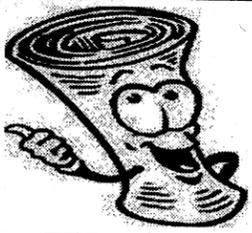


Read All About It!

We've got more news than ever in the one issue no one reads for news! Please, read on so that we feel motivated to continue this exciting trend! **Pages 1-2**



The Sting

www.thesting.org

300?!

If you've haven't seen it yet, who are you?! But seriously, check out this review to see what you're missing!
Page 3



April 1, 2007

We've finally put the news in newspaper!

Volume 61, Issue 10

A new, green campus in SPSU's future?

Twila McConnell
Editor-in-Training

On March 23, 2007 Dr. Rossbacher, the President of the University, addressed the University Community about her intent on participating in the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment. But what is the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment?

According to the flyer she handed out, it "is a high visibility effort to address global warming by garnering institutional commitments to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions, and to accelerate the research and educational efforts of higher education to equip society to re-stabilize the earth's climate."

That's a mouthful, but what it boils down to is an agreement not only to help the environment by immediate actions like cutting down on emissions and starting a campus-wide recycling program, but also a commitment to begin teaching students how to implement environmentally friendly actions within their respected fields. By teaching and imparting the importance of the earth to the students, the future of environmen-

tally friendly business approaches goes up.

Rossbacher opened the forum by stating that this was a perfect place for SPSU to be right now. She admits that her background in geology lead her into this interest, but also sees this effort as very positive for SPSU as a whole. It will gain visibility for our campus, with help us to support the larger effort of reducing the effects of climate change, and as Rossbacher points out it: "is also an opportunity for Southern Polytechnic to take a leadership role." Because our campus is technology based, we can help find real-world solutions to the question of sustainability.

Only three colleges in Georgia have signed thus far, those three being SPSU, Life University, and LaGrange. SPSU and Life will be sharing the expertise of our campus' faculty and staff as well as our alumni and foundation board members in order to promote community cooperation and awareness.

What will change? Well, not very much at first. The next steps for SPSU are as follow:

- Organize structure (May 2007)
- Develop short-term campus

plan (September 2007)

- Develop campus "environmental" plan (December 2007)
- Complete emissions inventory (June 2008)
- Create and implement long-term plan (March 2009)
- Publicize plans and progress (ASAP)

A few ideas currently on the drawing board are: establishing that all newly constructed buildings must be L.E.E.D. (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified silver or higher, all newly purchased appliances must be Energy Star certified, finding a way to encourage and implement useful public transportation systems, to begin purchasing energy which uses renewable resources, and to being an effective campus-wide recycling system.

As Dr. Rossbacher was eager to point out, "we have academic programs that address issues of developing a sustainable environment, and environmentally sensitive design is a guiding principle in our new facilities master plan." Some of the majors who are currently involved with these efforts are Architecture, Construction, and Civil Engineering. Dr. Szafran

suggested that Chemistry could also become a part of this effort by starting to practice in green labs, which are more environmentally friendly, much safer to students, and significantly reduce the cost of new facilities.

Currently the Presidents Climate Commitment has 148 signatories with their goal being more than 300 by the public launch in the second week of June, and 1000 signatories by December 2009. More information on the Presidents

Climate Commitment can be found at <http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org>.

More information about L.E.E.D. certification can be found at <http://www.usgbc.org>.

More information about Energy Star certification can be found at <http://www.energystar.gov>.

If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for this new program, Dr. Rossbacher encourages all feedback to be sent her way at rossbach@spsu.edu.

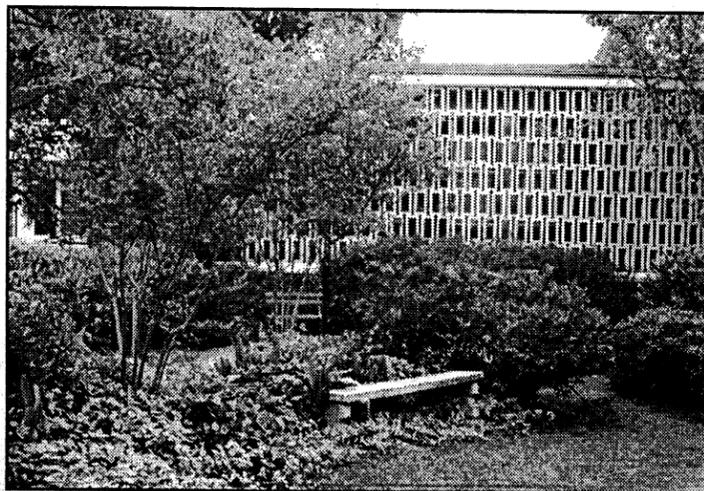


Photo courtesy Steven Fyffe
Although a 'green' campus doesn't mean more trees, it could be nice if all the buildings on campus looked like the administration building does from this angle!

Systems engineering degree

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

Southern Polytechnic has had a Masters Degree in systems engineering for four years. Recently, however, the Board of Regents approved SPSU's proposal for a bachelors in systems engineering.

As a systems engineering major, a student will learn how to manage a large scale, complex project. A systems engineer looks over all the parts of a project, not just one aspect of the project like mechanical engineers and electrical engineers. Systems engineers also consider the entire life cycle of a project, like the design phase and the development phase. In addition, they consider how the item in production will be maintained, how people should be trained to use the item, and how the item will be disposed of in the end.

Dr. Robert Hunt, the Industrial Engineering Technology (IET) chair, said that companies are already asking about students. Companies like Bellsouth, Parsons Brinckerhoff, and M. H. Chew & Associates, who constantly have

large projects being worked on, are looking for people in this major to oversee these projects.

Systems engineering will start being offered this fall. The current faculty teaching the masters courses in systems engineering will be teaching the bachelors classes as while. According to Dr. Hunt, the faculty members are excited about the bachelors program and have been helping with the course development.

Dr. Hunt said there are already a number of students interested in this program. IET students who wish to change to systems

engineering will risk loss credit hours if they have already taken IET course because systems engineering has a different class flow. Systems engineering will have more math requirements and classes in the mechanical, electrical, and software engineering majors. The details about the courses that will be required in the program have not been completely finished.

The department does plan on getting systems engineering accredited by ABET, but they will have to wait until at least four years. To get accredited, a program must have alumni.



Sting archives
All companies developing weapons, such as this F-22 from Lockheed, are now required to have Systems Engineers.

New dean search

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

Both the School of Engineering Technology and Management (ET&M) and the School of Computing and Software Engineering (CSE) are looking for new deans.

The search committees for both dean positions have narrowed down the applicants to a few candidates. These candidates will be coming to campus for interviewing during April, which will include giving a presentation to faculty, staff, students, and search committees. The search committees are hoping to make their decisions before the end of spring semester. Both positions are expected to be filled by July 1 of this year.

The current Dean of ET&M is Mr. David Caudill, who is actually an interim (filling the position until a new dean is hired). Mr. Caudill was an Industrial Engineering Technology professor and is the chair of the ET&M dean search committee. An interim dean was needed because Wayne Unsell turned in his resignation in June and left in July

and there was not enough time to find a replacement.

The Dean of CSE, Mike Murphy, notified administration he wanted to step down as dean after this academic year and just teach. Since he gave his notice during fall semester, the search committee has had time to fill the position. Dr. Alan Gabrielli is the chair of the dean of CSE search committee.

The qualifications for both dean positions are almost identical. Both positions require a doctorate in a discipline related to the programs offered by the schools. The people applying would need at least one year experience in an academic administration position at a level equivalent to or higher than an academic department chair. The other requirements can be found on the SPSU Human Resources web page.

The dean positions are expected to be filled by July 1st but if the chosen candidate can not fill the position at that point, the current people in those positions will stay until the new dean can take the position.

Section	Page
News	1
Entertainment	3
Organization	4

All the stuff on the first page?
Read it! I don't have much to fill these boxes with this issue, so pretend I'm saying something witty!
Page 1

Day of Merit at SPSU!
SPSU's chapter of Collegiate Order of the Arrow founder Stuart Michelson covers the annual Day of Merit for the young boy-scouters. Check out how this event went!
Page 2

What do you believe?
So you saw the banner in the J-building and want to know more? See why Campus Crusade for Christ wanted to see what you believe - and see what they believe.
Page 4



Annual Day of Merit at SPSU

Stuart Michelson
Staff Writer

Around 175 Boy Scouts will be assembling on Southern Polytechnic State University's campus on March 24th for the annual "Day of Merit." On this day, Scouts will have the opportunity to draw from the expertise of SPSU professors for the purpose of completing Merit Badges, which are necessary for Scouts to advance in knowledge and rank.

Boy Scouts who register to participate choose courses they would most like to complete, and spend the entire day participating in activities ranging from rocket launches and space exploration to history and architecture presentations. "Day of Merit is a classic win-win situation. Scouts get a chance to have some fun and to work with some very knowledgeable people on badges that can be hard to complete on your own. SPSU gets a chance to connect with young people who are interested in science and technology and show them what we have to offer," says current Day of Merit Director and SPSU professor Dr. Bowdoin Van Riper. Just like many of Southern Poly's courses, the classes prepared for the Boy Scouts are very hands on. The Day of Merit seeks to take advantage of SPSU's resources of knowledge and facilities to build a fun interactive day of learning for the Scouts.

The Citizenship courses are the most popular each year, as any aspiring Eagle Scout must complete these courses. This year, the "Citizenship in the Nation" course is being taught by Dr. Van Riper, and the "Citizenship in the World" course by Professors Mark Vickrey and Roger Soiset. This portion will include small group discussions with international students that attend Southern Poly from places such as Colombia, the Bahamas, Germany, Ghana, and Japan. Scouts

who participate in the "Pulp and Paper" course will tour a box making plant in the morning, and make hand made paper in SPSU's Chemistry labs in the afternoon.

The Day of Merit was first held in 1999 as part of the celebrations surrounding the inauguration of SPSU's President Lisa Rossbacher, and 2007 will continue on the tradition. Dr. Julie Newell of the SIS Department founded the Day of Merit at SPSU and oversaw it until 2004. Most of the faculty and staff that make the event possible are Scouts or former Scouts themselves. Traditionally, the Day of Merit attracted local Boy Scouts from the Foothills District (a small portion of the Atlanta Scouting movement as a whole), but due to a new web based registration system, the event now attracts Scouts from as far away as Dalton Georgia, and Alabama. The high levels of interest in the Day of Merit are good for the Scouts, and the University. The program allows for potential future students to see what SPSU has to offer if they are interested in technology, and seeks

to foster that interest. On the other hand, it also allows SPSU to expose Scouts to technology fields that may not have chosen a career path.

This year's Day of Merit marks the beginning of what the event's organizers hope will be a long relationship with the Collegiate Order of the Arrow chapter at SPSU. The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's National Honor Society, and the only way a Scout can attain membership is by being chosen among his peers. The organization's main purpose is to provide cheerful service to others. Collegiate Order of the Arrow allows Scouts who go to college to stay connected and active in the Boy Scouting movement. It also allows Scouts to continue to give back to those that chose them. Southern Poly's Collegiate Order of the Arrow chapter will be staffing at this year's Day of Merit, showing the Scouts in attendance that their Scouting experiences do not have to end with college. To learn more about Collegiate Order of the Arrow, visit them online at www.collegiateoa.org.



Photo courtesy the Collegiate Order of the Arrow

Teacher of the year 2006-2007

Twila McConnell
Editor-in-Training

Dr. Gouranga C. Banik of the Construction Management Department has been awarded SPSU's Teacher of the Year for 2006-2007.

Dr. Banik's impressive schooling consists of a B.S. and M.S. from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, a M.S. from the University of Manchester in the UK, and a Ph.D. from Iowa State University.

He has been selected for this award based on what President Dr. Rossbacher explains as his "many contributions to Southern Polytechnic, particularly for the fine educational experience" he provides his students with.

This includes activities like taking his Construction Safety class last semester to get hands on experience at the Mansion project, which is a residential development in Atlanta that plans to include a hotel, condominiums, restaurant, library/lounge bar, fitness center, and a destination spa. In 2006

he was selected by his peers for the Outstanding Faculty Award. He's also won national awards such as in 2002 when he was selected as the Associated Schools of Construction's National Teaching Award recipient.

In his time here at SPSU, he has been active in the American Society for Engineering Educa-

tion (ASEE) and has presented many papers to local, national, and international conferences.

Some of the courses he teaches include: Construction Safety, Applied Structures II, and Advanced Operation-Constructability.

This information was compiled from the SPSU website.

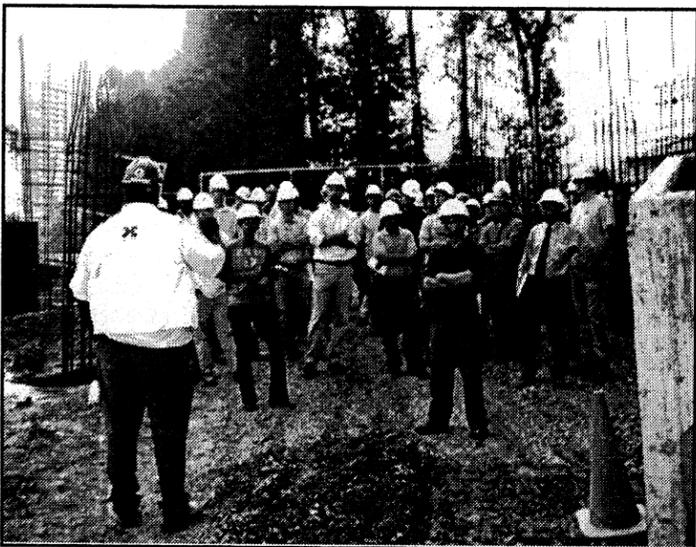


Photo courtesy www.spsu.edu
Professor Banik's Construction Safety class at the Mansion Project.

The
Sting
www.thesting.org

Karen Asay,
Editor-in-Chief

Eric John
IT Manager

Sean Fine
Matt Finn
Steven Fyffe
Christiaan Funkhouser
Jasmine King
Korey Kolberg
Jessica McNally

Twila McConnell
Editor-in-Training

Jon Meek
Stuart Michelson
Dan Pelch
Eric Ravello
Rultz Raymond
Cristina Wilson

The Sting is published semiweekly for the students, faculty and staff of Southern Polytechnic State University. *The Sting* is an official publication of the students of Southern Polytechnic State University. The ideas expressed herein are those of the Editor or of the individual authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of students, faculty or staff at Southern Polytechnic State University or the University System of Georgia. All material in *The Sting* is property of Southern Polytechnic State University and cannot be reproduced in any manner without the express written consent of *The Sting*. No advertisement in *The Sting* represents an endorsement of Southern Polytechnic State University or *The Sting*, and neither *The Sting* nor Southern Polytechnic State University is liable for any claims for products or services made in advertisements herein.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The local advertising rate of *The Sting* is \$4 per column inch on paper; advertisements online are determined by frequency. Advertisements for service and professional organizations on campus are free, but a run-date is not guaranteed on paper. To guarantee one, ad rates are one half the local advertisement rate. *The Sting* does not offer classified advertising. Advertisements must be submitted by the deadline printed below. To reserve space or for more information, contact *The Sting* at stingadvertising@gmail.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Sting welcomes letters praising or criticizing editorial policies or opinions. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double spaced and should not exceed five hundred words. Letters must include a name, address, and phone number for verification purposes, but names can be withheld upon request. Unsigned or unverified letters will not be printed. *The Sting* reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to *The Sting*, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our office in A252, or e-mail stingeditor@gmail.com.

ORGANIZATIONS

Articles written by organizations to inform the campus of activities and events are welcome. Articles must be submitted in electronic format (e-mail, disk) by the deadline printed below. 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, March 22 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions to *The Sting* are \$1,000,000 per semester or \$5,000,000 an academic year. All subscriptions start with the first issue of the succeeding semester. Checks for subscriptions should be made payable to *The Sting*. Please subscribe. Somebody. Please?

PRICE

The Sting offers to every student, faculty, staff member, alumni, and official visitor of Southern Polytechnic State University copies of each issue numbering up to 0.25% of the print run for the respective issue. Every copy above 0.25% is to be purchased according to a price set by *The Sting*. Taking more copies of an issue than 0.25% of the print run of a particular issue is THEFT and a criminal offense.



SUBS & SALADS

We do catering for (10 - 10,000 people) + We deliver for free

Special Deal

for students, faculty, and staff*

6" Sub Combo \$5.00

12" Sub Combo \$7.00

(Combo includes ANY Sub of specified size, a Bag of Chips or Cookie, and a Drink)

Store Hours

Monday	10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Tuesday	10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Wednesday	10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Thursday	10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday	10:00 am - 8:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am - 5:00 pm

* from Southern Polytechnic, Georgia Highlands College, Chattahoochee Technical College, Life University, Kennesaw State University, Georgia Tech, and Georgia State University. Only valid at the Blimpie on Fairground St in Marietta.



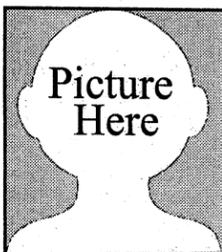
SUBS & SALADS

Buy 2 subs/combos, Get 1 free*

NEVER EXPIRES

* for Southern Polytechnic, Georgia Highlands College, Chattahoochee Technical College, Life University, Kennesaw State University, Georgia Tech, and Georgia State University students, faculty, and staff only. Only valid at the Blimpie on Fairground St in Marietta.

CONGRATULATION ADS



FOR GRADUATING STUDENTS

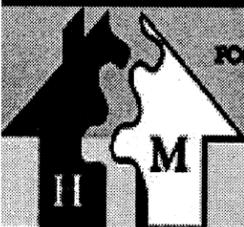
"Congratulate your friend, co-worker, student, or student assistant for all their hard work with an ad in the final edition of The Sting."

\$50 FOR 1/4 PAGE

\$30 FOR 1/8 PAGE

For more information, look at
The Sting website: www.thesting.org or
email stingeditor@gmail.com.

Are You Looking for a Place to Live?



ARE YOU A HOMEOWNER LOOKING FOR A TENANT TO LIVE IN YOUR HOME?

HOUSEMATE MATCH has
Helped the Community with Housing
for over 20 years!

Confidential Interviews

For more information please call: **Lynne Dychman** at 770 / 578.7526
lynne.dychman@atlantajcs.org
www.atlantajcs.org/hmm

SALES

Home Delivery Route Sales Person to work Buckhead area for Atlanta's Premier Drycleaner, Fashion Care. No hard selling. Door to door offering free pick-up and delivery service. Commission sales. Flexible hours with excellent earnings potential. Call Brent (770) 217-9699 or (770) 217-9696.

The film: three-hundred (300)

Why can't more documentaries be like this?

Sean Fine
Staff Writer

Genre: Ancient War

Surely, the times of the Greek cities like Athens or Sparta were very majestic. Back in those days, real warriors relied on strength, skill, and strategy rather than just technology, and that's what Frank Miller's 300 is all about. How the strength of 300 Spartans stood up to the might of a million soldiers.

The film starts out with the life of Leonidas and a brief summary of how the young Spartan proved his worth and became king. From there, the plot escalates into the historic event of the Persian Wars, where the Persian Emperor, Xerxes, had set his sights on the Greek cities, wishing to wipe their very existence from the face of the earth. However, the Spartans are shown to be a proud, strong, even brutal society of people, and they refuse to kneel to a threat such as the Persians. However, the Spartan council doesn't wish to go to war. King Leonidas, being a proud soldier, decides to take 300 of the best soldiers in his army on a 'stroll' to meet the Persians. From there, the film is a mix of both brutal battles and political intrigue.

The plot is simple, but the presentation of the battle scenes is down right epic, using slow downs to show actual scenes from the comic while still retaining the power of live move-

ment. The battles are many and all of them just give a sense of powerful, Lord of the Rings-levels of intense, on the edge of your seat, suspense. The style of the movie also gives an ancient, yet sharp, look. One feature of the film that I especially enjoyed is that they didn't try to cut corners in representing the Greek settings just so that it isn't immoral; they give the whole shebang: blood, brutality, nudity, clothing styles, and the architecture. The reason I like this so much is that it shows how the Greek cities really were, and the film gives a very good illusion of ancient Greece.

However, while this isn't a complaint, it is something to be mentioned: where other movies will make women feel insecure about their figure because of all the fit women in the film, 300 will make most men very insecure about their own physique. This is mainly due to the buff, half

naked men that will be on your screen half the time of the entire film.

The soundtrack of the film combines powerful choirs, melodies, strong war drums, and metal to create one of the most epic records for a movie since Pirates of the Caribbean. The acting is also superb, with many a good speeches delivered and plenty of memorable quotes such as the infamous, "Madness? This is SPARTAAAAAAA!!!" Gerard Butler plays a very arrogant and powerful King Leonidas and, needless to say, he will probably become one of the favored characters in the film because of that smart mouthed arrogance.

All in all, 300 is an incredibly violent yet entertaining movie that should satisfy action fans or movie goers that just want a good cinematic view on the ancient world. It's an epic film and one of the best of the year.



Photo courtesy www.popmatters.com

"This is SPARTAAAAAAA!"

What do you believe?

Campus Crusade for Christ
Student Organization

You may have noticed a big white banner hanging up in the J-Building a few weeks ago. It read: "What do you believe?"

So, what do you believe?

Campus Crusade, a Christian organization on campus, displayed the banner to get feedback from students and generate spiritual thought and discussion on campus. Many of you took the time to write down your thoughts. Here are some of our favorite remarks from the banner:

- I believe "religion is the opiate of the masses" - quoted Marx
- I believe Coke is way better than Pepsi - Anonymous
- I believe that, through faith and Christ, anything is possible. Jesus died for our sins, and we (society) take advantage of it. - Henry
- I believe Kel really does love orange soda. - Anonymous

Whether you agree with the above statements or not, or just think they are funny, we wanted to provide an opportunity for everyone to honestly share their thoughts on belief, a practice that is often stigmatized or labeled "politically incorrect".

As a follow up to the banner, Campus Crusade distributed a couple of essays on belief, one from Bono, famed lead singer of the band U2 (that can be found online by searching "Bono: In conversation with Michka Assayas") and another that we are publishing here by author Fadyra Stratton.

Campus Crusade for Christ meets Wednesday nights at 9pm in the Community Center. All are welcome so stop by - we'd love to hear what you believe.

What I Believe

by Fadyra Stratton

Author and University of Florida alumni Fadyra Stratton lives in Longview, Texas with her husband Kevin and son Kaden.

Belief, for me, is a tide. At moments there is a surge, an all-encompassing flood of Ideas and Opinions and Truth where I feel very... smug and together and right. And then there are moments where all the Ideas and Opinions and Truth seem distant and suddenly the most important things in life are the details of picking up the dry cleaning, planning dinner, and paying the bills. In other words there is no belief, just the banality of checklists. A life lived unintentionally.

I am best when I am intentional but not smug. When I stay close to the water. When I admire the sun's reflection, the cresting waves, the pattern water leaves on sand, the bubbles gurgling in shoreline air pockets. When I am fully present, overwhelmed by beauty but unable to claim to know all her secrets. When I am able to take the beauty with me into the mundane so beauty can live there too.

I believe in so many things. In the simple pleasure of baked bread still warm. In the gospel of a freshly bloomed flower. In Global Warming. In the dust mites multiplying within my mattress. I believe in my son. I believe in my husband. I believe in my friends. Every so often I believe in myself. But these beliefs do not sustain me. They are not enough.

So (here it comes) I am a Christ-follower. I am a girl who takes Jesus at his word as reflected by the Bible and follows him. I believe in kooky, whacked-out stuff like that Jesus was God on earth in human form and that literally he experienced death but three days later literally walked out of his tomb fully alive. Yup, I believe that literally. And I believe that for some reason this makes all the difference in how close you or I can come to God now or in whatever is after now.

But if you catch me in a coffee shop (where I'll be drinking tea) and we get into a Religious Discussion I may get caught up in... nature as God on earth in creation form or I may surprise you with some other Biblical stories I believe... metaphorically or literally... whatever, how should I know? You may also be surprised at how many questions you ask to which I answer, "I don't know." Or, "Well, at this point of my faith-journey here's how I see it..."

And you may wonder how I can call myself a Christian because somewhere along the way a pastor or parent or classmate told you had to believe a certain way to be a Christian. Basically, that you had to know their Truth. I don't believe that. I find these pastors/parents/classmates will tell you not to get a tattoo (because, indeed, in the Bible there's anti-tattoo scripture) but he will tell you this while eating a ham and cheese sandwich (Uh, not kosher! And the food restriction verses are with the anti-tattoo verses!)

I believe that this Jesus God/guy I do my best to follow meant to turn religion on its ugly head and challenged people to not grow smug in Truth but instead empowered people to ask questions in search for More. And I'm a bad enough Christian to believe that other religions have some beauty and some truth that may be able to push you closer to More. But I believe closer isn't enough. Because closer doesn't get you to wrap your arms, your heart, your joys, your hurts around Jesus. And I believe you have to do that to be whole.

But that's just me. Ask the girl next to you what she believes. Ask the guy behind you where he finds himself on in his faith or lack-of-faith journey. Tonight, or the very next time life becomes quiet, start off a prayer with, "God, what am I supposed to make of Jesus?" See what happens. See what you believe. Watch the moonlight on a growing tide. Ask again.

For more information about Campus Crusade check out <http://www.crusadeatlanta.org> or come to our Wednesday night Bible Study.

Georgia Tech's Momo-con

Mmm, SWAG

Sean Fine
Staff Writer

If you were there last year, then you probably remember the edition of The Sting where we talked about Anime Weekend Atlanta (or AWA for short) and our discussion about 'hinti'. For three years now, Georgia Tech has held the free, yet not as popular, Momocon; a convention that celebrates anime, gaming, and comics. However, in comparison to AWA, the amount of people and things to do were fairly limited, but that's not to say that it wasn't fun. Far from it.

Events that happened at Momocon include workshops on how to improve costumes, lectures about how to get into video game music, or just simply hanging out and meeting friends from across communities such as Gaia or the more infamous 4chan.org (which is the most horrible site in the world, never go there).

Other things to do at the convention include various gaming

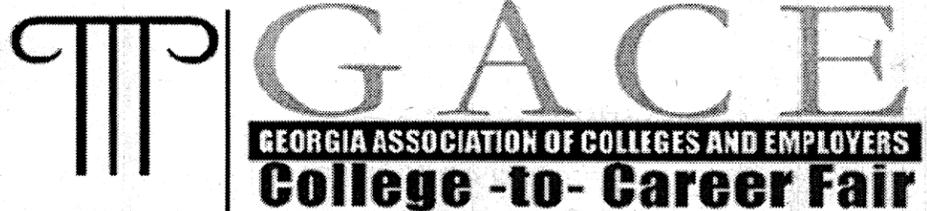
rooms that ranged from popular fighter games like Soul Calibur 2 and Super Smash Bros. Melee to rhythm based games like DDR and a game that quite literally teaches you to be a DJ (a very complex game required an insane amount of reflexes), to a personal favorite type of gaming, retro gaming, including games like the first Mario Party game, and old fighters like Street Fighter 2 for the Super Nintendo. Not only did people come to these rooms just to play games, but they were free to express their love (or hate) of the various games, making them grand places to meet new friends.

While anime showings were very limited, with only one main room showing anything, con-goers were able to find many things to do, including a raid on the local Varsity restaurant or just interacting with other con-goers who dressed up for the event. If not that, then there was also the dealer's room, filled with many different items both imported from the good, fan-loved country

of Japan to personally made drawings and items.

One of the more exciting events of the convention was the tournaments, including a Smash Bros Tournament, in both singles and teams, as well as a Soul Calibur 3 tournament on the first day alone and a Guitar Hero 2 and Halo 2 tournament on the second day. But the second day brought many complications.

Around roughly three in the afternoon, a message was sent out to all the con-goers, gathering them in a single location for an announcement. It seems that a couple of people in the possession of fire crackers brought them into the convention grounds and lit them. Because of the fire hazard, the convention was forced to close early. While there were many disappointed, everyone who came to the convention gave their respects to the decision of the director. Hopefully, next time, the convention will last longer and be even better.



Tuesday, April 10, 2007

The Cobb Galleria

Workshops for participants-
11:00am to 2:00pm

Career Fair -
11:00am to 3:00pm

To view companies attending
and to pre-register, go to:

<http://www.gace.org/careerfair/>

**Deadline to pre-register is
Friday, April 6**

- ◆ Internships
- ◆ Part-time Jobs
- ◆ Full-time Jobs
- ◆ Post graduation Jobs

For more information, visit our
website at

www.spsu.edu/cccenter

and click on the "Upcoming Events"
link on the left side.

Great Clips

Pavilions at East Lake
2100 Roswell Road
Suite 2P
Marietta, GA 30062

Phone 770.977.8775



Relax. You're at Great Clips.

The International Students Association Hosts

CULTURE FEST '07

FASHION, MUSIC, DANCE & FOOD

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

11-2 @ THE GLOBE

Come out and experience SPSU students' rich cultural diversity!

THE STING

WWW.THESTING.ORG

MRS Degree

By: Jessica McNally

Due to an increase in the student female population, Southern Poly Tech is pleased to announce that it will offer the Mrs. Degree program starting Fall semester of 2007. The program is designed to educate young women on how to properly care for a domesticated environment, such as a home or business office. Much of the emphasis of the eighteen-month program will be placed on operating a household; a little time will be dedicated to learning how to operate an office environment under the title: emergency procedures.

"We are so happy to be able to offer such a wonderful opportunity to our female students," said the school President in an announcement at the last Master Plan conference. Yes, now that the female student population has risen from 11% in 2006 to 17% in 2007, plans are confirmed to begin to create "workspace" for the Mrs. Degree. In this case, "workspace" will include a full kitchen studio, a deluxe laundry lab, and a gardening area near the Fellowship Baptist Church. There will also be a few standard courses offered in interior decorating and personal finance. By standard I mean to say a traditional classroom setting.

Thanks to accreditation from the Georgia University System (GUS), the program will account for all extra-curricular activity for any female SPSU student, and will be credited as such to the overall degree one is enrolled in. This means that if you are a female student and are majoring in Architecture, all of your other courses besides Architecture courses will be dedicated to the Mrs. Degree. The same goes for Engineering and Communication majors; in fact, any and every Southern Poly Tech female student will automatically be enrolled in the new program come Fall 2007. All concern for any controversy this change may cause should be addressed to the following departments: The Student Services Organization and the Student Government Association (SGA). Basically, Southern Poly Tech is firm in its belief as an institution that the new program is a positive change for all concerned parties.

Renovations in the E and I buildings will start next week for Mrs. "workspace". Plans include turning the basement level of the E building into a few large kitchen areas, and the lower level of the

I building will be equipped with state-of-the-art laundry machines. The kitchen area in the E building will have several ovens and stovetops, a special cutlery area, sinks, dishwashers as well as refrigerator areas, including a walk in freezer. The first floor of the I building will be set up with half a dozen washers and driers, folding tables and irons. There will also be a small sewing area set up for minor alterations.

The gardening area will include a nursery near the old tennis courts. A variety of vegetation will be grown, including edible and decorative plant life. Most of the gardening supplies will be purchased from Pike nurseries.

Each Mrs. course will be designed to provide an introduction to general areas of a domesticated environment. For example, the cooking courses will cover such things as proper food storage and handling, and the finance course will cover personal checking, investing, and 401k's. The same goes for the laundry courses, which are designed to let the student know how to wash what with what. "We aren't expecting to create chefs or tailors," said the President, "we just want our girls to have a good

understanding of the household environment so they can hit-the-ground-running after graduation."

Most of the courses for the Mrs. Degree are equivalent to that of high school home educational courses. There is one exception, an entire "to go" course which will cover all outbound services for households, such as dry cleaning and carry out dining. In addition, female SPSU students will also have the opportunity to visit such stores as Lowe's and Home Depot to play with interior design software. Similar software will be used on campus in virtual environments. There is some talk of a Feng Shui video game.

While the Mrs. Degree program may not be the biggest thing to boast about, the school is receiving state funding and nationwide recognition for its decision to host the program. Rumor has it that there is a lot of private funding from expansive corporations like Lockheed Martin and General Electric. The full effect of this new degree program remains to be seen. You can expect to see some advertising for the program starting this spring. The SPSU campus bookstore will have t-shirts available in men and women's sizes late April. The cap-

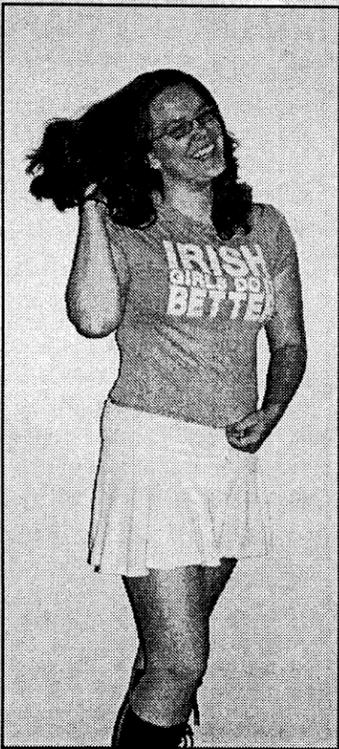
tion on the men's shirts will read: "Support the Mrs. Degree". The caption on the women's shirts will read: "Mrs. Student". The bookstore will also start carrying Betty Crocker cookbooks. It is rumored that the "city" area of the cafeteria will be turned into a kitchen supply store. If such a thing does occur, the shop will carry such items as spatula's, strainers, silverware, Tupperware, steamer pots, frying pans, and various drinking glasses.

If you have been a female Southern Poly Technical student for a while, you need not fear, you will be required to take only what you have left in elective credits. This means that if you have burned up elective credits in other degree programs, such as Physics or Industrial Design, then you will only have to take what is left for you to finish your declared degree. For instance, Kim is an SPSU female student majoring in Mechanical Engineering; she also has credit towards a Computer Engineering degree. Any credit Kim has left to satisfy her Mechanical Engineering degree besides her degree specific courses will go to the Mrs. Degree. Senior SPSU female students may select from any of the Mrs. courses offered this upcoming Fall semester

to satisfy their elective requirements.

"We are expecting a little resistance from the student body to the Mrs. Degree implementation," said the President in a recent faculty conference. Even with the understood negative impact this change may cause, the faculty seems to be strong in its decision to support the new degree program. In fact, it is being recommended that teachers in high-pressure positions be placed in some of the Mrs. Degree environments. The recommendation came from Southern Poly's own guidance office. Councilors feel that teachers who handle stressful course work and lecture assemblies should also have the time to relax a little. While some of the Mrs. Degree courses are industry specific, a few, such as the "To Go" course can be taught by any degree holding professional. You can expect to see a few Architecture and Engineering instructors wearing an apron or gardening gloves this Fall.

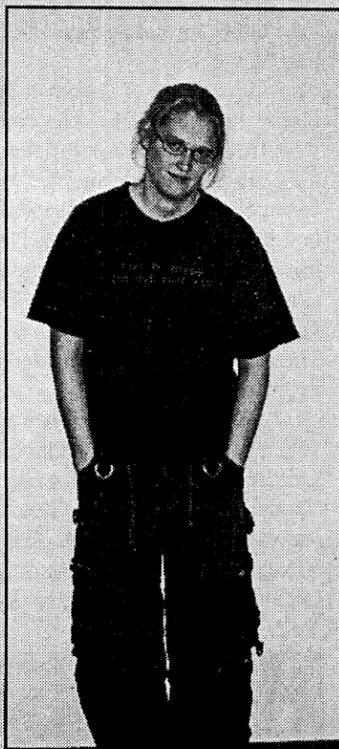
Change is inevitable. This is no different. The Mrs. Degree is designed to help young women understand how to take care of a domesticated environment. As noted before, the effects of the new degree program remain to be seen.



Before entering MRS. Degree



After graduating MRS. Degree



Before entering MRS. Degree



After graduating MRS. Degree

APRIL FOOLS ISSUE

Moms to Monitor Cafeteria Food

Jason L. Berman
Staff Writer

A recent USA Today sponsored poll reports that 56% of SPSU students agree that french fries are a protein. Nearly 82% of the survey respondents agree that ketchup is a vegetable, and 48% believe that "Salad" is an Arab nation in the Persian Gulf that sponsors terrorism. The poll results are of great concern to the on-site manager of Carlyle's Corporate Catering assigned to oversee food services on the SPSU campus. "I must say that I am not surprised, but as a mother I am outraged," she told *The Sting*. "And I plan to do something about it!" she said.

After an extensive investigation conducted within the SPSU corridors of power, whose movers and shakers make all important decisions during basketball season, *The Sting* has obtained details of Carlyle's plan for how to deal with the crisis.

In conjunction with the launch of its Food Flair nutritional education program, Carlyle's has arranged for the administrative staff of the Registrar's Office and the Office of Student Affairs to serve as volunteer dorm moms during lunch and dinner service. The dorm moms will follow each student through the cafeteria line

and monitor their food choices, making replacements to the food on their tray as necessary.

"I for one hope they make them eat more beets," Carlyle's manager said. "I put a lot of effort into securing the highest quality beets in the world for our students. I have them flown in directly from the Burgundy region of France," she noted.

The facilities staff have volunteered to provide dorm moms and dads for supervising the breakfast service. Commenting on whether this added responsibility will im-

pact the department's flawless record of making sure not a single light bulb on campus is ever burnt out, the employee responsible for J Building said, "We are happy to do this for the students, since our facilities staff are able to be at two places at once."

Not to be outdone, the department chair of Social and International Studies will be monitoring the waste receptacles in the cafeteria on a random spot check basis, to make sure each item of paper or plastic is discarded in the appropriate trash container.

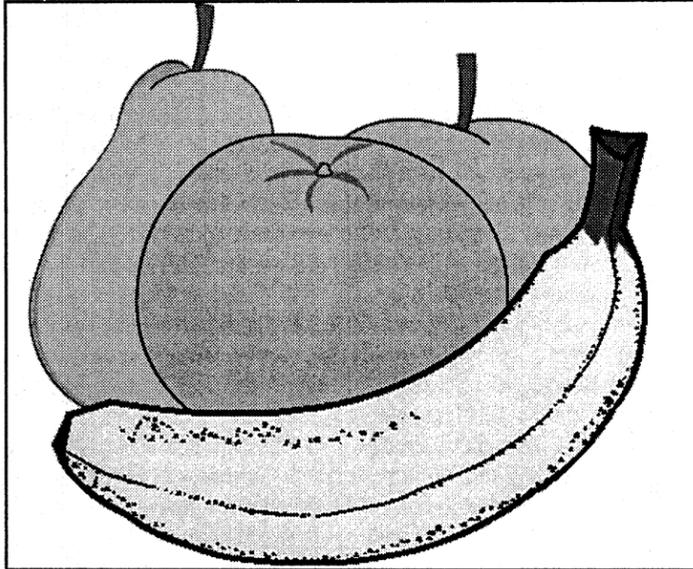


Photo courtesy www.eatfruit.com

Some of the food your dorm mom will make you eat.

New Electives for Fall

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Leaving

SPSU has been adding many new majors to the curriculum, this year. Along with these new majors, the administration decided to add some new electives. The administration wanted to add electives students were interested in so taking the idea from the movie "Accepted", they asked students what they wanted to learn.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs commented, "We got a lot more proposals than we expected. We can't offer all the classes suggested but we are looking into many of them." A class proposal had to have a summary of what the class would go over and a list of interested students. Students could either email the VP of Academic Affairs or use the inner office mail system to turn in their suggestions.

The most popular proposal was "History of Beer." This class was summarized as teaching students about beer in different cultures, how it has changed over the centuries, and what the difference between the beer classification like stout and ale, is. The class would have a couple of labs where students would taste test different beers. Also, a field trip to Sweetwater Brewery would be mandatory. Due to the legalities, only 21+ year old students will be able to take this class. "There are around 4,200 students at SPSU. This proposal had 4,000 signatures," stated the VP of Academic Affairs.

Another proposal was for a class called "How to get a date." This class would teach stuff like what personality traits attract people,

how to dress to attract the person you want, and how to ask someone out. This class would have a final project where a student would have to ask someone out and go on a date. The class was turned in by a male computer science major and was signed by mainly male students in the Computing and Software Engineering school.

A math major proposed the class "Teaching 101." The class would teach students how to prepare a lecture, how to explain complex concepts to a struggling student, and how to control ones frustration. One math student commented, "I might as well take this class. What else am I going to do with a Math degree?" This class was popular with primarily math majors.

Other proposed classes were "Strategy Tactics", "Goat Farming", and "Underwater Circuit Boarding." "Strategy Tactics" was the idea of one Navy ROTC student, who found it frustrating that the only interested students were World of Warcraft,

Dungeons and Dragons, and/or Magic: The Gathering players. The signature list for "Goat Farming" was completely made up of Greek members. Go figure! Some ECET students proposed "Underwater Circuit Boarding" as a substitute for "Underwater Basket Weaving."

There were classes suggested that will never become classes. Two examples are "Agriculture 101" and "Sex". "Agriculture 101" was cut because part of the course was supposed to be on how to go weed indoors. University Police said that the course would promote drug use and increase the amount of indoor weed gardens on campus. "Sex" will not be offered because part of the course would be to have sex and most of the signatures on this class's signature list matched those on class "How to get a date" list. The administration figured the students would have a hard time passing both classes.

These new classes will be available this fall.



Photo courtesy home.online.no

One of the new goats for the Goat Farming class

The
Sting
www.thesting.org

Karen Asay,
Editor-in-Leaving

Eric John
Fro Manager

Jason Berman
Sean Fine
Matt Finn
Christiaan Funkhouser
Zack Jones
Jasmine King
Korey Kolberg
Jessica McNally

Twila McConnell
Editor-in-Coming

Jon Meek
Stuart Michelson
Dan Pelch
Harry Potter
Eric Ravanello
Rultz Raymond
Wilaboo
Cristina Wilson

The Sting is published semiweekly for the students, faculty and staff of Southern Polytechnic State University. *The Sting* is an official publication of the students of Southern Polytechnic State University. The ideas expressed herein are those of the Editor or of the individual authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of students, faculty or staff at Southern Polytechnic State University or the University System of Georgia. All material in *The Sting* is property of Southern Polytechnic State University and cannot be reproduced in any manner without the express written consent of *The Sting*. No advertisement in *The Sting* represents an endorsement of Southern Polytechnic State University or *The Sting*, and neither *The Sting* nor Southern Polytechnic State University is liable for any claims for products or services made in advertisements herein.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The local advertising rate of *The Sting* is \$4 per column inch on paper; advertisements online are determined by frequency. Advertisements for service and professional organizations on campus are free, but a run-date is not guaranteed on paper. To guarantee one, ad rates are one half the local advertisement rate. *The Sting* does not offer classified advertising. Advertisements must be submitted by the deadline printed below. To reserve space or for more information, contact *The Sting* at stingadvertising@gmail.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Sting welcomes letters praising or criticizing editorial policies or opinions. Letters should be typed or neatly printed, double spaced and should not exceed five hundred words. Letters must include a name, address, and phone number for verification purposes, but names can be withheld upon request. Unsigned or unverified letters will not be printed. *The Sting* reserves the right to edit letters for style, content or size. All letters are run on a space-available basis. Please send all letters to *The Sting*, Southern Polytechnic State University, 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060, or drop them in the box outside of our office in A252, or e-mail stingeditor@gmail.com.

ORGANIZATIONS

Articles written by organizations to inform the campus of activities and events are welcome. Articles must be submitted in electronic format (e-mail, disk) by the deadline printed below. 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, March 22 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions to *The Sting* are \$1,000,000 per semester or \$5,000,000 an academic year. All subscriptions start with the first issue of the succeeding semester. Checks for subscriptions should be made payable to *The Sting*. Please subscribe. Somebody. Please?

PRICE

The Sting offers to every student, faculty, staff member, alumni, and official visitor of Southern Polytechnic State University copies of each issue numbering up to 0.25% of the print run for the respective issue. Every copy above 0.25% is to be purchased according to a price set by *The Sting*. Taking more copies of an issue than 0.25% of the print run of a particular issue is THEFT and a criminal offense.

New SGA Dress Code

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Leaving

The proper way for SGA members to dress at SGA meetings has been an on going debate at SGA meetings recently. It actually resulted in one meeting being cancelled because a member was dressed inappropriately and would not leave the council table. These actions and debates lead the SGA president to veto the recent version of the SGA dress code and purpose all members show up naked to meetings.

The SGA members unanimously disagreed with this proposal until they heard the president's reasoning. "You can't miss interpret naked. This fact would mean no more time will be spent disputing what the dress code means and who isn't following," stated the president. After hearing this argument, many SGA members were convinced and the proposal was passed.

Many students were happy to hear that the SGA would finally be addressing the needs of students and organizations, instead of bickering about their dress code. "My organization needed funding for an event we were throwing, but the SGA cancelled their meeting. The event had to be postponed. I hope from now on they stay on task so another organization doesn't have to go through what my organization did," commented a student.

Students are also showing more interest in SGA meetings. The president stated, "I have had at least 20 students come up and ask me when the next SGA meeting is." The president had no idea why there

was such an increase in interest but said it was great that more students were getting involved.

There are a few students who were against the SGA members being naked at the meetings, at first. These students thought everyone at an SGA meeting had to be naked, but only SGA members have to follow the dress code. Everyone else can wear their normal clothing.

Even though the naked dress code sounded good, the next SGA meeting ended up talking about it again. One of the female council members wore a necklace to the meeting and the Internal Affairs Chair stated the council member was not naked. "Naked means wearing nothing. No jewelry, make-

up, clothes. Nothing," stated the Internal Affairs Chair. "No naked means no clothes; jewelry and make-up are OK," said another council member. The Budget and Finance Chair put a halt to the argument, saying, "We are wasting too much time on this issue."

A student guest suggested they wear togas like the Roman Senate did. The SGA quickly agreed that the dress code would now be white togas and SPSU sandals. Also, the executive members would wear laurels. They got on with regular business for the rest of the meeting.

The next SGA meeting will be next week. All students are welcome to attend.



New SGA dress code

Photo courtesy www.anytimecostumes.com

Pubic Lab

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Leaving

The IT department has been noticing an increase of porn being downloaded in the dorms and in the IT labs. They decided to dedicate a lab to porn, hopping it would cut down on the number of computers they have to repair, because of ad-ware and spybots, and open up some bandwidth.

"The 'pubic' lab, as we like to call it, will be open to all students between 4:00 pm and 1:00 am Monday through Saturday," said an IT assistant. The hours are later than the regular open labs because the demand for the pubic lab is expected to be later at night.

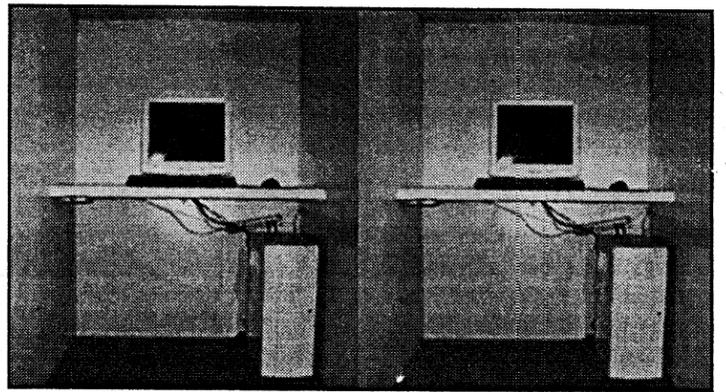
This lab will have 30 computers, which will be put in private booths so students don't expose themselves while masturbating. These computers also will not have speakers but headsets so the sound of one student's porn movie doesn't interfere with another student's. To protect the computers, monitors, keyboards, and mice from body

fluids, they will have a plastic covering on them. Also, towels will be pasted out at the door in hopes that students relieve themselves in the towel instead of on the computer equipment.

In support of this project, some local adult stores have donated some movies to the IT department. The IT department stated the movies are definitely varied: group sex, lesbian, gay, anime, etc. The IT department also got free membership to a couple adult sites so there is something for everyone. The movies can be rented from the lab assistant for use in the pubic lab only.

Because of the health issues with this lab, cleanliness is a priority. Before a booth can be used, it will be wiped down and disinfected by the lab assistant. Lab assistants are required to wear plastic gloves during their shift. Towels will also be washed daily.

The pubic lab will be opening soon. All students are encouraged to use this facility instead of downloading porn on campus computers and using up the campus's bandwidth.



Pubic lab booth setup

Photo courtesy www.themousepad.com

Free!

2006-2007 SPSU Yearbooks!

Print and Disc Formats!

One copy per student

Yearbooks will be distributed April 11th and 12th in the Student Center

Be sure to get your FREE copy!

The Concerned Bell-Hops, Door Stops, and People Who Generally Care About Things That Go Against Automation, Corporations, and Wal-Mart.

Christiaan Funkhouser
Senior Staff Writer

We here at CBHDSWPWCATTGAACWM have a major problem with contributing writer Merius. "Concerning automation, one might think of automatic sliding doors. Or, on a more serious note..." The CBHDSWPWCATTGAACWM thinks that automation and the further implementation of Sliding Glass doors and the subsequent removal of and outsourcing of jobs is no laughing matter, Mr. Merius. We recently read a letter from a student at Southern Polytechnic State University. Stirring words such as, "they're taking our jobs" and "my family is dying and has turned into cannibals because Wal-Mart and corporations are forcing us to eat our young" ripped at our hearts and made us cry. This student's heartfelt cry for help is just a sample of the numerous letters that we receive every day.

At the CBHDSWPWCATTGAACWM, as you may be able to tell by the name, we stand against automation, corporations, and Wal-Mart care about the affects and influences of automation, and

corporations such as Wal-Mart. Not only has automation put an end to bell-hops and the door stop professions, but they've also ended the ability for males to open the door for females, reducing males to being nothing more than males, and not gentlemen.

Everyone who loves Jesus knows that Wal-Mart is bad for America. However, even those who don't love Jesus know that Wal-Mart is bad for America, but many don't know of Wal-Mart's communistic agenda that is out to destroy America. Mao Zedong was a communist leader in Japan, but what many don't know is that Mao Zedong translated to English is "Herbert Walton," according to CBHDSWPWCATTGAACWM's researchers. Herbert Walton was Sam Walton's uncle. Even more shocking than this was what was recently found on Sam Walton's tombstone. The most disturbing part of what was found is that it was written in the blood of a mutilated still born.

"My one dying wish is that all of Wal-Mart's products would be dipped in invisible goat blood and secretly in scripted that 'buy-

ing things from Wal-Mart signify my allegiance to Satan, lord of everything'."

While these offenses are horrible, it pales in comparison to the Coalition of Corporations Whose Sole Purpose Is To Destroy Lives, Keep People Oppressed And Poor And Not Let Them Have Health Care. COCWSPITDLKPOAPANLTHHC's sole purpose is to prevent

people like the concerned student from achieving their dreams, especially those dreams of becoming a professional bell-hop.

The CBHDSWPWCATTGAACWM is planning on levying a law suit against SPSU because of the discrimination of professional bell-hops.

Finally, we would like to encourage all SPSU students to

always chase your dreams. Please don't let the discrimination and hatred stop you from wanting to be a door-stop or a bell-hop. To you, anonymous student who sent us an e-mail, keep hope alive!

The Concerned Bell-Hops, Door Stops, and People Who Generally Care About Things That Go Against Automation, Corporations, and Wal-Mart



Photo courtesy www.thirdwayblog.com

Wal-mart cares

The Middle Merry I Got to Go

Christiaan Funkhouser
Senior Staff Writer

Assuming that people can understand the thoughts of dead Czars, one might question why Russia under Boris Yeltsin would nuke the Germans in an attempt to end the third half of the second world war. More importantly, why would people in a hurry make someone a leader who wasn't equally as quick? Yes, I said it; Stalin wasn't Rushin'. On a more serious note, the jobs that Nazi's lost in WW2 due to the imperialistic United States closing down the concentration camps should be given back to Nazi's with a formal apology. How many Nazi family's lives were scarred and lacked the ability to get the basic needs of life due to America not focusing on poverty in America.

This brings me to my second point. If the United States military, and more importantly the United States, never existed, the world would be a better place. First off, slavery would of never have existed as we know it, the black-Muslim-slave owners in Africa would never have taken Christians and whites as slaves. Secondly, there would be no need to worry about Christians trying to violate the first amendment by trying to have and use freedom of religion to freely express their beliefs. Thirdly, the Native Americans would still be sacrificing children and virgins to their Gods, as well as having buffalos and rain dances without being alcoholics, which by

the way, George Washington force fed them all to drink.

Speaking of drinking, what really ticks me off about the American, Christian, zealous, anti-Semitic right is that they have the gall to believe that parents should teach their own kids about sex? And more importantly the idea that teaching people to have self control, and that not having sex virtually eliminates the possibility of getting STD's or pregnancy. Even more than that, is this religious right forcing their beliefs on the school systems and the law. In the ten commandments it states that people are not to murder. However, against the separation of church and state which prohibits any ideas or words that religions use from being taught in school; there are laws on the books which penalize people from murdering other people! WRITE your congressman about this atrocity.

Now, I'm asked on a daily basis, why do Christians want to torture and abort the dogs of liberals. I can only answer this with one quote from Mark 20:24 "Thou shalt not let even the babies of the dogs of those who are liberals live." Republicans use this verse to justify the eating of babies. Which is why they really want to stop abortions; the blood thirsty republicans want to feed their un-stoppable lust for baby flesh.

The idea that Christians claim that Liberty and Freedom are Christian ideals are preposterous. The claims that Jesus accepted women

as equal, and actually had conversations with women in a society where women were considered property, are absolutely preposterous. Even more radical than that, there are claims that Jesus taught about freedom from oppression, and helping the poor, and the marginalized. These, of course, are not what America has anything to do with. From removing benevolent leaders like Saddam Hussein to helping destroy the reign of happiness lead by the Soviet Union and communistic Russia, America has consistently done the opposite of these things.

"From the day we arrive on the planet, and blinking step into the sun..." were lyrics to a song that explains all of humanity, how we came to be, why we exist, our purpose of life, our morals, and most importantly our consciousness. "It's the circle of life, and it moves us all..." the song continues. As the blue butted monkey on Disney's the Lion King said, "Follow Rafiki, he knows the way." See the problem with religion is that it attempts to answer the questions that science can't answer. Some Christians even claim that it takes a being with consciousness to create a form of consciousness, and never has consciousness just come into being. This, of course, is nothing more than religious rhetoric, used to scare young children into believing in questioning the scientific community, and not just accepting what people say as fact.

Most disturbing of those things that I have noticed and ob-

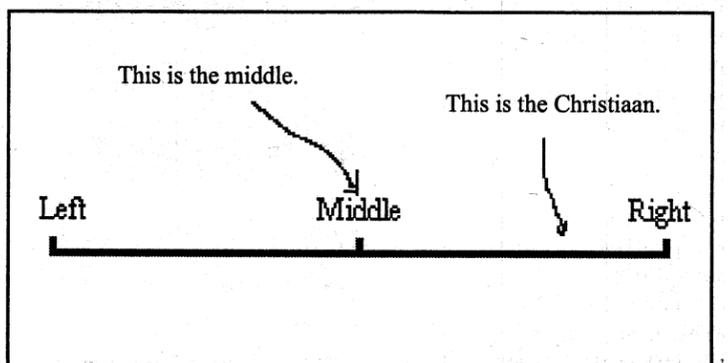
served is people who claim that there is a God and tell people to believe them that it does exist, when it's clear there is none. What proof is there that God exists? None, because it's obvious that he doesn't exist. I, as a writer for The Sting, don't have to prove he doesn't exist, because it's just a fact. What is a fact is that there is nothing after we die, knowing this simple fact removes all possibility of the existence of anything other than what I can sense.

Aside from all these things, I want it made clear that unless something is legitimate it is not illegitimate. Ronald Reagan was a good example of this. His idea was that if people had more of their own money, they would spend it. This is preposterous. How many of you all, when you have it spend it? I know that those who respond will be very few. I know that the more money I have, the less I spend, and conversely the less money I have, the more of it I spend. Ronald Reagan's plan is illegitimate.

I recently went to the mov-

ies to see 300, and movie about 300 Spartans standing up against millions of Persians. King Xerxes, who was a representation of George Bush, tried to take over the world, spreading his capitalistic dogma of oppression to women, and hate towards homosexuals. It's a well known fact that many Greeks were homosexuals. The only reason why the God-King Xerxes would try to attack and destroy the Greeks is because of their acceptance of homosexuals and most importantly their allowing gay marriage. Mark my words; it will not be long. The thousand nations of the Bush Empire will descend upon us free thinking people who accept truth, logic, reason, and homosexuals. Their arrows of hatred and homophobia will blot out the sun. And we will not be able to fight in the shade, for the Bush Empire would of already taken our shields... acceptance and science.

And that's why I hate homosexuals.



Al Gore Postpones Doomsday

Stuart Michelson
Staff Writer

Along with the third delay of Global Warming Conventions due to extreme winter conditions, and with record snows in New England this winter, and with new polar ice caps forming every day, it is clear global warming is only a few years away from killing us all. Al Gore has been warning us since the mid 90's, and did we listen? No. That's why he had to extend his projected Doomsday for another ten years when we missed his first projected date. Many Democrats fear that maybe Al Gore was right back then, and they missed the end of the world because they weren't paying attention. A new independent study now shows that Al Gore was in fact correct and Democrat Doomsday did occur... on November 8th 1994 when Republicans took over Congress in a landslide election.

Al Gore's concern for our planet did not end there however. It didn't even end after his bitter 2000 Presidential defeat. He has spent millions on his Global Warming Doomsday movie "An Inconvenient Truth," which is intended to scare little children in schools and the uneducated people who might have accidentally wandered into the theater. Gore has raised awareness for what will surely be the next Doomsday. His own movie trailer claims that it is "By far the most terrifying film you will ever see." This time sources reveal that Gore feels

very confident that the message of impending global doom is successfully scarin.... I mean informing everyone of the facts. With Hillary and Obama's popularity in the polls, Gore also believes Democrats will take the White House in 2008. This poses a problem for Democrats as the next Doomsday has been scheduled to occur within the next Presidential term.

In hopes of preserving the planet long enough for one more good Democratic run at the Executive Branch, Gore has announced

that he has created a nonpartisan independent committee which will form fair, level, and balanced suggestions (and by that I mean purely political suggestions) about what can be done to make the world last just a little bit longer. Truly we can all agree with Al when he promises us in his movie saying, "This is really not a political issue, so much as it is a moral issue." The only question now is will the world listen or laugh at him as little baby arctic seals seek new homes while big businessmen continue to drive their SUV's.



Al Gore invented the Internet.

Photo courtesy www.sustainability.com

Ursula loses 600 pounds!

Jessica McNally
Staff Writer

The star villain of Disney's "The Little Mermaid" Ursula has lost 600 pounds thanks to Weight Watchers. She addressed her fans in New York's Times Square this past Tuesday with the exciting news. Since Ursula's acting debut in the Disney feature length animation "The Little Mermaid," she has continued acting (mainly in daytime soaps like "Days of Our Lives" or "General Hospital") and performed minor roles on Broadway.

Ursula may not sound like BIG news, but this NOT so little diva has won the hearts of many fans (mainly home makers and homosexuals), and has just become a great role model for them, as far as the fashion industry is concerned. For years, Ursula suffered from low self-esteem issues due to her waste size, and had become trapped in such habits like poor dieting and substance abuse. "I wanted to get out," Ursula recalled thinking, "I just needed help." And that help came when Ursula met a woman on a plane one day leaving from Illinois and headed for Sacramento. "Well you spend enough time next to someone in a confined area and you're bound to learn something about that person," she continued, and went on to explain how the woman was a member in the Weight Watchers

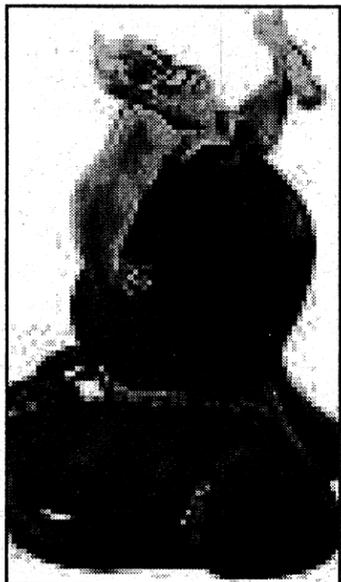
program and went on to explain how Ursula could join.

"I was blown away," Ursula stated, "I thought, how could this woman talk to me like she knows what it's like to be at a high level of obesity." The next thing Ursula recalled happening was the woman pulling a picture out of her wallet. "It was the strangest picture I had ever seen, the person in the picture looked like the lady next to me, but a much BIGGER version if you catch my drift." We caught her drift all right. The rest was history according to the famed actress; she enrolled into the Weight Watchers program the very next day.

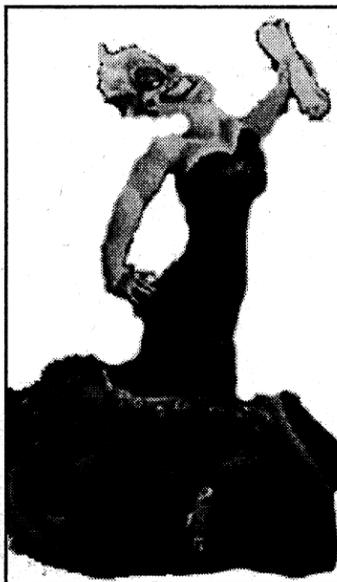
It's been five years since

that fateful day on the plane, and a new Ursula has emerged into the public. "When I first started in the program, it took a couple of months before I began to see significant results, however, I steadily lost an average of about 80 pounds a year, and thus am pretty much at my target weight.

So what's new in the cards for this Hollywood actress? Well, we don't know for sure, but there is a rumor that Ursula, "the sea witch", may be nominated as the new head spokeswoman for the Weight Watchers Foundation...but that's just a rumor of course.



Before



After

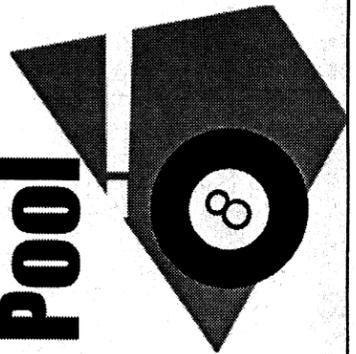
Photoshopped by Jessica McNally

SPSU POOL ROOM

Wanna try it out? Well, now you can... for FREE!

That's right, 1 FREE* Hour of Pool

Come and check it out!



*not valid at Southern Polytechnic State University

H4m | 37 f34r my | 337 5k1 | | 5

Sean Fine
Staff Writer

1 4m 7hy f47h3r'5 5p1r17, d00m'd f0r 4 c3r741n 73rm 70 w4|k 7h3 n16h7, 4nd f0r 7h3 d4y c0nf1n3d 70 f457 1n flr35, 71|| 7h3 f0u| cr1m35 d0n3 1nmy d4y5 0fn47ur3 4r3 burn7 4nd pur63d 4w4y. Bu7 7h47 1 4m f0rb1d 70 73|| 7h3 53cr375 0f my pr150n-h0u53, 1 c0u|d 4 743 unf0|d wh053 |16h7357 w0rd w0u|d h4rr0w up 7hy 50u|, fr33z3 7hy y0un6 b|00d, m4k3 7hy 7w0 3y35, |1k3 574r5, 574r7 fr0m 7h31r 5ph3r35, 7hy kn0773d 4nd c0mb1n3d |0ck5 70 p4r7 4nd 34ch p4r71cu|4r h41r 70 574nd 0n 3nd, |1k3 qu1||5 up0n 7h3 fr37fu| p0rp3n71n3: Bu7 7h15 373rn4| b|4z0n mu57 n07 b3 70 34r5 0f f|35h 4nd b|00d. |157, |157, 0, |157! 1f 7h0u d1d57 3v3r 7hy d34r f47h3r |0v3

R3v3n63 h15 f0u| 4nd m057 unn47ur4| murd3r.

Murd3r m057 f0u|, 45 1n 7h3 b357 17 15; bu7 7h15 m057 f0u|, 57r4n63 4nd unn47ur4|.

1 flnd 7h33 4p7; 4nd du||3r 5h0u|d57 7h0u b3 7h4n 7h3 f47 w33d 7h47 r0075 1753|f 1n 3453 0n |37h3 wh4rf, w0u|d57 7h0u n07 571r 1n 7h15. N0w, H4m|37, h34r: '715 61v3n 0u7 7h47, 5|33p1n6 1n my 0rch4rd, 4 53rp3n7 57un6 m3; 50 7h3 wh0|3 34r 0f D3nm4rk 15 by 4 f0r63d pr0c355 0f my d347h r4nkly 4bu53d: bu7 kn0w, 7h0u n0b|3 y0u7h, 7h3 53rp3n7 7h47

d1d 571n6 7hy f47h3r'5 |1f3 n0w w34r5 h15 cr0wn.

4y, 7h47 1nc357u0u5, 7h47 4du|73r473 b3457, w17h w17chcr4f7 0f h15 w17, w17h 7r4170r0u5 61f75,-- 0 w1ck3d w17 4nd 61f75, 7h47 h4v3 7h3 p0w3r 50 70 53duc3!--w0n 70 h15 5h4m3fu| |u57 7h3 w1|| 0f my m057 533mln6-v1r7u0u5 qu33n: 0 H4m|37, wh47 4 f4||1n6-0ff w45 7h3r3!

Fr0m m3, wh053 |0v3 w45 0f 7h47 d16n17y 7h47 17 w3n7 h4nd 1n h4nd 3v3n w17h 7h3 v0w 1 m4d3 70 h3r 1n m4rr1463, 4nd 70 d3c|1n3 up0n 4 wr37ch wh053 n47ur4| 61f75 w3r3 p00r 70 7h053 0f m1n3!

Bu7 v1r7u3, 45 17 n3v3r w1|| b3 m0v3d, 7h0u6h |3w3dn355 c0ur7 17 1n 4 5h4p3 0f h34v3n, 50 |u57, 7h0u6h 70 4 r4d14n7 4n63| |1nk'd, w1|| 5473 1753|f 1n 4 c3|35714| b3d, 4nd pr3y 0n 64rb463.

Bu7, 50f7! m37h1nk5 1 5c3n7 7h3 m0rm1n6 41r; br13f |37 m3 b3.

5|33p1n6 w17h1n my 0rch4rd, my cu570m 4|w4y5 0f 7h3 4f73m00n, up0n my 53cur3 h0ur 7hy unc|3 570|3, w17h ju1c3 0f cur53d h3b3n0n 1n 4 v14|, 4nd 1n 7h3 p0rch35 0f my 34r5 d1d p0ur 7h3 |3p3r0u5 d1571|m3n7; wh053 3ff3c7 h0|d5 5uch 4n 3nm17y w17h b|00d 0f m4n 7h47 5w1f7 45 qu1ck51|v3r 17 c0ur535 7hr0u6h 7h3 n47ur4| 64735 4nd 4|3y5 0f 7h3 b0dy, 4nd w17h 4 5udd3n

v160ur d07h p05537 4nd curd, |1k3 3463r dr0pp1n65 1n70 m1|k, 7h3 7h1n 4nd wh0|350m3 b|00d: 50 d1d 17 m1n3; 4nd 4 m057 1n574n7 73773r b4rk'd 4b0u7,

M057 |4z4r-|1k3, w17h v1|3 4nd |047h50m3 cru57,

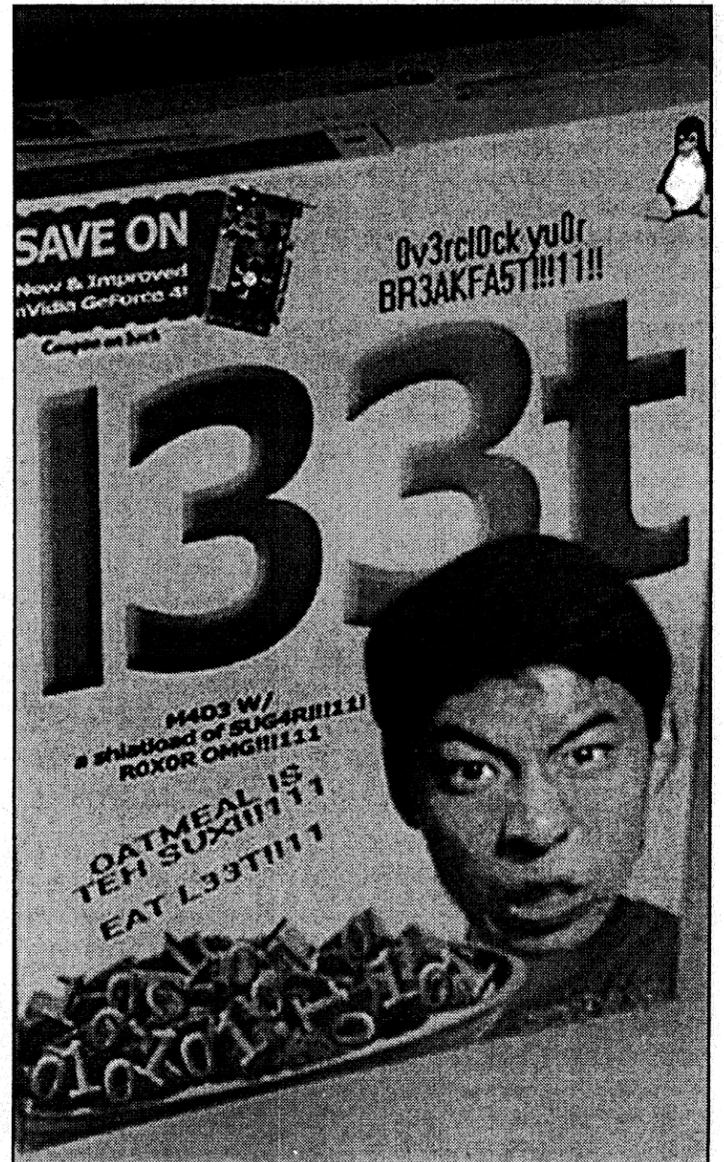
4|| my 5m007h b0dy.

7hu5 w45 1, 5|33p1n6, by 4 br07h3r'5 h4nd 0f |1f3, 0f cr0wn, 0f qu33n, 47 0nc3 d15p47ch'd: Cu7 0ff 3v3n 1n 7h3 b|0550m5 0f my 51n, unh0u53|'d, d154pp01n73d, un4n3|'d, n0 r3ck0n1n6 m4d3, bu7 53n7 70 my 4cc0un7 w17h 4|| my 1mp3rf3c710n5 0n my h34d: 0, h0rr1b|3! 0, h0rr1b|3! m057 h0rr1b|3!

1f 7h0u h457 n47ur3 1n 7h33, b34r 17 n07; |37 n07 7h3 r0y4| b3d 0f D3nm4rk b3 4 c0uch f0r |uxury 4nd d4mn3d 1nc357. Bu7, h0w503v3r 7h0u pur5u357 7h15 4c7, 741n7 n07 7hy m1nd, n0r |37 7hy 50u| c0n7r1v3 4641n57 7hy m07h3r 4u6h7: |34v3 h3r 70 h34v3n 4nd 70 7h053 7h0m5 7h47 1n h3r b050m |0d63, 70 pr1ck 4nd 571n6 h3r. F4r3 7h33 w3|| 47 0nc3! 7h3 6|0w-w0rm 5h0w5 7h3 m471n 70 b3 n34r, 4nd '61n5 70 p4|3 h15 un3ff3c7u4| flr3: 4d13u, 4d13u! H4m|37, r3m3mb3r m3.

If you could understand this, you really need a life.

[Editor's Note: The Copy Editor has a life so she can't read leet. Sorry for any mistakes in this article.]



Breakfast of Leeters

Photo courtesy www.learnleetspeak.com

Mushroom Kingdom Hearts

Wiiaboo
Staff Writer

Sony, what are you doing, put that PS3 away, you're scaring us. You've managed to scare away most of your exclusives, including Dragon Quest, Grand Theft Auto, and Devil May Cry. If you don't shape up Sony, you'll end up losing Square-Enix too, who has already cheated on you with Nintendo. Video game drama is like The Young and the Restless for nerds.....really big nerds.

In the Beginning:

Back in the days when most of us thought that Power Rangers was the greatest thing ever, Square-Enix (Squaresoft back then) and Nintendo were inseparable. Square-Enix made Final Fantasy games for and only for Nintendo. The last game they worked on together was Super Mario RPG, an RPG set in the world of everyone's favorite Italian plumber. When Nintendo decided to turn down Sony's idea for a CD-based system, however, Sony created a system of their own and took Square-Enix along with them. The world then became witnesses to Final Fantasy games that showcased stunning graphics, the likes of which we could have never imagined. In 2000, however, Tetsuya Nomura (director of the Kingdom Hearts games) said that he was interested in working with

Nintendo. Square-Enix was quick in replying that Nomura did not represent their company, although a few years later, they started crawling back to their first love, Nintendo. Square-Enix created for Nintendo: Final Fantasy: Crystal Chronicles for the Gamecube, Final Fantasy Tactics Advance and Kingdom Hearts: Chain of Memories for the Game Boy Advance, and a Final Fantasy III remake for the Nintendo DS. They're even in the process of creating a sequel to the currently popular Final Fantasy XII in the game Final Fantasy XII: Revenant Wings for the Nintendo DS. Square-Enix also announced that their upcoming game, Final Fantasy XIII, will be multi-platform. So thinking of Nintendo getting their own copy Final Fantasy XIII may not be such a stretch. They have, however, delivered some news that is sure to solidify the bond between the two companies. Fanboys and fangirls, I hope you're sitting down, because this next bit of fan service might just make you explode.

What has God wrought:

I introduce you all to Mushroom Kingdom Hearts. Few of us need an introduction to Kingdom Hearts. It's a game where spiky-head Sora, jailbait Kairi, and yaoi-idol Rikku, team up with a plethora of Final Fantasy and Disney characters to deliver an action-rpg that was praised by critics

and gamers alike. Nobody should need an introduction to the Mushroom Kingdom. The kingdom that Mario and his brother Luigi live in, where they fight goombas and koopas, only to save an old chubby man that says the princess is in another castle. Picture, if you can, merging the two of those together. WAIT, STOP!.....pew, it looked like your head was about to explode. I'll explain it slowly, this type of information is hazardous in eager hands.

What we do know:

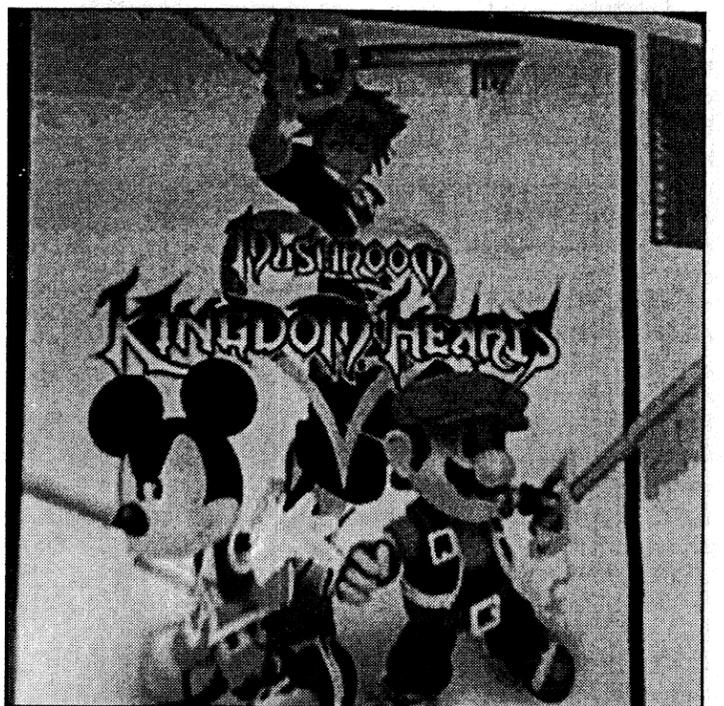
At first glance, it's a regular Kingdom Hearts game with Sora saving the world from having their hearts taken via the power of a really big key. The twist, of course, is that Sora won't be traveling to the worlds of the Disney or Final Fantasy characters, but the Mushroom Kingdom. Mario, Luigi, Peach, and every other character you may or may not know about from the Mushroom Kingdom will meet Sora in his wacky journey. It might even include more characters than just those in the Mushroom Kingdom, with a confirmed total of 41 characters, one wonders if Nintendo will dig into other franchises. (If Sora meets Link, I'll explode.) Don't go polishing your DS just yet, because this is a Wii title. I'm sure all of you have Wiis, they're so easy to get a hold of (this sentence contains an extreme amount of sarcasm, do not waste

your gas trying to find a Wii).

What we don't know:

There's no word on the exact battle system that Mushroom Kingdom Hearts will include. Chain of Memories detracted from the original battle formula and used a card battle system, so Square-Enix's next Kingdom Hearts game may also have an original battle formula. With Tetsuya Nomura busy working on three games (Final Fantasy XIII, Final Fantasy Versus XIII, and

Crisis Core: Final Fantasy VII), it lends more to the notion that the battle formula might be original. There's even a rumor that it may have a Twilight Princess battle system, although it just doesn't seem like Sora's style. You still have plenty of time to get a Wii and receive more information since Mushroom Kingdom Hearts won't come out until 2008, although an exact release date hasn't been released. I hope this information leaves you feeling "Simple and Clean" tonight.



Cover of Mushroom Kingdom Heart

Photo courtesy unknown

World of Warcraft is No More

Jon Meek
Covert CIA Operative

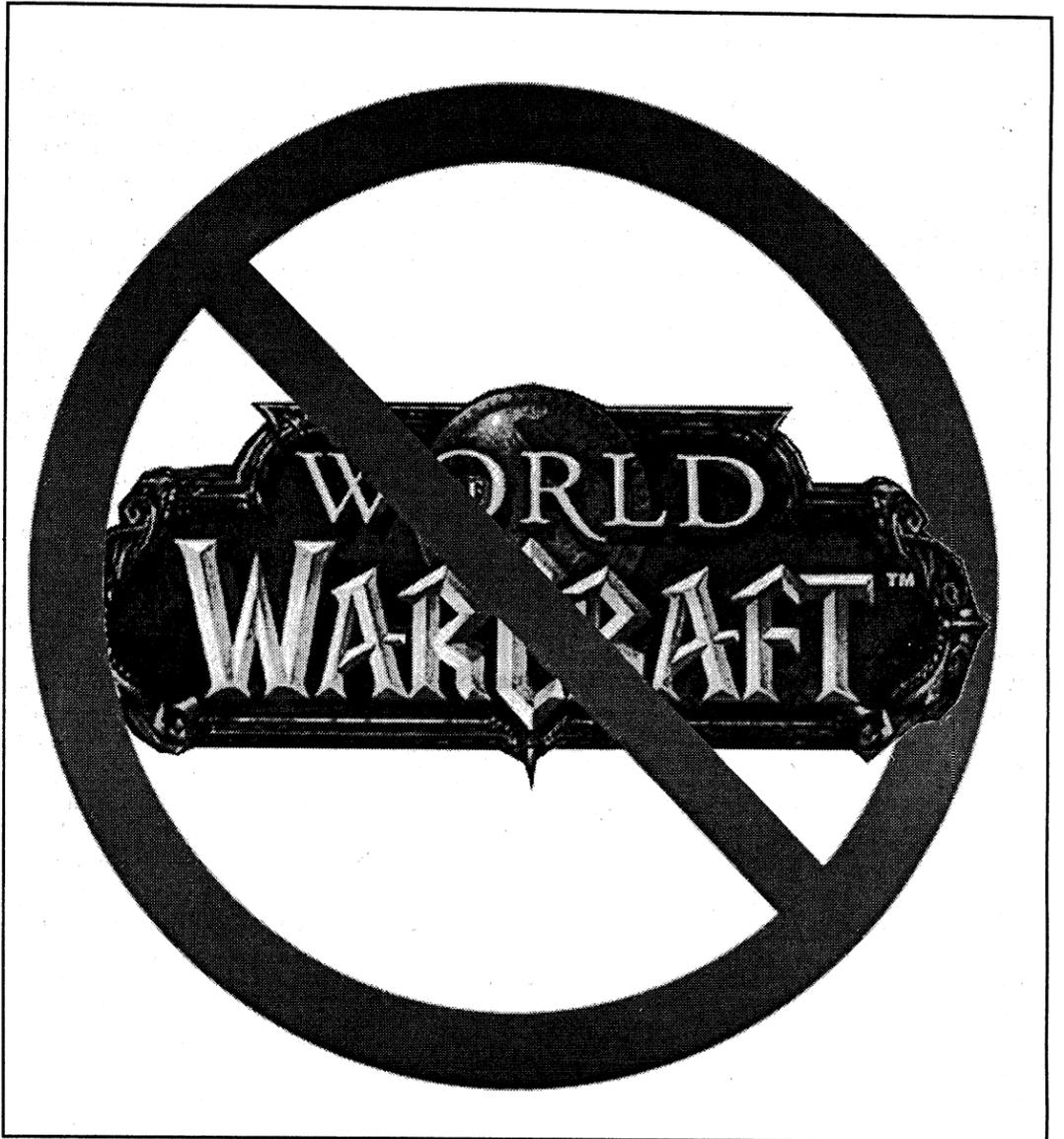
Yesterday at a press conference, Blizzard Entertainment announced it would no longer support or produce the ever-popular game, World of Warcraft. World of Warcraft (WoW) has over 8.5 million players worldwide with over 2 million players here in the US. It has won numerous awards including Gamespot's Game of the Year Award for 2004. Nonetheless, it comes as a big shock to gamers across the world, especially the ones here at Southern Polytechnic.

It has been estimated by many math students here that over 80% of the overall campus population plays WoW. Doing the split by majors, Computer Science seems to have the highest participation in WoW with a commanding 85% of the population that plays. Some of us can vouch for this number, given the number of doors kept closed on the Computer Science hall of Howell Hall. One CS student who wished to remain nameless had this to say about WoW being shut down, "It's insane... what has the world come to where one can no longer communicate without human interaction?...It has made my life better not having human interactions, and there's no emotional stress to worry about... With WoW ending, this means I might have to leave my room, a

very dangerous idea." Upon further investigation, it turns out our nameless student has gone out and created a web page in protest of Blizzard Entertainment's decision to shut down World of Warcraft.

So why shut down such a popular game as WoW, especially since there's a monthly fee along with the game? Well, after multiple phone calls and bribes, we were able to obtain some information from an Blizzard Entertainment insider concerning the shut down of WoW. Our informative said that the closing of WoW is not without good reason and was bound to happen. He said, "The users burned us out in demanding more and more level ups and asking for harder bosses...There would be people coming in and saying, "I have got to figure out how to make the boss more powerful...My life depends on it" and those were just the marketing people. For the actual programmers, it was thirty times worse...They were all cracked out on Mountain Dew and Dr. Pepper in order to stay up and write code to make the games harder. It was becoming a health hazard... So, we pulled the plug on the development."

However, Blizzard Entertainment did announce that they would be developing another MMORPG over the next year, it is slated to hit stores on April 31st, 2008.



No more World of Warcraft...haha...

Photoshopped by Karen Asay

Watching Paint Dry 2

Jasmine King
Staff Writer

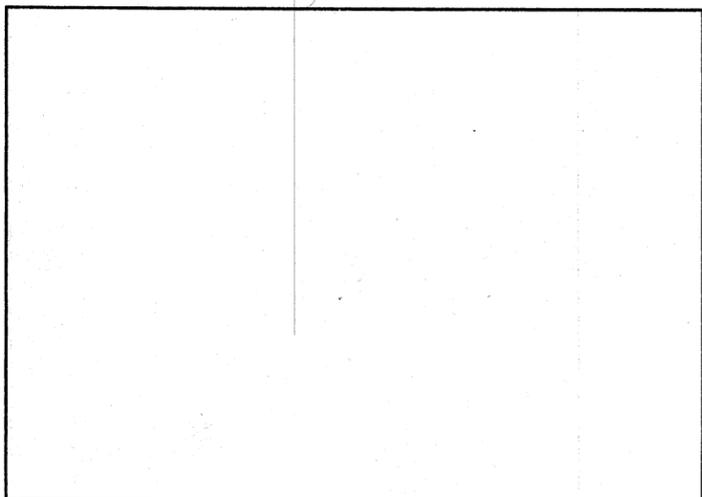
The rise of the doingordinarything-sonyourconsole genre brought many new and innovative games, my personal favorite being the Mowing the Lawn series. However, after the disappointment that was Mowing the Lawn XIII: Trouble on the Astroturf, I was left searching for another game to make me happy. That's when I stumbled across the first Watching Paint Dry game, and we all remember how amazing that was. I recently got my hands on a copy of the long-awaited Watching Paint Dry 2: Return of the Blue Tape, and all you fans out there definitely won't be disappointed.

The first thing I noticed about WPD2 was the improved graphics. Blues are much bluer, reds much

brighter, and green is now charreuse. One no longer has to ask if that of red-orange looks more orange-red.

The story mode is still there, but new modes have been added. Yellow Paint mode is a time attack version of the normal levels, and will keep you busy for hours. Polka Dot mode is comprised of—you guessed it—patterned paint. This mode is much harder than the others; watching this paint dry proved to be a bit too difficult for me. Even the most seasoned players may get frustrated with this one.

Even with the difficult new modes, Watching Paint Dry 2 is an amazing game and a vast improvement over the first one. WPD2 is out now for the new Playstation Life-Conquerer 3742 for only twelve easy payments of \$599.99.



Here, watch white paint dry.

Photo courtesy www.watchingpaintdry2.com

Funding from Umbrella Corp.

Korey Kolberg
Senior Staff Writer

"The future looks bright for SPSU," stated one faculty member, who wished to remain anonymous. The future she spoke of is all thanks to one of SPSU's new sponsors. This new sponsor has already begun plans for a new biology/chemistry building, complete with state of the art labs and facilities. How can SPSU afford that? Well, the cost will be completely covered by the sponsor. A spokesman for our generous sponsor also stated that they will help provide staff and professors.

Who is our generous sponsor? After a great deal of research, it was discovered that it is the Umbrella Corporation. It is still unclear why the sudden interest in SPSU, but a spokesman stated that this campus has great potential. "Very bright students, eager to learn," stated the spokesman, "all they need is a little direction. That, we can give." The gentleman went on to say that they paid to amp up the science programs and also to start pushing business ethics classes.

All these great things coming to SPSU means great possibilities to students. With all the new research that Umbrella plans to fund, they will be looking for many bright, "go getter," interns. "If you let us, we'll reshape you into something more than mere human," bragged the spokesman, "we'll give you the tools to overcome any challenge you'll meet in the real world."

