fights poverty. We could just claim that since the American Dream with all its implications supposedly comes to those who work hard, the poor must not have worked hard, so it is their fault they are poor and they deserve to suffer, to be jailed, or some other horrible fate. Or, we could in the short term attempt to alleviate poverty through aid, while trying to identify the causes of poverty, which can then be dealt with to eradicate and prevent poverty in the long term. Believing the latter to be the best, it seems then that to dismiss the poor as lazy persons is to make a grave mistake, besides being foolishly stereotypical, as it does not solve the problem.

Similarly, to dismiss all terrorists as crazed lunatics and to treat them as such will do nothing to solve the problem, likely prolonging, or even worsening, it altogether. To wage an effective war on terrorism, one must acknowledge the grievances of those who employ terror, and, if legitimate, address those grievances. In doing so, the problem can be managed effectively and indefinitely.

Since Islamic terrorist groups and states are the major

focus of the war on terror, I will use them as an example to explain how to effectively fight a war on terror. First, however, it is useful to have a basic understanding of the meaning of Jihad. Jihad basically refers to both the internal struggle to strengthen one's faith and the external struggle in defense of Islam. It is this external struggle that I will be concerned with here.

An edited translation of an audiotape attributed to Osama bin Laden, parts of which were aired by Aljazeera on April 23, 2006, reveals a great deal of grievances, but they tend to fit into two categories: dissatisfaction with "the rulers of [Muslim] regions" who side with the U.S. and Europe and the disregard of "the West" for "the rights of others," Muslims in particular. Saudi Arabia and the Palestinians serve as good examples in these categories of grievances. The Saudi Arabian government, while maintaining a brutal, highly oppressive regime and catering to U.S. interests, enjoys the support of the U.S. government, which considers it an ally and operates a military base in the region. Meanwhile, the "Palestine question," as Osama puts it, is one that is being answered with the brutal, oppressive, and illegal invasion and occupation by Israel of the West Bank and Gaza that has been compared to apartheid in South Africa, and is also backed by the U.S. which provides political, military, and economic support for Israel and its forces.

Just considering Saudi Arabia and the "Palestine question," are these grievances that cause Islamic extremist factions to wage a Jihad war (external struggle in defense of Islam) legitimate? To be more general, is a military, economic, or political invasion or occupation a legitimate concern? Well, of course. But I doubt whether Bush (II) thinks so or Reagan thought so. It may be or may have been a concern to them, but U.S. interests, which are closely aligned with corporate interests,

are more of a concern. And it is for this reason that the effective methods are not employed efficiently, or at all. Those methods are simply not cost-effective—the cost being the relinquishing of control over these regions and their vast resources, not the suffering and the loss to human life.

These notions of power are implicit in wordings such as the "national interest" and "U.S. interests" as if it is in the interest of the nation that people be terrorized and murdered, here or elsewhere, for the sake of those resources. It is evident from the unwillingness to negotiate with terrorists, supposedly as some great moral principle, that the conclusion has been reached that it simply is not worth it. For negotiations to take place, both parties must recognize mutual gains. But since corporate gains reign supreme, there are no gains to be made from negotiations—remember: safety, security, peace, etc. are collateral to money and power—and so none of the grievances are addressed in a truly effective manner. The idea of bombing one's way to a peaceful, free, democratic world, which has been the standard, does not seem in the least bit fundamentally flawed. And in the advancing of this culture of violence, it is somehow expected that terrorism will decrease, or even stop, and war will bring peace. Orwell must be turning in his grave.

In closing, one important question remains: are grievances, whether legitimate or illegitimate, justification for acts of violence? Absolutely not. Those who carry out acts of terrorism, whether based on legitimate or illegitimate complaints, should be brought to trial, and, in the case of international terrorism, they should be brought before the World Court. But if legitimate complaints can be and are identified, then they should be addressed in order to effectively manage the "crime of cowards" in the long term, gaining in safety, security, and peace for all.

# Mortal Kombat: Armageddon

## Is it the ONE Mortal Kombat to rule them all?

Sean Fine  
Staff Writer

System: PS2, Xbox  
Genre: Fighter

Ok. Lets be frank, if you haven't heard of Mortal Kombat or how it causes a huge uproar in politics about violence in games or even just the name in general, then where have you been living all these years? All right, seriously, Mortal Kombat is the fighter game that made fighter games bloody. In 2-D form, it was a blast with characters like Raiden, Liu Kang, and my personal favorite, Sub-Zero. Now Armageddon, the final game for the current generation consoles, has come and with it, every single Mortal Kombatant to ever throw a punch has been jammed packed into the game, but is it worth your money?

**Story:** The story of Mortal Kombat is relatively simple. Every so often, the realms will gather their greatest fighters to battle for the sake of their worlds. There are countless characters that have been killed and come back a few games later, so dying is hardly a worry in Mortal Kombat. However, all this battling has made all the fighters blood thirsty for power and if the beginning movie says anything, a pyramid erupts in the middle of a battlefield and each kombatant (as I'm sure the developers would spell it) now fight each other in order to reach the top and fight the evil fire-spawn named Blaze to acquire his power.

The story is... crap. I'm sorry, Kombat fans, but the story is so half-assed that it seems like Midway doesn't even care about keeping a story without any plot holes. The Konquest mode (yes, it's spelled that way) of the game is only slightly better with one or two twists, but

the characters fight for such stupid reasons. "I need you to come back with me," "I don't want to go back with you," "Very well. WE MUST KUNG FU FIGHT!"

Of course, one redeeming factor is that Mortal Kombat was never known for its story, but for its extreme violence.

**Gameplay:** And violent the game is. You'll choose from the HUGE selection of fighters, ranging from Sub-Zero to Shao Kahn to Goro to the Dragon King Onaga, and from there, you'll fight with a number of other characters until you reach Blaze at the top.

So, how's the fighting, you ask? Well, retaining that Mortal Kombat-ish way of forcing you to memorize specific combos is still there, but to my knowledge, the combos don't look to be as long as they used to be. Although, you can string them together or add in your special moves, like Sub-Zero's freezing power.

However, I think that the inclusion of every Kombatant ever forced the developers to cut back on some things. For instance, each character now has only one fighting style and their weapon (as opposed to two styles and their weapon from the last few games). But there is one factor that makes up for this: Aerial Combos. Upon launching their opponent in the air, players can jump up and open up a can of aerial butt-whooping by once again memorizing a specific combo. To be honest, it's very difficult to do aerial combos, especially for a beginner or even a veteran.

Also, one of the huge redeeming features in the game is the Kreate a Fighter (yes, that's how they spell it). But from my experience with the feature, it's sort of a watered down version of Soul Calibur 3's character

creator, where you make the character and put clothing decorations on them and then assign combos and a special move to that character. It can be fun to make your own character and should relieve some boredom.

But the game suffers one major flaw. You know all those unique fatalities from previous Mortal Kombat games? Yea, they're gone. Instead you have a much simpler Fatality system where you chain together simple moves until you screw up or the kombatant is beyond beating. Sure, it's interesting for a while, but it doesn't have the flare or the satisfaction of previous Mortal Kombat Fatalities.

The true story mode of the game, Konquest, is a little more satisfying as you go through the various Mortal Kombat realms and get attacked by groups of enemies and have to fight them off. It's kind of like a Jet Li movie, where you'll do a combo on one guy, spin around and roundhouse kick another coming at you and then uppercut that next guy into the ceiling fan and, finally, jump into the air and create an explosive wave shoot across the room. It's fun for a while, but eventually, gets repetitive and becomes a minor inconvenience.

It also becomes annoying as you'll more likely to die in the traps in the game than at the hands of the grunt fighters, but if it's any consolation you do die in ways so sudden and bloody, you just think: "Wow... that was pretty cool."

Overall, the main part of the game hasn't changed much; you memorize confusing button combinations in hopes that you'll survive the match and if you practice enough, you can launch them into the air and do aerial combos. Still, it's not too... what's the word...? Fun! That's it. It's

not terribly fun

**Graphics:** Ugh, I'm not gonna beat around the bush much more, but the graphics aren't very good. Sure — characters have some interesting designs, but they don't look too visually good. The only thing that looks like it's been worked on was either A) Making characters from the old Kombat games into 3-D and B) making the blood look more bloody. Other than that, the various arenas don't really inspire players except for a few that require you to watch your footing, but it all looks sort of half-done.

And let's not get started on the Konquest graphics. Every game, they add this section in and every time, it looks like it was an afterthought that they just decided to throw in at the last second. Characters look blocky; environments are bland and not creative at all; and this section of the game seriously looks like something the PS1 threw up.

There isn't much more to say about the graphics. They aren't good compared to the graphics in other titles like Soul Calibur, Dead or Alive 4, and so on.



Photo courtesy www.mortal-kombat.org  
There's a huge cast of characters. Who's your best?

# Sneak King

## Why not add 5 bucks to your value meal?

Sean Fine  
Staff Writer

System: Xbox 360  
Genre: Sneaking (lawl)

I'm going to be honest here — the Burger King frightens me. Ever since his debut Super Bowl commercial of "Wake up with the King," the most logical of people must ask those who experienced this sort of situation, "Where is your God now?" Now, a few years have passed since the King has begun terrifying our minds and what does Burger King (the food trend) have to show for it? Why, three new games dedicated to the King himself, of course! Where is your God now, indeed.

**Story:** Um... once upon a time, the Burger King was born and thus, no man could sleep without the horror of waking up with the king, so he now goes around, sneaking into random homes just to surprise everyone inside that home with Burger King burgers, fries, and so on? ...Don't believe me? Ah well, it was worth a shot. The truth is, I don't exactly know what the story is. You pretty much are the King as

you 'sneak' up on random people and give them food while trying to surprise them. It's... not a game known for story, but if it were, it might go something like this:

In a world where people are too mentally challenged to realize whether they're hungry or not, where they just randomly pass out on sidewalks and in the middle of forests, only one man can set the world right, using the tactics of surprise and food! That man is only known as... the King!

**Gameplay:** Well, the gimmick behind this game is that you're the King and you go around "sneaking" and give people food by surprising them. It sounds very basic and it is. As expected when sneaking, you move around very slow and when you finally approach someone, a surprise meter pops up. If you time the surprise meter well enough, you can get a multiplier to your points.

That's pretty much the core of the game; just surprising people and giving them your food, whilst sneaking. The game tries to be creative by giving mission objectives like time limits or chaining a certain multiply level together or by

surprising people by coming out of hiding places, but to be quite frank, the gameplay is just overall boring after a while.

So why do so many people find it interesting? Perhaps, it's because you're the King who has haunted your nightmares for years and now you realize why he does what he does; it's funny to see the reactions out of people, even if they're previously programmed reactions.

**Graphics:** I suppose the graphics are half-decent, when you compare them to consoles from the generations of the PS2 and Xbox and Gamecube, but this is a next generation console that we're talking about, and it's not the Nintendo Wii (no offense to any fanboys out there). So how do the graphics compare to other games like Gears or War or even Kameo?

To be honest, it doesn't compare very well. Sure, the King himself is all digitally rendered well and his robe waves around all nice and everything, but there are many glitches in the graphics that will be noticed time after time again, but that's only the tip of it. The major

offense when it comes to graphics is that nothing else looks real. The textures of the world around you look and feel bland and void of life. The designs of the people you're surprising look very mushy and robotic half of the time.

There was one way that this game could've been a bit better and that was surprisingly through hiding. Now on paper, that sounds amazing, but when you see it in action, it's less exciting. Basically, you take 5 seconds to get into a hiding place, hope the person comes close enough and when you can surprise them, you take another 5 seconds to come out of your hiding spot and do the surprise meter test. Basically, the game has very few animations and the animations that are there just aren't very good.

**Sound:** The sound is composed of the basics of outside life with the addition of a ring of notes as you sneak around the pedestrians which have the brain power of a

**Sound:** There are bone crunches, blood splatters, "Chinese" that really sounds like some random gibberish strung together, and of course, screams of death. Yea, like the graphics, the developers didn't put much effort into the sound either. There's hardly any unique sounds between the different characters, save for he's male and she's not male, and maybe—MAYBE—the sound effects for special moves.

But the biggest blow to the sound is the voice acting—it's boring and bland and the characters sound like they don't really care that the end of the world is nigh; either that or they just sound really stupid as they talk to themselves in front of thugs and other characters. This just adds to my statement that the story is weak.

**Fun Factor:** In the end, the game may please fans of the series and maybe a select number of those fond of the genre, but to be quite honest, Mortal Kombat isn't a very good game and it isn't worth your money. With a constant string of problems easily spotted, I say this game is worth a 4.5/10.



Photo courtesy files.xbox.com

## Underground Music

**Christiaan Funkhouser**  
Senior Staff Writer

Somewhere in Europe a 40,000 person stadium thunders with the chanting fans yelling, "V N V, V N V..." however on April 7th, a mere venue with a maximum of 1,000 people may be filled to chant that same thing for VNV Nation and their Judgment Tour. Sometime in the future the band Sev'n 9 will take the stage with the most high energy show I'll ever seen. The sad thing, is the scant number of people who will attend their concerts. Why? Because they're not in the main stream yet.

Some of the most groundbreaking and revolutionary music comes from bands you may never of heard of. VNV Nation is an industrial techno group, while Sev'n 9 is a band one can't describe accurately. Mixing Linkin Park, Jay Z, Nine Inch Nails, and Outkast, Sev'n 9 is blowing away the city.

A lot of the music on the radios is overplayed, un-original, and simply un-interesting. I listen to a lot of Christian music. One of the reasons being, the Alternative or the Christian rock artists HAVE to be above bar. Bands like Skillet, Family Force Five, and Mewithoutyou are revolutionary and because they're Christian, even though their music isn't overtly Christian, they're not played on the radio.

I hate music clubs. I hate the drinking because the smell of alcohol makes me sick. I hate being in smoke filled rooms, because it's

hard to breath in 90% smoke and 10% oxygen. However, I will drop, make room, cancel appointments to see Sev'n 9 in concert.

There was a high energy of anticipation. The talking had stopped once the curtains parted. When the first chord was hit, the room exploded into jumping and dancing. Amidst the electronic sounds, hard core chords, screaming, mixed with rapping, their positive, non-depressing lyrics rang through. I looked through the smoke and thought to myself, "There aren't near enough people here. This is amazing."

VNV Nation is a band who's CD I found in the throw out/give away crate while looking for a CD to give away during the Christiaan Show. Which may come back on the radio (keep an eye out). I took it home and never opened it. It wasn't until The Eric John talked about them on his blog that I took the CD out of the wrappings and put it in my CD player. They are amazing.

I guess, I write this to invite you all to step out of the regular radio, and embrace the beauty of indie and non traditional music. Check out the Myspace of all the bands listed, as well as some of these other bands. Decipher Down, State of Man, Saven Realms, Dragonforce, Becoming the Archetype, Rhapsody, KJ-52, Lacrae, John Rueben, Payable on Death, and DJ XTC. You may find something you adore.

## Updates for SGA

**Amanda Benson**  
SGA Internal Affairs Chair

I hope you all have enjoyed the semester break. As you all should know, with the beginning of spring semester, SGA needs to make sure our contact list for each student organization is accurate and up-to-date. Your remaining funds for the year (if you have any) will be frozen until this information is submitted in accordance with the SOP manual which is located on the SGA website at <http://sga.spsu.edu>.

Please have someone from your organization, preferably one of your executive board members, submit the following information to me via email: a current up-to-date roster with all organization members. Please be sure to include any new members, and remove any members who may have graduated, left SPSU, or are no longer active members of your organization. Also, if your organization has re-

cently had elections, please make note of who the new officers are.

In addition, please include email addresses and phone numbers of all executive board members. If you do not include this information, your roster is considered invalid and your funds will remain frozen until a valid roster is submitted.

For the organizations that currently have offices in the student center: Your organization also needs to submit your roster information no later than midnight on Monday, January 22nd in order to not be in jeopardy of losing your office. Room inspections will be conducted during the week of January 22nd. If your office is not neat and tidy, or contains any health, fire or safety hazards, please fix it prior to January 22nd. Please refer to Article 5 of the SOP if you have any questions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at [abenson@spsu.edu](mailto:abenson@spsu.edu) if you have any questions.

## Alpha Xi Delta

**Carrie Cannon**  
Alpha Xi Delta Public Relations

Alpha Xi Delta would like to WELCOME back everyone to school this spring. We hope that everyone had a wonderful, well-deserved break! We'll be hanging out by the globe during lunch time every day this week, so drop by and see us! We are thoroughly excited about this new year already.

Thursday, January 18th @ 8 pm at the Community Center Coffee House: Come out and Meet the Xi's! There will be everyone's favorite board games with yummy snacks and drinks. Come show us your skills!

For those of you who are wondering what Alpha Xi Delta is all about, here is some of our history: Alpha Xi Delta was founded in 1893 at Lombard College, now Knox College, in Galesburg, Illinois. We've been on campus at Southern Polytechnic since January 2004. Alpha Xi Delta strives

to inspire women to realize their potential in areas of education, leadership, scholarship, and service to their community. Alpha Xi Delta has more than 142,000 members and is represented on 115 college campuses.

Alpha Xi Delta has had an amazing year, and we are looking

forward to even more fun in 2007! Congratulations to our newest sisters: Katie Bowar, Carrie Cannon, Phoenix Ellett, Crystal Johnson, Tiffany Nasert, Laurynn Saulino, and Jennifer Smith.

Alpha Xi Delta~ "Beauty, Brains, and A Whole Lot of Fun!"



Photo courtesy Alpha Xi Delta

## Band debuts two world premiers

**Beth Farber**  
Director of Bands

On December 13, 2006, the SPSU Legacy band presented a community concert at Greenfield Hebrew Academy (GHA) where audience, GHA band, and SPSU band members performed together.

The audience's attention was immediately won with the opening piece, Birdland. Matt Rogers' bass playing and Chris Brown's drumming added intensity and excitement.

Pirates of the Caribbean and Chattanooga Choo Choo were enjoyed by the students and adults. Jason Young's trumpet playing was featured in A Trumpeter's Lullaby.

The second part of the concert premiered two compositions written by SPSU Director of Bands, Beth Farber. Using a PowerPoint presentation, the concert combined visual and auditory perceptions. Tonight is Shabbat and Latkes and Applesauce were performed by band members and sung by audience members. The pieces were enjoyed by all and added to the repertoire of Jewish music. Farber is hoping to have the pieces published.

Farber states, "Tonight is Shabbat is a great teaching tool for Jewish children as it helps the youngsters remember how the Shabbat ritual is organized. First, one lights the candles; then says the prayers; bless the wine; etc." Latkes and Appiesauce has a catchy

melody and the lyrics discuss Hanukkah and the excitement of the holiday. The children love the line "presents for me (hooray!), thank you Maccabees!"

Greenfield Hebrew Academy band students joined in the performance and played two songs, S'vivon and My Dreydl, with the SPSU Legacy Band. Farber believes, "It is a wonderful opportunity for young players to perform with more experienced band students." Alex Groden introduced himself to fellow 5th grade trombonist, Harrison Brown, while helping set the stage for the GHA students. Proud parents and

audience members sang and took pictures of the event.

While students were exiting, SPSU band members continued to play which made it a bit difficult to empty the auditorium. The concert was an educational and enjoyable success!

SPSU Legacy Band is continually recruiting new instrumentalists. Rehearsals are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5:30pm on the student center's stage. Please call Beth Farber, 678-915-4222 for information. Instruments are available to those who do not have their own and it is possible to work around scheduling conflicts.



Photo courtesy SPSU Band

SPSU band members playing with GHA band members

## SEX:

### MYTHS, LIES, AND STRAIGHT TALK !!

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13

7:00 PM

STUDENT CENTER THEATER

ALL OF THE MYTHS ABOUT SEX WILL BE DISCUSSED AND PUT TO REST.

## Now is the time

Twila McConnell  
Copy-Editor

Before I even start, I know what kind of reputation the Sci-fi channel has. Trust me, I didn't watch 'Sasquatch Mountain' either. Why they would push their already low budget into movies like this, I have no idea. Especially when what they do well is so damn good.

If you've yet to sit down to an episode of 'Battlestar Galactica,' I encourage you to start with the new season on Sunday, January 21st at 10:00 pm. Even if you've missed the first three seasons, they usually jump several years between seasons and even avid views are usually having to catch up with the story line.

What makes the new series of 'Battlestar Galactica' so great? Well, firstly, it's absolutely nothing like it's predecessor, which was overflowing with cheesy, blocky space ships and horrendous hair cuts. For instance, Starbuck is a woman. A very tough and sexy blonde woman.

For those of you that don't know, 'Battlestar Galactica' is set in space. Humans (who, interestingly enough, have a polytheistic religion similar to the Greeks and Romans) are searching for the planet Earth, which they're not even sure exists. Concurrently, the monotheistic humanoid robots called the Cylons are at war with humanity, also searching for a

home on Earth.

The trick? Cylons look exactly like humans. There are only nine body forms, but with man copies, and when they die, they simply regenerate. They're not able to reproduce sexually, or so we thought...

Now I'm a sucker for political drama, especially with undertones of current day politics thrown in for contemplation. Nothing on the usual channels quenches my thirst for well thought-out plots and believable characters. Female characters especially are usually portrayed as weak or offensively strong and unbelievably impassionate. 'Battlestar Galactica' has none of those usual stereotypes.

These characters are the most human I've seen in a long while. Between Apollo and Starbuck's futile and misguided love affair, Roslin's attempt at fixing the election out of her love and dedication to her people, Baltar's manipulation to glory by his Cylon lover, and Sharon's dead baby's cover-up, you can believe these characters: especially in their worst moments. They aren't overly heroic or always successful.

And if you don't believe me, the Internet Movie Data Base user rating gives it 9.4 stars out of 10 and Yahoo users give it 4.5 stars out of 5. If you like sci-fi with a believable, engaging plot and beautiful graphics, this series is for you! So check it out already!



Photo courtesy <http://scifi.about.com/library/graphics/bgs22.jpg>

And even if you hate the plot, there is plenty of eye candy in this show!



Photo courtesy Matt Finn/ The Sting

On January 10th, CAB and Sigma Nu held a bonfire between the dorms from 6:00 - 10:00 pm. For CAB, it was a welcome back event for students and for Sigma Nu, it was part of their rush events. They burned old Christmas trees that Sigma Nu picked up from Home Depot.

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## Fund Raiser for TCOM

You are invited to an evening among friends and colleagues at one of Atlanta's Best wine stores,  
**Hinton's Wine Store & Bin.**

This gathering is for students, graduates, family and friends. So come enjoy the food, fun, and networking.

**The event is Thursday, January 25th at 6:30 - 8:30 PM**

Bin 75  
8455 Holcomb Bridge Road  
Alpharetta, Georgia 30022  
Telephone: 770-641-1900

A special donation price of \$30.00 per person is available before Monday, January 18, 2007. After this date, regular donation prices are \$35.00 per person.

This tax-deductible donation includes all gratuities as well as sparkling wine reception, taste of 2 white wines, 2 red wines, appetizers and 2 complimentary door prize tickets.

Donations go to the SPSU Foundation with all funds supporting the English, Technical Communication, and Media Arts department.

Order online or by mail. Go to <http://www.tcommons.org/events.htm> for more details.  
You must be 21 years of age to participate in the wine tasting. Non-alcoholic beverages available.

Questions about this event? Contact us at [tcabevents@tcommons.org](mailto:tcabevents@tcommons.org)  
Don't forget to download the attached flyer and spread the word!

Hope to see you at the event,  
T-COMmons

Superheroes pick on each other, too.

Comic by Jessica McNelly

**i can't believe i saved money on my car insurance**

**atomic wedgieeee!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

nice one