

THE STING

December 6, 2010

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 63, Issue 10

ETC's New Occupants on the Move

SPSU Hornet's Nest

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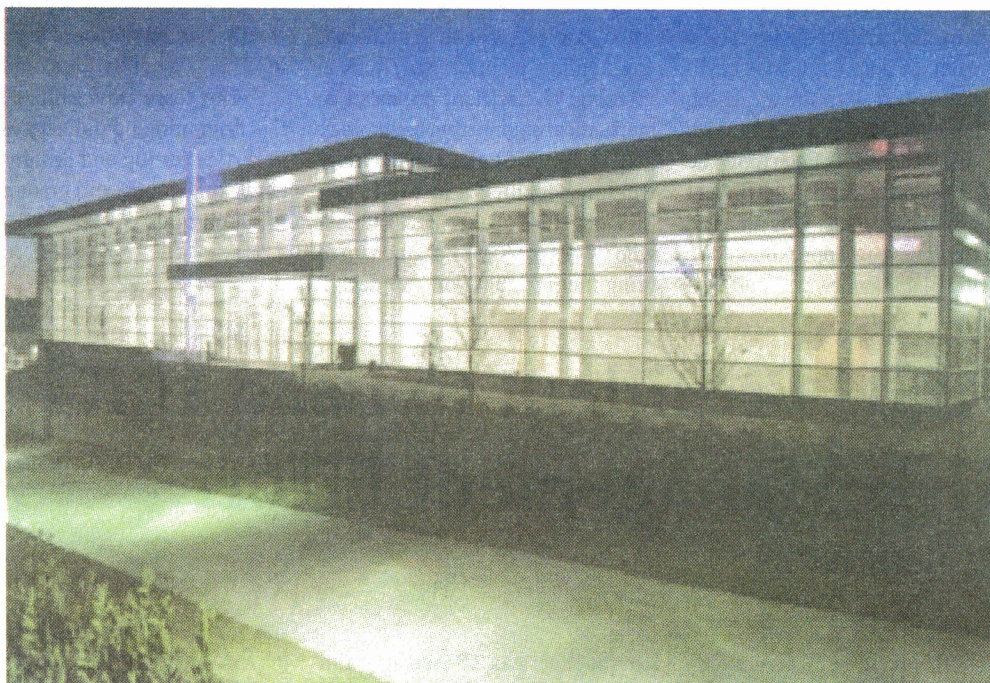
SPSU's new Engineering Technology Center, otherwise known as Building Q, is now open, and the administrators, faculty and staff who will occupy the newest addition to the campus are in various stages of moving into their offices.

Jeff Ray, dean of the School of Engineering Technology and Management, and his secretary, Ann Lay, have moved to the third floor of ETC (Rooms 328 and 327, respectively), while the Electrical and Computer Engineering Technology Department will be based on the second floor but also occupy a number of offices on the first floor. The Mechanical Engineering Technology Department will take up residence on the second floor. The third floor will be occupied by the Division of Engineering, with

Associate Dean Tom Currin and his secretary, Cinthia Barnett, in Rooms 322 and 321, respectively.

Furniture is currently being installed in the instructional and student spaces, and heavy equipment for the machine shop and various labs is being moved. Audio/visual equipment will be installed once the building has been completely signed off on. The ETC has approximately 2,000 hard-wired connections for Internet access.

Students will begin attending classes and labs in Building Q with the start of the spring semester in January. Dean Ray encourages faculty and staff to visit the ETC at their leisure this month, but to remain aware that it is still an active construction zone until the university receives a permanent Certificate of Occupancy.



SPSU Brings Home Two Awards at Regional Construction Competition

Trent Anderson

Student Ambassador

The SPSU Department of Construction Management took four teams to compete in the 2010 Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Region II Competition in Birmingham, Alabama from October 20th-22nd. SPSU competed against the likes of schools such as Clemson, Auburn, University of Florida, Georgia Tech, Virginia Tech, Mississippi State, and Western Carolina. The event was hosted by the Alabama Branch of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) and was kicked off with a Career Fair at the AGC-Alabama Branch Headquarters. The next day followed with ravenous preparation of the required Request for Proposal submittals, followed by team presentations on the following day.

The Commercial Competition was sponsored by Birmingham-based, BL Harbert International. Caddell Construction Company

hosted the Design-Build Competition with Kiewit sponsoring the Heavy/Civil Competition. The newest addition to the ASC Competition, the LEED Competition, was hosted by Brasfield & Gorrie. All of the sponsors prepared extremely challenging projects for the teams to review, bid, and present. Three awards were given out in each category (Commercial, Design-Build, Heavy/Civil, and LEED): First Place, Second Place, and Best Presentation.

SPSU took home the Best Presentation awards in the Commercial Competition and Heavy/Civil Competition. Pictured below are the members of both of the winning teams.

Overall, SPSU scored fourth in awards received, beating out the likes of Georgia Tech and Virginia Tech, who did not place in any of the four events. Congratulations to

the SPSU CM Department and all those students who participated!

Many thanks go out to Professor Maureen Weidner for her tireless efforts in preparing the teams for success throughout the semester. Also, thanks to Professor Pavan Meadati for his work as an advisor to the teams, as well. Special thanks to the SPSU Alumni Association for their generous support of this year's teams.



The Heavy Civil Team (from left to right): (Kiewit Personnel), Josh Tredway, Clive Thompson, Darren Higginbotham, Phillip Young, Ken Ellison, (Kiewit Personnel)



The Commercial Team (from left to right): Trent Anderson (President, SPSU Constructor's Guild), Jordan McKinney, Brad Daniel, Jamie Bishop, Daniel Barnett, James Walker

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Faculty/Student Team Tests New Oil Cap Design

SPSU Hornet's Nest

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A team of SPSU students, faculty and staff have successfully tested an oil cap mechanism that they believe has the potential to prevent future oil spills of the magnitude reached this past summer in the Gulf of Mexico.

Assisted by members of the Marietta Fire Department, the team on Nov. 23 used a crane to repeatedly lower a small-scale prototype of the device onto a fire hose gushing water 50 ft. into the air, using hydraulics and pneumatics to latch onto the hose nozzle. Each time, the cap successfully stopped the flow of water within seconds. This scenario was calculated to approximate the capping of an underwater leak by a

full-size device.

The SPSU oil cap was the brainchild of 49-year-old civil engineering technology student Jim Baltimore, who has worked in construction and on an offshore oil rig. In June, Baltimore sought the help of SPSU in bringing his idea to fruition. Russ Hunt, dean of SPSU's Extended University who has a background in industrial engineering technology, Dr. Ken Fleming, an assistant professor in mechanical engineering technology (MET), Kevin Starks, a machining/welding technician in MET, and Melanie Burwell, an MET student who works for Starks, teamed up to bring the intriguing oil cap design

to life on a volunteer basis over a period of four and a half months.

The team designed a 3-D model of the full-size oil cap in a modeling program that allowed them to calculate the stresses and required capacity of the cap, based on data released by the government and BP regarding the Gulf spill. At the same time, they built the small-scale version used in the tests in SPSU's machine shop and labs.

The team now enters Phase II – drumming up industry interest in further testing and design of the new cap. Oh yes, and grant money to support this work!

SPSU President to Lead USG Risk Management Effort

SPSU Hornet's Nest

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SPSU President Lisa A. Rossbacher will be leading a new University System of Georgia (USG) program designed to establish a risk management policy for USG institutions.

Her goal is "to help USG employees with ongoing efforts to identify areas of potential risk in various operations and to develop means of reducing or managing these risks so that they do not develop into problems or issues," according to System officials. Dr.

Rossbacher was chosen to head up the effort based on her ability to bring extensive and thoughtful involvement and leadership to the roles she takes on.

The effort began with the launch of pilot programs at three USG institutions. These pilots were used to develop a risk management policy that was adopted in August 2010 by the USG Board of Regents. Dr. Rossbacher will be leading the development of procedures and guidance in the implementation of

the risk management policy in USG institutions.

USG Chancellor Erroll B. Davis said the goal of the program is to "foster a culture of developing and following excellent enterprise risk management practices throughout the University System."

Upcoming Events and Important Dates

December 9
SPSU AIAS Open Mic Night 7-8 PM

Winter Wonder Land Party 9-10 PM

December 10
Journey Orientation 10 AM- 3PM
Chill n Grill with Housing 6PM-9PM

December 11
Ice Skating with Housing 6 PM

December 12
RHA Sunday Social 9 PM
Late Night Breakfast 10:30 PM

January 4
Ski Trip
Women's Basketball Game
Men's Basketball Game

January 6
Journey, Orientation

January 10
First Day of Spring 2011 Semester

January 12
Ice Skating @ SPSU

January 15
Gainsville Speech Tournament
Women's Basketball Game

International Film Series

Title: Rabbit-Proof Fence

Description: "In 1931, three aboriginal girls escape after being plucked from their homes to be trained as domestic staff and set off on a trek across the Outback." (from www.imdb.com)

Released: 2002

Genre: Adventure/Drama/History

Language: English

Country: Australia

Starring: Kenneth Branagh (aka Professor Gilderoy Lockhart from Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets)

Running Time: 94 Minutes

Presented by: Zvi Szafran, VPAA

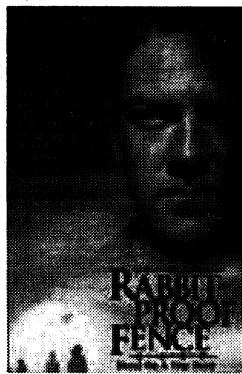
Location: Student Center

Date: Thursday, January 25, 2011

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Admission: Free

Awards: People's Choice Award, plus 20 other Awards and 24 Nominations



THE STING STAFF

Melanie Allen, Editor-In-Chief
Judy Garrard, Assistant Editor - Layout
Lea Newlin, Assistant Editor - Copy
Jeff Greene, Faculty Advisor

Writers

Victoria Allen
Trent Anderson, Ambassador
Zachary Baab, Senior Writer
Nicole Banks
Kyle Carney, Sports
Ronald Ellerbee

Christen Ferguson, Entertainment
Carter Maddux
Jay Mehdee, Entertainment
Origen Monsanto, Music
Antonio Sample, Organizations
James Smith, Cartoons (Crispies)

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

ORGANIZATIONS

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

JOINING *The Sting*

Any student paying Activity Fees is eligible to join *The Sting*, though final decision is made by the Editor-in-Chief. We prefer creative students who have passed English 1101. Come to our meetings Friday at 12:30 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 **Monday, January 17, 2011**. Articles submitted after this time will not be printed in the next issue of *The Sting*, except through special permission.

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

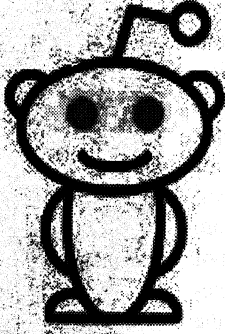
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Reddit Stands Up for Kid's in Crisis

Melanie Allen
Editor-in-Chief

Reddit is a popular link sharing site on the net and a landmark of Internet culture. "Redditors" share and vote on links through subreddits, which are subdivisions of Reddit restricted to a specific interest or topic. Some subreddits come default when a user signs up, most are user created and moderated. To subscribe to a subreddit is called to "frontpage" it. If a link is submitted to one of the default or popular subreddits it is considered "frontpaged" by the community.



On November 27th, a post titled "Reddit, this guy is trying so hard to spread the message about an organization that tortured him and countless other teenagers for years and still does so legally in Maine. He's even been trying to figure out 4chan when Redditors suggested that Anon might be of help. Please help this man." made the front page of the subreddit bestof, a popular subreddit designed to locate the most useful comments on Reddit.

A vibrant conversation began about the Elan School between those on the board who claimed to be or know ex-students and those who wanted to know more about it. Many students began speaking out against the torture they were enduring or had endured, and when asked to elaborate told us the stories of their friends who were unable to speak out because they killed

themselves being no longer able stand the degradation. There were posts from people who testified to enduring cruelty while attending as early as the 1980s. Yes, this far back

the abuse is documented (I will provide the citation). They referenced the Elanschool.org site where there was a collection of stories listed like the following: (warning: graphic language and scenes of violence follows)

"As the residents surged over the scuffed linoleum of the dining room, knocking over metal chairs, Kim curled into a ball. 'You fucking bitch, fucking whore, fucking fuck-up!' Kim was enduring a 'learning experience' É

"[We] were whipped into a mob," says Arnold É "It was brain-washing. People like Kim were gonna be junkies or hookers if we didn't make hem get their shit together." Arnold soon added her voice to the eardrum-breaking sound of 100 young adults caught up in the adrenaline rush of anger. To an outsider, it must have looked like madness, a Lord of the Flies outpost with castaways who were regularly dressed in tinfoil, diapers, and 'hooker' skirts. Some had signs around their necks that read: I'M AN EMOTIONAL VAMPIRE or ASK ME WHY I'M A BABY or CONFRONT ME AS TO WHY

I'M A WHORE. All were red with rage. 'Kim,' Arnold recalls, 'was semi-catatonic.'"

From Details Magazine, November 2001. "

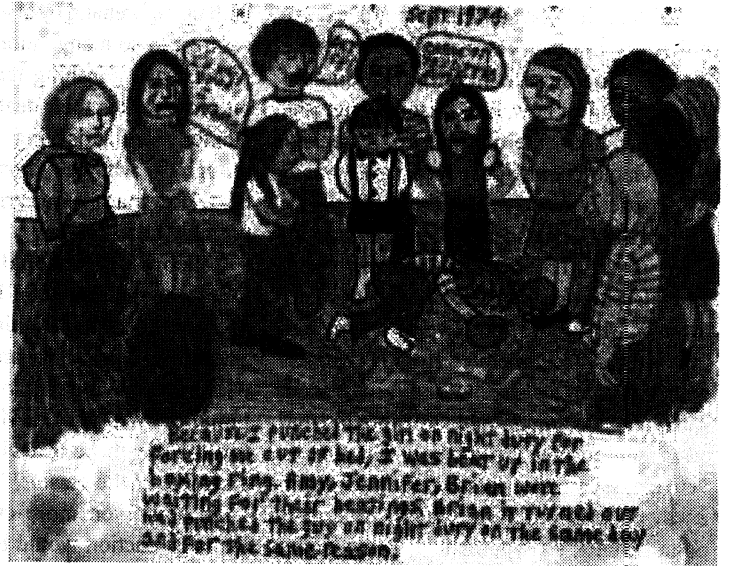
"We were taken on our tour by a resident, 'Chad', who was 17 and had been in 'school' for two years. He introduced us to 'Karen' who had cheeks smeared with rouge, heavy eye makeup and a billboard sign across her back that said: 'I am a whore. I whore around for attention. I do this because I hate myself. I hate myself because I am a whore.'"

I do not recall the precise explanation for this or how the 'treatment' was supposed to help Karen. I suspect my horror outranks my memory É but she was the first of many as we watched the student drill sergeants up close and personal in the faces of other misbehaving 'students' shrieking at the tops of their lungs: 'YOU are filth. You are nothing but filth. You are slime. You keep behaving this way and you will DIE!!!'"

Testimony in An American Gulag: Secret P.O.W. Camps for Teens (2000) from "Arleen Lewis," the 20-year manager of a juvenile justice agency. She called Elan a "national disgrace."

My search spiraled through a complex and disturbing history of previous attempts of young adults trying to raise awareness of abuse in schools run by the WWASP (World Wide Association of Specialty Programs and Schools). This organization claims that it helps

Mary O'Brien shared this image with fellow Elan alumni.



reform troubled teenagers, but students allege that it is a corrupted organization exploiting the fact that young people and disabled people lack certain rights in our society to engage in a reign of terror over young, curious minds. More will be discussed about these allegations and the organizations on both sides of the issue in other articles.

Redditors are attempting to spread this information is over the most popular section (/b/) on the image sharing board called 4chan and on other popular link sharing sites like Digg. They hope it will catch on like the anti-scientology protests (an eerily similar situation if you haven't looked into it yet), but the hive mind declaration still stands "we are not your personal army", so only time will tell whether individuals will get on

board. For those who are not an active member of the board, you will need to be aware that there is extremely graphic material on the site, that you will not want to reveal any personal information on the board, and that despite attempts to curb sharing of illegal images they are often posted quicker than they can be removed.

This seems to be an example of young people on the Internet getting involved with helping other young people. It is a heartening story. For more information about the allegations against the Elan school, WWASP, and other organizations, look for my articles "WWASP Alleged Teen Abuse Industry" and "Georgia Shuts Down WWASP Schools for Abuse" in the next issue.

Underclassmen: Our Next Leaders

Melanie Allen
Editor-in-Chief

The organizations that my fellow third and fourth year students founded are suffering from a crisis in leadership. Despite an increase in enrollment, graduating leaders are struggling to find willing underclassmen to fill their positions and keep their organizations going. Thirty percent of students transfer out of SPSU before they graduate, creating an ebb and flow of student leadership that resembles in many ways the supply and demand of economics. This semester, many clubs faced a depression, reluctantly becoming inactive despite having many members.

Many underclassmen think that they should wait to become leaders of organizations until their junior or senior years. While not pursuing leadership during the first semester is a good idea, waiting longer than that can mean losing a valuable chance to gain leadership experience early and to help an organization stay active and healthy. Running an organization is challenging but rewarding, and plays the foundational role in creating the active student body that will improve the quality of everyone's college experience.

I was intimidated to begin leading the Sting newspaper. It was floundering, with less than five active members and had a horrible reputation. I thought no one would ever be willing to help and that I was not qualified to lead because I had only recently joined the paper. Yet, with just a bit of research and a little sweat, I found myself working with an active and enthusiastic staff. I would never have guessed how quickly The Sting would flourish.

Do not let the idea that you are too inexperienced keep you from leading an organization that needs you. This is the opposite mentality you should have, because an opportunity to grab an open leadership position in an organization is the best way to get the experience that will impress future employers- who are much less likely to have trouble finding people to work and will be wanting the hire the most prepared to work well with others.

Vaccinations Are Holding Me Up

Judy Garrard
Assistant Editor

It was only a few days before my registration time ticket, and I discovered a vaccination hold on my account. The shocking part of this for me was that I have been a student here for almost two years. Why did the school wait until now to place this hold? My first thought about the process was that if it was so imperative that I have this particular shot - I assume so that did not become a risk to others - then what about these past two years? Later I found out that a lot of people have also recently received this hold on their accounts, and they also have been here for more than one semester.

Some required vaccinations have changed through the years; and this one is now called MMR, which stands for measles, mumps, and rubella. I had an individual shot of each of these as a child, but at some point in time it was changed so that you are supposed to have two doses, and I could not prove, from my old vaccination records, that I received the second

dose. Because I feel strongly about not having anything extra that is not needed, it was suggested that I would probably prefer to have a blood test done to determine my immunity.

As a solution, I went to the Georgia Health Department in Cobb County and had the test done - cost me \$25, and ironically, I could have had the MMR shot for free. ACDC pamphlet that they gave breaks down the possible problems of this shot by mild, moderate, or severe (very rare). The moderate problems included seizures for one in 3,000 people. The severe problems are for one in a million, but it was scary to think about deafness, seizures,

coma, or brain damage, so I got the test. After all, since I am one in a million, it sounded very probable. But seriously, a decision to have a vaccine, particularly if not needed, is not something that should be taken lightly. It took less than two weeks to get the results, and I was so happy to find out that I am immune to MMR. Some immunity may have come from having the shot(s) originally, but some of it, I am told, comes with age - sometimes there are advantages to being a little older. I am so glad I made this decision and did not have to gamble with those possible side effects (problems).

But I ask again, why did it take two years for the hold to pop up? And what about the students that are not immune to whatever it is that their vaccination hold is for? And what about what I have just learned: that faculty and staff are not required to provide vaccination records. If it truly is so important, then should we be worried?

Dexter Season 5, Episode 8: "Take It!"

Warning: Full spoilers ahead!

Jay Mehdee

Writer

When she first stumbled upon Dexter's kill room Lumen was a meek and fragile wreck, flinching at the slightest sign of movement. But now, five episodes later, she stands as a capable disciple of Dexter, far more viable than Miguel Prado ever was. I was particularly driven by the scene where Lumen and Dexter share a heart-to-heart moment in the kill room shortly after disposing of Cole Harmon. Her expression of sheer awe (or what looks like awe) is a sure sign that she has been liberated from her vulnerable psychological state of the early season. Lumen is becoming more and more like her new mentor. Her unflinching devotion to vengeance complements Dexter's desires in a way far removed from Rita or Lila. At this point, Lumen's (hypothetical) death might actually hurt more than Rita's.

Intricately intertwined with Lumen's need for revenge is Dexter's hunt for her rapists. Making a ring of these villains the main antagonist of the season was an astute decision because it guarantees that almost every one of Dexter's kills this season will be

built up beforehand by at least one episode, in contrast to so many "monster-of-the-week" throwaways. Fleshing them out just a tiny bit more makes their deaths at the hands of Dexter more satisfying. My one concern, though, is who the show will antagonize next. How many super-criminals could there possibly be in Miami?

Debra's emotional resemblance to Dexter on the subject of killing was quite a shocker as well as a highlight of the episode. She always seemed like an upstanding officer of the law, the type Harry would have been proud of. Will her new-found nonchalance towards death be a deciding factor in the endgame of the season? Whatever the case, I am now even more curious as to what Debra's reaction would be if she found out about Dexter's darkness.

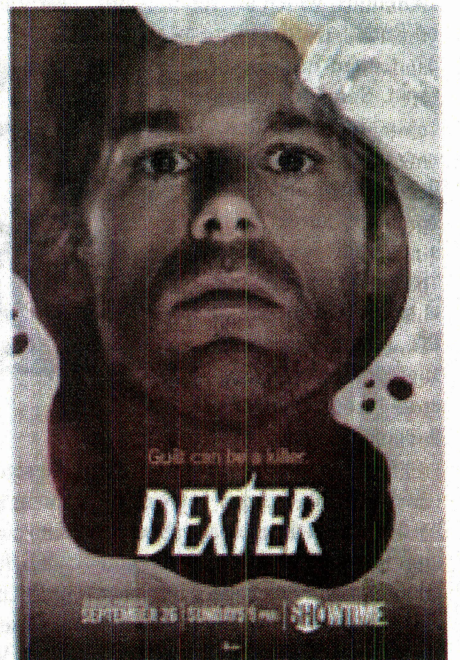
And to cap it all off, the capture of Cole Harmon was done with masterful elegance. The suspense that was building when Dexter was snagged on stage by Jordan Chase, while Lumen was being pursued, was palpable. I knew Dexter had to get to the kill room in

time to knock out Harmon and save Lumen but the thought nagged me anyway: What if he is too late and Harmon defeats Lumen? It was made all the worse by forcing Dexter to look back on his old wound (though this time from a more distanced perspective.) The delicate balance of emotional revelation and fever-pitch pacing was a gut-wrenching combination, to say the least.

There were a few flaws with the episode — mostly they concern the politics of the police department, which at this point are ridiculous beyond words. In this season, I've noticed that the least interesting part of the show is Dexter's day job. None of the elements that make the season (and arguably the show) sizzle are allowed to react violently in the station without throwing the entire show out of his workspace back in season two), so the scenes at the station have generally been petty disputes and boring Maria-Batista scenes.

My overall view of the episode is quite positive. The ending twist was perfectly

placed to make the audience anxious for more. I give the episode eight out of ten severed heads.



This Big Kid Gives Toy Story 3 Both Thumbs Up

Judy Garrard

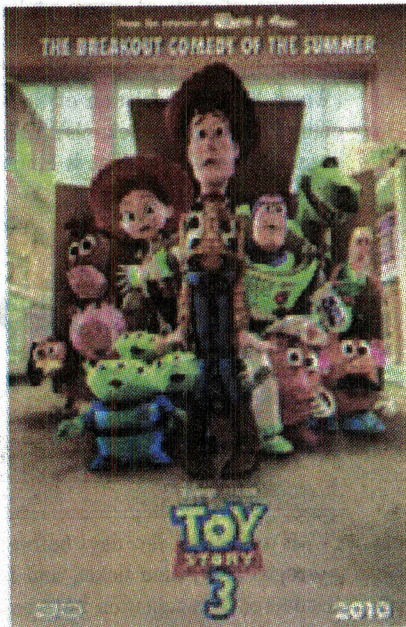
Assistant Editor

I refuse to grow up — I thoroughly enjoy kid's movies! Toy Story and Toy Story 2 are a couple of my all-time favorites. I was a little worried about how Andy going off to college would be handled, but it is very well done. And I bet a lot of you can relate to Andy's dilemma. Andy's mom forces him to make decisions about all of his stuff — pack it to take to college, donate it, throw it away, or put it in a box for the attic. What will happen to Woody, Buzz Lightyear, Hamm, and Mrs. Potato Head (just to name a few of Andy's toys)? I will not give away the ending, but because I am a girl, it made me tear up a bit. But do not worry, the ending is very happy.

I also enjoy trying to pick out

the voices of the new characters, but some of these had me stumped — Ned Beatty (Lotso), Michael Keaton (Ken), and Timothy Dalton (Mr. Pricklepants). And, since Jim Varney's passing, Blake Clark is doing a really good job of the voice of Slinky Dog. He was so convincing that I second guessed that it was not Jim.

The next installment in a series can be a little worrisome. Will it be better than the last or at least not be a disappointment? Although I would not say it is my favorite of the three, this was definitely not a disappointment, and I would not change a thing. If you enjoyed Toy Story and Toy Story 2, I believe you will also enjoy Toy Story 3.



The Magical Tale, Harry Potter

Nicole Banks

Staff Writer

The new installment in the Harry Potter series has been the best yet. The story is more epic and the tension is starting to feel more real. It's dark, thrilling and quite cute at parts. It's visually stunning with the special effects and touches all emotions making it satisfying. You were afraid and fearful when you learn that the minister of magic is dead at Bill's wedding, laughing and smiling as Harry dances around with Hermione in the tent, and almost to tears when Dobby dies. We get to see Harry, Hermione and Ron grow up and become more mature.

They leave Hogwarts and their friends behind for a treacherous and dangerous journey. If you've been a long time Harry Potter fan as I have been then you will truly enjoy this film. It's one huge setup for the last and final film and it's a cliffhanger that makes you want more. This film will have you at the edge of your seat and counting down the months until the next film is released. I recommend going to see this movie immediately if you've at all followed the Harry Potter phenomenon.



The Glitz, The Glam, Burlesque

Nicole Banks

Staff Writer

All though critics' reviews of Burlesque put it at less than mediocre, the audience seems to like it. The movie showcased Christina Aguilera's amazing vocals and the showgirl routines were energetic and entertaining. Burlesque seems to dazzle its audiences with its glitter, colorful outfits and just the right amount of skin. It's fun and playful and has a storyline that people can relate to on some level. It's a refreshing throwback to movie musicals, fast-paced, and has the soulful voice of Cher. All in all I recommend seeing this movie if you're looking for something simple and light-hearted. It's super fun that tells you a pretty good story with a little bit of sexy. The music is great performances are superb, and a movie that you might even want to see again.



Paint Palette

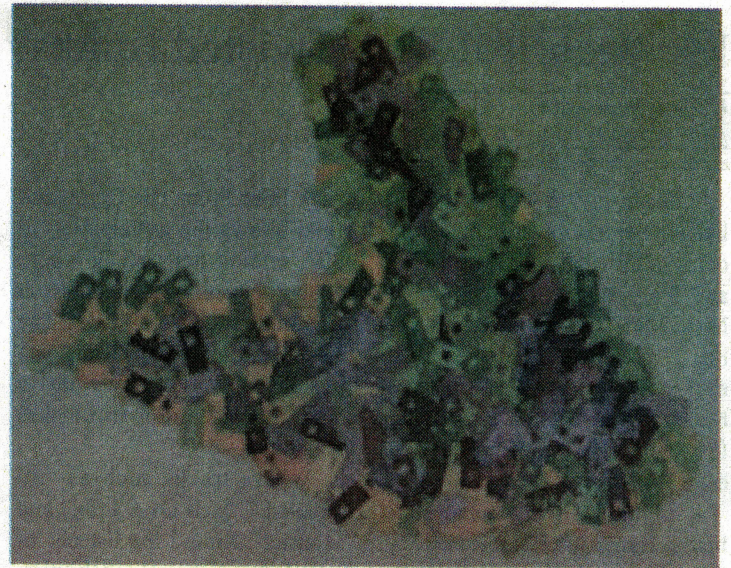
Judy Garrard
Assistant Editor

If you've noticed this art piece in the lobby of the Atrium (J) Building, it was created by Dr. Max North, Professor of Management Information Systems of Business Administration. Dr. North is also the Director of our Visualization and Simulation Research Center. He has been interested in art since childhood and creates in several mediums, such as watercolor, oil, and acrylic. For this piece, he used paint chips from Lowe's Home Improvement store to create a paint palette. This is my interpretation of his piece as it is actually untitled. Dr. North said, "[This] was just an experiment[al] work that I wanted to do with already existing pieces of materials around us." I can relate to how Dr. North sums this up: "It is a part of me to CREATE." You can also find other pieces on the third floor of the J Building that Dr. North has created. We certainly have some very versatile and talented professors at SPSU.

*Dr. Max North --
"It is a part of me to
CREATE."*



Photos by Judy Garrard



"Architecture Invasion"

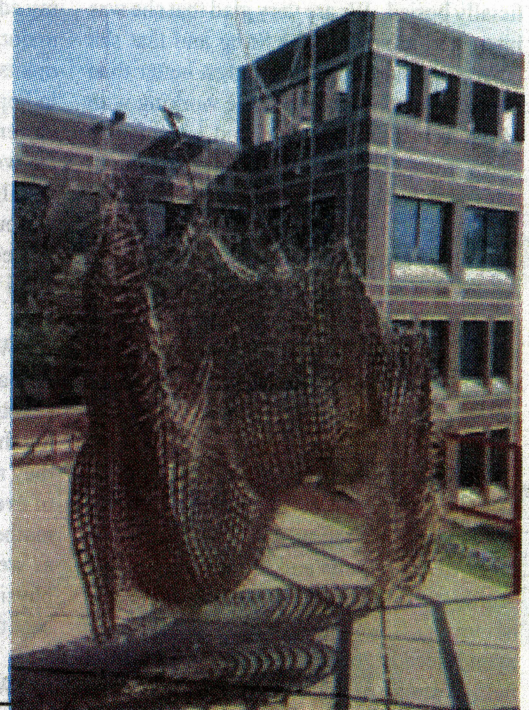
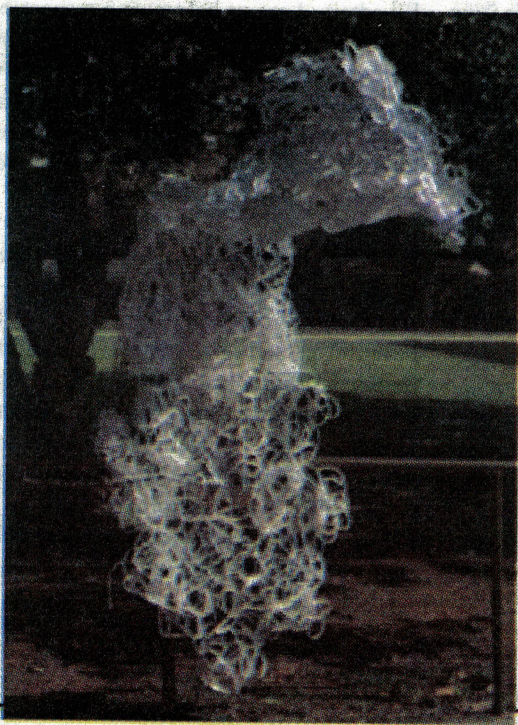
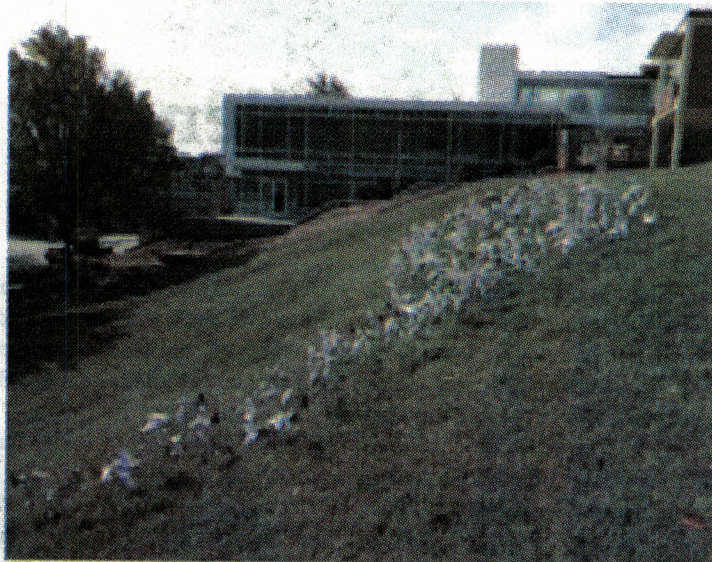
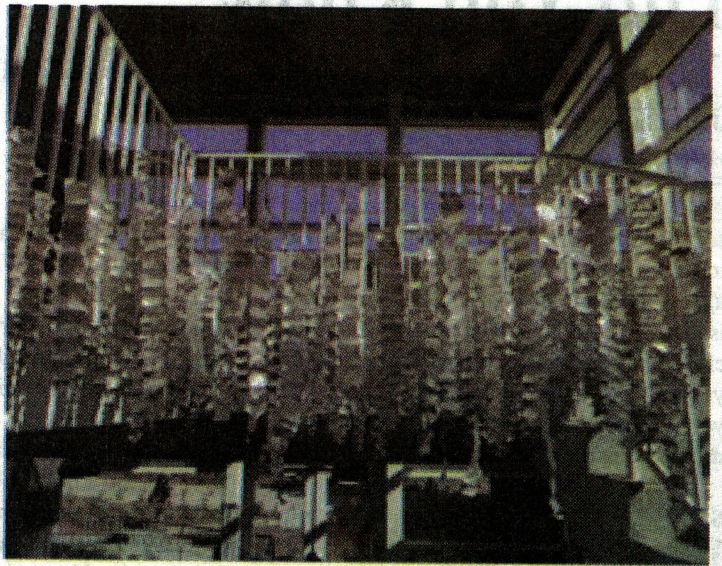
Judy Garrard
Assistant Editor

One morning, a couple of weeks ago, I noticed things hanging from the trees and structures as I walked towards the Atrium Building. I was not sure what these were – they looked a bit like art projects to me. I finally found out that these are projects that the first-year Architecture students were required to do as part of their Design Foundation class. I spoke with one of the professors, Eduard Navarro, and he explained that it is called "material calisthenics." He said this "has to do with finding out the properties of materials – what their maximum capabilities are – whether that is flexibility, compression, or whatever else." He further explained that it also "has to do with the tolerances the material might have ... to pressure or to elements."

Part of the goal with the construction is to take something like a stick, which will break at a certain point, and by attaching one to another, see how much larger they can construct it without it breaking. The requirement for material type varied by professor, and examples of the different materials are foam, metal, cardboard, sticks, and acetate. On the day that these projects were graded, the student had to present their project, not only to their professor, but to their fellow classmates, and in some cases there was an outside critic – which may have been other professors from

SPSU or other schools or practicing architects.

I now have a different type of appreciation for these projects knowing that they are not just enjoyable to look at, but also are to assist these architecture students in learning. So next year when you see, as Mr. Navarro put it, the "architecture invasion of campus" you will know what it is all about



*Photographs
taken by
Judy Garrard*

A Minute in Music

My Beautiful Pink Twisted Fantasy

Origen Monsanto
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving week has been like an Olympic event in the world of music. Veteran artist Kanye West and the young, explosive talent, Nicki Minaj, have chosen November 22nd to give their beautiful music to the world. Let's discuss both aforementioned artists, but first let's delve into Kanye's newest album.

Ending his two year musical hiatus, Kanye has just released My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy. The title may be a tongue twister, but it really describes the composition of music on this album. The first track is "Dark Fantasy," where Nicki Minaj plays a sort of a narrator to the musical story, providing setting and mood to the album, the way only she knows how. It's an odd mash-up of semi-Dr. Seuss

meets Tales From The Crypt, and Minaj allows the anticipation to build, ending her speech where the song began. Other tracks on the album such as "All Of The Lights" and my personal favorite "Lost In The World" show Kanye's ability to create music that makes the body move.

Where tracks such as "So Appalled," "Hell Of A Life," and "Monster" remind the listener of Kanye's ample lyrical capabilities. West definitely added an element of emotion to the album with the track "Blame Game"—which is rumored to be directed towards his ex-girlfriend, Amber Rose. The album is fluid and each track provides an insight into the next song, making it a tapestry of audio art ending with a deep poem entitled

"Who Will Survive In America," which is an absolute must listen. All in all I give the album a solid 4 out of 5.

The publicly acclaimed "Queen Of Hip-Hop," Nicki Minaj, also released her highly anticipated debut album, Pink Friday, this week. The album is believed to be titled after the well known "Black Friday" holiday, in hopes that it will promote a camp out/stampede-like phenomenon amongst music fans. The album was well overdue, after being pushed back a number of times, but it was truly worth the wait. The album delivers in an incredible way, creating a new genre of Hip-Hop—almost a subgenre of "Poppy" Hip-Hop with spots of Hardcore Rap and a sprinkle of R&B. Pink Friday opens with "I'm

The Best," which is a cramp session for new listeners who haven't listened to Minaj's mixtapes or payed attention to her "come up." The track is actually one of my favorites, where she sticks it to her "haters" with her outstanding lyrical talent.

The album is a bit diverse being that some songs are suited toward her die-hard mix-tape fans such as "Did It On'em." Whereas songs such as "Check It Out," and "Right Thru Me" deliver a pop feeling to the album. I am not happy with the direction of this album, though, since the majority of it is filled with R&B/Pop driven songs such as "Your Love," and "Dear Old Nicki," where Minaj delivers her lyrics in a melodic tone leaving the listeners singing rap;

however, The track "Roman's Revenge" wetted my appetite for real rap on this album. Minaj and the very talented Eminem "go in" on that song. Also the tracks "Moment 4 Life," featuring Drake and the song "Last Chance," with the added chorus courtesy of Natasha Bedingfield, present the lyrical creativity of Minaj. Despite its failings, I believe that Nicki did a fantastic job on the album. The truth is there is no way that this album could have met the astronomical expectations and hype, but I do credit to Ms. Minaj on her work, especially dropping the single "Massive Attack" from this album. I give this album a 3 ¼ out of 5.

Did You Know ... You Can Forward Your School Email

Judy Garrard
Assistant Editor

You can forward your email to your personal email account so that you never have to worry about missing anything important again. The only downside that I have seen is that you have more than one email box to clean out. In particular, you will have to keep your SPSU email account in good order or you will stop receiving email, and that will defeat the purpose all together.

SPSU (Zimbra)

1. Sign into your account.
2. Click on the Preferences tab.

3. Click on the Mail tab.
4. In the Receiving Messages section, you will see options for "When a Message Arrives."
5. Check the box for "Forward a copy to," and fill out the email address where you would like to start receiving your messages.
6. There is an option to check the box "Don't Keep a Local Copy of Messages." I suggest waiting until you feel comfortable that messages are forwarding properly. I have also found that I

prefer to have the copy so that I can officially reply back from my SPSU account; and there are some messages I want to save and prefer to save here versus in my personal account, but it is completely your choice.

7. After you have finished making changes, click on the Save button.

Georgia View Vista

1. Sign into your account.
2. Click on the My Settings tab.
3. Click on the My Tool Options tab.

4. In the Mail section, you will see an option for "Mail Forwarding."
5. Check the box for "Forward all mail messages to the e-mail address in my profile."
6. Click on the My Profile tab.
7. Click the Edit Profile button.
8. Where it is labeled "E-mail," type the email address where you would like to start receiving your messages.
9. Click the Save button.

Meet Our Editor - Melanie Allen

Judy Garrard
Assistant Editor

As you may or may not know, the prior editor of The Sting, Sean Fine, graduated and the paper almost died. Melanie Allen did not want to see this happen and stepped up to bring the paper back before it was officially buried. We are very glad that she was interested in saving The Sting and that she is working hard to make it even better than before. I am very happy to be working with Melanie in this endeavor, and I wanted to know more about her – I thought you might like to, as well.

Q: Where are you from?

A: I was born 22 years ago nearby in Georgia, I have lived in the metro Atlanta area my whole life, though most of it in Conyers. I graduated the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology in 2007.

Q: When did you begin your journey at SPSU?

A: I began my journey at SPSU at the request of my parents and my mentor Dr. Wit Smith. It was an affordable university and not too far from home. Notice that I did not attend because of an interest in a particular field of study, or that I was concerned about

getting a good education. It would take a bit of time and encouragement by the faculty and students here before I would care about those sort of things and learn that SPSU has a lot to offer on those points. As I developed through my education here, I switched from major to major, which amuses the heads of the departments I communicated with, but they seem to hope well for me as I now embark on my current major and extracurricular activities. I have been encouraged by the professors who have believed in me, regardless of how various difficulties obscured my academic success. They are probably reading this now, and I want to say thanks.

Q: What are you majoring in?

A: I am majoring in Physics. Like many scientists before me, I am interested in researching the symmetry of physical laws and what they might indicate about a universal theory of everything. I will try to snatch a minor in mathematics and technical communication as well, because I think it is important for a physicist to master both these languages as best they can.

Q: What do you plan to do as a career?

A: I want to become a professor at a university and research wherever my study of physics takes me, and wherever my community will support my intellectual travels.

Q: When did you start working for *The Sting* and in what capacity?

A: I started working for *The Sting* a little over the summer, but I was officially Editor-in-Chief at the beginning of the semester. There was a lot to do – an office to clean up, a membership to contact, a student body to arouse to participation, advertisers to make deals with, advisors to meet and acquire, and new skills to learn and teach – there is still a lot to do.

Q: Why did you want to be editor?

A: Honestly, I first became editor only because I didn't like the idea of our paper dying. I didn't think I was capable of doing well, I didn't think anyone would want to participate in making it better, I was cynical and wanted to leave the minute I could put the responsibility on the paper on someone else's shoulders, but I thought I was better than no one. Yet, as I became acclimated to the role of editor, I have begun to find it an

extremely rewarding position towards the pursuit of my personal goals.

Q: What is your vision for *The Sting*?

A: My vision for *The Sting* is pretty grand, I'll admit. I see us becoming a respectable source for news impacting the lives of our college students and the community we live in. I see us continuing to improve in quality until the brightest in our campus work together to share our ideas and create a better future.

Q: What other hobbies and interests do you have?

A: I enjoy bouldering, especially at the beautiful natural environments secured by the Southeastern Climbing Coalition, but also indoors at the new Stone Summit Climbing Gym in Atlanta. Bouldering is a sport where you attempt to master the technique of using features in rock to make progress upward to the top. I also love dance, especially belly dance, which I learned online and through the belly dancing class taught by Tabitha in the Recreation Center. You can check the time for her belly dance class on the Fitness Schedule.

Southern Poly Soccer

A New Face in the Crowd

Kyle Carney
Staff Writer

The SPSU Men's Soccer Team may only be in its fourth year, but it has already managed to make quite a bit of noise. In the past four seasons, the team has accrued a total record of 45-18-2. They have made headlines with record win streaks—20 in a row -- and rankings; being ranked as high as #4 in the country. They have also seen players move on to the professional level, including Mamadou Danso who is currently playing with the Portland Timbers. It is no surprise that the team continues to push forward and succeed.

This year has seen the SPSU Hornets start ranked #9 in the country and as the favorites to win the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC). They did not disappoint. In stellar fashion, the Hornets repeated with another Regular Season Conference Championship

as well as a birth to the National Tournament. That makes two years in a row. To do this, the team went 2-1 in the Conference Tournament, beating Spring Hill College and Belhaven University. In the Conference Final, however, the Hornets suffered their worst loss of the season. A 2-0 loss to Mobile will keep the team from winning the Conference Tournament.

No big deal though; the team won in the first round of the National Tournament in top flight. They defeated the defending champion Lindsey Wilson College in Kentucky and will now move on to play in the Round of 16 for a second straight year. The second round begins on November 29 and will conclude December 4 in Mobile, AL.

However it works out, it will be considered a successful season.

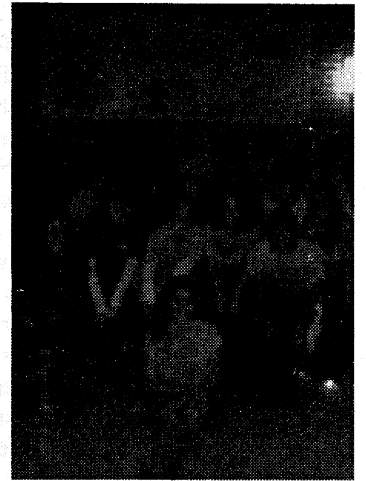
In a time when soccer is on the rise in the United States, there could not be a better opportunity for the team. Throughout the year, the team has seen a lot of support. It is good to see that, especially since this year will see the first graduating class of Southern Poly soccer players. Five players have been a part of every season so far: Eric Ati, Stephen Herget, Ryan Black, Daniel Oyugah and Rani Alkoptan. All except for Alkoptan will be finished playing this season. They have provided Southern Poly with a great start to a program that is continuing to get better.

The season is almost over, but the program is just beginning. Southern Poly soccer is now seen as a force to be reckoned with. Win, tie or draw in the Round of 16, the team can finish the season with their heads held high.

Pancakes for Dinner

Lea Newlin
Assistant Editor

Do you like pancakes? Well Alpha Xi Delta held their second annual Pancake Dinner on November 3rd, with two seatings—one at 6:00 PM and one at 8:30 PM. Tickets were five dollars, and attendees were given their choice of bacon or sausage, along with three pancakes. The members of AΞΔ cooked the food themselves, using generously donated IHOP batter. Proceeds of the Pancake Dinner went to benefit Autism Speaks. This year, Alpha Xi Delta raised a total of \$449. If this sounds like something you'd like to participate in, keep a lookout next Fall for the 3rd Pancake Dinner.



Christmas Time, Time to Give

Brian Ellison, President of IFC
Guest Contributor

The Third Annual IFC Christmas Party was held on Thursday, December 2nd at the University Columns Activity Center. There was food and drinks, and each person brought a toy to donate to Toys for Tots. All in all, we collected over 200 toys to donate this semester, the largest quantity of any year's party.

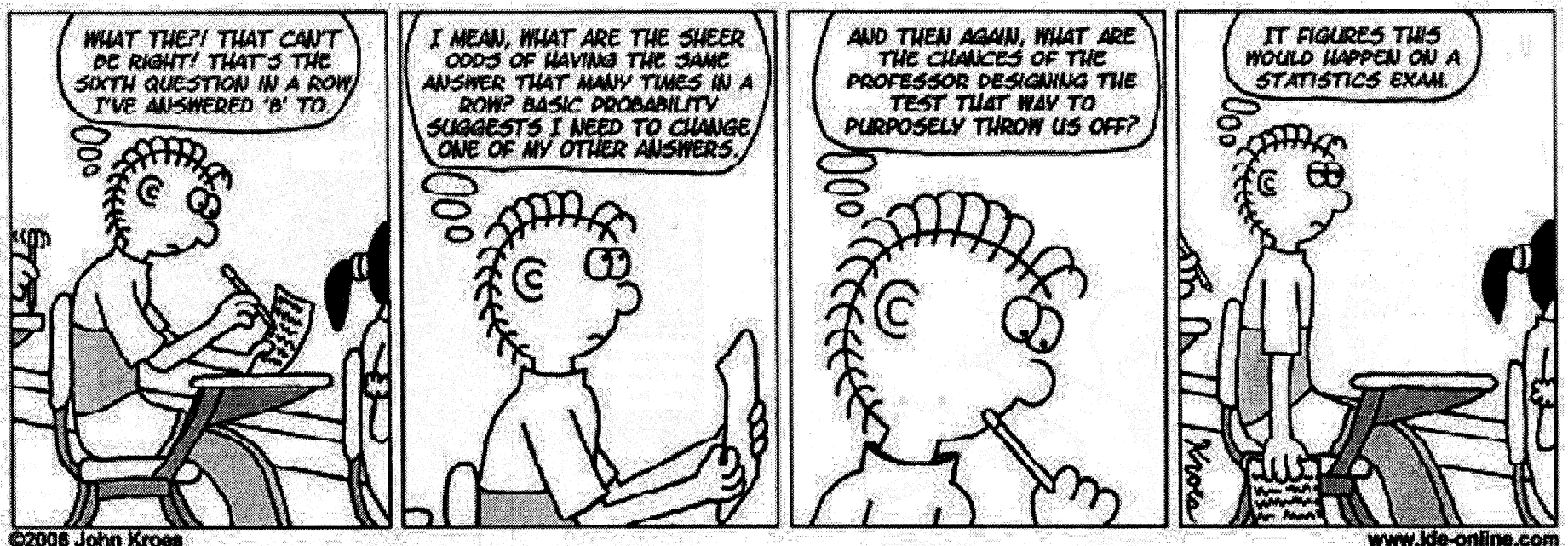
In attendance were all six fraternities, as well as Ron Lunk and LaQuala Coleman. The event was a success, and we look forward to having it in the years to come!

Want to include information about your organization?
Let us know.

YOUR AD
HERE

Call x4222 for details.

ENJOY THE FUN
TUESDAY'S AND THURSDAY'S
4:00 PM TO 5:30 PM



Lion's Ball, ΣAE Formal

Nicole Banks
Staff Writer

The weekend of Nov. 19th, 2010 Sigma Alpha Epsilon, ΣAE for short, held their formal. They're one of the six fraternities on campus. Formal for fraternities is where the guys get a date, dresses up, and has a good weekend with the date of their choice and their brothers. This year ΣAE went to New Orleans where they got to roam the city, try the local cuisine and have fun. The girls love going to these events because it's like prom all over again. They have the chance to go and get beautiful gowns, do their hair and makeup, and enjoy a weekend with their date. I actually had a chance to talk to one of the brothers, Brian Ellison, and his date, Stephanie Florez. Brian said that his favorite part of formal is the sightseeing and Stephanie agreed. They loved getting to know the beautiful city, the history and of course Bourbon Street. For ΣAE they have a social chairman that picks two or three cities and presents them to the brothers and then they vote on where to go. "We've gone to Memphis, TN; Hilton Head Island, SC; and New Orleans, LA," says Brian Ellison. This year they go to go on a haunted ghost tour in the downtown French Quarter of New Orleans. A big difference between ΣAE's formal and the formal of other fraternities is that they always hold formal out-of-

state or along the coast. They also invite alumni to formal so it's a great way to catch up and have a good time together. One of the biggest differences is that each pair of dates receives a memorandum. "This year the gift bag included two t-shirts, two 12 oz. glasses, four koozies, two pair of croakies, and a hand-written invitation to attend ΣAE's formal," said Brian Ellison. This sounds like a pretty good bonus if you ask me. As we can tell a lot of work goes into ΣAE's formal and it all seems to pay off in the-end. Everyone has a good time getting to know one another, learning the city and just having a great weekend away.



Photo by Judy Garrard



Photo by Melanie Allen

HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

Alternative Power Vehicle Club

Jay Mehdee
Writer

Do you like tinkering with machines? Can you turn a wrench? If so, then the Alternative Power Vehicle Club is for you.

If you have the skills or a desire to learn about alternative energy, automobiles, and engineering, you can make an important contribution. No prior experience is necessary, and students of all majors are welcome to join and

contribute. Artists are welcome: the vehicle isn't going to paint itself!

The Club's current projects include constructing an electric bathtub racer and building a full-sized electric drift car. For the drift car they are looking at converting a Mazda Miata and racing it at a contest event. They also have a Chevy S-10 pickup truck that they want to convert to run electrically

and with a bio-diesel generator attached to a rear trailer.

If you have ideas for other projects or would like to contribute your efforts to the club, you are more than welcome to visit the Alternate Power Vehicle Club Org-Sync page. Visit OrgSync to learn the schedule of bi-weekly meetings.



Photo by Judy Garrard/Special Effects by Melanie Allen

