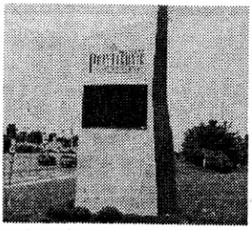


Portal Project?

Yes, we've heard about it for years.... Is it finally under way? Find out and see what SPSU has in store for the not so distant future!
Page 2



April 19, 2007

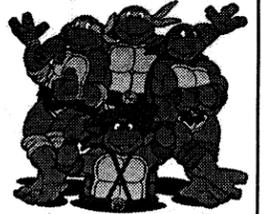
The Sting

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Finger-lickin' Gud!

TMNT

To welcome our newest writer, Cary Chichester, read his sentimental review of the new Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles movie on **Page 7**



Volume 61, Issue 11

IT department issues warning to students

Stuart Michelson
 Staff Writer

Recently, Jim Herbert, the Director of IT Systems Network and Security, sent an e-mail message to the SPSU student body outlining a recent password breach that resulted in unauthorized access to the Hornet Mail system. In this particular case, the trouble started at the popular social networking site "MySpace."

As many students already may be aware, "Tom" is every MySpace user's friend as he is the founder/coordinator of the site. According to Jim Herbert, some person or party successfully mimicked Tom's identity on MySpace and obtained user passwords by requesting them from users who willingly surrendered the information to who they believed was Tom or some other MySpace administrator. The culprit(s) successfully compromised 150,000 accounts according to Herbert. "People think it's just my MySpace account, it's no big deal, but there can be consequences" warned IT Director of Operations, Ron Skopitz. The consequences quickly bore themselves out as the offender(s) discovered

that some of the MySpace user accounts they now had access to were SPSU students who chose to use the same password for their MySpace as they did for their SPSU e-mail account. The consequence was the crippling of the entire Hornet Mail System for a day.

The guilty party used the passwords they had obtained to use a SPSU Hornet Mail account as a host for massive amounts of spam that were sent to all sorts of people. This is where the criminal activity Herbert mentioned in his e-mail to the students came into play as much of the spam was centered around attempts to obtain credit card numbers among other sensitive information that spammers often try to collect. Because millions of messages had been sent using an unsuspecting student's Hornet Mail account, SPSU's server could not handle the influx of bounced and outgoing messages. As a result, Hornet Mail shut down. Skopitz explained that the staggering thing about this occurrence was that it resulted from just one breached account.

Although Hornet Mail is back up and running again, the very real danger still lingers within the

realm of possibility that a similar event could take place again, and on a larger scale. Skopitz reminds students that, "You should try to use different passwords anywhere you log in while on the internet, because it is one thing when someone gets into your Facebook page or something, but it is totally different thing when someone gets into your email because who knows what sorts of information they could get about you." He also wants students to understand that although MySpace was the source of the problem this time, students should be mindful of other social networking sites such as Facebook, as a password breach of this nature could occur from any one of them.

Jim Herbert added to Skopitz's warning saying, "System Administrators can't necessarily be trusted because for all you know it could be an impersonator or a disgruntled employee of a legitimate site who is looking to do some damage." This is what occurred in the case of the MySpace breach as students thought they were sending their information to the real Tom. Skopitz warns students that a good rule of thumb is to never give any

personal information or passwords to anyone who asks for them in e-mail and any such message should immediately arouse suspicion. Because thieves of this type often make the personal information they obtain available to other parties to access, special care should be given to choosing a good password for SPSU email accounts as well as Banner Web.

IT's warning to the student body: If you are a student that is currently using the same password for your SPSU e-mail, Banner, and social network profile online,

change it immediately. The consequences of a thief accessing your social security number and other sensitive information from Banner Web could be disastrous, and can affect others on a large scale as it did with Hornet Mail in the recent incident. Skopitz finally wants every student to know that if they ever receive an e-mail requesting that they surrender private information regarding their SPSU account, regardless of who it claims to be from, notify the IT Help Desk immediately or visit the IT Department in the H Building.



Photo courtesy myspace.com

Think about this article next time you log in!

Coffee house officially moving

Karen Asay
 Editor-in-Chief

The coffee house is officially moving to the J-building lobby.

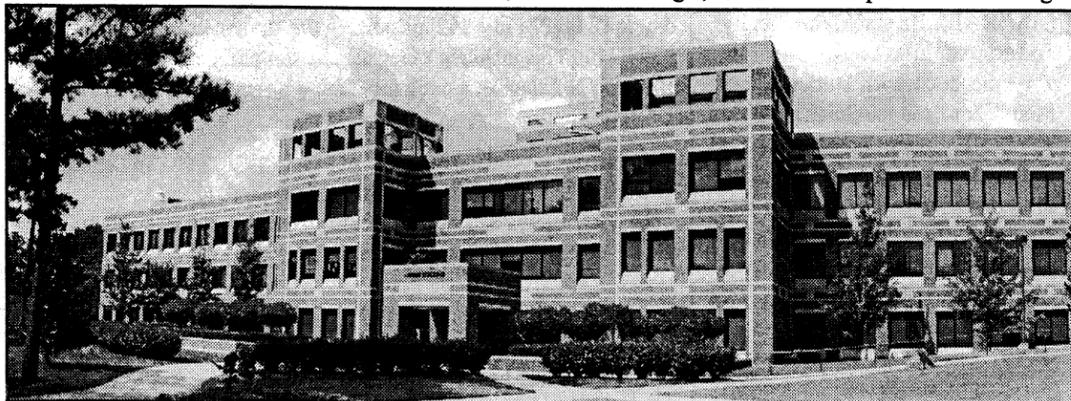
The construction for the J-building coffee house will start during the summer between June and July. The construction will be done outside of J-102 and will include building a work area with an ice machine, display area, counter space, storage closet, and a glassed in dining area. The coffee house will have three entrances: two from within J-building and one from outside so students will not have to

enter the J-building lobby to get to the coffee house. Also, the dining area will have circular tables and the school is considering purchasing patio tables for outside.

The coffee house will continue to sell Starbucks coffee, muffins, cookies, bagels, and cakes, but it might need to stop selling its lunch items. Since Southern Poly want Five Star Services, the vending machine company, to put in special vending machines with lunch and dinner items, the coffee house might not be allowed to sell items like sandwiches and salads. Rob Whitaker, Director of Budget,

Grants & Procurement, has asked Five Star and Carlyle's to come to an agreement on what items are permitted to be served at the coffee house. No decision had been finalized at the time this article was written.

The new coffee house will be open by fall semester. Its hours of operation will start around 7:00 am and end in the evening, with possible down time in the afternoon. The coffee house may stay open for lunch depending on if it is permitted to serve lunch items. The staff will continue being students, but Mr. Whitaker has requested the coffee house have a professional manager.



Steven Fyffe/The Sting

The coffee house will be able to be accessed from the outside of the J-building.

SPSU license plate

Karen Asay
 Editor-in-Chief

Southern Polytechnic might be getting its own Georgia license plate, like Georgia Tech and UGA.

The Office of Advancement is in charge of this project and made the effort known in late March. They need to collect at least 500 applications by July 31 for the state of Georgia to manufacture the plates. The Office of Advancement is very confident they will meet this goal since SPSU has 19,000 alumni, 4,200 current students, and 400 faculty and staff. Kit Trench, Director of Development in the Office of Advancement, stated the office has already received 15 applications and the office recently sent an email notifying alumni.

People interested in getting a SPSU license plate need to send the Office of Advancement a completed application and a \$25.00 check. The application is the Form MV-9C, which is the University Commemorative license plate form for the state of Georgia. There is a link to this form at go.spsu.edu/Li-

censePlate.html. The \$25.00 check is a manufacturing fee for the plate, and should be made out to the Motor Vehicle Division. Also, both the application and check need to be mailed to the Office of Advancement at 1100 South Marietta Pkwy, Marietta, GA 30060 or delivered in person.

The Office of Advancement is holding all applications and checks in their safe and plans to send all the applications in together. If they don't receive the needed number of applications, they will send all checks back to applicants. Also, as the office receives applications and checks, they will send "thank you" notes so applicants will know if their form was been received.

The license plate currently has not been designed but Ms. Trench assured a design will be made at the latest in mid-July. The delay in the design is due to SPSU redesigning its logo. SPSU is currently in the process of hiring a company to design a new logo for the school.

There is more information at go.spsu.edu/LicensePlate.html.

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What conflict?
 See why Eric John is fed up with reading the opinion section. His article is both political AND religious! Oh my!
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The Right Wing Tavern!
 Looking for a good bite to eat with your helping of conservative politics? Check out the restaurant Stuart Michelson found!
Page 8

Looking for a job?
 You know you'll need a nice suit to go on your business search, so check out this issue's Junkin' with Jessie. She reviews the store SYMS.
Page 9



Portal project finally in effect!

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

The Portal Project is an effort by the SPSU administration to make the college more visible to the outside community and do some renovations. The first portion of the project was building the competition team building, renovating the E-building and Science building, and putting some of the electric lines underground. That portion has already been completed and this summer the second portion will start.

The second part of the Portal Project involves rerouting some of the roads on campus, redoing and adding parking, and building an eye catching entry way. The construction for this project will start on the back side of campus near facilities. The road that runs by facilities, Polytechnic Lane, and Hornet Drive are being rerouted so they meet at a four-way stop, instead of the current two three-way stops. This part of the project will be done by fall semester and is being funded by Cobb County.

The next stage of the project, known as Phase 1, will be the construction of the new entrance to campus. The new main entrance will be over the current entrance for the Greyhound station and the nearest entrance to the Recreation Center. This entrance will have two lanes coming into campus and three lanes for exiting. Also, people turning right into and out of campus will have an entry lane on South Marietta Parkway. This stage will also include the building of new Southern Polytechnic signs and the base for the entrance way pillars.

The next portion of the project, Phase 2, will include more rerouting of roads and rework the main commuter parking lot. A road will be developed through the main commuter lot and the lot will be divided into three separate sections, instead of one big lot. The main road will also have only one entry point for each lot. This was done as a safety precaution because the potential for an accident goes down with fewer entry points on the main road. Currently, the main road has an entry point for every parking row, which greatly increases the odds of an accident. The road will also be connected to the current faculty, staff, and visitor lots.

The final stage, Phase 3, will involve the rerouting of the road in front of the Student Center and adding another section to that parking lot. This new section will add around 100 parking spaces to the lot in front of the Student Center.

Phase 1, Phase 2, and Phase 3 of the Portal Project will cost around \$2.5 million. This money was raised through the sale of bonds, which were sold in October. After the sell was closed, SPSU finalized the design and is now writing the construction documents for the project. These documents specify what the college expects the construction company to do. When the documents are finished, SPSU will start accepting bids on the project.

The one portion which doesn't have funding yet is the entrance structure. This structure will have four pillars, which will have a shape similar to a sail and stand around 70 feet high. These pillars will be located at the main entrance and will be supported by cords connected to either side of the entry way. The Office of Advancement will be doing a fundraiser for this structure through donations from alumni and sponsors.

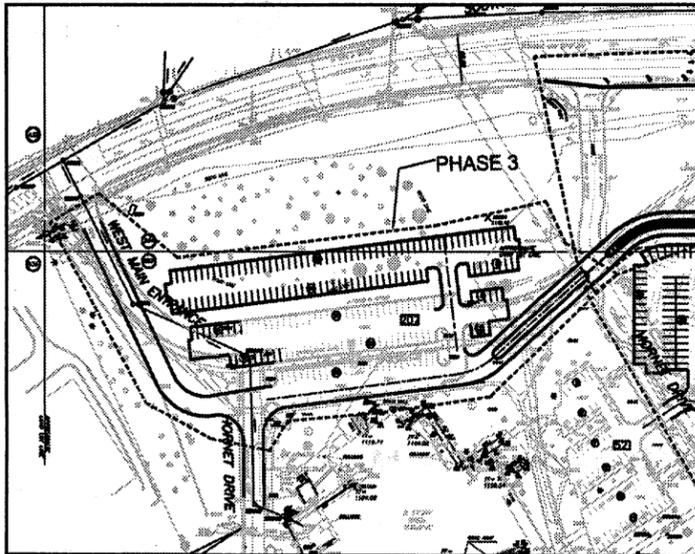


Photo courtesy Patrick McCord

Phase 3, in front of the student center, should add 100 more parking spaces!

Engineering awards won

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

During the Georgia Chapter of the National Society of Professional Engineers annual Engineering Luncheon, Jeremy Pence – a Mechanical Engineering Technology student – and Dr. John Mench – a Construction Professor – both won awards.

Jeremy Pence was awarded the Engineering Technology Student of the Year Award. Professor Norman Russell, who is a MET professor, nominated Mr. Pence for this award. Mr. Pence stated he believed he was nominated for his outstanding GPA and the amount of related work experience he has. The MET department wanted a well rounded student to represent Southern Poly and the department itself.

Mr. Pence said it was quite an honor to receive this award but that his wife, Alecia Pence, and his family are more excited about the award than he is. He also commented that he has more than an award to be excited about at the moment because he will be graduating in May and his wife is currently pregnant with their first child.

Since Mr. Pence received this award, he has gotten many job offers from companies that were present at the luncheon. However, Mr. Pence is one of the fortunate students at Southern Poly because he already has his dream job. He currently works part-time at a heating, air conditioning, and ventilation company where, after graduation, he will work full-time.

The other award received

by a member of the SPSU community was the Engineer of the Year in Education Award, which was presented to Dr. John Mench. Dr. Mench said he was surprised and honored to have won this award. He was asked to fill out the paperwork for the award a while ago and afterward got busy and forgot about it until a reporter called. Dr. Mench was nominated for this award by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE). He stated the society nominated him because of the work he does with students. Dr. Mench has been the Southern Poly ASHRAE student advisor for six years and last year was asked by the society to be the student coordinator for Georgia.

Congratulations to Jeremy Pence and Dr. John Mench.

The
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ORGANIZATIONS

Articles written by organizations to inform the campus of activities and events are welcome. Articles must be submitted in electronic format (e-mail, disk) by the deadline printed below. All such articles are subject to editing for style, content and size, and are run on a space-available basis.

JOINING *The Sting*

Any student paying Activity Fees is eligible to join *The Sting*, though final decision is made by the Editor-in-Chief. We prefer creative students who have passed English 1101. Come to our meetings Friday at 12:00 PM in A252, upstairs in the student center, or call (678) 915-7310. This includes YOU, all you so-called members that never attend. *The Sting*: It's not a job, 'cause a real job pays more.

DEADLINE

Deadline for the next issue is **Friday, June 15 at 12:00 A.M.** Articles submitted after this time will not be printed in the next issue of *The Sting*, except through special permission.

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Graduation 2007

Karen Asay
Editor-in-Chief

May 5th means more than a Cinco de Mio party to some students. It marks their graduation.

This semester's commencement ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 5 at 2:00 pm in the Gymnasium. Around 300 students have petitioned to graduate but, due to an assortment of different reasons, not all will meet the needed requirements to graduate.

This semester, 300 students are graduating. Out of these 300 students, 250 are undergraduates and 50 are graduate students. Brenda Farrell, Degree Program Assistant, stated 211 students plan to participate and walk in the graduation ceremony but this doesn't mean all will receive a diploma. This situation occurs when a student who has completed their required courses doesn't have the grades to receive a diploma.

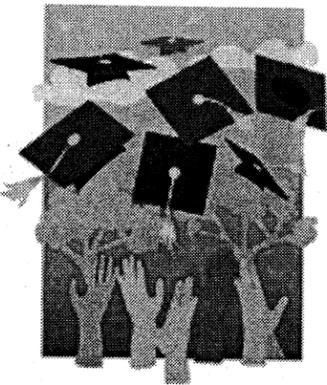
This semester's commencement speaker will be Dick Hahn, a recently retired Southern Poly professor. Mr. Hahn was hired as a full-time faculty member at Southern Poly in 1998 to teach Speech. Along with teaching, Mr. Hahn coached the school's club soccer team. He was a well respected professor at Southern Poly and won the 2004 Student Government

Teacher of the Year award, 2005 Outstanding Faculty Award, and 2006 Honors Program Teacher of the Year award.

Before coming to Southern Poly, Mr. Hahn ran his own business where he was a professional public speaker for 10 years. He also worked at Cummins Engine Company from 1967 to 1988 where he was eventually promoted to Vice President of the Southern Division in Atlanta.

Southern Poly was not the first place Mr. Hahn had taught Speech. Before entering the corporate world, he taught at Florida State and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology (formerly Rose Polytechnic Institute) in Indiana.

Congratulations to all graduating students, specifically Sting staff members: Cristina Wilson, Eric Ravenallo, and Matt Finn.



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April is

"STD Awareness Month"

The following is information focused on some common college issues relating to the subject of sex and std's. If you have additional questions, send an email to counselor@spsu.edu or make an appointment to meet with a counselor in the Career and Counseling Center, Student Center, Room 243, 678.915.7391

What are the top 5 STD's on college campuses?

1. Chlamydia
2. Human Papilloma Virus (HPV)
3. Gonorrhea
4. Herpes
5. Syphilis

What are the best prevention methods?

1. Abstinence from sexual intercourse (oral, vaginal, and anal).
2. Being in a long-term, monogamous relationship with an uninfected partner.
3. Latex male condoms can reduce the risk of STD's.

How do you reduce your risk of getting an STD infection?

1. Ask a new sex partner if he or she has an STD, has been exposed to one, or has any unexplained physical symptoms.
 - Do not have unprotected sex if your partner has signs or symptoms of STDs or has recently had unprotected sex with another partner.
2. Use a new condom for each act of *insertive* intercourse.
3. Get regular checkups for STDs (even if you show no symptoms), and be familiar with the common symptoms.
 - Individuals who are infected with STDs are at least *two to five times* more likely than uninfected individuals to acquire HIV if they are exposed to the virus through sexual contact.

Is it true there is no cure for some STD's?

- Some STD's are bacterial which can be cured with antibiotics, others are viral for which there is no cure
- o **Bacterial STD's**
 - Chancroid (genital sores or ulcers)
 - Chlamydia
 - Gonorrhea
 - Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID) (caused by chlamydia & gonorrhea)
 - Syphilis
- o **Viral STD's**
 - Hepatitis-B
 - Herpes simplex (symptoms in the mouth or genitals)
 - Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (Can be sexually transmitted)
 - Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) (70 types, 30 are sexually transmitted)
 - Molluscum Contagiosum (MCV) (skin-to-skin contact and/or lesions)

Questions from the February program:

"Sex Talk: Myth's, Lies, and Straight Talk"

What are the long term effects of anal sex?

• The most likely problems arising from anal sex concern infections. Infections such as genital herpes and genital warts can occur at the anal opening. Inflammation and infection can occur in the rectum.

How long does sperm live outside a man's body?

• Sperm are alive and active as long as they are wet. If the area is moist and damp the sperm can live 48-72 hours. Inside the body the sperm are alive for much longer and are therefore viable for a longer duration. Once the sperm becomes dry it is safe to say that they are no longer living.

Do men have a "monthly" cycle similar to women?

• While men do not have monthly menstrual cycles, new research has shown many are susceptible to something similar to pre-menstrual syndrome. Newsweek's August 17, 2005 had an article titled "Many Angry Men" which describes a similar condition for men, "Irritable Male Syndrome," that seems to be related to a drop in testosterone at varying times of the month.

How many calories do you burn during sex?

- In a phone booth, lying down – 274 calories
- Faking an orgasm – 160 calories
- Urgent begging – 22 calories
- Overall experience – 30 minutes – It doesn't take a genius to figure out that the longer you have sex, and the more effort you put in, will also affect the burn-off rate. And then there is age and gender: basically, the more muscle you have, the more calories you burn off, so men tend to burn more than women, and younger folks more than they will at an older age, unless they can keep up the muscle tone and proportion of their bodies. All in all, there are a lot of variables that go into defining the amount of energy that any particular person will be expending having sex.

Are Intra-Uterine Devices (IUD) still used in the United States?

• In the 1970's, many manufacturers quit making IUD's as a result of deaths and lawsuits stemming from an IUD called the Dalkon Shield. Women quit requesting it as a form of birth control so much of the US market disappeared. There are two IUD's on the market in the US, a progesterone IUD and the Copper T. Ironically, since press coverage outside the US was not very extensive, women around the world continue to request IUD's the most often.

Is the RU-486 the "morning after" pill I have been reading about?

• No, the RU-486 is for use to abort a pregnancy weeks after a baby has attached itself to the uterine wall. The "morning after" pill is an emergency contraception of very high, multiple dosages of birth control pills taken within 72 hours of unprotected intercourse.

Science, philosophy, and religion: what conflict?

Eric John
Web Manager

I've noticed recently a rash of articles pertaining to the topics of gods and science, and how they are in conflict or that one rules out the possibility of the other. Considering the characteristics of each, I find that all of them seem to be lacking in certain respects. That has inspired me to write in response, and hopefully add a new point of view to, the discussion.

Science and philosophy/religion are different, quite simply. Religion exists within the realm of philosophy, where as science confines itself to logical application of measurable data. Of course, these aren't perfect, for quantum physics sometimes blurs the lines of "quantifiable" data, and philosophy on its own often assimilates other aspects of life into its theories. The problem is that where these two areas overlap, people see a conflict, as though the two cannot exist together. More over, religion is seen as encompassing all, because religions generally seek to answer all questions about universal creation and purpose. This explains why science is often considered in conflict with religion, because science seeks to better understand how the universe came into being.

To perhaps help explain these ideas better, I will use an example. Mind you, an example does not explain everything, only what it is designed to explain, so if you find the example lacking, then seek answers for the initial idea in a different manner. The example I have is that science explains the how, and philosophy/religion explains the why. Science explains how impulses in nerves can trigger chemicals to be released, how impulses in the brain relate to happiness or joy, and how the gravitational effects of the moon can change the tides. However, it is up to philosophy and religion to explain who people love and hate, why they stare at the moon, and why they enjoy long walks on the beach. Sometimes someone will argue that

science can prove one of these situations, but it more aids rather than confirms. The fact of it is that they are different realms, and they do not answer the same questions.

One idea mentioned is "creationism," and furthermore that it is not actually science, but uses science when it is convenient for it, and discredits it when it goes against a biblical teaching. Furthermore, it is mentioned that many see "god in the gaps" where the scientific explanation is not deemed worthy. If considered unworthy, they reject it and claim god(s) as the answer. This is reminiscent of another part of the same article in which it mentions that the scientific method will either prove it correct, or if incorrect the idea will be dropped in favor of one that is more credible. The parallel could be drawn that perhaps those who ascribe to this "creationism" (which apparently seems to be a philosophical -ism and therefore rather a mindset, not a section of science) are those who have decided not to believe a particular hypothesis because they do not see it as fully confirmed with

science. This could then be seen as either those refusing to yield to a new trend of science, as posed by others, or it could be that they are holding off their acceptance of it based on viewing the evidence for it less than overwhelming. As in science, you have the hypothesis first, and you then set about proving it.

Back to addressing this idea of God in the gaps, I must admit that it is much like what I would believe. I see science as the search for the knowledge of understanding our universe. We seek out the logic and reason behind its existence, and

when we don't understand it, I at least see that as God's work for the time being. I'm not sure if many are familiar with this, but there is the idea of God being the greatest scientist the universe has known, since He created all of it, and through the idea that He cannot create something more complex than Himself, then we can speculate that God understands and built the world upon the laws of science that He formed. And given

ments. In one of the articles, it is mentioned that the "creationism" view shouldn't be taught within science classes, because it is not science, and should instead be taught at home. Or that if it is taught, perhaps all major religions should be taught about in school to promote better understanding. I adamantly agree with this view. Perhaps this illusory conflict between science and religion stems from people incorrectly interpreting one as the other, which is not so. It was correctly pointed out that science has no basis for determining ethics or morals, because that is not within its realm.

To another article, I have more questions than statements. Within it, it seems to talk about facts being the necessary basis to derive all the points. The only "fact" given appears to be that wealth is the result of labor and resources. To be quite blunt, I fail to see much in the way of fact, and more in the way of opinion and philosophy. To use one of the comments, there is talk of the philosopher Ayn Rand and how "rights were derived from a morality of intelligent self-interest based on man's biological nature." I question whether this can be proven by the

scientific method, or whether a philosophy such as objectivism can be considered fact. There is a comment that the dark ages can be best explained by God, since "men were too concerned about the afterlife to improve the life they lived on earth." Where as the Dark Ages gets its name from the fact that little besides violence occurred during it, I feel that it should be mentioned that monasteries, which usually have some religious or philosophical belief which binds them together, were a safe-harbor for knowledge, science, and peace. Perhaps it should

also be noted that the Renaissance was also heavily influenced by religious ideals, and that the Age of Enlightenment was contributed to heavily by people who felt that reason and logic revealed the existence of a supreme being.

My reasons for citing other articles are not to condemn or vilify any particular people, but because I either saw strength or weakness in their articles. In a philosophical sense, I desire to engage others in discussion about their points of view, and why we might differ. This is fascinating to me, because of how life experiences are reflected in personal opinions. From another view, I enjoy understanding the world more from a logical, scientific point of view. There is much that we have yet to learn about the world that we live in, and others of which we have only an elementary understanding. Therefore I desire to gain insight via communication with others, and also share what I have learned with others to add to the communal knowledge of our world.

The world of science and the world of philosophy are, generally, vastly different from each other. Some might form a philosophy based on science, and others might base science on philosophy (which I do not recommend, as it is a poor basis for science). To those who do not see as I see, and feel that these two realms are not different, I hope that this article has perhaps changed that opinion, or at least raised new questions that are not often addressed. I also expect that some will disagree whole-heartedly with what I have said, and to you I ask that you respond, and explain to me where you feel I have erred.

If anyone has any further comments to make on this, or a question about anything I have said, please start a topic about it on the campus forum, which can be found at <http://forum.thesting.org/> or from The Sting's website. If you would prefer not to post on the forum, you can e-mail me. My address is also provided on the website.

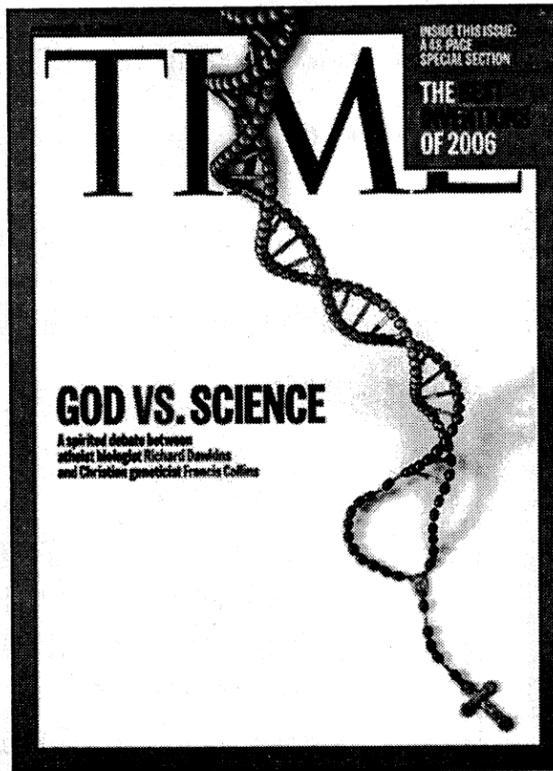


Photo courtesy bioinfo.med.utoronto.ca

Yup, everybody's talking about it.

that, one might also think that He would know the greater inner workings of His own system to create a way for water to be turned into wine. (For those who understand programming, think of it this way: God is a programmer who has coded his own backdoor into a program he created.) As stated earlier in this article, since science seeks out the "how," my belief in God tells me that there is a "how" that has not been discovered yet.

To address a few articles dealing with this point of view, I would like to make a few state-

Be open-minded, or at least don't expect others to be

Jonathan Meek
Senior Staff Writer

The American public, as a whole, is purely frustrated with the entire political system. Group A is blocking Group B's decision because it is not the way to go and either side can't come to a compromise. While we bicker about our politicians, we forget one small detail: we forget to look at ourselves. How many times a day do we tune out an idea because a "liberal" or "conservative" proposed it? How much do we allow our personal bias interfere with deciding if an idea is good or bad without hearing the evidence?

Our government is based on the idea that everyone has equal voice and the majority outweighs the minority with respect to the minority opinion. However, somewhere along the lines we, as a society, lost the respect for the minority opinion. So if our government is

suppose to reflect the attitudes of the people, why does it come as a shocker that our government doesn't work well? If we can't even sit down civilly, as citizens, to talk about an issue, then how can it be expected for politicians, whose careers are based on our votes, to be able to do so? In all honesty, they are taking their cues from us, the people.

The only way that this is going to get any better is to show the politicians that we can do this in calm, rational terms by having open dialogue with no low blows thrown. Many people laugh at this idea because it is deemed impossible, but anything worth trying was deemed impossible at one point in time. While we will not be able to get everyone to play nice with one another, the results of even a minority of people doing this would be astounding. Imagine people having a rational, honest, open dialog about the issues of our

time, such as embryonic stem cell research, global warming, and alternative fuel sources... Who knows? A compromise could from these conversations.

While this previous idea might never happen, there is one thing you have control over: how you judge the issues. Be willing to look and see what the other end of the political spectrum holds and double-check your beliefs. Most strong believers of one political angle or another say it is crazy or sacrilegious to even consider the arguments of the opposing point of view. However, in order to make a fair decision, weight must be given to all sides of the argument. Besides, when people quit thinking and questioning, there start the seeds of oppression and tyranny. So when another idea or different perspective is introduced, then take thirty seconds to listen and process it. If nothing else, then you have only wasted thirty seconds.

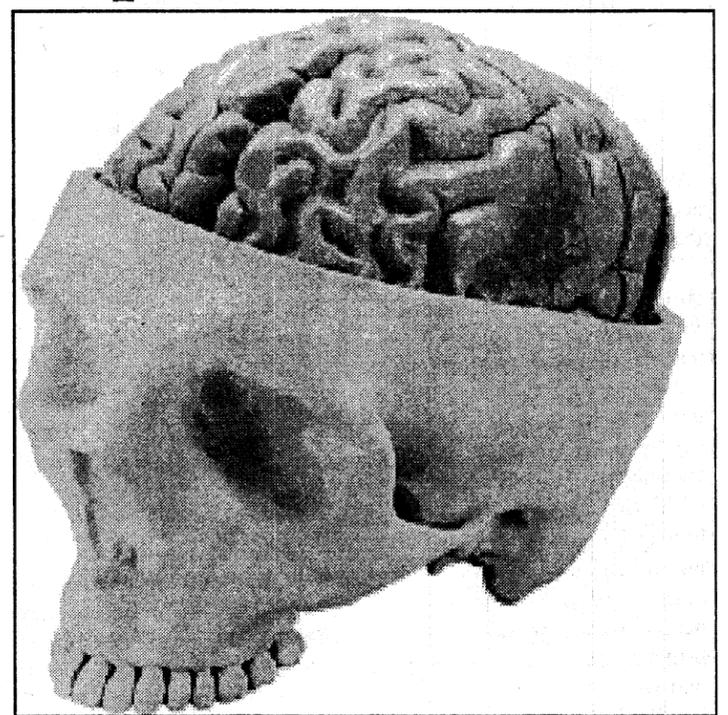


Photo courtesy of skeptico.blogspot.com

There are apparently limits to how open-minded one should be....

The Middle: Questions

Christiaan Funkhouser
Senior Staff Writer

Instead of telling you all what I think, or answering my own questions, I thought it would be interesting to ask a number of questions. I may or may not have answers to these questions, but I hope that a lot of you all have asked the majority of these questions. Yes, it's really random.

Why do people tend to have an understanding of right and wrong? Why do we have to teach kids to be good but not to be selfish and bad? Why is grass, and consequently the chloroform, green? Why do we laugh? Is it a learned behavior? If so, how did the first person learn it? If not, how do we have laughter? Why do we love? Is that a learned behavior? If so, how did the first person learn it? If not, what gave us this feeling of love? Why are men who

have sex with 12 year old girls sexual predators, but women who have sex with 12 year old boys not? Why is it that African Americans tend to stick by other African Americans when they latter is clearly wrong? Why is it that Apple computer users tend to feel they are superior to Microsoft users? Why do some people think the government has to do everything including sexual education and parents can't? Why do men tend to want to be leaders, conquerors, and saviors? Why do women managers and bosses tend to be authoritarian and abusive? Why do women want to be seen as human beings and not sex objects, when it's to their benefit turn themselves into objects to get ahead? Why do men tend to want to marry good girls, but pursue bad girls? Why do people drive slow in the fast lane? Why is it that people follow about three feet away from a car at 70 miles per hour, yet when

traffic hits and they're going 20 miles an hour they keep a four car distance between them? Why is it racism for white people to say the "N" word, yet black people use it twice in every sentence and it's ok? Why is it that some Christians are such blatant hypocrites? Why is French considered the language of love when, Italian, Spanish, and Elvish are much more beautiful? Why do the French always surrender? Why do people like New York? Why do people who believe in "nothing" seem so intent on proving to people who believe in something that their something is really nothing? Why is the movie 300 so inspiring? Why is German, Industrial Techno, so popular in Germany but hardly anyone cares for it in America? Why do liberals tend to get personal in their attacks on conservatives? Is Star Trek really geekier than Star Wars? Why are Star Wars video games so

much better than Star Trek's? Why does America not seem to care about its weight but loves to worry about germs? Why do all the girls I actually like tend to be germ-a-phobes, but I could really care less? Why do people steal? Why do people hurt by alcoholics turn to alcohol to ease the pain? How can VNV Nation fill up stadiums in Germany, but fill a quarter of the Masquerade? Why do people think they can escape the problems of this world by simply masking them? How do people without hope survive? Why would someone willingly be a communist if they can't be in the upper echelon? Why do girls like fairies? Why do men fart in public and not get embarrassed? Why is news so focused on stars? Who really cares about Anna Nicole anyway? Why do single women in their 40's tend to have cats and hate men? Do you believe in nature or nurture? Why do people like to be

scared? What is it about Gore that makes a movie appealing? Why is it that Saw III is rated R for blood, gore, and torture yet, an Incontinent Truth is not rated R and has a near constant Gore in it? Why do liberals think Bush is stupid when he's obviously smarter than them? Why do people honestly believe that God hates fags? How do people justify the killing of another human being? Why does God heal one person but not another? Why is it that it's God's fault if someone dies of cancer and that's good enough reason to turn from him, yet if that person never believed in God it's simply because it's that's person's time to go? Will we ever finish asking questions?

Ask questions, get answers. Why are we afraid of questions? Why are we afraid to question our beliefs? Why do we get defensive when someone does? Why are we humans, Agathokakological?

Dems on the hill: America's despots

Stuart Michelson
Staff Writer

News all over the world is reporting on Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi's controversial trip to terrorist supporting Syria. Pelosi, as Democrats have been doing for decades, has redefined the limits of unacceptable and tested the patience of not just the disgruntled American people who disapprove of her trip, but the patience of our allies abroad. The real shame is that Pelosi will go unpunished for her willing act of treason against our country, and will most likely continue her unashamed crusade to handicap and undermine our Troops.

Pelosi's actions are nothing short of defiant and dangerous for every citizen of the free world. Against the White House's request, Pelosi conducted her trip and entered in negotiations with a state sponsor of terror, which has long been excluded from peace talks as the United States does not negotiate with terrorists or their sponsors. Even worse, she spoke on behalf of our Israeli allies, telling the Syrians that they are ready to enter into peace talks. Israel's Prime Minister Ehud Olmert has been quick to condemn her actions and to make it clear that she has misrepresented his nation's wishes and misled the world with her message. Olmert said in a press conference, "Although Israel is interested in peace with Syria, that country continues to be part of the Axis of Evil and a force that encourages terror in the entire Middle East."

While heads of state have been fairly quick to condemn Pelosi's trip, Jimmy Carter (big surprise) has supported her in it. Carter has been giving comfort to our enemies for some time now with his words and actions, but that is a different story. I do not know which is worse, the Speaker of the House who is not elected to be a foreign ambassador "representing" the so called "interests" of her country and Israel to the allies of our foes when her president directly petitioned her not to, or the fact that we have a cohort of liberals who support her in it. It is treasonous plain

and simple. I do not care whether it was Speaker of the House Hastert or Pelosi, such action is deplorable and shows loud and clear what drives liberals—their desire for power. This was Pelosi's stunt to thumb her nose at our President, just as her pushing for the bill to defund our Troops with over 20 billion dollars of pork spending attached to it when she, and every defeatist in Congress knows (on both sides of the isle), that President Bush will veto and the votes necessary to break the veto are not there and will not be.

I guess we all should not be surprised since betraying one's country in a time of war is nothing new to Democrats. Just look at John Kerry and Jane Fonda's despicable behavior during Vietnam. Fonda traveled to Hanoi in 1972 to meet with ranking officials of our enemies, putting America down. John Kerry a year prior met with North Vietnamese officials in Paris, and made statements about our Troops that it has been proven resulted in the torture of American POW's. We all should thank the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth for exposing John Kerry's betrayal of America in a time of war (www.swiftvets.com). What's worse is that Kerry, even throughout his entire election attempt, refused to apologize. Rather, he makes it possible for the world and myself to watch him on television accuse our servicemen of terrorizing the Iraqi people in the night and use other fiery language to equate our Troops to terrorists. Their actions force any honest person to wonder, "Whose side are they really on?"

The media should be ashamed of itself for placing such high levels of scrutiny on the White House over the attorney firings which has of course been labeled a "scandal" by Senator Reid and other Congressional rabble-rousers, even though there is no evidence of any wrong doing.

The media continues to attack our President, Dick Cheney, and Scooter Libby, while great acts of treason and disloyalty by those highest in the ranks of the Democrat leadership goes unchecked and unchallenged. Many of you have probably never even heard of Congressman William Jefferson. He pled guilty in 2006 to receiving over \$100,000 in bribe money which he hid in his freezer. Further, he was negotiating financial incentives with officials from Nigeria. He has been given the usual Democrat pass by the media and

wrongdoing among the Republicans currently being scrutinized, then they should be held to justice, but it seems only fair to me that both parties should be treated the same.

Clearly, there is no loyalty to America or their constituents in the Democratic Party leadership. They put their agenda and unquenchable quest for control before America's interests. This really is more of a moral question of accountability to the American people than a political one. How long will Americans continue to give these sorry excuses for politicians a free pass? Especially since the offenses seem to get worse and worse in severity. Why do we only ever seem to demand accountability from Republicans? The Justice Department in this country will not take these things seriously as long as we allow Democrats to continue to push the limits of what is acceptable behavior for people in public office. What if a soldier in Iraq refused to fight and instead began to enter into his own private negotiations on behalf of the USA with Cleric Muqtada Al Sadr? He'd most likely be facing a court martial or worse. But Speaker Pelosi can take equivalent actions, and it is ok. What if a random American citizen was caught stealing classified documents from the National Archives? I doubt they would get the same treatment as Berger.

The Washington Post (usually a far leftist paper) abandoned Pelosi on her treason trip printing, "Ms. Pelosi's attempt to establish a shadow presidency is not only counterproductive, it is foolish." I cannot agree more. I have always thought Nancy Pelosi to be a reckless, politically irresponsible joke. Her phrase to describe Bush before her election was "the emperor has no clothes" among other entirely immature and inappropriate comments. Are we surprised that she has gotten

a free pass for those comments? I am not. The media would rather crucify Ann Coulter for her joke about John Edwards and take it as if she was serious. Al Gore has raked the good name of the United States through the mud in his trip to Saudi Arabia not long ago, and yet the media has not once called him to answer for his actions. I find it humorous that Democrats are now pushing to stop the use of the phrase "Global War on Terror." Those hypocrites, can they not see that they cannot spell "Global Warming" without "Global War?" How can they continue to attempt to scare the world into voting for them to save us and the planet from ourselves?

I have heard it said among Conservatives that Democrats have no values. I disagree... They have some very fundamental ones among which are raising taxes, surrendering in the Global War on Terror, eliminating competition in our economy, strangling small business with their minimum wage laws, increasing the size of government, restricting industry through meaningless global warming legislation, causing higher gas prices by refusing domestic drilling, cheapening the citizenship of every real American by extending the protections of the Bill of Rights to foreign terrorist POW's, restricting freedom of religion and expression with careless legislation rooted in the Fairness Doctrine.... I could go on, but I think you get the point, the Democrats have lots of core values.

If America is to survive, I think we can all agree that it is time for some accountability in Washington. Let's reign in careless spending, secure our borders, save social security, win the Global War on Terror, end our dependence on foreign oil, continue to foster the booming growth that the Bush tax cuts have stimulated in our economy, and in so doing, secure a bright future for ourselves and our children. Whether or not you agree with the current Republican administration, Conservative values will win the day over dangerous Liberal short term thinking in the 2008 election.



Photo courtesy www.seanrobins.com

Oh no! A really unflattering picture of Ms. Pelosi! She must obviously be a heathen!

unknowingly most of America. He currently sits on a security committee in the House of Representatives. I contend this traitor should sit in jail. Perhaps given a little more attention but still not what it deserved was Sandy Berger, the former National Security Advisor to Bill Clinton who stole classified documents from the National Archives building, stuffing them down his pants. There is no excuse for such morally reprehensible behavior. None what-so-ever. As usual, he is given a slap on the wrist because he belongs to the Democratic party. If there has been

On religion in the United States' constitution

Merius Atangcho
Contributing Writer

James Madison detailed the birth of the U.S., to which the Constitution is central, in his documentation of the debates that took place at the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in 1787. Madison's notes, the most detailed of any taken at the convention, provide insight into the very origins of U.S. society and the intent of those present for the society. My intent is to document the notable instances in which religion, or religious inclinations on the part of the participants, appears to influence the shaping of the Constitution, and, in so doing, evaluate claims that the country was founded on Christian values and that separation of church and state isn't implicit in the Constitution. While such claims have immense emotional value in matters of patriotism and religiosity, their misuse, as if to nullify the first amendment, does merit the exploration of the true disposition, in so far as possible, of the founders. Scholars prefer Madison's original notes, with misspellings and all, so I will simply follow that preference.

06/06/1787—Madison takes up the issue of "the inconveniences of democracy," which lie in that "where a majority are united by a common interest or passion, the rights of the minority are in danger." Madison considers several "motives...to restrain [the inconveniences]," last of which is "conscience, the only remaining tie...known to be inadequate in individuals: In large numbers, little is to be expected from it." "Besides," Madison adds, "Religion itself may become a motive to persecution & oppression."

Putting aside the fact that Madison opines that it is inconvenient that a democracy cater to the common interest, which is the very definition of democracy, bringing up all sorts of interesting questions concerning U.S. democracy (why a republic?), he appears to show a very clear understanding of the danger of the conjunction of church and state.

06/25/1787—Pinckney, according to Madison, in a very long speech, sums the "true situation" of the convention, which is to found "a new extensive Country containing within itself the materials for forming a Government capable of extending to its citizens all the blessings of civil & religious liberty — capable of making them happy at home."

The first amendment is clearly implicit in the above statement.

06/28/1787—Madison argues, "Religion, and the other circumstances which sometimes beget affection between different communities" have left large states still "not more assimilated than the other States," and so "a combination of the large ones" against the small states isn't to be "dreaded." Further discussions on the issue are postponed until the next day. Then, Dr. Franklin moves "that henceforth prayer imploring the assistance of Heaven, and its blessings on

our deliberations, be held...every morning before we proceed to business," the reason being that "different sentiments on almost every question...is...melancholy proof of the imperfection of the Human Understanding," yet "in this situation...how [is] it...that we have not hitherto once thought of humbly applying to the Father of lights to illuminate our understandings?" Furthermore, Franklin notes that during the struggle with Great Britain, "we had daily prayer...for divine protection [and those] prayers...were heard, &...graciously answered," and "to that kind providence we owe this happy opportunity of consulting in peace on the means of establishing our future national felicity," so "do we imagine that we no longer need [God's] existence... And if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground to the ground without his

the notion that such rites were there inappropriate, in espousal of separation of church and state, but the scene is nevertheless significant for establishing the religious tendencies of the members. In Franklin's case, God can, and should, be called upon in the erecting of an empire, perhaps as the brute imperialism by Rome was just divine, although rather cruel, intervention to further Christianity throughout the Roman empire, then on to western civilization that, in turn, took it to third world nations to "civilize" the natives—all according to the divine plan of erecting and employing empires. How righteous!

07/11/1787—Butler and Pinckney wanted "blacks [to] be included in the rule of Representation, equally with the whites," instead of one black equaling three-fifths of a white. Butler fur-

benefited the slaves none because it wasn't about them, is too much to handle, as it gives slaves, at least theoretically, something in the way of equality, which is unbearable enough. Furthermore, the idea that the government was set up to protect property is disturbing. Again, it's not about protecting the rights of slaves; as property, they have no rights, and no one was about to give them any. Mainly the rich own property, so government should "principally" protect property; therefore, government is chiefly for the protection of the rich, and is itself to be underwritten by the rich. Such an incredible set of values—I wonder if they got them from bible study.

08/27/1787—Martin argues for a "prohibition or tax on the importation of slaves" mainly because "it was inconsistent with

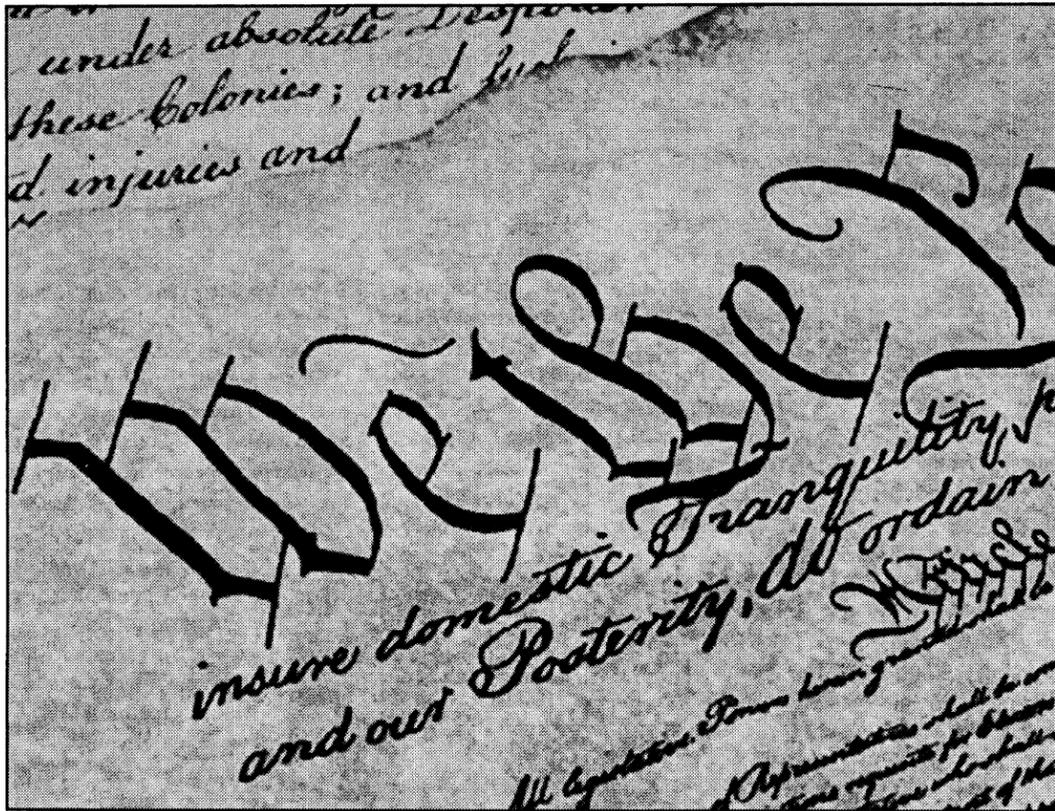
tal, once again emphasizing that government is for the protection of the rich minority because their interests (property) matter, not the common interest.

08/30/1787—Pinckney moves to add, "no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public Trust under the authority of the U. States." The original statement, introduced ten days earlier, read, "No religious test or qualification shall ever be annexed to any oath of office under the authority of the U. States."

The latter statement would've made questionable the practice of taking an oath while laying one's hand on a bible; however, the former, presently in the Constitution, allows for it, but does not require it, so it would be constitutional to refuse to use any bible as such. Tradition determines the use of a bible to swear in public officials, but this practice is not proof of the conjunction of church and state—at least not in the Constitution.

Although more could've been done on the issue of human rights, uniting the states was certainly an astonishing achievement. It is clear that the participants understood there had to be a separation of church and state, not a conjunction, which could prove divisive and oppressive, as history had demonstrated many times before. While not explicitly stated, the examples given here clearly indicate an implicit statement of the separation of church and state. The argument that the participants were Christians and, therefore, the country was founded on Christian values, thus intimately linking church and state, is simple-minded and dangerous. Simple-minded because much more went into the Constitution than the Bible, or Christian values, could furnish—as much a philosophical, historical, and mythical book the Bible may be, it says little of political and economic theory or practice. Furthermore, dangerous because it implies that liberties are extended to only those who share, or choose to accept, the same faith as the founding members, so (orthodox) Jews, Muslims, and all other non-Christians would be scarcely protected under the Constitution. If this danger appears outrageous, recall that slaves were scarcely protected under the Constitution, at least as persons (significant protection of their owners gave protection as property, though insignificant for their person), because they didn't share the whiteness of the founders.

To avoid this outcome, the Constitution should always be critically evaluated. The founders, while deserving praise for their pioneering efforts, did not and could not have accounted for everything, or even properly executed what they did account for. The correction of any failures in and the success of the democratic process require that the debates and the work of the original participants be continued, and only in this manner can the founders be sincerely honored for their endeavor.



Yes, it's the U.S. Constitution... duh.

notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without his aid?" Hamilton & several others "expressed their apprehension that however proper such a resolution...it might...lead the public to believe that the embarrassments and dissensions within the Convention, had suggested this measure [of prayer]." Madison then notes, "After...unsuccessful attempts for silently postponing the matter [of prayer]...the adjournment was [after a long time] carried, without any vote on the motion."

Madison appears not to consider religion a necessarily unifying force, which would be cause for establishing a government on universal principles, possibly present in the morals taught in religion, but not in religion as a whole. Furthermore, the concern with the potential political fallout, more than with divine wrath, from starting proceedings with prayer and the blatant attempt at filibustering Franklin's motion on prayer, resulting in the motion being stealthily rejected, is probably the most flagrant example of a considerable aversion to religious tendencies within the convention. One can't jump to the conclusion that the unwillingness of those certain participants was due to

ther argued "the labor of a slave in S. Carola. was as productive and valuable as that of a freeman in Massts.," and since "wealth was the great means of defence and utility to the Nation they [slaves] were equally valuable to it with freemen; and [so]...equal representation ought to be allowed for them in a Government...instituted principally for the protection of property, and was itself to be supported by property." Mason acknowledged the value of slaves, including "of course the revenue...and...in cases of emergency [they could] become...soldiers," but he "could not however regard them as equal to freemen and...vote for them as such." The motion didn't pass.

The argument over slaves is not a moral one; instead, slaves' value as property, perhaps even cannon fodder, is what should grant them equality in representation—never mind racial equality, which would've been outrageous. Butler and Pinckney were both from South Carolina, so it's obvious that they were just seeking to have greater representation for their state by getting slaves to count for something. But even that form of equality, which would've

the principles of the revolution and dishonorable to the American character" to not allow it, which would encourage "this traffic [of slave import]." Rutledge responds, "Religion & humanity had nothing to do with this question. Interest alone is the governing principle with nations." And Elseworth adds, "The morality or wisdom of slavery are considerations belonging to the states... What enriches a part enriches the whole..." Eventually, an agreement was reached that the importation of slaves "shall not be prohibited by the Congress" before the year 1808, but "Tax or duty may be imposed on such importation."

In order to appease those states that depended on slave labor, morality was indeed left to them to decide on and not derived from divine ordinance through scriptural teachings. Or, perhaps the insouciant mention of slavery and slaves in the Bible did in some manner provide divine vindication for the continued infliction of cruelty on an entire people. Of course, the assumption here is that religion actually mattered, but according to Rutledge it didn't and neither did humanity; however, "interest alone" is the reigning fundamen-

Photo courtesy election.teachingmatters.org

TMNT: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

Eating pizza and pretending to be ninjas... they're just like college students

Cary Chichester
Staff Writer

There once was a kind and gentle rat, who was the pet of a skilled ninja. He would watch his master everyday and learn his techniques. One day, his master was killed, and he was set loose into the sewers. He then encountered something extraordinary: four baby turtles and a canister of ooze. The rat and the turtles were then miraculously transformed into the size of humans and were able to speak. The rat, with his skills of ninjutsu, chose to raise the turtles, and pass his techniques on to them. This is the origin of the four heroes of the Manhattan sewers.

These are the icons we grew up with. We read their comics, watched their cartoons, and enjoyed their movies. They were a worldwide sensation, and over time, they slowly drifted away from the spotlight. It has been 14 years since the last *Turtles* film (16 if you only count the good ones), and aside from the comics and a new cartoon series, we don't see as much of the *Turtles* as we used to. When the new movie directed by Kevin Munroe was announced, many people saw a glimmer of hope that they previously only dreamed about. Our old, slimy, green friends were coming back, but not as we once knew them. No longer were they actors in foam suits, but full CG-animation. Instead of cartoons or live-action, the *Turtles* are now embarking down a road they've never been on. This was definitely a risky move, but one with the blessing of the series creator Peter Laird.

One day Munroe went to Laird to discuss the movie and brought his copy of the first issue of the comic book series for Laird to sign. When he got home, he was unsure about how Laird felt, until he opened the comic to see a sketch of Raphael with the words "Dear Kevin...make a good movie...or else." This movie should prove that treats do work.

It's an absolute blast to see Leonardo, Michelangelo, Donatello, and Raphael on the big screen again, and I must say that they have never looked better. The Hong Kong development team deserves a giant kudos for their work. This isn't the crappy CGI that you see in most of today's family movies, however, and this is what Kevin Munroe tried to illustrate; "As soon as people heard CGI, they thought it was going to be *Over the Hedge* with ninja turtles. I realized that was the biggest thing we had to overcome." Everything in the movie looks great, from the

inspired art is in the people. They are definitely drawn to more cartoon-like proportions than everything else (April's abdomen probably has a 5" circumference). The Turtles also sport a new awesome ninja-look. They're sleek and fast, and at times when they're meant to be menacing, their pupils will be glaring white. Leonardo even throws a couple kunai, showing that these turtles are more about being ninjas than they are about eating pizza.

The sound in this movie is also quite exceptional. The music is extremely well-done with many

Splinter shortly before his death on July 21st of 2006. These actors were given serious pieces of dialogue and provided superior acting, sparing us of an 80's style of *Ninja Turtles* with the word "cowabunga" used every 12 seconds.

With Shredder out of the picture, a good question is who the villain of this film is. The film opens with a narration of the Turtles' past, as well as the history of the new villains. Thousands of years ago, there was a renowned warrior who, with his comrades, conquered empires. In his search for more power, he

been lost without him. Donatello and Michelangelo have both gotten jobs to try and help the family, while Raphael, unbeknownst to his two brothers, patrols the streets as a masked crime-fighter called The Nightwatcher. The personality of Turtles is spot-on, exactly as you remember them, which is a challenge with friends you haven't seen in years. Leonardo's still the fearless leader, Donatello's still the knowledgeable tech geek, Mikey's still the pizza-loving goof, and Raphael's still the impatient action fanatic. The cast of supporting characters is also well-done. Splinter's still the wise and respected sensei while Casey Jones is, well, a lot like Raphael. The only one that seems to have changed is April O'Neil. She not as focused on her reporting as she once was, and she also does a lot more fighting than we're used to seeing her do. The real shame here is that we don't get a chance to see Donnie and Mike develop since the spotlight rests mainly on Leo and Raph. When Don and Mike started working and Leonardo left the group, Raphael felt that the city's safety was left in his hands. He feels abandoned by Leo and isn't about to start taking his orders when he returns home. The development between these two is phenomenal and makes up the core of what makes this such an enjoyable movie.

This film gives a lot of hope to Turtle fans who have been waiting for a resurrection, and it should also generate a legion of new fans. It's their first film in 14 years and they've hit the ground running; let's just hope they don't stop. TMNT is an absolute blast and an amazingly entertaining movie. If you've got kids that want to see it, if you're a fan of the old Turtles, or if you're just looking for a fun new movie to watch, TMNT will not disappoint. It's finally time to once again (or for the first time) enjoy seeing everyone's favorite turtles in a half-shell... Turtle Power!



The infamous rooftop scene...

Photo courtesy of www.movieweb.com

turtles to the environments. You can try and spot all the grime and graffiti on Manhattan's alleys, or count the raindrops bouncing off the Turtles' skin in the infamous "rooftop scene;" either way, you'll be able to see the amount of detail that went into this film. The real eye-pleasure, however, is in the fights. Inspired by Hong Kong action films, the fights are extremely well choreographed and contain crazy camera angles and motion blurs that could only be done with CG.

The art direction of this film is also worthy of notice. The creators were after the feel of a comic book and it definitely shows. You have the grittiness of the New York streets and the cool new, realistic look of the Turtles. Most of the comic book

interesting fight tracks and a memorable main theme. Thankfully, there are good voices to complement the good music. No animated movie would be enjoyable if the characters had voices that made your ears bleed, but you'll be glad to know that Funimation did not do the dubbing for this movie. A variety of both unknown and well-known actors were assembled for this the voice cast. Spotlights include: Laurence Fishburne who does a brief narrative in the introduction, *Memoir of a Geisha's* Zivi Zhang as Karai, and the infamous Patrick Stewart as the new villain. Special consideration should go to Mako Iwamatsu, known for Aku in *Samurai Jack* and Uncle Iroh in *Avatar: The Last Airbender*. Mako gave a profound last performance as

discovered that a certain constellation that appeared every couple thousand of years would open a portal to a realm that would give him immortality. When this realm was opened, he became immortal; alas, it cost his comrades to turn to stone and 13 beasts escaped from the realm and were unleashed into the world. Those beasts and that warrior still exist today, awaiting the next time the constellation will appear. The main plot is not winning any awards, but the meat and potatoes is actually in the sub-plot.

The Turtles seem like they haven't aged a bit. The movie starts with April finding Leonardo in Central America during his training. He left the group to train and become a better leader, but his family has

The Astronaut Farmer

Jonathan Meek
Senior Staff Writer

How crazy would you consider someone if they were building a rocket in their backyard? Probably as crazy as the people in Charlie Farmer's hometown considered Charlie in the movie *The Astronaut Farmer*. Charlie Farmer always wanted to be an astronaut but had to drop out of training in order to save the family farm. Now, years later, he is on the verge of launching his own rocket which he built. His troubles start with the feds when he tries to buy fuel for his rocket and the bank tries to foreclose on his farm as well. While fighting the government, he also has to work at keeping his family from spinning out of control. In the end, it all comes down to a fight proving that we can truly make their dreams come true if they try hard enough.

The movie is filled with great, funny one-liners and serious "big-

ger than life" thoughts. There were as well wonderful performances by Billy Bob Thornton, Bruce Wills, and Jay Leno. However, the biggest letdown of the movie is that it has a tendency to go off into tangents

that don't really make sense and awkward silences. While it was a good movie, it was not worth going to the movie theaters to see, I'd recommend waiting for it to come out on DVD.

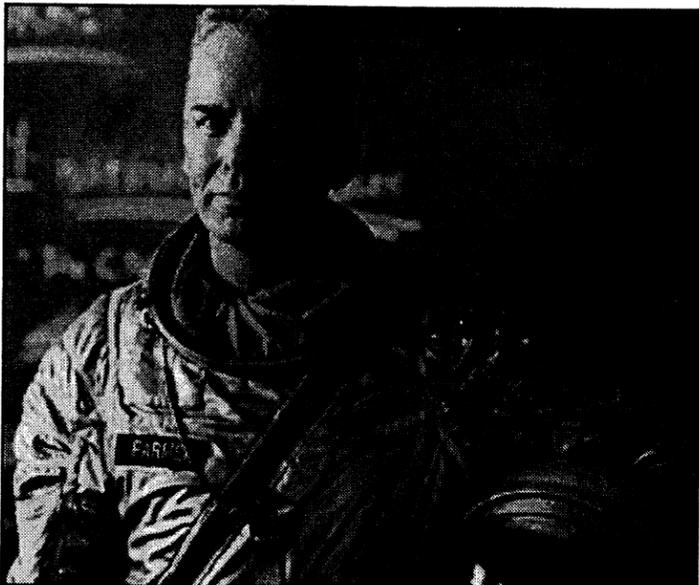


Photo courtesy www.worstpreviews.com

I think it's kinda lame his last name is Farmer and he is a farmer, but....

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The Right Wing Tavern

Stuart Michelson
Staff Writer

The Right Wing Tavern, as one might guess by the name, is a politically driven restaurant and bar where Conservatives can kick back and enjoy Fox News on the big screen while enjoying one of the many entrées on their very Conservative menu. It is located on the pedestrian friendly historic Main Street in downtown Woodstock about twenty minutes away from Southern Polytechnic State University.

The first thing that I noticed about The Right Wing Tavern was its unique atmosphere. The tavern is housed in the old historic train station that has long been a symbol of Woodstock pride. A red caboose still sits next to the tavern. The interior is decorated with various Republican political posters, and the occasional framed photo of Reagan or Bush. A sizeable bar can be found with Fox News airing above. The tables have cloth napkins and overall the tavern has an upper class feel to it.

The second most distinguishable feature of the tavern is the menu. It is American grill, but every item has a distinctly Conservative name. I personally enjoyed my "The Cheney" beef sandwich with "Freedom Fries." Other menu choices range from the very hearty one pound angus cheeseburger "The Taft" to the "Condealeeza Rice Pilaf." Under the "Right Wings" sec-

tion of the menu, customers will find a brief politically driven description of their meal. "Reagan Wings" bear the caption, "What Cold War? A finger-on-the-button nuclear sauce that will have you crying for peace!" "The George W" is described as, "fiery with a little bit of Texas charm." The salad menu items all bear the names of Republican first ladies. The appetizer menu (alternatively labeled the "Preliminaries" on the menu) offers a wide range of items from "The Executive Order" of Crab to "The Fillibuster" and "The House Whip." A tribute to Georgia's very own Zell Miller can also be found on the menu if you order "The Southern Democrat." The special section "The Elected Entrées" all are named after local and state Conservative politicians. Truly the Tavern's menu provides a comical element to the already unique theme of the restaurant.

I found the food to be of a high quality and the service was good considering how busy the restaurant was. The price range is what one might expect from an Applebees or Ruby Tuesdays and was fair. Of particular note was their choice of ketchup. I was glad to see that they did not use 'Heinz' ketchup at The Right Wing Tavern, as that is a personal pet peeve of mine due to that particular brand's strong ties to Senator John Kerry's family.

The Right Wing Tavern opened November 24th of last year

and has enjoyed healthy business since.

"I always wanted a place I would like to hang out in, so I fashioned the restaurant after what I liked," says owner and operator Jamey Snyder. The tavern's slogan is "Eat Right, Drink Right, Be Right." Despite the play on words, the eating and drinking right aspect of the place is rather obvious, but the tavern does do everything it can to help the average customer and locals to get plugged in politically. Frequently the tavern hosts special events such as Fair Tax Rallies and these events are normally accompanied by some sort of special menu item. On a less serious note, they also host political trivia night and an open mic night. The tavern always welcomes Republican politicians as special guests to speak. Governor Sonny Purdue and Senator Johnny Isakson have both spoken at the tavern.

Snyder really captures the feel of the tavern when he says, "We are having fun with politics, and we encourage political discourse or talk... it's not a place where if you are not a right wing person you can't come, but we certainly enjoy a fine political argument." I found the Right Wing Tavern to be a fine place, and by no means does it attempt to bash or put others down who do not happen to be Conservative. Overall I strongly recommend The Right Wing Tavern to our readers as a fun place to "Eat Right, Drink Right, and Be Right."

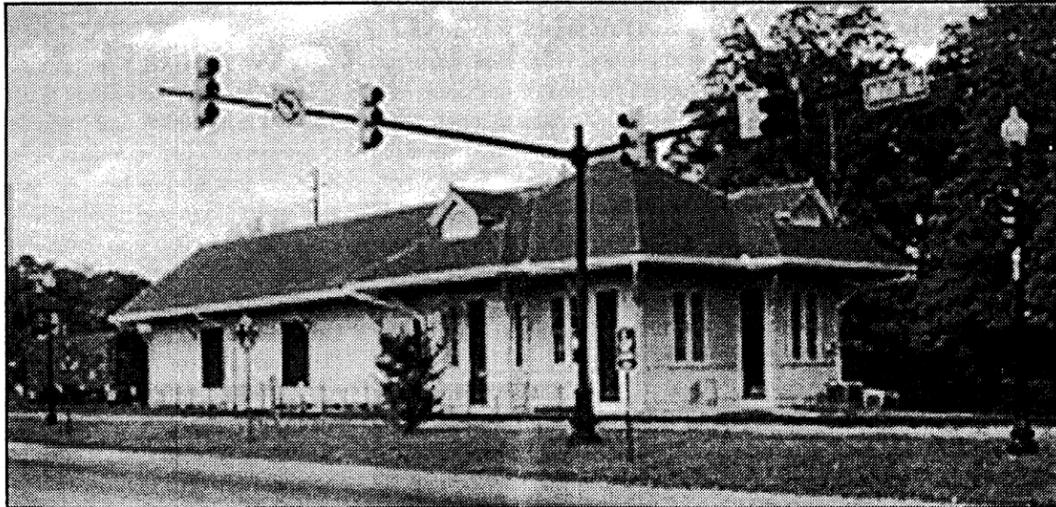


Photo courtesy www.nwgntrak.41.com

Now you know where to go if you don't want Heinz ketchup.

Save the squirrels

Jonathan Meek
Senior Staff Writer

So how do you go about saving squirrels from ultimate destruction? You have a telethon! Or at least that's the ticket according to Bill & Charles Peterson. Bill & Charles Peterson grew up around the Knobles Creek Squirrel Sanctuary as kids with Marti and Jenny Knobles, whose grandmother owned the sanctuary. The years has passed by and the group drifted apart. As Marti got older, he began to get into real-estate development and became very greedy along the way. When their grandmother died, the sanctuary was left solely to Jenny, which Marti was not happy about because he had planned to turn that area into a parking lot.

After failing to convince his sister to sell him the land, Marti enlists the help of the government, which used eminent domain to buy the land a fraction of the cost. Now Jenny, Bill, and Charles have thirty days to get 50,000 dollars raised before Marti purchases the land. This complete utter disaster of a telethon shows what happens when a few people are determined to make a stand and fight what they believe in.

The play is located at the Artisan Resource Center in cooperation with Blank Stage Productions, which is right behind the Easy Rental off 41 and their production dates are April 20th-21st and 27th-28th. Tickets are \$8 online and \$10 at the door. This play is put on by a non-profit organization called Sensitive Charles, whose goal is to "love without restrictions, give without restraint, and rejoice in community." They hope to do this by bringing good family entertainment to people of all ages and nations through as many means as possible. Jared Young, one of the actors for Sensitive Charles, said the project had started off by accident after a friend needed footage for a class.

Some of their current projects include production of a kids TV show, a website, and their live shows. As well, they sponsor a charity every so often. Their current charity is the Fermi project, which is helping to build wells in Rwanda. For more information on the group, visit www.sensitivecharles.com or if you wish to donate, visit www.projectpeterson.com. For other productions being done by the Blank Stage, visit www.blankstageproductions.com.

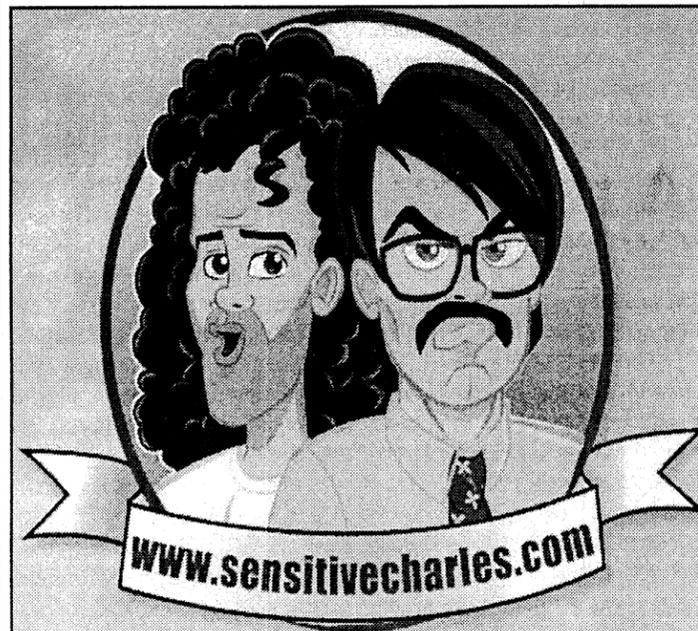


Photo courtesy Sensitive Charles Co.

Visit the site for more information on the group.

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A legacy comes to an end

Twila McConnell
Editor-in-Training

I'm sure you've seen it before if you've ever glanced at the Sci-Fi channel for more than half a second, but Stargate SG1 is officially coming to an end.

The final ten episodes started Friday the 13th at 8:00 PM. And while I simply think there can't be

a bigger and badder enemy than the Ori and therefore they have to end the show or risk extremely overstated cliché-ism, man are people upset!

Sites such as savestargatesg1.com are dedicated to dragging the series out further. I'm sorry, but ten years of a series is pushing it. I love SG1 as much as the next nerd, but think of the actors. Maybe they're simply tired of being the lovable,

harmonious cast of space travelers. Honestly, how much do fans want?

Apparently enough to drag out an on-going series of movies. So if you're not appeased with these ten episodes, make sure to start buying the movies or there will be no "future" for Stargate SG1 after all.

But just remember, at a certain point there is only so much make-up can do for a person!



Photo courtesy savestargatesg1.com

Maybe Sam just canceled her contract when a hotter chick joined the team?

Junkin' with Jessie Getting dressed up at SYMS

Jessica McNally
Staff Writer

Everybody has to play dress up sometimes. Business suits, formal wear, dresses, sports coats, even designer socks and luggage can play an important role in certain arenas. Business outfits can range into the thousands of dollars in malls and downtown boutiques. Don't waste your money on clothes, save it for the nice sports car, it's more impressive.

Still, you're going to need a "Sunday best" for the business world. But don't worry, a place called SYMS is here to help.

SYMS offers price breaks on designer clothing, luggage and gifts. Apparel accessories like hats, purses and umbrellas can also be found inside SYMS. Located on Roswell Road near the Lower Roswell intersection, the store boasts hundreds of square feet of merchandise. Men's, women's, and children's clothing can all be found here. You can also find designer jeans and t-shirts here. Specifically, what follows is a closer look at what kind of discounts men and women can get on business attire.

From a woman's perspective, you can find everything but the man at SYMS. By this I mean the store carries shoes, socks, underwear,

ties, tuxedos, sports coats, vests, dress shirts, slacks, khakis, polo shirts, belts, formal shirts and full length dress coats; and that's not including all the accessories like cologne or wallets.

To give you an idea of what kind of deal your looking at, here are a few price comparisons:

Suits

Jones New York, Tommy Hilfiger, Adolfo, Kenneth Cole, and Emanuel

Original price	SYMS price
\$290-\$450	\$139-\$299

Sports Coats

Petrocelli, Stanely Blacker, Bill Blass, Harre Benard and Oleg Cassini

Original price	SYMS price
\$39-\$89	\$20-\$35

Slacks

Calvin Klein, Jones New York, Greg Peters, and Sansabelt

Original price	SYMS price
\$55.00-\$90.00	\$29.99-\$49.99

Aside from the previous mentioned selections, there are many other labels to choose from; some prices may vary. There is plenty of variety in each section of the men's department.

Women's business attire, it's

a lot like the men's attire except it's for ladies. There are dresses, socks, underwear, hats, lingerie, suits, skirts, gowns, and much more. The following are a few price comparisons found in the women's department:

Suits

Calvin Klein, Bluefashion, and Albert Nipon

Original price	SYMS price
\$320-\$450	\$99-\$139

Business Jackets

Gloria Vanderbilt, Anne Klein, harve benard, Tommy Hilfiger, and Jones New York

Original price	SYMS price
\$48-\$189	\$19-\$69

Skirts

Grace, Josephin Chau, Emmanuel, and Donna Ray

Original price	SYMS price
\$58-\$69	\$24-\$39

Prices may vary based on current selections, but the idea is still the same. The buyer can expect to find quality merchandise at half the original cost, sometimes a little more, sometimes a little less.

SYMS is the kind of place you want to know about when it's time to play dress up. They have the latest fashions as well as classical

apparel.

This is also a great store to find graduation and birthday gifts. The kind of gifts that people will use, but may never think to buy for themselves. It's a nice feeling when you take the time to cover the people you love in class. SYMS offers this experience at an affordable price with a friendly

staff to boot.

So stop in and look around sometime; you don't have to worry about being hounded by commissionites. The company and the staff alike are experienced in their field and proud of what they do. The stores slogan really says it best: "An educated consumer is our best customer."

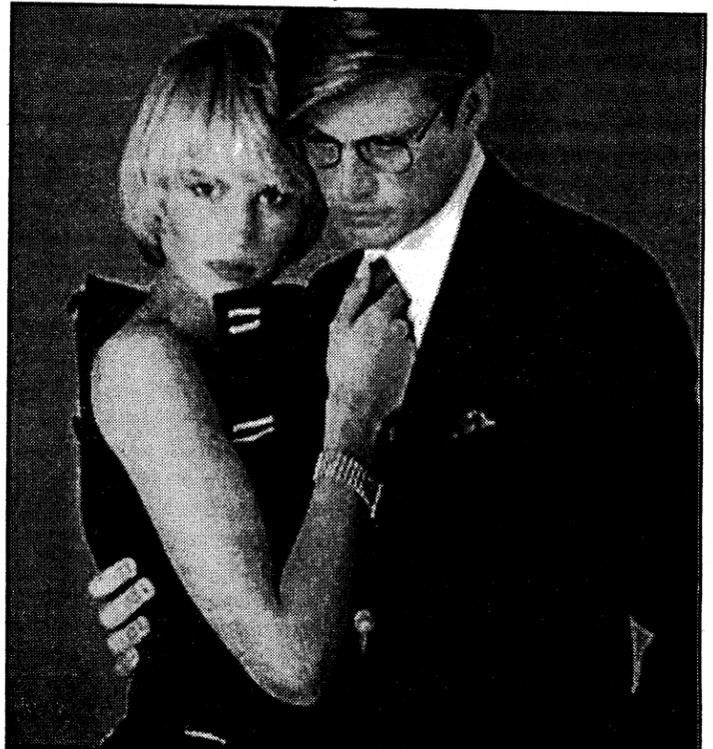


Photo courtesy of www.germes-online.com

Yeah, you want to look this good.

A review of the anime Higurashi no Naku Koro Ni Get psycho

Sean Fine
Senior Staff Writer

Genre: Horror

Faithful readers, I'm going to tell you something. I have seen many a anime, some good, some bad, some repetitive as *Dynasty Warriors*, but *Higurashi no Naku Koro Ni* is probably the only anime that I can truthfully consider to be a horror anime. So if you've been wanting to scare yourself but don't want to bother with the usual crap that horror films produce, then *Higurashi* might just be for you.

Story: The story of *Higurashi* can be somewhat confusing. The first thing you see, period, is the main character beating two other of the main characters to death in an insane rage, blood splattering all over the floor. From there, the story starts from the beginning. In the rural village of Hinamizawa, Keichii Maebara is a new-comer to the village where he is welcomed with open arms by soon-to-be friends, Rena, Mion, Rika, and Satoko. However, Keichii soon finds out that the village has a dark history, surrounding the development of a dam. Mysterious murders and kidnappings enfold the dam's construction, as well as the fear of the curse of Oyashiro-sama, the village's god.

While this sounds like a good complex and long story line, the story is told kind of strangely. You see within the course of four episodes most of the main characters die and the story supposedly comes to an end. Then, like *Sin*

City, the story backs up and tells either another story or a previously told story from a different angle, both providing answers to previously made questions and then replacing them with even more questions. This happens about six different times, and it's this small bit of randomness actually that keeps watchers amused, because you aren't sure how the new story might work out, who might die, or what might happen.

Each arc begins with a mildly cute and normal lifestyle in the village of Hinamizawa, but things quickly become insane and murderous. It's like a super awesome hook that catches normal anime viewers with cuteness and then turns the show into a horrid blood bath that will keep you captivated.

What makes *Higurashi* so fun is how in the later episodes, you begin to not only see the major connections between the arcs, but the sheer brutality of the "murders" is so heinous and amazingly evil that you cringe, and yet you can't look away. For instance, one of the characters (not giving any names because that's what makes it so JUICY), puts a knife to wall and proceeds to slam the side of her head against it, while another character watches, who begins to laugh madly with a smile on her face. Yea, the show is f****d up. With many moments of insanity like this abounding throughout the series, this anime might end up making you temporarily crazy.

A fun thing that viewers of the show like to do is connect the

six different arcs, although I found it relatively difficult to connect every little detail. But one factor that viewers might have to consider is that only the first season is out, and there are plans for a second season. Still, the episodes currently out are enjoyable, even though there are some connection issues.

Animation: While the horror element of *Higurashi* makes it very unique in the world of anime, it has a major weakness in the animation department. The characters look quite deformed with overly large heads and thin arms and legs. Not to mention the designs of all the characters are fairly basic, as compared to anime characters from other shows like *Evangelion* or even *Naruto*.

Now, I'm not saying the animation of the show is horrible, it's just different for an anime that ends up being so frightening. To be honest, the designs really aren't so bad that they're horrid to look at, they just have a very chibi-ish (or childlike) stature that in a horror anime is not as effective as a more realistic looking anime. However, this adds to dramatic changes the anime can make in a few seconds. Another thing about *Higurashi* that's so great is that the characters make expressions that skillfully give off the feeling of hatred and insanity.

In short, the art of the animation is simplistic, yet frightening when the characters get really serious. Yet this might be a good message, saying that a good show doesn't need excellent visuals into

order to be good, but a good story... Hah, that's a good one; someone better mention that to Sony.

Sound: The opening theme to *Higurashi* is a catchy, mysterious beat that lays out the feeling of the main plot of the series, very haunting with an intoxicating choir mixed with a techno beat. However, I felt that the ending theme, though, is a bit too soft to fit with the "serial murderer" theme of the series. But then again, maybe viewers need something to calm them down from the freaking out they commit when they just saw a girl willingly rip out her own nails.

While the animation isn't top-notch, it makes up with grueling sounds of blood splatter, guts being ripped apart, and the sounds of utter terror that the various characters make. The sounds alone should actually be enough

to make you cringe... if you understood what the characters were saying. You see, this series only just came out in Japan last year, so when we should expect an English translation is difficult to say, though reading doesn't kill you (and why should it?) You might be able to find this series from a BitTorrent.

Overall: *Higurashi* will empty your bowels through sheer terror and grotesque scenes of horror and fear. It's a little confusing, especially when the story starts over six different times, but it provides a unique twist in story telling. Personally, *Higurashi* is one of my favorite series just because it accomplishes what few other Japanese animes try to do: scare the crap out of me.

If horror is your thing, then you might want to check out this delightfully gruesome series.



Photo courtesy my.opera.com

Look into the eyes of evil.

A review of Ubisoft's *Beyond Good and Evil*

So... Neutral?

Sean Fine
Senior Staff Writer

Genre: Adventure

Console: PS2, Gamecube, Xbox, PC

A few years ago, Ubisoft came out with a series of really good games: *Prince of Persia*, *XIII*, *Splinter Cell*; just a lot of a good games, most of which are still played today. However, in the midst of so many good games, it's actually an often occurrence that some of those good games don't get the credit they deserve. No doubt, you've might have seen the ads for *Beyond Good and Evil*, showing a girl sneaking around with a camera. By looking at these ads, one might think that this game is just a rip off of *Pokemon Snap* with more edge! Let me assure you, that is – and never was – the case.

Story: The planet of Hillis is threatened by a menacing parasitic alien race known as the DomZ. They take many of the Hillians captive and assimilate them into energy for their own profit. Thankfully, the tactical and powerful might of the Alpha Section forces have managed to keep the DomZ from wiping out the Hillian race, but as the DomZ come close to the borders of Hillis, a greater threat becomes imminent.

You play as Jade, a young woman who lives in a lighthouse with her adopted pig-uncle, Pey'j (I'm not kidding, he's a pig-man) and takes care of orphans who have lost their parents to the war between Hillis and the aliens. Additionally, she takes reporting missions to get special photos for those who offer enough credits. Because of this, she trains with a staff to protect herself on more dangerous missions.

One day, after barely surviving a DomZ attack, Jade receives a mission from a mysterious investor named 'Mr. Decastellac' and from there she's forced into a journey to uncover a immense conspiracy between the DomZ and the Alpha Section.

The story is told through many cut scenes with such cinematic value that you might even be fooled into thinking you're watching a 3D animated movie instead of a game cut scene. You could say that this game's cut scenes

are on par with *Metal Gear Solid*. However, while the characters are creative and likable, there are a lot of moments where they use the line, "If it wasn't for you, then I..." and this happens like... nearly every close encounter in the game. You could say it's somewhat repetitive. Another major downfall of the story is that it's way too short and it ends with a cliffhanger ending. Now this usually isn't so bad, because a cliffhanger usually means there's going to be a sequel, right? That was supposed to be the case, but because of its commercial failure, Ubisoft declared that there aren't going to be anymore add-ons to the series... at least... not any time soon, so weep while you can.

The main characters all have their quirky traits and personalities, and I found each of them to be very lovable in their own ways. However, the one thing that makes the story of *Beyond Good and Evil* is that the designers created an entire world that consists of its own technologies, its own special events, currency, and society; it even has its own unique version of a black market. I have to give credit to the designers that they could make a world so interesting while being original in the process.

All in all, the story is still quite good, with twists and excellent development of the characters; all of the main ones are lovable in some fashion. Despite its shortness and a current lack of continuation, other designers might want to take an example from this game when creating a new world for a game.

Gameplay: A way of describing the game play of *Beyond Good and Evil* in a simple fashion is that it's pretty much a *Zelda* clone. That being said, that doesn't mean it's a bad game, far from it. What I mean by that is that they share many similarities, but it isn't a complete copy.

First is the combat; using a mix of a the right analog stick and the attack button, Jade can wield her staff like a pro, opening up cans of butt whooping on the many monsters you'll encounter and even the threat of the DomZ.

One of the major differences from *Zelda*, is that Jade is hardly ever on her own. Most of time,



Photo courtesy www.fourthman.com

A soldier, a pig, and a girl with green lipstick. We've got our heroes!

she's accompanied by her uncle Pey'j, or special soldier Double H. While these two act more as a distraction in regular combat, they do have some neat tricks that stun enemies and open up a sort of "slo-mo" precise hit to Jade, allowing her to deliver massive damage to her enemies. Melee combat feels and plays smoothly, but one major flaw in the combat comes to ranged attack.

Some way into the game, you gain a tool to launch discs at distanced enemies, but you do this through going into a stationary first-person view where you manually aim a cursor to the target and fire. It's not so much that the ranged system doesn't work; it just doesn't feel as epic or intuitive as the melee combat.

The adventuring part of the game consists of navigating through dungeons and caverns which are riddled with puzzles that aren't difficult to solve, but it's enough keep brain juices pumping with creativity. Like in combat, your allies provide assistance, but it's in this section where their abilities really shine. For example, Pey'j is an inventor and one of his more handy invention are his jump boots, which pretty much makes him jump up high and bring his fat piggy butt down on contraptions that can open gates, or catapult Jade to areas previously unreachable. Your partners each have tools that make them in-

valuable to navigating dungeons.

Meanwhile, Jade is very lithe and is able to get to many places that her friends aren't and you'll solve your share of puzzles on your own, but one of the more challenging factors as Jade is the stealth. Jade is a sneaky woman and there will be many instances where you'll have to avoid detection or face the might of enemies far too strong to fight in single combat. But the sneaking is fairly forgiving, especially since Jade isn't such an easy pushover and there are hiding spots to start over in the sneaking section.

Then, there is the hovercraft part of the game. I know! Combat, dungeon-crawling, stealth sections, AND you still get a hovercraft! This game has everything, but I digress. As your main method of transportation, the hovercraft is a useful vehicle... after it gets repaired, anyway. One of neat things about your hovercraft is that it'll be mandatory to acquire special add-ons to your hovercraft, such as a targeting cannon, a lift to help bypass borders, and so on. Not only are there some pretty fun fights against the DomZ creatures, but a lot of exciting chases and races as well. This part of the game only gets better as you buy more add-ons for the craft. This is probably one of my favorite parts of the game.

Finally, the game is cram packed with tons and tons of side quests, including infiltrating military headquarters to winning a plethora of mini-games to giving a photo collection of every single animal in the game. While all these side quests don't make the game much longer than it really is, they provide a fun distraction from the main story.

Graphics: The graphics are very good for their time and with cinematic effects like blurring, camera panning, and slow-motion, and the cut scenes are skillfully done. Not to mention the various settings of the game look creative, with beautiful landscapes to horrid sights of brutality and danger. The characters themselves are also beautiful with creative designs, excellent lip syncing, and good facial expressions that give players a good idea how the characters feel. The graphics are splendid.

Animations of the characters move with grace and this is most apparent when Jade is in one of the many chase sequences in the game. When played right, it's almost like the whole area was made for the chase to work out skillfully, as Jade will tumble over laser barriers as explosions erupt from all around her. It's hard not to admire the game for its graphic power.

Sound: I've noticed something in the games I've played. Usually, when a game has a memorable melody that serves as a basis for the most of the major music in the game, then that soundtrack is often quite good. Don't believe me? Take a listen to the music of *God of War* or *Shadow of the Colossus*. *Beyond Good and Evil* follows this same method and the melody they use changes the feeling of the scene depending on how it's played – from a peaceful tranquil music piece that emanates a sense of harmony to a noble sounding piece that makes the player feel sort of proud of their accomplishments.

This isn't the entire soundtrack, far from it. The rest of the soundtrack works out nicely, because they make the player feel alarmed when they're spotted by patrols or running from enemies in a chase sequence, or make them feel like this world of Hillis is a world worth fighting for because of the beauty that it emits (think Shire from *Lord of the Rings*).

The voice acting is good, though most of the soldiers in the Alpha Section are either all clones, close relatives, or just conveniently sound very much alike. Other than that small tidbit, the plot characters are voiced by good actors and hardly did I find a moment that the acting felt stale.

Overall: It's a good game that hardly received the credit that it deserved. Despite getting excellent reviews, people just didn't buy it for some reason. While back when it might've cost \$40, I would say rent it or wait till the price dropped (which was actually rather quick), but if you can find it today, it will probably be relatively cheap: \$20 maximum at most game stores. If you like adventure games, then there should be no reason not to give this lost relic a shot.



Photo courtesy www.gamespot.com

This giant worm is just one of many creative boss fights.

SGA election results

Jonathan Meek
Senior Staff Writer

Between April 9th and April 13th, SGA held its annual election for executive board members and council members.

For students to run for council members, they must meet the following requirements: they must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5, be in good standing with the University (i.e. no unpaid fines), and be able to serve for a full year term. As well, the executive board member (i.e. President, Vice President) must meet the same requirements as a council member except they must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

For this year, SGA saw one person run for President, two people run for Vice President and Secretary, and ten people run for council member. The results were as follows:

President
Kevin Moss

Vice President
Eddie Macham

Treasurer/Secretary
Anjli Patel

Council Members

Kevin Bolton
Luis Calvo
Andrew Hayes
Brooke Jackson
Yvette Lapura
Xueqiao Ma
Bakare Rafu Olayeni
Tom Samford
Lauren Shepard
Charlie Song

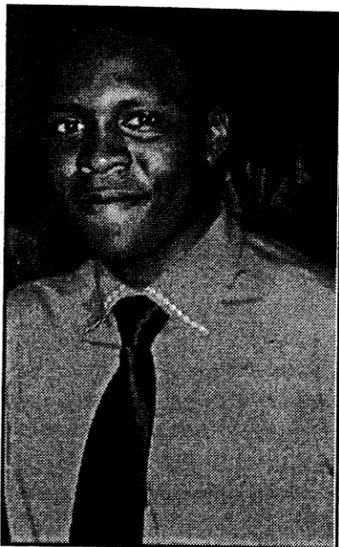


Photo courtesy facebook.com
New Vice President Eddie Macham



Photo courtesy facebook.com
New Treasurer/Secretary Anjli Patel

Tekes hold events on campus

David Anderson
TKE member

If you have not yet noticed, Tekes have been very busy this semester. We got the semester off right by initiating four new members: Matthew Simon, Kwame Nketiah, Chris Wheeler, and Wesley Jackson, III.

In addition, on February 24, 2007, we held a charity event - Run for Breath - which benefits cystic fibrosis for our late brother Tommy Crumley. Tommy Crumley, Xi-Chi 166, died in 1981 as an active brother at the age of 19. This event took place on campus by the architecture building and included

a 5k race throughout the campus. We raised over \$1,000.00 and we would like to thank Kasey Helton, Barry Berkhead, and Micheal Bonesteel, as well as our sponsors: MAC Tools, Southeast Scientific, KT Trophy designs, Allergy & Asthma Associates, LLC, and Network for Effective Wellness Services (NEWS) for your efforts in planning this event. We would also like to thank all of our participants as well as the rest of you that made it happen.

On another note, Tekes are holding their fifth annual car show April 21, 2007 on the campus parking lot for the benefit of the Ronald and Nancy Reagan Alzheimer's As-

sociation. This year expects to be a blow out since last year's car show was destroyed by a tornado. The car show has been successful in the past and has really come along this year with the help of Kevin Gautier and his team of Tekes. Car Registration is \$15.00 followed by trophies for many different classes (Trucks, Imports, Domestic, Bikes, Classic to name a few). The event is free to the public and t-shirts will be sold for \$10.00. All proceeds benefit the Alzheimer Association.

Most importantly, we would like to thank the school for its help and support in the car show, allowing it to take place. Thanks SPSU!



Photo of one HOT car from TKE's 2005 car show.

Photo courtesy Sting archives

Cheaper than Rent, Buy

Townhouse for sale. Close to SPSU. No association fee. Pool in the backyard. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, Finished basement with fireplace. Laundry room. Deck and storage area. Lots of room.

Call me, Ellie Tillman, if you would like to view this wonderful place that you can call home!

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(678) 631-1700

Cell #:
(770) 630-6577

E-mail: EllieTillman@mindspring.com



Changing of editors

Jonathan Meek
Senior Staff Writer

After this issue, our current editor, Karen Asay, will be stepping down from the Editor-in-Chief position because she will be graduating in the fall semester. She has been Editor-in-Chief over the past twelve issues and has been a part of The Sting since her freshman year.

However, when asked about if she will stay involved with The Sting, she said, "Yes, I plan on staying involved by helping with the advertisements in the paper, teaching layout to our staff, and, of course, writing." While Karen said she would miss being in charge, she is very confident in her replacement, Twila McConnell.

Twila McConnell, a sophomore English and Professional Communications major, has been working with The Sting since her

freshman year as well. She hopes to make some minor changes so the paper will run a little smoother. She said, "The Sting will be coming out on Mondays instead of Thursdays as well as better promotion of the paper when a new issue comes out."

She states that biggest challenge in being editor is maintaining a staff. She pointed out that, "There aren't many people interested in writing on this campus. When we do find members, it is very easy for someone to burn themselves out writing because we typically have so many articles that need to be written. Therefore it is in our best interest to have as many people on staff as possible to be able to cover all the articles while not burning out someone."

Twila's term as Editor-in-Chief starts with the summer issue of The Sting, which is slated to come out on June 25rd.



The T-shirt design for Twila's term as editor.

Stuart Michelson / The Sting



International Students Association presents:
CULTURE FEST '07

The 2007 ISA Culture Fest was held on Wednesday, April 11 in the Student Center Ballroom.

It is the goal of this even to expose the SPSU community to the diversity we have amongst our students through cultural food, fashion, music, and dance.

The event was a great success and if you missed out on all the yummy food and interesting traditions, here's some photos to give you a general idea of what took place.

Don't miss out next year!



Photos courtesy Etsehiwot Terefe, ISA, and Twila McConnel