



Register to



Deadline  
October 9th!

see page 3

Greek - page 4 & 5

Spring Art review Page 8 & 9

Sports - page 14 & 15



Free T-shirt: September 18

All SPSU students are invited to participate- so spread the word! The SPSU Advancement Office is coordinating the first ever student hexagon photo Tuesday, September 18 at 12:00 Noon on the turf field adjacent to the main basketball gym (across from the main architecture building.) Students will have to be available for one hour from 12-1pm for the photo shoot. Students will receive a T-shirt to wear in the photo and keep it when it's all over! The photo will be featured in the SPSU magazine and on the website. Additional information or questions should be directed to scarson2@spsu.edu. See you there!

\*Rain location will be inside the gym, on the basketball court.



Safely perched above the student center parking lot, the resident wildlife settles in to their new landscape.

**THE BATH TUB RACE Exposition**  
Save the date - October 13th

## SPSU kicks off the Fall!



No. 8-ranked Hornets kickoff the season strong with a 3-1 record. A team comprised of more than 70 percent freshman and sophomores won't stop Coach Momeni from another record-breaking season!

photo by Amanda Blanton

## 6,210

### SPSU has record enrollment

If you are still circling the lot looking for a parking place, you won't be surprised to learn the Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta, Georgia celebrated a record enrollment of 6,210 students for the Fall 2012 semester.



SPSU remembers 9-11

photo by Joseph Pitts

### SPSU hosts dance demonstration



As a part of an ongoing efforts to introduce international and cross-cultural fine and performing arts programs to students, the campus community and area citizens, the Office of Academic Affairs and International Programs at

SPSU will host an "Illustrated Indian Classical Dance/Demonstration Program (including display of costumes and jewelry)" by Ms. Sasikala Penumarthi of the Kuchipudi Dance Academy, Duluth, Georgia, in the Student Center Theater/Auditorium from 6:00 - 7:15 p. m., on Wednesday, September 26, 2012. Students, faculty and staff members are encouraged to make a reservation to ensure that adequate seating is available. RSVP: rsashti@spsu.edu

This program is sponsored by the Office of Academic Affairs, International Programs and the Departments of Social and International Studies and ETCMA

### Students to benefit from relationship with Kia-Georgia

by Vicki Nix

Engineering technology and engineering students will benefit from a new relationship with Kia-Georgia. Pledging to supply SPSU with cars every 12-24 months, Kia Motors Manufacturing Facility in West Point, Georgia has donated two cars for hands-on research involving the university's electrical, civil, mechanical, systems and mechatronics engineering, and computer engineering technology program. Dr. Okhio, the faculty advisor for the campus chapter of the International Society of Automation (ISA) and the SPSU Undergraduate Research Club (URC) turned a field trip into a remarkable opportunity for SPSU students. The five initial focus areas that will benefit from this program will be vehicle thermal-cooling management research; vehicle dynamics and performance (vibration and noise); hybrid architecture, design and energy management optimization; hybrid and alternative fuel technologies; and vehicle computer-integrated manufacturing, protocol, architecture and logistics.

### What you should know about "Going Greek"

by Christopher Harris

Every Greek organization is different. They hold different ideals, and have different ways of embodying them. But one common theme among every Greek organization is improvement—improvement of yourself and society. If you decide to go Greek, it is important that you know what you're doing, so I'm going to provide a brief "How-to" for you.

The first thing to do if you are interested in going Greek is to get Rush schedules. "Rush" is the term for the week when each organization looks for potential members by setting up events and "meet-and-greets". Every organization has their own schedule, so it is important to get all of the schedules so you can organize and prioritize (also skills helpful throughout your college career). After getting the schedules, the next most important thing to do is to actually go to the events. One thing Greek organizations look for is initiative, so sitting in your room or not going to events will not get you a bid (an invitation to begin your journey into the organization.)

Continued on page 4

## Meet John “Mighty” McKnight, Drummer/Singer/Guitarist/Songwriter

By Kathy Remenyik

Life as a musician can be erratic and rough-and-tumble—financially, personally, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually (did I leave anything out?).

During those dark moments, especially if your life is medically on the line and in the hands of surgeons and God—if you survive, then you might decide to ask yourself some tough questions that result in even tougher answers. That is, after you’ve wrestled with despair and decided maybe life is (or could be) better. Slowly, the dramas of your life begin to fade away. The “bad” relationship ends

and you realize more relief than grief. As the valve of honesty begins to open holistically into your being, more clarity follows. Light follows. People you’ve known for years begin telling you “You look great!, “I haven’t seen you in ten years, and you look ten years younger than you did ten years ago.”

Life as a musician can become a more even-keeled and peaceful experience after you begin making the choices to eradicate the drama (the things and the people) from your life. A single good decision leads to another and before you know it, all kinds of great things are happening in your life that you never would have previously expected or imagined. I can attest that this happens to average folks like me too. And you have probably experienced this in your own life as well. Now you are radiating a positive energy that is brilliantly noticeable—and that is John McKnight. Life is good!

Yes, it is. John is a generous, kind, big-hearted man with a passion for music that runs soul-deep. He is a top-caliber drummer residing in the Atlanta area. In addition, he has a rich voice, plays guitar, and writes songs. Recently John shared some of his stories with me. He was quick to acknowledge things in his life that matter:

- To get out there and perform/play music
- A relationship based on mutual respect, truth, honor, love, and adoration
- Quiet (surprisingly enjoyable) How much simpler, less complicated, and honest life can be
- The rumble of his motorcycle, B.B (blues bike)...riding is therapeutic, just make sure you wear all of the appropriate protective gear, take a safety riding course, and have adequate insurance
- Health insurance
- Treat music as a business
- A dog can be a great part of your family
- Live within your means (always done that—just doing it much better these days!)
- The idea that success ends up measured in how many people care enough about you to show up at your funeral.
- Money, fame, etc. is no measure of success—nor do such things equate to success. Just enough to live comfortably, that is enough.

As a very young boy in Altoona, PA, John showed an early interest in drums. “Very young”—he sat on his father’s lap to hit the pieces of the drum set that he could reach before eventually growing tall enough to reach the foot pedals while seated on the stool. By age seven, John’s parents agreed to drum lessons: he’s serious and he’s grown enough to reach from the stool. John grew up during an era when “stern parents” assigned chores, expected decent grades in school, respect of elders, etc. Throughout John’s youth, his parents encouraged his involvement in music, as long as he kept up with academics, chores, etc. By age eleven, John was sitting in on gigs with his father. The school district had a strong music program, in which John also participated. Not only was the music program strong—but also highly impressive covering orchestra, marching band, choral—and award winning. These programs were influential and important to John. We lamented over how in recent years many of the arts programs have been curtailed—or worse, completely cut in many schools—and how many children miss out on valuable experiences that the arts bring to life.

By age fifteen, John’s father encouraged him to take a job at the gas station to pay for insurance and gas for the van (a necessity for hauling his drums around in) and to have another fallback plan (in case the music thing didn’t work out). Sensible, logical advice: instill responsibility and self-reliance to a son who would be an adult in a few short years. Cabinet-making through vocational-technical school became the backup plan. At age sixteen, John sang in a vocal group, Vicksburg County Quartet, six nights a week that opened for Merle Haggard and others. John had been playing in clubs, under the legal age limit of eighteen, and had to “lay low” for a short time. Of course, he was back playing in the clubs before he officially reached the legal age.

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## Love - technically speaking

by Sharon Roberts

There is no denying that we are living in an era of technological advancement. We have yet to enjoy flying cars but I am sure someone is out there waiting for the patent to clear for its introduction. We have our cellphones and our microwave mentalities that technology brings forth convenience, and who can argue let’s admit it has. Here at SPSU we embrace technology.

After all we are an institution dedicated to the advancement of technological endeavors and encourage the birth of inventions that will take us to infinity and beyond, right? When is enough - enough? Agree with me or not but our society has become void of any human contact, our personal connections are sometimes disconnected and our minds and our bodies have become lazy and overweight.

Are we creating a way for the generations that come after to distance themselves from human contact? Growing up in a neighborhood bustling with kids playing in the streets, I think we called it playtime, it was exercise and we didn’t know it called “Go outside and don’t come in until the street lights come on.” Now the kids are sitting in front of the 150 plus electronic receivers that pump messages and occupy ample amounts of that playtime. The weight gain and the pill that is popped is just an effortless way to shed the pounds that we have gained only in the convenience of not being active. It is ridiculous!

Let me slow down a bit and pay homage to the scientists and engineers and curators of technology who have made my life easier by providing me with the ability to soar above the clouds and pop my popcorn in a matter of minutes. These genius minds have allowed me to reach out and touch someone while I sit helpless in traffic. I will scream it from the mountain tops “I AM GRATEFUL FOR TECHNOLOGY! Really I am. But here is my question. When is technology too much? Have we lost our humanism with the advent of more technology?

So I was dating this wonderful guy, I mean, every girls dream guy. The fact that he and I were on the opposite ends of the earth was no challenge. Technology enabled us to communicate sweet nothings in each other’s ears. You know, texting love messages and all those things newly involved couples like to do.

Hey I could have seen his face if I knew how to Skype and vice versa - limitless possibilities. Gone are the days when I had to write down my thoughts, wait on the snail mail to drop my love letter in his mail box and then wait for him to receive it, read, and respond. I could get instant gratification with a ;) and then again... I had to learn how to be creative with the emoticons...too many smiley faces can become a bit stale after a while.

This lasted about 30 days. Slowly the morning texts were turning into an every other day event. The phone calls died down and text messages replaced the sound of his soothing voice and I became conditioned to receiving his morning greeting. If it were a minute too late, I would get heart palpitations and fear that something was wrong.

Hearing his voice was now non-existent and we instant messaged on Facebook only if his light was on. I’m timing it to see how long it takes him to respond. ME, the chick who was content with snail mail, who loves to talk till the wee hours of the morning, had been rationed to a text message with or without a smiley face.

What happened to the personal aspect of relationships, that personal touch? Technology and the convenience to be bothered or not, relationships are zeroed down to emotions governed by EMOTICANS.

So what do you do when a few weeks go by, no text messages? Do you panic? Do you expect the worse? Why are we not picking up the phone and talking to one another?

Facebook inbox and instant messages, all of those things that the modern man deems necessary to communicate have taken the humanism out of being human. We have taken non-verbal communication to the limit. I miss the phone ringing and hearing the voice on the other end. People are losing their social skills and the “!!!!” and the ALL CAPS are more readily accepted.

I need not raise my voice, just put on my ALL CAPS and your receiver is signaled that I may be excited or upset. How do you know which one it is? LOL... Oh that means laughing out loud, but I’m really not laughing out loud I just want you to know that I am being sarcastic or light on the subject.

I think I need to get a book on how to decipher non-verbal communicators all in the eve of the creation of some new technological invention which will make me less likely to receive human contact.

I finally called him. It was awkward to say the least. I think the text messages were so much a part of our relationship that we lost the ability to talk. It was torture getting him to express himself.

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## Aerospace DOCUMENTARIES

Thursday Documentary Series  
Free for everyone Noon - 1:00 p.m.

Q-202 Auditorium – Engineering Technology Center

Date	Theme	Documentary title
Sept 13	Fixed wing	Spies that fly - War planes
Sept 20	Space	Black sky: Winning the X-prize - Essential space collection
Oct 4	Space	3 worlds and counting - Essential space collection
Oct 11	Fixed wing	B-29 Frozen in time - War Planes
Oct 18	Space	Starship Orion - Essential space collection
Nov 1	Fixed wing	Quest for vertical flight
Nov 8	Space	Space stat live - Essential space collection
Nov 15	Fixed wing	Fighter pilot - Operation Red Flag

Calling all Students' Organizations!



email press releases and  
calendar events to  
sting@spsu.edu

## Editorial

by Vicki Nix

*The Sting's* semester is off to a fantastic start. We have expanded our active writing staff by more than 100%. The additional staff has given us the opportunity to evaluate the workflow process and expand the areas of responsibility to a creative pool of participants.

As this semester moves along, I have the advantage of taking a business communication and a small group communication class. Both classes are providing great resources for building the infrastructure to meet *The Sting's* goals of an efficient team. I look forward to introducing you to the staff and their talents. This will let you get a glimpse of what I see.

The talent on our campus amazes me – everyday. I'm proud to work with this group of dedicated and talented writers and artists. I appreciate the opportunity to learn from them.

## The Sting editorial staff September 14, 2012



**Editor in Chief:** Vicki Nix

Randy Brown, Jr. - Managing Editor

### Assistant Editors:

Robert Barnard - Sports Editor

Amanda Blanton - Assistant Sports Editor

Zachary Duncan - Assistant Sports Editor

Vanessa Borrás-Patino - Assistant Layout Editor

Jimmy Korzun - Webmaster

**Faculty Adviser:** Jeff Greene

**Administrative Adviser:** Barry Birckhead

Letters to the editor may be hand delivered to the Student Life office in the student center, emailed to [sting@spsu.edu](mailto:sting@spsu.edu), or mailed to: Editor, The Sting Southern Polytechnic State University 1100 South Marietta Parkway, Marietta, GA 30060 Letter must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editor.

Contact 678-915-7310 or [sting@spsu.edu](mailto:sting@spsu.edu)

More information can be found at [www.spsu.edu/thesting](http://www.spsu.edu/thesting)

## Turmoil in Syria:

How ethnic hatred plays a pivotal role

By: Kevin Van Der Horn

It is almost hard to believe that so much of the chaos taking place in Syria is due in large part to ethnic prejudices. Women and children are dying everyday based on the fact that people claim others in their own nation are so different from them. Two similar occurrences have taken place in history.

One instance was concerning the regions where Yugoslavia once resided. A brutal war was the result of the disintegration of Yugoslavia. A death toll of around 200,000 was the aftermath of ethnic hatred. Ethnic groups such as the Bosniaks, Croats, and Serbs claimed that they were all so very different from each other. They hated other ethnic groups so much that it led to an eventual devastating genocide.

A similar instance also took place in Rwanda that involved two ethnic groups: the Tutsis and the Hutus. There had been longstanding disagreements and tensions between the two ethnic groups that also led to genocide. The Hutus set out to murder and extinguish the Tutsi race completely. Around 800,000 Tutsis were murdered.

Today, a lot of the chaos in Syria is because two ethnic groups are at war with each other. The Alawites and the Sunnis. The Alawites were outcasts for a long period of time in the deep history of the region. But, after some time, the Alawite people did in fact come to power in Syria in 1963. Syria's current president Bashar Assad has insinuated a full out hate war against the Sunnis. He has excited and invoked fear in the Alawites, stating that if they do not kill the Sunnis, the Sunnis will eventually massacre them all. The Alawites have gone on a killing rampage. There have been casualties on both sides though.

As of date, the current death toll in Syria is 21,000 individuals. Many Alawites have begun to break away from the rest of their people. They disagree with Assad's views and believe he has escalated the situation way too far. There have been some Alawite military officials break away from Assad and have even spoken out against him, calling him a "butcher."

Leading Alawite poet Rasha Omran has voiced her disdain for what is taking place in her country. She brings up a point that one of the factors that makes Syria so wonderful is that it is a 'mosaic' of many different ethnicities and that Assad is going to completely destroy that diversity which makes Syria beautiful with all the ethnic hatred and discourse that he has stirred up in the people.

## New Political Feature Section

By Christopher Harris

The Sting is growing - We are excited to announce the addition of a new feature section of The Sting dedicated to politics. While the section is brand new, we looking forward to it growing, and we need your help. SPSU students want to know what's happening in politics - from our local politics all the way up to the top of the federal level, We need you to write! Help inform your fellow students about political news. We're always looking for writers and new stories.

If you're interested and want more information, feel free to contact Chris Harris at [charris@spsu.edu](mailto:charris@spsu.edu)



## Exercise your right to vote

by Zachary Duncan

Our country has been built on the foundation of freedom. Freedom that has been maintained by our military and our democratic-republic form of government. Since our beginning, our country has allowed the citizens to elect representatives for our government, which allows our country to have a balance of power, keep the right people in office, and ultimately be a free nation. This year we have both local and national elections, and as citizens we have the right and responsibility to vote for those who we feel will better our country. To help I am going to give a brief overview of how to vote in our state.

### Registering to vote:

Before you can vote, you must be registered to vote. To register in Georgia you must be a citizen of the United States, and you must be a legal resident of the county that you live in. You need to be at least 17½ years old to register, and 18 years old to vote. You cannot be serving a sentence for conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude, and you must not be found mentally incompetent by a judge. You can fill out a registration application online, or have a mail in application printed out at <http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/vrinfo.htm>.

### Important dates:

November 6, 2012 -- General Election

Last day to register: October 9, 2012

Poll Hours : 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

### What to know on election day:

When you arrive at the voting location you will provide your name and residence address, and the poll officials will verify that you are registered before you are allowed to vote. You must bring a proper form of identification. A Georgia's driver license is accepted and is probably easiest for most voters. However, there are other identification options. Polls are open from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM, but if you are in line at 7:00 PM you will be allowed to voter after hours. It is recorded that most voters vote from 7:00 AM to 9:30 AM, 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM, and during the lunch hour, so if you can avoid those times you will be in and out quicker. When I voted for the primary I got there around 2:00 PM and was in and out without even having to wait in line.

How to vote by mail:

In order to vote by mail, you must request an absentee ballot. You can send in this request up to 180 days before voting day. This can be request in person

or by mail. If you request it by mail you do not have to have a reason for why you are voting absentee. You are allowed to absentee vote in person if: You will be absent from your precinct from your voting precinct from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM on election day. You are 75 years or older. You have a physical disability which prevents you from voting in person. You are an election official. You are observing a religious holiday which prevents you from voting in person. You are required to remain on duty in your precinct for the protection of life, health, or safety of the public. You cast an absentee ballot at the registrar's office from Monday through Friday of the week preceding the election.

Visit [http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/elections/voter\\_information/absentee.htm](http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/absentee.htm) to download an absentee voting application. You must fill it out and fax, or mail it to the registrar's office in order to vote.

Cobb county registrar's office information:

Cobb County Chief Registrar  
736 Whitlock Avenue, Suite 400  
Post Office Box 649  
Marietta, GA 30061-0649  
Telephone: (770) 528-2581  
Fax: (770) 528-2519

For information on other counties visit the above site.

### Where to vote:

Each voter is assigned a place to vote based on the precinct in which they live. This location can be found on your precinct card. If you cannot find your precinct card use this site: <http://mvp.sos.state.ga.us/>

### Additional Facts:

Employers are required to give employees up to two hours to vote. This does not include shifts that start two hours after voting begins, or ends two hours before voting ends, so don't let your job keep you from voting.

No campaigning is allowed within 150 feet of the voting location. This includes t-shirts, pins, stickers, signs, etc.

Always remember that using your right to vote is very important to the future of our country. Sometimes it can seem like a hassle, but it, along with our military, is what has kept our country free, and has made it the great nation that it is today. So when election-day comes, get out and vote!

[http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/voting\\_information.htm](http://sos.georgia.gov/elections/voting_information.htm)

<http://elections.cobbcountyga.gov/Default.php>



## Alpha Xi Delta

by Kailei Craft

What is Alpha Xi Delta? Alpha Xi Delta is a women's fraternity that embodies friendship, sisterhood, secrets, philanthropy, love and laughter. Alpha Xi Delta is a lifelong bond filled with tradition and steadfast ideals.

Since our founding at Lombard College in 1893, Alpha Xi Delta continues to enrich the lives of women throughout the world by emphasizing the ideals our founders instilled in our fraternity: sisterhood, leadership, knowledge, and service to our communities. Alpha Xi Delta is one of the oldest women's fraternities in the United States. Alpha Xi Delta's first National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) chairman wrote the Panhellenic Creed, which all members of NPC still recite on college campuses today.

Our vision is to "inspire women to realize their potential." We strive to achieve this vision in everything we do. From our pristine academic standing, to our nationally recognized participation in Autism Speaks, we strive for excellence in all we do.

On Jan. 15, 2004, 11 women were welcomed as new members of the Southern Polytechnic State University Colony of Alpha Xi Delta. On April 3, 2004, the installation of the Iota Theta chapter of Alpha Xi Delta was held at the Holiday Inn in Marietta, GA. In just eight short years, the Iota Theta chapter has achieved many goals and has made a name for ourselves on the campus of Southern Poly.

In Feb. 2012, Alpha Xi Delta held a campus-wide program for Autism Speaks in which speakers from the Autism Speaks Atlanta office provided information to our guests about the Autism Spectrum and how they could get involved. Every year, the Iota Theta chapter participates in Autism Speaks' "Walk Now for Autism" and help to "Light It Up Blue" across the campus. In 2012, Alpha Xi Delta raised \$2300 for the Autism Walk.

The Iota Theta chapter currently has sisters involved in the Order of Omega Greek honor society, Orientation Leader program, student government association, and are active fraternity sweethearts. Our sisters enjoy being active members of their campus, their fraternity, and their community.

On behalf of our 150,000 sisters worldwide, we invite you to meet our sisters and consider being a part of such an influential organization.



## Gamma Phi Beta

GAMMA PHI BETA by Monserratt Vasquez

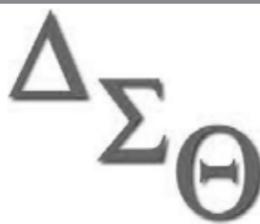
Gamma Phi Beta was founded in Syracuse, NY on Nov. 11, 1874, making it the very first women's organization that coined the word "sorority." Its history at Southern Polytechnic State University starts on Jan. 26, 1980. Since then, the women that have initiated have been the crème of the crop academically, socially, and philanthropically.

Our chapter, Delta Omicron, has made a name for itself here at SPSU by being involved in many different aspects of the campus life. Academically, our sisters have maintained not only the highest Greek Women's GPA but also overall amongst all the Greek organizations. This past year, one of our sisters was the very first woman to graduate from the Civil Engineering program making headlines in the newspaper.

Socially, Gamma Phi Beta has participated in many on campus events. We have sisters working in many of the departments on school from Auxiliary Services, to Resident Assistants, to Orientation Leaders, to student assistants in offices throughout campus such as President Rossbacher's office. In the past we have held positions in SGA as president and currently have many delegates in the various committees. In addition, we can proudly say that we have been nominated and chosen to receive the Greek Women of the Year Award for the past 6 years in a row. Lastly, our badge was designed by Tiffany and Co. and has changed very little since it was originally designed in 1874, but since then it was named the "Prettiest Badge."

Our sisters take our philanthropy of "Building Resiliency Among Women" very seriously. Gamma Phi Beta is in partnership with Camp Fire USA who provides summer camps to underprivileged boys and girls and helps them build confidence and self-esteem. This year it also partnered with Girls on the Run who provide transitional learning programs to girls from the ages of 8-13.

Overall, Gamma Phi Beta has made its mark on SPSU and will continue to do so for years to come. From winning Goat Night, to having fun during the week, to cheering for SPSU sports team, to winning homecoming court, we are here stay and be the best that we can be. Gamma Phi Beta encourages all of SPSU's students to Go Greek because you never know what you will get out of it. It is definitely a great way to network, meet new friends, and build confidence in a once shy high-schooler.



## Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

by Kenshayla Jackson

The Pi Nu Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was chartered on the campus of Southern College of Technology, now known as Southern Polytechnic State University, on May 29, 1987. Seven forward thinking ladies, along with their advisor Soror Mary Ellen McGee, went on a journey to introduce Black Greek Life to the campus. Over the years, the chapter has introduced and hosted several traditional chapter events under the Sorority's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust to the students of Southern Poly. Some of these programs are as follows: Chapter drives (voter registration, can food, and clothing), Delta Week and forums (Financial Freedom and Sexual Education).

Currently, the "Prestigious" Pi Nu chapter has ten members on its roster who attend Southern Polytechnic State University and the chapter as a whole is actively involved with many campus activities and organizations.

## "Going Greek"

Continued from front page

When you're actually at the events, make sure to talk to the members of the organization. "Brothers" are the members of fraternities, and "sisters" are the members of sororities, for reasons I'll get to in a bit. When you are talking to the members, make sure you can get to know them, as well as letting them get to know you. If you decide you want to join a Greek organization, you are making a life-long commitment, so you want to be with people who you get along with.

After you get to know the members of a few of the different organizations, it's important that you find one you like the most as soon as possible. The reason for this is that you want to spend as much time with that organization as you can. This way, you get to know the members better and they get to know you better. It's important to build this relationship. The sooner you find a group you like, the sooner you can become friends with them. Here's where the process becomes a bit out of your control. It is now up to that organization to decide whether they want you to join their brother- or sister-hood. This is not an easy decision to make, and not everyone will get a bid, even if you've done everything that I've explained.

If you don't get a bid, it's unfortunate, but there's nothing you can do. You might want to try again next semester, or you may decide that going Greek isn't something for you; Greek organizations are very selective, and don't let just anyone in, so don't feel down on yourself. However, if you do get a bid, you're being invited to begin the process to join the organization. Each organization has a different process, so it's best to ask about this while you're at the Rush events. (In fact, it's a good idea to ask every question you can at Rush events. You don't want to get in over your head.) Since you've been asked to begin the process to join, you'll have to start taking on both financial responsibility, as well as giving your time (each of which vary by organization). As far as the actual process to join, I can only speak for my own organization, so make sure you ask first. And hopefully, after the process is over, you'll be able to join the organization and become a brother or a sister.

By this time, you won't need anyone to explain why the members are called this, because you'll experience the reason first-hand. They're called "brothers" or "sister" because they're your new family; the people who will be with you at every important event in your life, and most of the unimportant events too.

Going Greek is one of the best decisions you can make in your life, and it will make you a better person. You'll grow as an individual by both the social interactions and your organization's philanthropy (which also varies depending on the organization), and improve society as well.

Greek organizations often get the stereotype that all they do is party and, well, party. However, upon further look, you can find that this is not the case. Every fraternity and sorority has their own philanthropic causes in which they donate hundreds, often thousands, of dollars to each semester. Every philanthropy is different depending on the organization. (To see which philanthropic cause each Greek organization supports, go to SPSU's Greek Life page on the school website.) When looking at a Greek organization to join, always consider their philanthropy.

Every Greek organization is dedicated to their philanthropy, and it is an essential part of Greek life. Often, people want to give back to society but are unsure how to help, or even what organization they should help. If you like helping people, you may become discouraged when you don't have friends helping you. But when you join a Greek organization, you have all of your friends helping along with you, making it both a fulfilling and enjoyable experience.

Going Greek helps prepare you for "the real world," that mystical place that exists after whatever grade you're currently in. Going Greek has been the best decision I've ever made, and I hope that it's one that you make and enjoy too.



**Do what you love...  
and get paid for it!  
Call today!**

**Carla Byrd**  
MK Team Leader

770.633.8323  
[www.marykay.com/carlabyrd](http://www.marykay.com/carlabyrd)  
Register on my website for a free gift!



**Banzai Anime Club**

**Meets every Friday  
during the semester  
7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.  
Student Center A-215**

**email: [ba@spsu.edu](mailto:ba@spsu.edu)**

**KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY**  
**Kappa Sigma**  
 by Jeremy Byess

The Kappa Sigma fraternity on this campus is a group dedicated to the growth of all those involved and the desire to find new brothers to become part of the fraternity that is "Number one Second to None". The Kappa Sigma Fraternity was founded Dec. 10, 1869, at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia. At the heart of Kappa Sigma lies the Fraternity's Four Pillars, which guide our ambitions and underpin our success. Striving for excellence in Fellowship, Leadership, Scholarship and Service produces Brothers who are involved in all aspects of campus life, who excel academically as students and professionally upon graduation, who develop lifelong bonds with those around them and who support those peers, and who serve their colleges and communities. Becoming a Kappa Sigma provides the framework to build yourself into the man you want to be and a man who lives by The Star and Crescent:

**The Star and Crescent**

"The Star and the Crescent shall not be worn by every man, but only by him who is worthy to wear it. He must be a gentleman...a man of honor and courage...a man of zeal, yet humble...an intelligent man...a man of truth...one who tempers action with wisdom and, above all else, one who walks in the light of God."

Kappa Sigma is one of the five largest fraternities with over 290,000 initiates and currently has over 16,000 undergraduate members. Currently, Kappa Sigma has over 300 active Chapters and 23 Colonies in the United States and Canada. Kappa Sigma pledged over 8,000 men in the 2011-2012 school year, breaking the Guinness World Record. Undergraduate chapters and Alumni have raised more than \$1.7 million for charity and performed more than 460,000 hours of services in the 2011-2012 academic year. Our Omicron Lambda Chapter here at Southern Poly does a lot of local charity work which involves us in our community and sets us apart as hard workers and committed men. We also are very involved with campus intramurals which we seek to excel in and show our teamwork and ability as a whole. We are very involved with Greek Life and we can promise you a college experience different and, from personal experience, better than any other. Come down to our house in the Greek Columns and hang out, our door is always open and our brothers our always welcoming. We would love to meet you and talk to you.

"Since joining Kappa Sigma, I have experienced a life changing event for me that is hard to explain unless you experience it for yourselves. I have found true brotherhood in Kappa Sigma. The brothers of this fraternity strive to be the best gentlemen on campus and believe that if we walk in His light, then God will mold us into that Gentleman that we all strive to be. Ever since becoming a brother of Kappa Sigma, I've become part of a brotherhood that no matter what they have my back and I have theirs. I recommend anyone looking to grow closer to God and become the ideal gentleman that people want to see to join The Kappa Sigma Fraternity!"



**Pi Kappa Phi**  
 by Lee Murphy

The Epsilon Kappa chapter of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity (Pi Kapp) is a 30 man chapter at Southern Polytechnic State University. We take pride in being the most diverse fraternity on campus. Being the most diverse fraternity means that we have members in every different field of study. We are also diverse in the sense of race, religion, and ethnicity. We do not discriminate against anyone, for any reason.

We strongly believe in helping others through community service. Pi Kappa Phi is the only fraternity to own their own philanthropy, called PUSH America. It was started by Pi Kapps and is run by Pi Kapps. The mission of the organization is to build leaders of tomorrow by serving people with disabilities today. Our chapter has events each semester in which we raise money to help build handicap accessible buildings and camps. There are also national events, such as the Journey of Hope, in which members of Pi Kappa Phi bike across America.

Our chapter has been on the campus of SPSU since 1981. We have had 387 initiated members since our start on campus and we would love for you to be the next. We are founded on the premise of creating leadership opportunities for our members. Pi Kappa Phi's vision is to redefine fraternity as a lifelong brotherhood of leaders. Nationally, Pi Kappa Phi is one of the fastest growing fraternities with well over 200 chapters at various schools. We require all of our members to maintain a GPA of at least a 2.5. We make sure of this by having mandatory study sessions each week. School comes first. Our goal is to mold each member into the man our parents have set out for us to be.

Our pledge program lasts for 12 weeks and its purpose is to teach every associate member the history of our fraternity, locally and nationally. We have a NO HAZING policy, in case that is a worry. Each of our members has taken the same path as an associate member. The only thing that we require is respect for others, as you do in all circumstances in life. We believe and live by the highest ideals of Christian manhood and the principles of good citizenship. Please contact the Vice President, Lee Murphy, if you want more information at [lmurphy@epsilonkappa.com](mailto:lmurphy@epsilonkappa.com).

**ΣΠ Sigma Pi**  
 by Zach Messmore

The Epsilon Alpha chapter of Sigma Pi Fraternity was created in 1960 as the colony known as Sigma Delta Theta. Our chapter received a charter as Sigma Pi Fraternity on Oct. 28, 1972. We are proud to be the longest running chapter on this campus, in Georgia and also to be celebrating our 40th anniversary this coming October.

As it is an exciting time to be Greek, it is just as exciting to be a Sigma Pi. We are placing brothers in top positions of various Greek-ran organizations, building our already significantly strong brotherhood with each other, and learning new ways to see that the members of this chapter receive the best experience possible while here at SPSU.

In the last year, members of our chapter have been responsible for planning and assisting with Goat Night and Greek Week, two annual all-Greek events. Currently our chapter has representatives as the IFC Treasurer, Order of Omega President and Vice President, SPSU Live Committee Chairman, RAs, Orientation Leaders, and President and Vice President of the Golf Club. This chapter is excited to offer many paths to involvement outside of the classroom at SPSU.

However, our chapter stresses that although involvement is good, scholarship is why we are here at SPSU. After a tough year academically, we have a good number of brothers that will be returning to their studies in the fall. Although the grade point average does not reflect it, our chapter's brothers really grouped together to make it through this year of personal hardships, and we look to bounce back strong in the Fall of 2012. We are all gearing up for the fall semester where academic success of each brother will be our number one goal.

Moving on, one of the major aspects of Greek life that pulled us through the academic struggles of the 2011 - 2012 school year is brotherhood. Our chapter is very proud of the strength of our brotherhood. All of our brothers have a close friendship with each other and if you are looking for a chance to meet a group of diverse and fun guys, Sigma Pi is the place. Brothers enjoy hanging out and doing things like playing golf, softball, making slip 'n slides in the backyard, playing pool in the house, putt-putt outings in Kennesaw, and many more brotherhood events that are planned throughout the year. We also spend time together at fund-raising and community service events. In the past we have had brothers doing security on the stage of the SEC trophy presentation, backstage of WrestleMania in Atlanta, and other various sporting events in Georgia. We also come together to put on regularly planned blood drives in partnership with the Red Cross. Our Fall 2012 fund-raising and community service schedule will be published sometime near the beginning of the semester.

As a Greek, I encourage all SPSU students to come out and meet the members of all of our Fraternities. Meet everyone and find the right organization for you.

**Sigma Nu**  
 EXCELLING WITH HONOR  
**Sigma Nu**  
 by Alex Harrington

Sigma Nu was founded by three cadets at the Virginia Military Institute during the Reconstruction period after The Civil War. The system of physical abuse and hazing of underclassmen at VMI inspired James Frank Hopkins, Greenfield Quarles, and James McIlvaine Riley to form the "Legion of Honor," or Sigma Nu, in opposition to these backwards traditions. We strive to develop ethical leaders inspired by our three founding principles of Love, Honor and Truth and to foster the personal growth of each man's mind, heart and character. Become something more... become a Sigma Nu.

**KΑΨ**  
 by Justin Gilliam  
**Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.**

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. was founded on the night of Jan. 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana by the late revered founders Elder Watson Diggs, Ezra Dee Alexander, Henry Tourner Asher, Byron Kenneth Armstrong, Marcus Peter Blakemore, Paul Waymond Caine, George Wesley Edmonds, Guy Levis Grant, Edward Giles Irvin and John Milton Lee. Fashioning achievement as its purpose, Kappa Alpha Psi unites college men of culture, patriotism and honor in a bond of fraternity.

It is a fact of which Kappa Alpha Psi is justly proud that the Constitution has never contained any clause which either excluded or suggested the exclusion of a man from membership merely because of his color, creed or national origin.

The fraternity has over 150,000 members with 721 undergraduate and alumni chapters in every state of the United States, and international chapters in the United Kingdom, Germany, Korea, Japan, United States Virgin Islands, Nigeria and South Africa.

Since May 11, 2007 the Pi Iota Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi at SPSU has upheld the dream of achievement not only as a chapter, but also as individual members. The Pi Iota Chapter received the James B. Hardy Small Chapter of the Year Award within the first three years of being chartered. This award was made possible because of the many events that the chapter partakes in and hosts, from social events to community service, including church events, assisting with the local Kappa League program and hosting programs such as AIDS awareness.

More information for the Pi Iota Chapter can be found on the Facebook page [Pi Iota Nupes (SPSU)... News and Events], Twitter page [@P\_I\_NUPES], as well as asking any of the brothers on campus.



**Tau Kappa Epsilon**  
 by Nick Allen

The start of another great school year holds many promises of new achievements to accomplish as well as time to better you. Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity offers all of this and more! Come hang out with the brothers that will not only be great friends, but will help aid you in becoming a better person mentally and morally. With such a diverse crowd of brothers, there will be no problem finding someone who shares the same interests as you. For you outdoorsy types, we have a vast amount of brothers interested in climbing, kayaking/tubing, hiking, running, or working out to stay physically fit. For all of you who prefer the indoors, many of us express interest in video games for just about any system, Magic the Gathering, movies, and more. To go a little bit more in depth about our fraternity as a whole, our national philanthropy we support is St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. We aim to give families the much needed help to eliminate cancer in their children so they can lead fulfilling normal lives. Our past yet still important philanthropies that we actively follow are Cystic Fibrosis and the Alzheimer's Association. Throughout the year we work fun work projects at sports events and concerts at the Georgia Dome and Aaron's Amphitheatre. This is just a glimpse of what we do and accomplish as a fraternity. With a foundation of over 290 chapters and 270,000 men in the fraternity, Tekes are recognized all over the world. Joining Tau Kappa Epsilon is not only an exciting extracurricular; it is a journey of a lifetime.

## Can you dig it? Trenchless underground construction



By: Richard Bellfield

Trenchless Underground Construction; Can you dig it? The campus library had weird hours during the break between the spring and summer semesters. I was rushing up the stairs between Building H and Building I when I saw a cumbersome black and yellow contraption lurching across the lawn. It was on tracks, like a bull dozer, but the operator was walking behind it with a controller box, while a couple of helpers laid down rubber mats for the tracks to pass over. I thought “Hail to the Queen,” as I moved in to get a better look. It had a rack of what appeared to be metal pipes contained in a magazine fixed to a movable gantry on the top of the carriage and was adorned in a million hydraulic cables.

The operator asked his forward spotters if they were happy with where he'd landed and then he hit the switch and shut her down. I wanted to ask some questions but it was quitting time for them and as anybody who's ever gotten their feelings hurt can tell you, that's not

the time for a Q&A. In an instant they had set up a temporary orange mesh barricade and vanished. I walked to the rear of the machine and read the designation: Vermeer D36x50. Clueless, I went to Vermeer.com and found out that the Vermeer D36x50 is a medium duty Horizontal Directional Drilling System. I wondered “what could they be drilling for on campus?” and that's when it got really interesting. The Vermeer 36x50 is used for trenchless underground construction projects. In situations where there are already utilities buried in the ground and obstructions like sidewalks and streets, they're able to navigate under these existing obstacles.

It has a removable digging bit attachment that looks like the upturned front edge of a snow ski with a ridge that's covered in hardened steel teeth. There's a hole located at the base of the bend where water is pumped from a water tanker. The pipes in the magazine are hollow drilling shafts that are pushed forward by a combination of auger action and hydraulic force from the gantry. When the gantry has pushed a section of pipe into the shaft it disengages and retreats to install another section by using hydraulic arms. The system works with a locator device that determines the location of the drill head.

All of the locations of the utilities that are already in the ground are predetermined before the drilling begins by using ground penetrating radar or other underground utility locating technologies. The operator drills to a predetermined location where the first phase of the drilling operation is complete. The drilling head is removed and replaced with a larger bit called a reamer. One end of the reamer is attached to the shaft that's in the hole and the other is joined to the yellow plastic utility pipe. They use a special fitting that allows the reamer to rotate but prevents the incoming pipe from doing so. The gantry pulls the assembly back through the hole, removes the shaft sections, and returns them to the magazine. A bright, yellow, utility pipe is sitting on the ground near the construction site, markings of where most of the work has taken place.

We have had and will have more underground utility projects taking place on our campus, but thanks to the Vermeer 36x50 Horizontal Directional Drilling System you can't see them.



## College campus - Stranger danger

By: John Leslie Gibson III

There have been multiple reports about strange people entering Southern Polytechnic State University. Why do they enter campus? What is their purpose? A couple of students became nervous and worried when asked about their thoughts on strange people being on campus.

Since Southern Polytechnic State University is such an open campus, anybody and everybody could enter. Students mention thefts from their cars and one person said that someone broke into their on-campus apartment. It is still unknown who the thieves are, whether it's the strangers to campus or other students. Whatever the case, something needs to be done. Captain Richardson agrees with this premise as well, and improvements by the Southern Polytechnic State University police have made since she took over in 2009 have been substantial. Patrols by foot and by car have picked up; police officers talk to incoming freshman during orientation to encourage them to be more careful with keeping up with their possessions.

Unfortunately, nothing more is going to be done to fix this problem, such as getting cameras in the parking lots or setting up gates at each entrances of the campus. She (Captain Richardson) believes an upgrade in security does not go through the police. Funding would have to come through the University. If it was up to Captain Richardson, she would put cameras in the Architecture Design Two building, which is where many of thefts have occurred. One incident a \$2000 camera was stolen. Being an open campus makes it difficult to determine whether the thief is a student or a stranger. Something drastic needs to be done - crime relates directly to our tolerance.

## Non-traditionally speaking, of course...

By Jasmine Watkins

As the “Welcome Back Kotter” theme song plays in my head, I aimlessly make my way to my first class. With a weak smile and book bag in tow, I take a deep breath and I try to relax. My palms are sweaty. My throat is drier than the Sahara Desert. I have had about six cups of coffee and I am awake, alert and ready for class? By all means, no I am not ready. What am I doing here? Are you serious? You've gotta be kidding me. These are the questions and statements that are constantly spinning 'round and 'round in my head like a scratched cd. Yep. You guessed it. I am a non-traditional student who “feels” out of place - unbeknownst to me, I am not alone. Usually, NT's (non-traditionals) stand out. As the younger students would describe us as the ones with grey hair, out of shape, cranky and annoying - simply put, “more like my parents, maybe?” would be the statement used. We are considered by the younger students as the “older” generation that's “out of touch” or not in sync. That's not true. That's a myth.

Let me start by saying this: Picture it, the first day of classes, a hot day in August, the year is 2009, of course. I am feeling good and nervous as I prepare for school. Before arriving to school, my daughter says to me at home, “Mommy, relax, you will do fine.” In the back of my head, I am thinking...shouldn't I say that? Is it that obvious that I am THAT nervous? But of course I am! (Deep sigh with a weak smile). That's depressing.

While in the car on the drive over to campus, I act as if I am talking to someone that's in the car with me. OK! So, shake it off for goodness sakes! Get it together soldier! I say to myself. I have been in the corporate arena for years, slaying deadlines with the push of a button or a pen, dealt with irrational, irate, erratic and irresponsible vendors, employees, customers and managers on a daily basis and have eaten unresolved and astronomical problems for lunch! I have trained the un-trainable, completed tasks so daunting that Ferris Bueller's economic teacher would stand up and applaud, and have tamed the fiercest debates at the water cooler effortlessly. I dare to ask why are my unchained nerves eating at me so viciously without a pause? I should be over this part, right? Of course, I am not! I am goal oriented, bound for a better future, and finishing an un-accomplished goal. Why did I choose to wait until now? Why am I terrified of going back to school? Who does that? “Welcome back Kotter” I suppose is the theme song for me...non-traditionally speaking of course.

*Jasmine Watkins jumped back into school - eager to learn - eager to share her experience. Join her on her journey as she works through the growing pains of stepping off the career train and back into new track construction.*

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## College expectations

by Robert Barnard

Now that the new semester has started, I would like to impart some of the lessons I have learned to the incoming freshman. I know that going to college can be daunting for a new student of any age. Here are a few expectations to help you to understand the college atmosphere a little better. Your professors may or may not assign homework. Even if it is not part of your grade it is in your best interest to do any that is assigned even if it is never seen by your professor. The professor will not lose any sleep if you do not do it. This is only to your benefit. Next, be careful of the distractions around campus. Although there are many fun things to do around campus, remember you are actually here to get an education. The key is to keep a balance of study time and fun time. The best way to keep balance is to manage your time wisely. Remember to allow two hours of study time for each one hour class. Adhering to this will help you keep your study and fun time in balance.

If by chance you are having difficulty in a class, be sure to ask your professor for help first. After seeking help with your professor, you can go to the ATTIC for assistance. They have a great group of tutors to help students that are struggling. The ATTIC is located in the lower level of the Student Center.

To succeed in your academic career you must apply yourself. There is no one here to push you to succeed this responsibility falls solely upon your shoulders. And lastly, do not forget if you are unsure of what classes you should be taking, consult your advisor. That is why they are there to assist in planning your academic career.

I wish everyone great success this semester.

## Summer

By Kathy Remenyik

While I may have taken a break from classes at SPSU during the summer, I haven't let "the lazy days" completely take center stage. I've managed to catch up on a few things that I'd fallen behind on during the rigors of my first semester. I've tackled some projects that I might not have the time or energy for when classes resume. And I've thoroughly enjoyed a few lazy days!

Here is a partial list of my summer reading. It's closely linked to my general interests and school studies (new media arts). Writers or other artists might find something useful or of interest:

The Well-Fed Writer by Peter Bowerman

The Well-Fed Writer: Back for Seconds by Peter Bowerman

The Music Business: Career Opportunities and Self-defense by Dick Weissman

How to Design Logos, Symbols, and Icons by Gregory Thomas

Art at the Speed of Life by Pam Carriker

Drawing: Mastering the Language of Visual Language by Keith Mickelwright

How to Read a Film, The Art, Technology, Language, History, and Theory of Film and Media by James Monaco

The Writer's Complete Guide to Conducting Interviews by Michael Schumacher

Interviewing: A Guide for Journalists and Writers by Gail Sedorkin

On those lazy days, I have taken the time to watch a deer and the rabbits in the yard. A few turtles, snakes, an owl (awesome!), squirrels, chipmunks, coyotes, woodpeckers and other assorted birds pass through. From the kitchen window, I watched a pair of house wrens build a nest and hatch a brood. The hummingbirds arrived later and fewer in number than usual. Finally, they are active and buzzing "everywhere." I keep their feeders filled and enjoy their antics and beauty.

I planted a much smaller garden of six tomato plants. These were given to us--too far gone to be sold. They look promising for a late batch of tomatoes. Renegade cilantro, basil and parsley were discoveries amongst the weeds in the reclaimed tomato patch. The cilantro didn't make it, but the basil and parsley are super producers!

Yes, I've enjoyed the gifts of summer. No, I'm not even close to wishing summer would end—even though I love fall the best.

## Restaurant review: Nik's Place

by Kathy Remenyik

Nik's Place is located in Marietta at 645 Whitlock Avenue Southwest. I heard of Nik's Place through the airwaves of community radio station WRFG (89.3 FM) and began driving by Nik's during my commutes to campus. I



photo by Kathy Remenyik

decided to stop in and check it out. Being a fan of Greek food and live music, I entered with two thumbs up and high expectations.

For a mid-week night, the place was packed—and for good reason! I walked past the guys playing pool, trying not to disrupt any one's shot. Friendly people, lots of laughter and conversations, music, dancing, filled bar, tables, and a patio space are major attractions.

Also included are posters, signs, and memorabilia that are hard to miss. When checking out a place you haven't been to before, these are usually good welcoming indicators that you have likely discovered "a little treasure" and will enjoy an evening of fun.

The music stage is a few feet from where I found a seat at the bar. The bartender was very busy and did an amazing job handling the volume of customers. The menu has a variety of choices including appetizers, a variety of sandwiches, pasta and seafood, and Greek specialties. I honed in on the Greek specialties. Oh, how I love a good falafel! Since I do not ordinarily order dinner at 11pm, I conservatively ordered just the falafel rather than a more fully loaded plate.

My order arrived within a timeframe indicative of food freshly prepared and hot from the kitchen. It was visually awesome! I couldn't wait to take a bite. I pulled back the paper wrapper for a closer inspection. I ordered no onions—hooray my order came as requested! The falafel had a perfectly crisp outside with the interior texture and spiciness I expect. The pita bread, lettuce, tomatoes, and alfalfa sprouts were exceptionally fresh. The sauce was tangy and in good proportion for the falafel. It tasted every bit as great as it looked. The couple next to me ordered a gyro and falafel with fries. When their food arrived, the fries looked really good and crispy. I made a note to myself: the next time I am at Nik's Place—even if it's 2am—bring on an appetizer and I'll have the big plate too!

The live music ranged from rocking jams to country to classic favorites with lively activity on the dance floor. It was an open jam night hosted by John McKnight (stay tuned for an upcoming article featuring John). Atlanta has a broad base of quality musicians. If you are an aspiring musician, then you could make some great connections and have a lot of fun on stage. During one set, a young man sang and played lead guitar accompanied by a drummer and a bass player. Then someone else took the lead guitar while he slipped behind the drum set. The changing of musicians, the musicians switching instruments, and different singers popping in makes open jam nights exciting. The sheer enjoyment and fun of the musicians shone brightly to the audience.

Whether you are an aspiring musician or someone who enjoys live music and good food, then by all means--get over to Nik's Place any night of the week for your live music fix! My mouth is watering and my ears are pining for a future outing back to Nik's Place.

To check the music schedule and menu: <http://www.niksplace.com/index.html>

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## New Jack Pity

by Randy Brown, Jr.

How about I give you a free trip to the bench,  
because the premise of your excuse is unacceptable.  
And to think I almost reached,  
now left to preach about how  
I shall overcome.  
Still numb to those that approach  
from the clefts that I just left.  
And to the left you'll hear  
prideful cats from behind invisible bars but  
see squawking monkeys and  
snakes with spines.  
Pity, you were almost there my friend.  
Trending: Woman loses right to be crowned.  
Bound to be thrown back to the wolves  
and I to the sea.  
One leg up as I pose for the mist of  
all that have missed.  
I still can't miss.  
Marking my territory,  
these nightmarish trips.

## Poetry at Gallery 4463

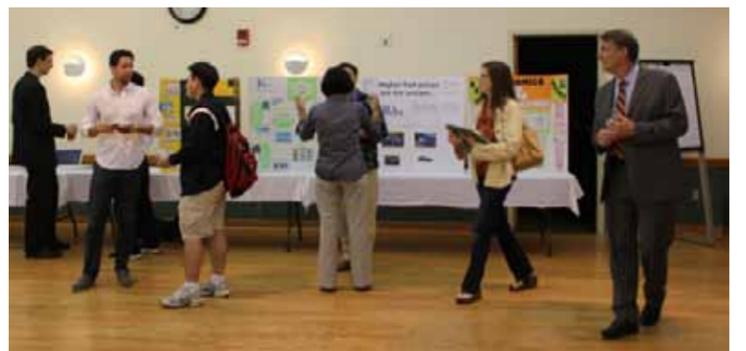
by Kathy Remenyik

Gallery 4463, located in downtown Acworth, GA, hosted a free open mic poetry event on Saturday, April 28, 2012 in celebration of National Poetry Month. Yes, April is National Poetry Month. Tim Morris emceed and organized the event to help recognize poetry as a form of art loved and practiced by both young and old. Fourteen poets participated: Haley Jones, Kiara Knox, Savannah Miller, Tyler Juarez, Tom Kells, Erica Tate, Robert Panettiere, Kaylin Baker, Mallory Fleming, Amanda Weldon, Rachel Bick, Bradley Sabin, Abe Miller, and Tim Morris. Some of the participants were high school students from Morris' literature class. Other participants were local artists who specialize in other mediums and enjoy writing poetry.

My friends and I sat in the front room of the gallery entertained and amazed by the talented poets. The topics included universal emotions of love, tragedy/loss, humor, and personal observations and experiences. A poet carefully chooses each word. Each word packs its own power. The characteristics of rhyming, non-rhyming, meter, alliteration, etc. are crafted to suit the poet's emotions and to convey the theme to the audience. Listening to each poet at the microphone is a rewarding experience because a poem flows through the poet's specific verbal interpretation directly to [my] audible intake. For me, that is a different experience than reading printed words. I congratulate each poet who participated. I hope the students will continue writing poetry and continue to participate in open mic sessions. All of you poets out there: keep writing and attending open mics! Now that you know April is National Poetry Month, next April look for Gallery 4463 to host another National Poetry Month Open Mic event.

Gallery 4463 is a fine art gallery showcasing local artists. The student art show on exhibit while we were there was impressive. It featured the works of elementary, middle, and high school students. Through the month of May the gallery will feature, Unknown Landscapes, works by Gail Koornick and Suzanne Cooper Morris. In July, the gallery features Fireworks! Members Summer Show. Go check out some fine art in a beautiful historic setting. While you're there, plan to take in some of the great restaurants located in downtown Acworth too. Check Gallery 4463's website for additional information and upcoming events: <http://www.gallery4463.com/>

## 2012 Spring Arts and Sciences Showcase



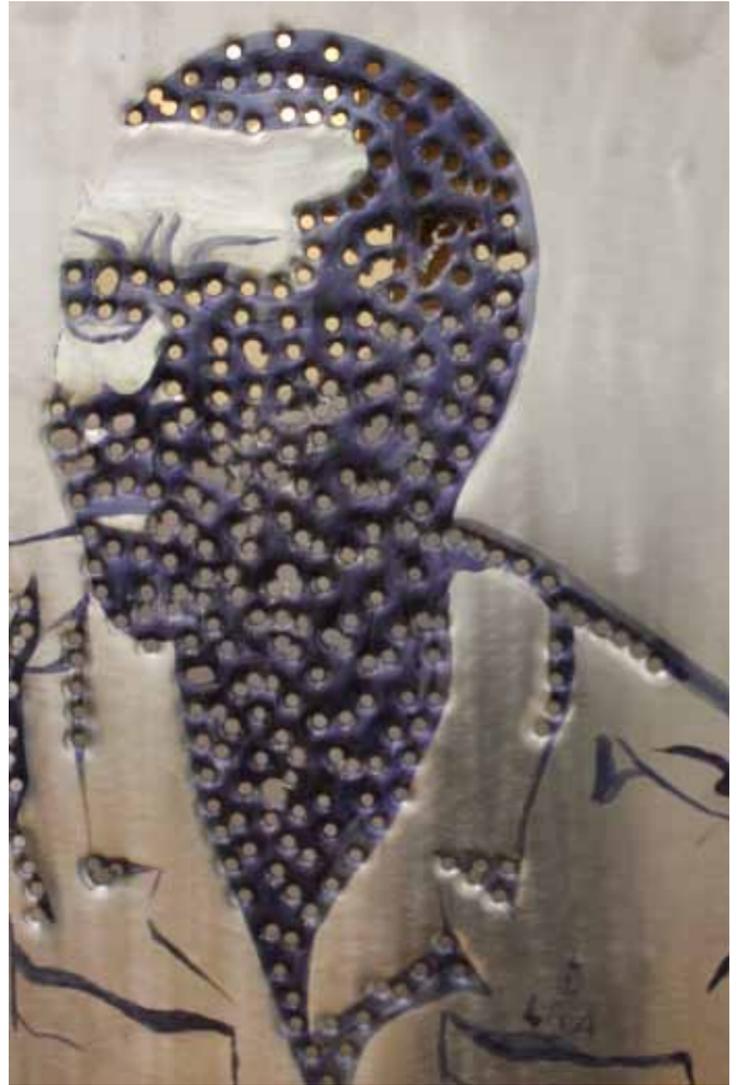
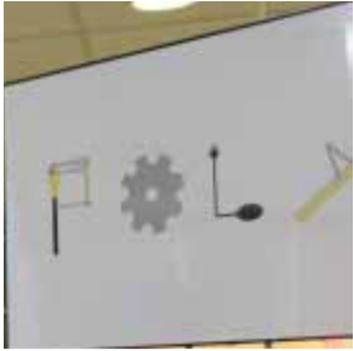
## Poster Contest

## New Media Arts Contest

## Band Concert

## Graphic Design Contest

## Painting Contest



## A trip of a lifetime by Daniel Silver



Traveling to Israel over the summer break, SPSU student, Daniel Silver gained a new appreciation for his heritage and friendships that will carry him along this journey of life.



There was so much to see in so little time, but we made each moment a memory.

We traveled from the airport to the northern most point of Israel, on to the Golan Heights, the Sea of Galilee, and finally headed to the west to chill on the city of Bat Yam's coast.

In Tel Aviv, we met our IDF Soldiers (they were off duty for the next five days to stay with us), where we traveled to Independence Hall, and visited Rabin Square. From there, we traveled to the city of Safed

(the center of Jewish Mysticism and Kabbalah) and went on to kayaking down the Jordan River. Ha! you thought I was kidding, but we really took advantage of our time.

We then traveled south to the Negev Desert to see an Israeli farm. That night, we stayed in the Bedouin tents and left from there to head to Arad to rest before seeing the sun rise on top of the Masada. We traveled to the southern-most point of Israel, (city of) Ein Bokek; traveled back up north toward the city of Ein Gedi.

We floated in (or on, however you want to look at it) The Dead Sea and played in the mud. We were able to learn a lot about our heritage as we visited Yad Vashem (Holocaust Memorial), Har (Mount) Herzl (Israel's National Cemetery), entered into the Old City of Jerusalem, City of David, and shopped at the Mahane Yehuda (open air market).

We ended our trip at Mini Israel, which was a moving model representation of the entire state of Israel. We had our farewell lunch, our group went their separate ways and we made our departure back to the United States.

A few funny things I would like to note:

1. I love food, so I couldn't stop eating. Every time someone turned around, I had a food item.
2. One of the Jews' father was one my Dad's Fraternity brothers. We found that out in Israel!
3. I danced on our bus for five and a half hours straight. That broke my three hours record for the Orientation trip.

We didn't have time to buy souvenirs to bring home. There was so much to see in so little time, but we took in so much. I had two goals before leaving for Israel:

1) Meet others and make friends

2) To learn what Israel has to offer to the Jewish people

I'm glad to say mission accomplished!

This opportunity has given me memories of a lifetime, knowledge I couldn't have gained from a book and new friends for life. I would encourage you to study or travel abroad if you are looking to embrace the world around you and have a love of people.

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contact:  
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As I unpack my bag, the memories start pouring out and on the floor along with salt and sand from the Dead Sea. Yesterday, I was a world away. Today, I'm back to what is my reality until graduation. This summer's opportunity to travel across Israel for 10 days changed my life. Okay, everybody says that, but I'll try to put it into words that will inspire you to study abroad. One of the best parts of the adventure was that it was paid for by Taglit-Birthright Foundation. Taglit is Hebrew for discover. I was the only Atlanta Jew in my group, so y'all know I represented well.

My El-Al (Israeli airline) flight departed from JFK airport in New York City and was where I met the other group members for the first time. I thought it was interesting how we all bonded together – instantly. Our Israeli tour guide called our group mishpucha. We were mishpucha, family in English- it was true. We were a group that didn't splinter into clicks here or there. We were one united front. Before leaving Atlanta, a lot of people asked the typical question, "Aren't you afraid and concerned for your safety?" My response was no, because the Israeli Defense Force (IDF) has a strong presence. They operate with a mandatory draft practice. I felt safe because Israelis are prepared and know what to in case something goes wrong. Ironically, a missile hit really close to where we were staying in our Bedouin tents. We were fine when we saw the IDF shoot a flare in to the sky. We were miles away, but were amazed to see the satellite controller adjust the satellite by the latitude and longitude with the confidence of a skilled surgeon.

### First Year Experience The First Year of the Best of your life



#### Convocation

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 11am, Student Center Theater  
Special lecture from Game Designer Ian Schreiber  
Q&A session and book signing

#### Pumpkin Launch!

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 3:30pm, Between Norton and Howell  
See [spsu.edu/fye](http://spsu.edu/fye) for rules

#### Welcome Back bonfire

January

#### Spring Convocation

February

#### Pi day celebrations across campus

March 14

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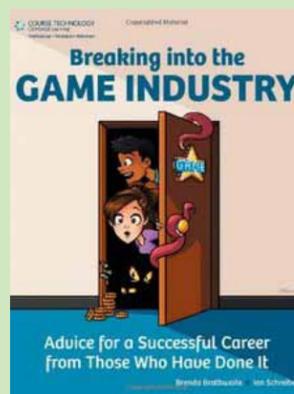
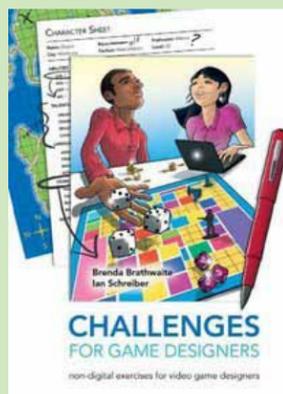


### Ian Schreiber Lecture

October 5th

11:00 a.m.

(followed by a book signing)



Ian Schreiber, has worked in the game industry as a programmer and game designer since 2000. He has contributed to seven shipped titles, including online trading card games, console games, and even some "serious games" for corporate training. He has taught at the college level since 2006, with two-year and four-year colleges and universities, both in person and online. He coauthored the book Challenges for Game Designers which is in use at Southern Polytechnic State University.

Mr. Schreiber is a member of the International Game Developers Association, and was the MVP Award recipient in 2009. He Co-founded Global Game Jam and is their global coordinator. The 2012 Game Jam was held in 242 locations worldwide, with 10,684 individuals participating and 2,209 game projects created. Jam sites were organized in a record 47 countries.

### Green Apple Day of Service September 29 - 9 a.m.

Come join for our first annual Day of Service, a day in which student, faculty and advocates from around the world will work to make our campuses healthier, more sustainable places to learn. Whether it's hosting a discussion about the importance of healthy schools or starting a recycling program at your local school or campus, your action can make a difference. Our first step towards taking action in 2012 will be helping to clean up Rottenwood Creek on campus and working to preserve the precious natural environment that exist at SPSU. Please join us Saturday September 29th from 9am-3pm as we work together to make our impact on campus felt!

For more information about times, location, and general questions about Green Apple Day of Service, please email [green@spsu.edu](mailto:green@spsu.edu) or [cedgar@spsu.edu](mailto:cedgar@spsu.edu)

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Student Body  
Sustainability Coordinator  
International Knowledge and  
Research Center for  
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## Drivin' n' Cryin'

by Kathy Remenyik



Saturday, May 19th, 2012, my friends and I traveled from Paulding County to Alexander Park in McDonough, GA for the First Annual Geranium Jam headlined by drivin' n' cryin'. The Geranium Jam was held in conjunction with the Geranium Festival, which has been sponsored by the McDonough Lions Club for thirty-five years.

As the sunset, it was a perfect evening for an outdoor concert. Picnic baskets, blankets, and all ages were allowed. Food vendors were available. Shuttles efficiently and conveniently transported event attendees from the parking areas to Alexander Park (and back to the parking areas).

I am sorry to say that we completely missed the opening act, Highway 55. I asked several people "How was the first group, Highway 55?" The consistent answers I received included "great," "really good," and "they rocked." Curious, I looked up their website, listened to a few musical clips, and read about the eclectic band members. I see and hear why I received the above responses. I will be keeping these guys on my radar to see what their future holds. Will they break into the country music spotlight? You can find out more information about this Georgia-based band: <http://www.highway55music.com/>

The second act was Bogey and the Viceroy, covering Motown tunes and classics that the crowd loved. In true Motown style, the band was

polished and well rehearsed. Bogey, the male vocalist, poured out renditions of Stevie Wonder, Van Morrison, Al Green, and Sam and Dave. The female vocalist, Kendra, really nailed renditions of Tina Turner, Aretha Franklin, and Adele. What an energizing group! Their set did a great job of revving up the crowd! Location for a few sound clips: <http://bogeyandtheviceroy.com/home.html>

Drivin' n' Cryin' put on an incredible show! WOW! The band has worn their twenty-seven years well indeed. The band radiated a magnetic, vibrant energy that the crowd absolutely adored. The band's line up consisted of Kevn Kinney on vocals and guitar, Tim Nielsen on bass, Dave V. Johnson on drums and Sadler Vaden, a new lead guitarist. The combination is smokin' H-O-T! Kevn's voice is stronger than ever. The set opened with "I See Georgia" from the cd (What Ever Happened to) The Great American Bubble Factory and included long-time favorites such as "Honeysuckle Blue," "Straight to Hell" and "Fly Me Courageous" along with many others.

"Songs from the Laundromat" is the first of four LPs to be released over the next twelve months. It can be pre-ordered now. The release date is June 11, 2012. It was recorded and mixed in Atlanta, GA at Sonica Recording Studio. The LP was also mastered in Atlanta, GA at Griffin Mastering Studio by Chris Griffin.

My ears rang for at least two days afterwards as the lyrics from the song, "Build A Fire" replayed through my brain. This band truly shines in a live performance. Would I drive 65 miles (that's about an hour and a half one way or 130 miles and three hours round-trip ) to see Drivin' n' Cryin' again? YES! Absolutely! For additional information: <http://www.drivinncryin.com/> or Facebook or ReverbNation or just Google Drivinncryin.

## Meet author T.L. Gray

by Kathy Remenyik

On Saturday, April 28, 2012 I met young adult author, T.L. Gray at the New Georgia Library in Dallas, GA where she was signing copies of her recent book *Milledgeville Misfit*. Completely intrigued by the title and the aura of mystery depicted by the cover art, I was eager to find out more about both the author and the book.

Gray is a delightful conversationalist and storyteller. She resides in Carrollton, GA with her family. She transitioned from the corporate world to an entrepreneur to a writer. The roots of her writing career began by verbally telling stories to her children. As the characters developed and evolved, she began writing the stories. Friends began sharing Gray's stories with their children, which led to publication. Gray's savvy knowledge and prowess in the areas of networking, marketing, promotion, publishing, social media, and writing demonstrates the skills necessary for today's writers. For on-site purchases, she uses Square, which is a small and powerful piece of technology for processing credit or debit receipts. Square is a device that plugs into her smart phone and instantly emails the purchaser a receipt with photographs of the seller, the buyer, and item(s) purchased. Highly efficient and effective!

The setting for *Milledgeville Misfit* is Milledgeville, GA. Milledgeville "rolled out the carpet" with fabulous support to Gray for *Milledgeville Misfit*. The city of Milledgeville is legendary for its psychiatric hospital, penitentiary, and haunted areas. Gray weaves these artifacts into the story of young "June Bug's" journey from the tragic loss of her parents in Atlanta to her court-appointed years spent living in Milledgeville with her distant aunt and uncle. The trauma causes June Bug to lose her ability to speak to adults. It is a triumphant story of grief and healing; however, Gray invites the reader to form a conclusion.

*Milledgeville Misfit* is set to become Gray's first screenplay in conjunction with Filmmaker/Producer Elisa Bowman of CINIGI Lighthouse Entertainment. Ghost Voices Magazine based in London, England will feature T.L. Gray in the May #20 edition. Gray is a contributing writer for Impact Times magazine and a member of the Carrollton Creative Writer's Club. Gray's other titles include Keezy's 10 Awesome Rules for Teenaged Dating and *The Blood of Cain*. Additional information and updates about Gray and her work are located on her website: <http://www.tlgray.net/>

## Film Review

### International Flavor

#### *Micmacs (French) (2009)*

by Ernest S. Endsley III

Spoiler Alert? Not so much - Since this is a foreign film and the actors, writer(s) and director(s) are not familiar to most of us, I decided to focus more on aspects of the film itself as the main impetus for viewing the film.

This quirky, yet entertaining film centers on Bazil, a guy that experiences two traumatic events—one as a child and the other as an adult. As a young kid, his father served in the French Army and loses his life attempting to diffuse a land mine. The remainder of his belongings are sent home to Bazil and his mother including a photograph of the land mine that killed him. Bazil inspects the photograph and makes note of the insignia on the land mine fragment. As a result of his father's death, he's shipped off to boarding school. Bazil promptly decides it's not the place for him and runs away. We catch up to him several years later when he's an avid movie watcher and video vendor. Once again, a streak of bad luck strikes when he gets shot in the head from a stray bullet during a drive-by altercation. Doctors decide to leave the bullet lodged in his brain rather than risk turning him into a vegetable. After some time recuperating, he goes back home to find himself evicted and tries to go back to work but he's been replaced. To add insult to injury, his replacement gives him a shell-casing that was recovered by her boyfriend. He makes note of the insignia. So now he's jobless, homeless and penniless. Eventually he's adopted by a multifarious junk yard crew who are just as talented as they are weird. Mama Chow is the matriarch of the group. Tiny Pete is a feeble-looking old man with a real talent for taking cast-off parts and creating radical automatons. The calculator is a woman who can size up anyone or any situation numerically. Remington, the ethnographer, is an intellectual that knows notes and quotes among other things. Buster is a daredevil that had a Guinness record and is hell-bent on getting another one. And Elastic Girl is a contortionist with a spicy attitude. The group quickly becomes his family and enthusiastic accomplices to his plans to exact revenge on the two ammunition corporations responsible

Continued on page 16

[randybrownejr.tumblr.com](http://randybrownejr.tumblr.com)



## Spare

by Randy Brown, Jr.

Let's combine and outline what we do and exclude that which we don't need.

Because no matter the effort

they will come down and stumble upon us, trample on us,

only after imitating

slash duplicating us.

Who can we trust?

Let's design spider web structures that may be useful as trusses, hushes.

They can hear us in public.

Muppet babies' dreams come true.

And if we ever find a clue

we'll realize that we're only a handful of two.

So let's wall and fence ourselves in.

I promise we'll be safe until the siege begins.

I'll protect us as best I can,

Re-runs of our genesis when we were just friends.

## Nonverbal communication men v. women

By John Gibson

Throughout history, men and women have always flirted with one another; it's embedded in our DNA. If we like someone enough to express sexual intentions, we flirt. This can be communicated in two particular ways: obviously in verbal communication and perhaps the more important non-verbal communication (i.e. using body language). Body language is what we consciously and unconsciously convey and understand through body movements such as facial expressions, eye movement, or any other mannerism.

According to Albert Mehrabian, who is currently Professor Emeritus of Psychology, UCLA and an expert on body language, it "represents a very significant proportion of meaning that is conveyed and interpreted between people" and that 50-80% of all communication is non-verbal. This work occurs when a man and/or a woman first see someone that they are attracted to and think. Guys may think "Man! That girl is bad!" (In a good way) and girls may think "He's so sexy!"

Anyone can communicate nonverbal communication and show an attraction to someone by showing a number of things, from what I observed from personal experiences like:

For Guys:

- If she stares, meets gaze and smiles
- If she looks and quickly turns head
- If she plays with her hair
- If she perhaps finds reasons to touch
- If she blushes often

For Girls:

- If he stares, meets gaze and smiles
- If he looks and quickly turns head
- If a decent amount of hugging is involved
- If he throws a playful jab or any amount of light touching
- If he blushes

This isn't always the case. People, men in particular, must be careful not to slip-up and confuse a woman's friendliness with sexual flirting. Men see the world more with a more sexual perspective than women. Women naturally have better social skills than men, because they tend to be better at reading a man's body language and act accordingly. Meeting someone for the first time can determine everything. According to Vox Rationis of Social Issues Research Centre, a person's first impressions of others was based 55% on appearance and body-language, 38% on speaking style, and 7% of verbal content. I will give three examples men and women use to persuade or get the attention of the opposite sex

### Facial Expression

First there is Facial Expressions, television show such as "How I Met Your Mother," show when two strangers are caught looking at each other across a crowded room. Without saying a single word they can show interest in each other and persuade the other to strike up a conversation. Facial expressions are an important part of non-verbal communication; they are a direct way of showing interest. Even though most people rely on facial expressions to determine attractions, they are the most deceiving of body languages. If I find a particular girl to be "bad" (in a good way) or attractive and I try to find out if she interested and she cracks a smile, it doesn't mean she "likes me." Her smile could merely be an expression of friendliness. Women tend to be friendlier, showing more emotions and smiles more often than men do, and persuade men to do something else.

### Touch

Another example is by touch, even though there are a difference in respective cultures, touching is such a powerful and subtle form of non-verbal communication. Touching can be used to show an association, affection or an attraction for someone. Both sexes should be aware of the effects of touching. Women are less comfortable being touched by a person of the opposite sex and men may, once again, confuse a friendly gesture with a sexual solicitation. This doesn't necessarily mean we should never touch. What could initially work for either sex may be as simple as a light touch of the arm or of the hands to show an attraction.

### Eye Contact

Finally we have eye contact, I will use the example of the television show "How I Met Your Mother," on the first episode the protagonist Ted is at a bar and he sees this beautiful woman on the other side. They look at each for a good minute, the both smile and with that Ted goes up and talks with the woman and they hit it off. Now if the woman glanced at Ted and turn away in disgust, she is no way interested. The way she looked at him was you're attractive come talk to me or buy me a drink. He reciprocated that glance was persuaded to go talk with the chance of being rejected less likely to happen.

### Conclusion

I find it interesting that non-verbal communication or body language could be considered another language, because so many things factor into the interactions of a man and woman. No one knows what the other is thinking or their intentions. So men and women use body language to persuade the other to say "Hey, I'm looking for a good time" or "Sup, sexy let me get them digits" without actually having to communicate. Having to discuss those feelings and intentions verbally could involve embarrassment and/or rejection; so giving and receiving body language becomes the main choice of communication.

## The dreaded career fair

by Anna Korosteleva

It's a blustery, sunny day as I make my way to the GACE College to Career Fair. I'm grateful that I chickened out of my heels as I walk towards the Cobb Galleria Center from the parking garage. This is my first career fair and I'm starting to get more nervous as I get into the building. I am an English major and I know that finding a job in my field is tricky. It's a relief that a handful of signs navigate me to the second floor and into registration. I'm greeted, handed a name tag, and set off into the huge room of participating companies.

I'm not quite sure what to do at this point. I realize that my big mistake was not researching all the different companies nearly enough. I start off by walking through all the booths. There aren't very many people at the fair, mostly guys in dark suits. I think of my own not-too-short, not-too-tight gray skirt and button-up blouse. Taking a little extra time to dress nicely is worth it; being dressed professionally is not only a requirement for an event like this, it's also a little confidence booster. I make a mental note to risk the heels next time and maybe even spring for a jacket.

It takes me a while to actually talk to someone. My unpreparedness has gotten the best of me and I'm only saved by the thick pamphlet with the list of all the companies and the majors those companies are looking for. I finally go for it. I smile, tell the representative I've picked out my name and my major, and ask about the jobs and internships the company is offering. And it's not so bad after that. I spend an hour at the fair and manage to talk to a decent amount of people. I even venture out to companies who aren't necessarily looking for English majors.

I'll admit that it was a relief to finally leave. The fair was stressful, but I like to think that I did as well as I could have on my first try. I talked to people, handed out resumes, and gathered up enough information to apply to a few places that looked promising. But the real outcome of how things went became evident a few days later.

I got calls from two companies. One of the companies is looking for a summer intern for their Boston branch and the other is a sales company right here in Atlanta. I'm excited about the Boston position since that is where my family lives. The sales job in Atlanta might not be the perfect fit for an English major, but I'm being open-minded. It might turn out to be a great opportunity to work with people and use my communication skills. I have interviews set up with both companies. I don't know how things will turn out, but my first career fair has been a success.

If you haven't gone to a career fair before, I encourage you to go to the next one that comes around. Even if a job doesn't come out of the experience, it's good practice for the future. You'll get an idea of what it's like to talk to different companies and what kind of jobs will be out there after you graduate. Follow these tips to get ready for the career fair:

- Make sure you are academically prepared. You're good if you've started taking major-required classes and feel like you can go out there and do what you've been learning to do.
- Bring enough resumes; a dark folder is a good way to carry them around. Your professors and the school will be happy to give you some pointers if you feel lost.
- Dress professionally.
- Research companies that will be at the fair! I wish I did this myself. Not only will you be more informed, you will feel more confident talking to people.
- Practice some of the things you would like to say.

There is an overwhelming amount of other tips and ideas to get you prepared that you can find online. The whole thing feels similar to writing an essay you really don't want to write. But, it's a relief once it's over and even somewhat of a triumph if it goes well, just like getting that A you didn't expect.

### "Mighty" McKnight

continued from page 2

Before John had finished high school, he had been playing music for significant wages for several years. He knew what it was like to play six nights a week. He had a solid understanding about the business of music. He possessed the drive, work ethic, experience, and entrepreneurial edge (along with that backup plan in case the music didn't work out). At age seventeen, came his first recording session. Missouri Western offered John a scholarship. Curious about Berklee College of Music, John sent a demo. They would have gladly accepted him for a phenomenal fee. Conversations exposed that pursuing music via a collegiate route would primarily prepare him for a career path of teaching music. Since John wanted to perform, rather than teach, these didn't seem like good matches for him. Still exploring options, he auditioned for the military band and was offered a spot in the Presidential Marching Band in D.C. While that was a prestigious offer, participation in a marching band beyond high school graduation really didn't grab John's enthusiasm.

After high school, John travelled on the road as a drummer with the band Voices. After the split of Voices, John returned to Altoona. A metal thrash band, Slammer, briefly lured John back on the road

attired in rock-star regalia, outfits and make-up. Bands can have too much overhead with big expenses like a semi-tractor-trailer, stage equipment, lights, etc. While it may have been fun playing with Slammer, John the savvy and professional businessman, knew financially this arrangement wasn't for him.

To date John has nearly fifty recordings to his credits. He has performed and recorded with an impressive list of names including members of the Marshall Tucker Band, Allman Brothers, Outlaws, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Wet Willie, E.G. Kight, Forrest McDonald, Barry Richman, Andrew Black, Heather Luttrell, Fiona Boyes, and numerous others.

Music is a huge part of John's life. From the first concert his parents took him to as a small child (Blood, Sweat, and Tears) to the eight-track tapes his parents listened to (The Beatles, The Hollies, Jim Croce, The Statler Brothers, etc.) to John's interest in the complexity of the drumming of bands like Iron Maiden, Rush, Yes, and Kansas to years of performing and recording—and THEN he stopped playing music, sold his drums, and formed a construction business. Gasp! Really?! I sat there completely dumb-founded with goofy, jaw-dropping disbelief when John told me this. "Really?" "Yes, really!" Well, eventually, the construction business waned, John moved to Atlanta in 1997 and the music reigns.

John's recent efforts include

leading, The Rhythm Yard (TRY), a blues/jam/southern rock band. Other members of The Rhythm Yard include Jimmy Dormire on guitar (Confederate Railroad and Cody McCarver) and Joe Lex Luther on bass (Barry Richman Band, Revival). You can find TRY playing around Atlanta and beyond. TRY rocks on cruises such as the Sixthman/Kid Rock Cruise and Simple Man Cruise—now that would be a BLAST! I'm putting that on my bucket list. Check out [www.reverbNation.com/therhythmyard](http://www.reverbNation.com/therhythmyard). Currently, John also plays with Little G Weevil (roots and blues music).

Out of curiosity before John went on stage, I couldn't resist asking what is the one instrument that he doesn't play, but would like to play? "The saxophone is the most sensuous and can be the most moving instrument completely on its own with no other accompaniment." Now don't expect to see John blowing a sax as taking the time to learn a new instrument seems like a far-fetched idea at the moment. He did joke about how cool it'd be to be able to go to every gig on his new motorcycle. A singer just needs a mic...however; the drums still need a van.

Android users can look in the Android Market for the John McKnight App to stay informed about John's schedule. The app can also be downloaded at [www.reverbNation.com/johnmcknight](http://www.reverbNation.com/johnmcknight) (check out his videos, audio files, pictures, and schedule.)

## The rise of Courtney Grimaldi

### A tale of a single mother

By John Gibson

No matter how you know Courtney Grimaldi, Service Manager of the year nominee or single mom raising two kids, you better watch out for this lady in the future.

The Douglasville, GA native is known by many in the Kennesaw and Marietta area as the Service Manager at Texas Roadhouse, but anybody close to her can tell you that she is headed for big things in the near future.

Courtney Grimaldi isn't a stranger to diversity and time management, in the past two years she has been nominated as Service Manager of the year (30 stores).

The first year she didn't make it past the first round, but she changed the way she conducted business and this past year she made it to the final four. She did this all while working 70 hours a week (a lot of it unpaid) raising a child and being pregnant with her second.

Back when she was in school she was working hard at a college in Texas for Business Management and at that time serving for a restaurant called Logan's. The managers there liked the way she did business and made her a manager.

At the age of twenty she was very young and inexperienced. A lot of people didn't take her seriously because she was so young and ended hanging out with the wrong people and was influenced to do things she regrets (drugs amongst other things). Time for a change she decided to go back to Georgia and found a job at Texas

Roadhouse.

"Give everything, dedicated to your children. Do whatever it takes. At the end of the day your children will love you unconditionally," she explained. "There are struggles to overcome, but have a support team and family first. I never have enough money and time for kids; it's not quantity of money and time but quality."

Now at age thirty she tries to be a mother figure instead of a boss to new people coming into the business. Her mom passed away when she was younger and her passing made her the woman she is today. The advice she gives them is this: "always go for your dreams, don't settle and don't sacrifice your dreams for others, and nothing is given to you and nothing is handed to you in life. It's something you work at."

When asked about being nominated as service manager of the year in the region (Georgia, Florida, Alabama, and Tennessee). "Awesome! Nominated the past two years, makes you feel good. Even when I was pregnant, I was performing harder and better with a child, because it's not about me anymore it's about them. I thank all the good people around me."

Her goals for next year are to get better at being stable financially, to give things to her kids, and surround good people that want to win. Her dream is to become a training manager and be a managing partner, to own her own Texas Roadhouse; to have her own ideas and be a part of the corporation.

## Love - technically speaking

Continued from page 2

His voice was so distant and dry and void of emotions. It was obvious-it wasn't going to work. Technology had failed to keep us going and I needed more than an emoticon to make me feel wanted.

It was obvious that he was unable to hold a conversation without a smiley face or a LOL. If you lose your phone, do you know any numbers to call in an emergency? I will give you a minute to think about it.

I am sure it would not be that long before you answer, the answer, no. Technology has enabled us to press #3 for home, but has disabled our ability to perform the simplest of tasks.

For all the affordances of modern day convenience, we have handicapped our relationships. Would you agree that our love and relationships are suffering in the aftermath? The onset of internet dating, and all the relationship tools that have been created to bring us together... what will keep us that way?

I challenge you to learn someone's telephone number, call your someone special once a week or even take the time to swap that text message for a letter. Bring back that much need human element of being human.

*Sharon Roberts will be starting a LOVE and RELATIONSHIP column and can address your questions sent to [sting@spsu.edu](mailto:sting@spsu.edu)*



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 (email your comments to [sting@spsu.edu](mailto:sting@spsu.edu))

**I had a dream**  
 by Randy Brown, Jr.

They think we've moved borders because Popular demanded us to, but quite the contrary. I've chosen to stand for the man that can no longer stand because his supports were literally taken from his hands. So imagine, if you will, a world where all of this wasn't real. And we never had to work to please or dress to please or learn to please or act to please or pretend that we speak proper fluently. Now take your imagination and go because I'm halfway there. It's that point that society wishes death upon but I personally don't care if you stare. I'll poetically pose in this prose while you turn up your nose to what you're of no use to. Forget who they think you are and it's you that you'll be. Be freely committed until truth stares you back. Slack: It's that lack of effort into a being which is exact. You can look down on us, but it's in you where you're trapped.

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# SPSU baseball players drafted to Texas Rangers and Atlanta Braves

by Amanda Blanton

Over the summer, two of our talented baseball players, Casey Shiver and Matt Kimbrel, were selected in the 2012 Major League Baseball MLB First-Year Player Draft. Shiver was selected by the Texas Rangers and Kimbrel to the Atlanta Braves.



Day 3 of the draft brought even more good news to the Hornets. Another junior right-handed pitcher, Kimbrel, was selected by our very own Atlanta Braves in the 31st round. The Huntsville, Ala. native also had an impressive year on the mound with the Hornets. Kimbrel is second on the team in most games pitched, 20, this season. He has an individual game high of six strike-outs on two separate occasions this year and an ERA of 4.54. Last name sound familiar? Looks like baseball runs in the family. Kimbrel's older brother, Craig, is a pitcher and closer for the Braves.

Shiver, the junior right-handed pitcher from Loganville, Ga., was the 27th pick in the 10th round making him the second-highest drafted player in Hornet baseball history. He ranks No. 13 in Division 1 of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) in total innings pitched (102.100) and No. 15 in innings pitched per game (6.822). Leading the team in strike-outs with an average of 7.92 per game, 90 total. He is a member of the Southern States Athletic Conference All-Conference 2nd Team. The new Texas Ranger has an ERA of 3.17 over 15 games this year.

Kimbrel is the 25th player from SPSU to enter the big leagues, 10 of which were under Head Coach Matt Griffin who was also a drafted player from the Hornets team. Congratulations to Shiver, Kimbrel and our fantastic baseball program at SPSU!



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## Big changes come to SPSU athletic staff

By: Amanda Blanton

Over this summer, the Southern Poly athletic staff got revamped. Former Head Baseball Coach /Assistant Athletic Director Matt Griffin is now the SPSU athletic director. Marty Lovrich takes over as head baseball coach and Jeffery Pouchier has been named the new head basketball coach.

After serving seven years as assistant athletic director, Matt Griffin is now the head honcho in the SPSU Athletic Department. In the past nine seasons as coach of the Hornet baseball team, he accrued a 364-169 (.682) record and currently averages 40.44 wins per season. Griffin has had ties to Southern Poly for over 18 years. He graduated from here in 1998 with a degree in business administration before

joining the Chicago Cubs organization.

He played in the Cubs' minor league for two years before coming back to coach baseball at his alma mater. Griffin has won a plethora of awards while coaching at SPSU, has set multiple school records and has had 10 Hornets drafted to play professional baseball including this year's players Matt Kimbrel and Casey Shiver. Griffin takes the AD gig over from Karl Staber who now serves in the new position of director of recreational sports and athletics.

Marty Lovrich is the new head baseball coach. He comes to us from Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) where he spent the last 20 years as the associate head coach. There, he helped lead the Warhawks to a winning season in each of those years and led the team to five conference championship wins, 18 NAIA Regional appearances and three trips to the NAIA World Series with a runner-up finish in 1990.

Lovrich is Alabama Baseball Coaches Association's 2008 Assistant Coach of the Year and during his tenure, he recruited 33 All-Americans,

66 All-Conference, 40 All-Region and 18 players that have advanced to professional baseball. Coach Lovrich has an undergraduate and MBA degree from AUM.

Jeffery Pouchier is the new head coach of the men's basketball team. He served as head coach over at Reinhardt College from 2007-2012 and led the team to three consecutive winning seasons. Pouchier also spent two seasons at Valdosta State University as the assistant coach where he helped the team earn a 37-19 record and an appearance in the 2007 NCAA Division II National Tournament.

He is also no stranger to SPSU as he served as an assistant coach for Southern Poly from 2003-2005. In the 2004-2005 season the team clinched both the SSAC regular season and tournament championships, went 32-4, advanced to the third round of the NAIA tournament. At one point in that season, the Hornets were ranked No. 1 in the country—a first for any sport in the school's history.

As you can see, SPSU has some very talented new professionals on the athletic staff. This is bound to be a great year for our athletic teams and I cannot wait to cheer them on! Go Hornets!



### 2012 Men's Soccer Schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Location	Result
Sat Aug 25	7:00	Milligan University	Away	<b>W 4-0</b>
Sat Sep 1	5:00	Reinhardt College	Home	<b>W 2-1</b>
Wed Sep 5	7:30	Shorter University	Away	<b>L 2-1</b>
Tues Sep 11	5:00	Tennessee Temple University	Home	<b>W 8-0</b>
Sat Sep 15	5:00	Tennessee Wesleyan College	Away	
<b>Fri Sep 21</b>	2:00	University of Mobile	Home	
<b>Sat Sep 22</b>	4:30	Spring Hill College	Home	
<b>Thur Sep 27</b>	8:30	Belhaven University	Away	
<b>Sat Sep 29</b>	8:00	<b>William Carey University</b>	<b>Away</b>	
<b>Wed Oct 3</b>	3:00	<b>Southern Wesleyan University</b>	<b>Home</b>	
<b>Sat Oct 6</b>	4:30	<b>Truett-McConnell College</b>	<b>Away</b>	
<b>Thur Oct 11</b>	8:00	<b>Faulkner University</b>	<b>Away</b>	
<b>Sat Oct 13</b>	4:30	<b>Auburn University-Montgomery</b>	<b>Away</b>	
<b>Wed Oct 17</b>	3:00	<b>Brewton Parker College</b>	<b>Home</b>	
<b>Sat Oct 20</b>	7:00	<b>Emmanuel College</b>	<b>Away</b>	
<b>Sat Oct 27</b>	2:00	<b>Lee University</b>	<b>Home</b>	

\*Bold – Conference games

#### Home game ticket prices:

SPSU Student ID - Free

Adults - \$4

SPSU Faculty/Staff - Free

Children (under 18) - \$2

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## Leaving games early: the ultimate sports fan “no-no”

by Amanda Blanton



photo by Amanda Blanton

It was a hot, humid day at Turner Field on May 2, 2012 in game 2 of the series against the Philadelphia Phillies.

We were just coming off a 2-4 loss Tuesday night against our National League-East rival and my fellow Braves fans and I were hungry to bring home a W. Things got off to a very rough start with the Phillies scoring 4 runs in the third inning and two more in the fifth while ATL remained scoreless.

It was going into the bottom of the fifth when Braves fans started filtering out of Ted. I remember turning to my friend and asking, “Why are people leaving so early? It is only the fifth inning! There is still plenty of time.” Shortly after my comment, the Braves turned the six-point deficit into the most exciting baseball game I had ever seen.

Atlanta scored 6 runs in the bottom of the fifth alone thanks to the help an epic Brian McCann grand slam. The Braves were up by one in the top of the eighth but the Phillies were not having that. They added one more run to the board forcing the game to go into extra innings. After a scoreless tenth inning, the Braves were up to bat in the bottom of the eleventh.

The tomahawk chopping crowd was growing anxious with one man on base when the one, the only, Chipper Jones stepped up to bat. Before I knew it, I heard the mighty crack of the bat as Chipper

knocked the ball over the outfield wall closing the game down 15-13 in eleven innings.

I was so excited I nearly fell over the railing jumping and high-fiving Braves fans around me. The stadium had lost a ton of fans since the start of the game and only a number were still around to experience Chipper’s magic and the Sports Center top plays.

I hope all the fans that left the game in the top of the fifth inning enjoyed listening to the rest of the game on the radio of their cars because they missed, in my opinion, the most remarkable Braves game this season so far.

That Braves game inspired me to write this article, almost as a public service announcement or persuasive essay. I have been to over 100 sporting events in the past four years (I’m in the GT Band so this has really added up my game count) so I have been able to witness a lot of different sports in various arenas and stadiums.

One thing I have noticed during the past few years of tuba playing and traveling is that most fans are the same in the aspect that they leave games early. Why? I have no idea. Well...I know of some reasons fans would want to leave early... but they are not good enough to leave your team!

One reason why fans would want to leave early is to avoid traffic. There is no doubt that it can be horrible after games!

I have sat on a bus on the campus of Virginia Tech for literally two hours before even leaving the parking lot because traffic was so horrible after a Thursday night football game.

The way I see it, traffic is just part of the atmosphere and pageantry of any athletic event. Paying ten bucks for a hot dog and Coke, dealing with drunken fans, sweating your ass off in the summer and freezing in the winter... it’s all part of the experience! Fans should allot an extra hour or so to their commute to the stadium/arena because there will always be traffic.

Leaving the game early will surely lessen the amount of time dealing with parking lot headaches, but your team needs the support throughout the entire game.

Another reason why fans would head towards the exit early is, of course, if their team is losing. No one wants to see their team lose and some people feel like the best option is to just throw in the towel and head home. Dealing with fans of the opposing team after a loss is never fun. Trust me, there is nothing worse than being barked at by grown men while leaving the stadium in Athens after your favorite team loses a rivalry game.

My best advice is to block out the haters. Don’t retaliate, just wait it out till the end of the game and head out quietly. You paid fifty bucks and drove a couple hours to see your favorite team play, just sit back

down and stay.

You never know, they could come back! I’ve seen some crazy stuff happen and I never give up hope when it comes to sports. Granted, being down by four TD’s with 2 minutes left in the fourth sounds less than hopefully, your team will appreciate your support nonetheless.

Leaving when your team is winning is also something I have experienced...come on, people! I know you have work in the morning or have other personal things to get home to, but at least stay till the end and clap for your team as they leave the field of play. The Braves game I described earlier was in the middle of finals week and I definitely had papers to write and homework I could have been working on. I was so glad I stayed the full eleven innings.

While the Falcons were gearing up for their playoff game against the NY Giants last season, an ESPN blogger wrote an article entitled “City of Atlanta doesn’t deserve to win.” Harsh, I know! Rob Parker said that “The worst sports town, ‘Hotlanta’ is as cold as it gets when it comes to fan support.”

As much as it pains me to admit it, he made some valid points in his article. Would the Dirty Birds have scored more than a safety in the embarrassing playoff game loss if our support as a whole was not lukewarm? Athletic teams thrive off of their fans and their steadfast support over the years and never leaving a game early is a step in the right direction.

Next time you head to Phillips, Ted, The Dome, an SPSU game or your other favorite college campus, make an effort to stay for the full four quarters, nine innings, two halves or three periods. A true fan will sit the game out no matter how unlikely the comeback is, how much homework they have waiting for them at home or how bad the traffic will be.



Congregation Ner Tamid  
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Congregation Ner Tamid holds services at a location near Dallas Highway & West Sandtown Road, Marietta, 10 minutes due west of Marietta Square.

### Schedule of Services:

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service:  
Sunday, September 16 at 7:00pm. There will be Oneg following service.

Rosh Hashanah Day Services:  
Monday, September 17- 10:00am

Kol Nidre:  
Tuesday, September 25-7:00pm

Yom Kippur:  
Wednesday, September 26, service will begin at 10:00am and will last throughout the day with a small break mid-day.

A potluck Breakfast following the conclusion of Yom Kippur services.

For more information, visit [www.mynertamid.org](http://www.mynertamid.org)

### Sports and Wellness Center Hours

Monday	6:30am-10:00pm
Tuesday	6:30am-10:00pm
Wednesday	6:30am-10:00pm
Thursday	6:30am-10:00pm
Friday	6:30am- 8:00pm
Saturday	12:00pm- 4:00pm
Sunday	4:00pm-10:00pm

**Mandatory Captain’s Meeting and Official Training for Flag Football September 12 4:00 p.m. contact 678 915-6811**

### Fall 2012 Intramural Sport Calendar of Events

Activity	Entry Period	Activity Begins
Welcome Back Softball	August 15 – September 7	September 12
Flag Football Season	August 15 – September 10	September 13
Racquetball Tournament	September 5 - September 26	September 27
Dodgeball Tournament	September 5 - September 26	September 27
Golf Tournament	September 10 - October 5	October 12
Powerlifting	September 10 - October 5	October 11
Volleyball	October 1 - October 15	October 17
Whiffleball Tournament	September 10 - October 5	October 12
Ping Pong/Pool	October 10 - October 26	October 30
Basketball Challenge	October 25 - November 9	November 12

**Film Review: International Flavor**  
**Micmacs (French) (2009)**  
 continued from page 11

for his tragedies. With all of the subject matter focused on weapons of destruction and the disruptive effects they have on society, you would think this movie to be a drama or suspense/thriller. Contrarily, it is more of a comedy than anything. (And a pretty good one at that.) One that delivers in a well-paced, over-the-top, yet

nonchalant manner that the French are famous for. Writer/director Jean-Pierre Jeunet puts together a lighthearted, off-handed script. The plot manages to display crude and complex scenarios and ingenuity for the characters and their ordeals. Jeunet directing is simplistic and unobtrusive to the story. The visual effects were nothing special but that does not hinder the overall

experience in anyway. Most, if not all of the effects could be done in our own Mac Lab. (That's not a diss. It's more a point of inspiration for any aspiring filmmakers around campus in the now burgeoning New Media Arts Program.) So if you find yourself with 100 minutes to kill or just want to decompress from class with a good laugh, check it out.

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# Meet your new friend, Travis!



Well, you could say Travis learned the hard way. When he first came to SPSU, he had a bit of a struggle. Travis spent most of his time stuck in traffic as he commuted to and from SPSU. He had a difficult time with his classes and it seemed like he was the last to know about any campus events.

Thanks to a little help from his friend, Max, Travis learned the error of his ways. He now lives in Hornet Village and has made it his mission to be as involved on campus as possible.

Whether it be a parking lot closure, FREE food, promotions, or events, Travis seems to know about everything! The good news? Travis plans to pass all that info on to you, so you don't have to learn the hard way!

Let him help you...

**LIVE THE ULTIMATE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.**



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facebook.com/TravisOfSPSU

Keep up with Travis on Twitter & facebook!



Check out this video to learn more about Travis!



Fall 2012 - Spring 2013

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