

SPORTS

The Atlanta Falcons:
2012 preview
Is it their year? P.18

FEATURES

Traveling to China on
SPSU's dime P.9

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SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER **THE STING**



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GAME ON!



LADY HORNETS PREPARED FOR '12-13 BASKETBALL SEASON

THE SPSU WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM IS READY TO HIT THE COURT AGAIN THIS FALL AND BEGIN A NEW SEASON. HEAD COACH LAQUANDA DAWKINS, IN HER THIRD SEASON WITH THE TEAM, IS EXCITED FOR THIS YEAR'S SCHEDULE.

By Amanda Blanton

"Each new season is a challenge because I have a new team to work with, new opponents to face and often new ideas and schemes to try," explained Coach Dawkins. "This year's schedule fits extremely well with our team goals for this group of ladies. I am really

excited about our non-conference schedule, which will prepare us well for the competitive play within the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC)."

After going 6-24 last year, the team and coaching staff is ready for a fresh start. During the off-season, the

players have continued to work on their skills with conditioning, weight programs and have met with the coaching staff to establish individual goals and areas of concentrations. Coach Dawkins and the Lady Hornets are ready to (*Continue on page 18*)

INSIDE THIS EDITION



P. 7

FEATURES:
HUMAN VS. ZOMBIES



P. 11

**ROCK 'N ROLLING
WITH THE BITERS**



P. 17

GAME REVIEWS:
DARKSIDERS II



P. 12

OPINION:
**CHICK-FIL-A
CONTROVERSY**



P. 19

SPORTS:
FEATURED ATHLETE

OPINION

SPSU SPEECH TEAM EARNS NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

By Misty York

On Saturday, September 29, members of the Southern Polytechnic State University Speech Team earned national qualifications in two events.

In competition at Gainesville State College, senior Technical Communication major Toby Pope placed fifth in impromptu speaking, and junior Political Science major Tyler Maran placed fourth in both impromptu and extemporaneous speaking.

Pope also earned seventh-place honors in editorial

impromptu and informative speaking. Maran placed fifth in editorial impromptu. SPSU placed fourth in team sweepstakes.

"We brought home awards for every event we entered," said team coordinator Prof. Misty York. "Converting 100% of our events is an extraordinary achievement, and the national qualifications made the day even sweeter."

Dr. Mark Stevens, assistant coach and professor of English, added, "To achieve these

results in the first competition of the year shows the team's remarkable hard work and talent. SPSU is preparing students not only in technical ability, but also in the skills needed to communicate that knowledge to our linked-in 21st-century world."

The team has a busy fall schedule planned, with competitions at the University of

Alabama and Berry College set for October.

THE BEST DEBATE IN TOWN

By Robert Banard

The most important election in recent history is nearly upon us. Not sure who to vote for in the presidential election. Wait! Don't vote yet. Are you tired of hearing all the things politicians say in the debates and political advertisements? Come out and watch a debate of students on the issues facing the election and get a different perspective. There

will be a Mock Presidential Debate held on Monday, November 5th, in the Student Center Theater from 12-1. The debate will cover domestic and foreign policy. There will be two teams of three: one representing the Obama campaign and one the Romney campaign. We will also have three students asking as questioners. All students are encouraged to

attend. Punch and cookies will be available before the debate outside the theater for those attending. The students representing President Obama will be Origen Monsanto, Teyanna Henry, and Patrick Sumner. The Romney team will be Erin McGehee, Frederick Roddy, and Tyler Maran. Meredith Shaddix will act as the moderator.

FALLING FOR FREE T-SHIRTS

SPSU first ever student hexagon photo September 25th



photo by Vicki Nix

Participants received free t-shirts

PROTESTS ON SPAIN

By Kevin Van der Horn

On September 25th, 2012, protesters and police in Madrid clashed in a bloody confrontation.

The protesters were furious with Spain's current economic standing and they were even more infuriated with the more recent austerity cutbacks and tax hikes put in place by Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy.

Spain is experiencing its second recession in three years. Angry protesters that could get the closest

to the Parliament building, shouted that the current elected officials need to step down and be replaced with people that would better represent the peoples' interests.

At least nine people were reported injured and fifteen were detained. It was reported that police were seen dragging away a protester whose head was covered in blood. Smaller demonstrations took place in Barcelona and Seville.



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ATLANTA PRIDE 2012

By Sharon Hammes

In the early morning hours of June 28, 1969, a bar in Greenwich, NY called the Stonewall Inn was raided.

Three days of rioting broke out over continued police harassment of

year to give our members a chance to publicly show their pride for their LGBT family members and to promote the existence of our chapter that meets each month in Marietta - we are here to

mean to an LGBT person coming out.

They wish everyone had that same love and support. At our meetings, we provide a safe and loving atmosphere where people can express whatever they are dealing with in their lives. Some want to help their parents deal with them being LGBT or seeking just some love and an accepting venue. PRIDE is where many hear about us.

Freedman adds, "You really get the sense of community. It's an eclectic group of people. You might

Of all the events that happen during Pride's weekend, Freedman says his favorite is "The parade!

The parade is, to me, the most moving experience that I feel every single year. Watching it or marching in it and seeing individuals of all different walks of life coming together is incredible. Seeing religious groups supporting gays and handing out water or seeing P-FLAG - those parents who march in support of their gay children lovingly and unconditionally - it is so moving," he adds. "It brings tears to my eyes to see hundreds of thousands of people cheering. It brings people who are still in the closet one step closer to coming out and brings us all one step closer to equality."

In addition to the main parade, the event also has smaller parades, children's events, "YoGaga" - a Lady Gaga-inspired Yoga where "participants are encouraged to wear festive, Gaga-inspired costumes," a car and motorcycle show, performances including one by Indigo Girl, Amy Ray, and many other events. A full calendar of events can be

found at www.AtlantaPride.org.

One of the attractions that will be central to the event is a human rights exhibit inside the park. "They talk about the struggles of LGBT folks [SIC] through their own experiences and through people who are straight allies and why they support full equality," says Freedman.

Freedman boils Gay Pride Weekend down to its essence. "It's remembering the people who came before us and what they had to go through. They couldn't come out at their jobs, in their churches or even to their families. In the early days of Atlanta Pride, people would walk in the parade with bags on their heads because they didn't want to be photographed because they could be fired or evicted. Those are trailblazers who put their lives on the line and we remember them."

Freedman notes that "even today in Georgia, there are no protections from being fired in this state for being gay. We still have things to change but we also have things to celebrate and that's what we're doing."

For more information about Atlanta's Gay Pride Weekend, visit www.AtlantaPride.org.

"IT BRINGS PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL IN THE CLOSET ONE STEP CLOSER TO COMING OUT AND BRINGS US ALL ONE STEP CLOSER TO EQUALITY."



homosexuals. In the wake of the riots, a revolution began and the gay rights movement was born.

To commemorate the event, gay pride parades were held in a handful of cities the following June of 1970. It was also the first Gay Pride event in Atlanta and the beginning of our annual Pride celebration. This event has been moved to October to coincide with National Coming Out Day on October 11. This year's 42nd Pride weekend is October 13-14 and will be held in Piedmont Park in Atlanta.

Atlanta Pride Board Committee Chair, Glen Paul Freedman, spoke to The Sting about the event: "As college students and international students who may or may not even identify as lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, straight or allies - there is a place for you at Pride. It is a very safe environment."

Roger Bell, an organizer for P-FLAG Marietta chapter, agrees with Freedman. "We participate in PRIDE each

support LGBT people and their families."

His chapter will march with other P-FLAG groups from around the state in the enormous parade on Sunday October 14th. "The crowd cheers for us because they know what love and support

be sitting at the parade next to a young straight person who is starting a Gay/Straight Alliance at their school on one side and maybe an elderly gay couple on the other side. Some are from other nations where they don't have a gay pride event."



UNITED STATES ATTACKED AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 11th

By Robert Barnard

The United States once again fell under attack on September 11th.

These attacks came as many U.S. citizens were remembering the tragic events only 11 years earlier. The United States Embassies in Cairo, Egypt and Benghazi, Libya were attacked and our flag torn down and burned.

Initial reports stated that this was due to a 14-minute trailer to a movie that doesn't exist, that attacks the prophet Mohammed and the religion of Islam.

"I BELIEVE THAT NOW IS THE TIME FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES TO BAND TOGETHER..."

Later information came to light from the Libyan president that the attacks were planned in advance of September 11th, the anniversary of one of the worst days in American history.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has since said that after further investigation that it definitely was a planned terrorist attack.

During the attack on the embassy in Libya the U. S. Ambassador to Libya was killed with three other Americans.

The early response from our embassy in Egypt was to apologize for our insensitivity due to the trailer.

Attacking any United States Embassy is the same as attacking us on U. S. soil. Our embassies are considered to be sovereign United States soil. Now, our embassies in over 20 countries around the world are under violent protest.

Once again, reports come stating that this is due to the movie trailer that was produced by a Coptic Christian from Egypt residing in the United States.

I believe this is due to the hatred of U. S. culture and exceptionalism by Islamic radicals seeking the destruction of our country and everything we stand for.

I believe that the president is too busy trying to keep his job when he should just try doing his job. I was asked by

someone "what should the president do?"

My response to this question is anything other than talk. Now is not the time for rhetoric. I think that the time has passed for talk and now is time for action. This action could be cutting off foreign aid to those countries that can't seem to control their people and protect our embassies or it could be as strong as a military action of some sort.

I believe that trying to please countries that despise

Americans and our way of life is not the way to resolve the current issues overseas. The world as we know it is changing and we do not need to change our way of life because of it.

I believe that if this continued unrest goes unresolved we may be headed for World War III. Some of you may think I am crazy and possibly overreacting.

I feel that the U. S. has been targeted by these attacks. I'm concerned that if something is not done soon, the attacks could very well end up on our shores once again.

I believe we not only need to push the president to take some course of action, but congress as well. The one thing the president has done is send in marines to various countries around the region of turmoil.

I believe that now is the time for the citizens of the United States to band together as we did after the attack on September 11, 2001. Remember this motto "United We Stand" and also "Divided We Fall."

As a veteran of the U.S. Navy, I believe there is nothing more important than the defense of the United States and its citizens, both at home and abroad.

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

CONTACT US: sting@spsu.edu // 678 915 7310 // www.spsu.edu/the sting

EDITORIAL

By Vicki Nix

We are excited to announce that *The Sting* will have "newsroom" hours in our office in A-246 in the Student center from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the fall semester.

This is a time that students and writers will have an opportunity to drop in and work with the editorial staff and the

faculty advisor.

I probably will be accused of sounding like a broken record, but here I go again. SPSU students are some of the most energetic and talented people I know.

Having the opportunity to feed off their energy in class and as part of *The Sting* has given me the second wind that I need to begin the next chapter of my career.

I love working in a professional and creative environment and think you will, too. There is something about watching new ideas blossom and the quantum leaps we make with new skills. Drop in for a healthy dose of fun.

This edition is dedicated to our community of talented students.

WHY YOU SHOULD WATCH THE NEWSROOM

By Jeff Tucker

Last month, HBO's series *The Newsroom* concluded in spectacular fashion. In a world where 24-hour news networks have essentially destroyed political journalism, writer Aaron Sorkin (*The West Wing*, *The Social Network*) has tackled the subject with much controversy.

Is the show preachy? Yes. Is that a bad thing? Usually it is, but it works here. It's apparent from the start that the series is escapist political and journalistic fantasy; you should brace yourself for its lasting impact.

Sorkin ruminates on how political journalism and the media in general should behave: they should stick to the facts; the idea of presenting the other side is undesirable when it has no basis in reality; and the media should readily admit that

America does have its failings in many areas. This is the series' thesis. How these growing themes are handled is up to the viewer.

To put it bluntly, the series is very decisive and very reminiscent of Terrence Malick's *Tree of Life*. It's a 'love it or hate it' work of art. It is exceptional in its presentation, but it may upset the more conservative members of the populace who decide to take the plunge into media and political scrutiny.

The pilot immediately wanders into controversial territory. Will McAvoy's (Jeff Daniels) academic response to the question, "Can you say why America is the greatest country in the world?" feels like a "leftist" rant.

It isn't. He answers the **"THE SERIES IS VERY DECISIVE AND VERY REMINISCENT OF TERRENE MALICK'S TREE OF LIFE"**

question with honest fervor. What follows is a season of backlash against such an ill-advised response, let alone one to the university student who made the inquiry.

McAvoy did the unthinkable in the eyes of the media. He made factual statements fused with criticism of the country. This is a no-no for a conservative news anchor (yes, McAvoy is conservative). The backlash affects him personally and professionally.

The current political climate is not kind to those who argue, no matter how logically, in a manner that appears anti-American.

Many may look at criticisms of the country they love as "un-American"

and something that should never be said if you want to be seen as patriotic. Sorkin uses the aforementioned response from McAvoy and its reaction to show what can happen as a result. It also demonstrates that someone can be critical of America and still remain patriotic.

This is a message that needs to be hammered into the political realm. *The Newsroom* is at its heart a tale of patriotism in a time where the country needs it most.

Why should more people watch *The Newsroom*? It's a fantastical and scathing commentary on the American media and politics.

Is the show's desired presentation of the media unrealistic? The skeptic in me says it is because I can't see the mainstream media sticking to facts instead of sensationalism.

The series also holds no punches when it chooses to address issues that for some reason are still debatable. Hypocrisy is knocked out, falsehoods are drowned, and it remains a breath of fresh air for political dramas. Watch this series.

SOCIAL POLITICS

By Christopher Harris

With an increased focus on civil rights, from contraception to gay marriage, voters need to decide whether they are more concerned with politics and economics, or social issues.

In our recent economic status, an increased emphasis has been placed on the deficit and budgets by the Republican Party, whereas the Democratic Party has jumped on recent social events to win people over. Both parties have of course created platforms which include each arena, but there seems to be an undeniable focus from each. How should this influence the voters?

Focus among the voters even seems to be divided among party lines. This is not wise, though. While certainly both political and social topics are important, voters should look at what is more important to the country as a whole. During hard economic times, politicians need to work on fixing the economy more so than working to fix social problems. (Though fixing some social problems

could be argued to help the economy, the social issues being changed are effects, not affects).

When the economy is doing well, then there is room for social change. There is not as much of a need to fix the economy when it is already doing well.

It could also be argued, however, that the social equality that civil rights advocates argue for is metaphysically more important than stabilizing the economy. Then it would be foolish to put social equality on the backburner and work primarily on the economy. However, this argument doesn't hold up. In order for social progress to take place, there has to actually be a stable country. Otherwise any progress could be undone by the country collapsing.

This does not mean that we should not care about social issues in this election, but the state of the economy would suggest that we should add focus to economic problems over social ones.



DISAPPEARING CORAL REEFS IN BRAZIL

By Kevin Van Der Horn

A new study shows that a significant percentage of the coral reefs stretching for 2,000km along Brazil's coast is beginning to disappear.

These discoveries came about when the Ministerio de Meio Ambiente (Ministry of Environment) and Pernambuco Federal University began to monitor the coral reefs starting in 2002.

Researchers found that nearly eighty percent of Brazil's coral reefs have been reduced as a result of urban pollution and illegal removal.

Officials have discovered that untreated water sewage from some of the major coastal cities near the reefs is a major reason for the disappearance of these reefs. Up until the 1980's, chunks of the reefs were being removed for the production of calcium oxide which is also known as quicklime.



SOUTH AFRICA POLITICIAN LAUNDERS MILLIONS

By Kevin Van Der Horn

In a stunning turn of events, evidence has turned up that Julius Malema, prominent South African politician of the ANC party, was involved in a huge money laundering scheme. Records

"RECORDS SHOW MALEMA LAUNDERED A TOTAL OF 4.6 MILLION RAND (US \$558, 882)."

show that Malema laundered a total of 4.6 million rand (US \$558, 882). The way that Malema allegedly carried out his laundering, is that along with conspirators, he formed a fake construction company called On-Point. They made false declarations about the company, such

as it having nine years of experience, when in reality it had only been around since 2009. They went on to devise a scenario, where the transportation department would pay On-Point 52 million rand to construct a new system of roads. When On-Point had received the payment, Malema used some of the funds to purchase 3.9 million rand worth of land and to make a payment on a Mercedes-Benz Viano. Malema is expected to be in a court hearing soon.



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FEATURES

DEF JAM'S RISING ARTIST: FRANK OCEAN

AN EVALUATION OF HIS LATEST OUTPUTS

R.C. Williams

Less than a week leading up to the release of his debut album, R&B sensation, Frank Ocean wrote a letter to the public telling his story of how just a few years back he fell in love with another man. This stirred up all kinds of talk in the media and just before the chatter died down, he released Channel Orange a week prior to its planned premiere date—I believe his coming out was a publicity stunt, or a way to seek sympathy whilst enhancing his fan base, and consequently expanding his sales profit.

Publicity stunt or not, Ocean's coming-out letter is a work of art in itself. It is not a cliché rally over the inequity of gay rights, nor does it make any evident statements about the unfairness of it all. It is just an articulately documented entry about an experience that altered his life perpetually. It reveals how Ocean was surprised when he found himself falling in love with a man only to be crushed when his love goes unreturned. Ocean writes "By the time I realized I was in love, it was malignant. It was hopeless."

A person does not necessarily have to know of Frank Ocean, his work, or be concerned with the struggles of gay minorities to appreciate the beauty and innocence of his words. As with his letter, on Channel Orange, Frank Ocean is able to portray an angelic persona as he recounts dealing with his feelings for the man in the midst of everything else going on in his life at the time.

Earlier this year Ocean

had an interview with BBC where he described his process of writing music as something closer to writing fictional prose.

"What inspires me to make music is I'm just inspired to tell stories, and you gotta [SIC] make sure the listener is listening to you," He said, "and if you put it in the form of a song, oftentimes, if the song is striking enough, you can

"I'M JUST INSPIRED TO TELL STORIES, AND YOU [SIC] GOTTA MAKE SURE THE LISTENER IS LISTENING TO YOU"

really deliver the story most effectively while keeping the ear of the listener the whole time."

The centerpiece of the album "Pyramids," a near ten-minute song, is one that is sure to enthrall its listeners. The somewhat multifaceted and ambiguous short tales are balanced out by this piece. "Pyramids" takes us through a

revelation of ancient Egypt to a raunchy strip club of an unnamed location. There is also a somewhat striking acid-rock guitar solo that adds obvious contrast-breaking down the tone. A song of "Pyramids" stature is a risk for any R&B artist; still Frank Ocean is able to pull it off flawlessly. This song draws

a parallel between Ocean's dreams and dealing with his real-life issues. He seems to be dealing with a lover who has left him, and his dream represents the relationship they had as a king and a queen (Cleopatra) ruling over some great kingdom.

In comparison, "Sierra Leone" is probably the least inspiring song of Channel Orange. It embodies exceptionally scattered and vague aspects of Ocean's work. It is not entirely awful though because it sort of balances out the other lyric intensive songs on the album. He is basically declaring his thoughts on impregnating a girl. There is somewhat of a reminiscent tone, which would make sense since he is telling a story; it is far less figurative compared to the other songs on the album. Even in areas of the album where his stories lose cohesion and are not as cleverly written, Frank Ocean's Channel Orange still brings joy to the ears of its audience.

As previously exemplified

Channel Orange does have its odd pieces. The songs "White" and "Thinking About You" are for some reason difficult for me to work into the overall composition of the album, with them having been previously released. They are not bad songs by a long shot but they do not fit the album.

I fear that in some instances Channel Orange was perceived in light of Frank Ocean's letter, which is why a lot of the comparisons stem from this. That being said, it almost seems necessary to review the album in this way since Ocean is a storyteller—listeners need something of which to draw conclusions from and make connections.

All in all, Frank Ocean is a much of a visionary as he is a pure entertainer. He may not flourish into the typical hit single sensation, but I could argue that this is a good thing for the mainstream music industry. In a way, Frank Ocean is bringing R&B back to its roots with inspirations from artist like Prince and Maxwell. Is Frank Ocean a change in the course of the latest pop music? Sure,

but as Joan Jett would say "put another dime in the jukebox, baby!" Because Channel Orange is most definitely peaking on legendary.

Source: BBC. BBC Sound of 2012: Frank Ocean, 2012. Video.

Source: Ocean, Frank. Frankocean.com Thank Yous , 2012. Web. July 14, 2012.

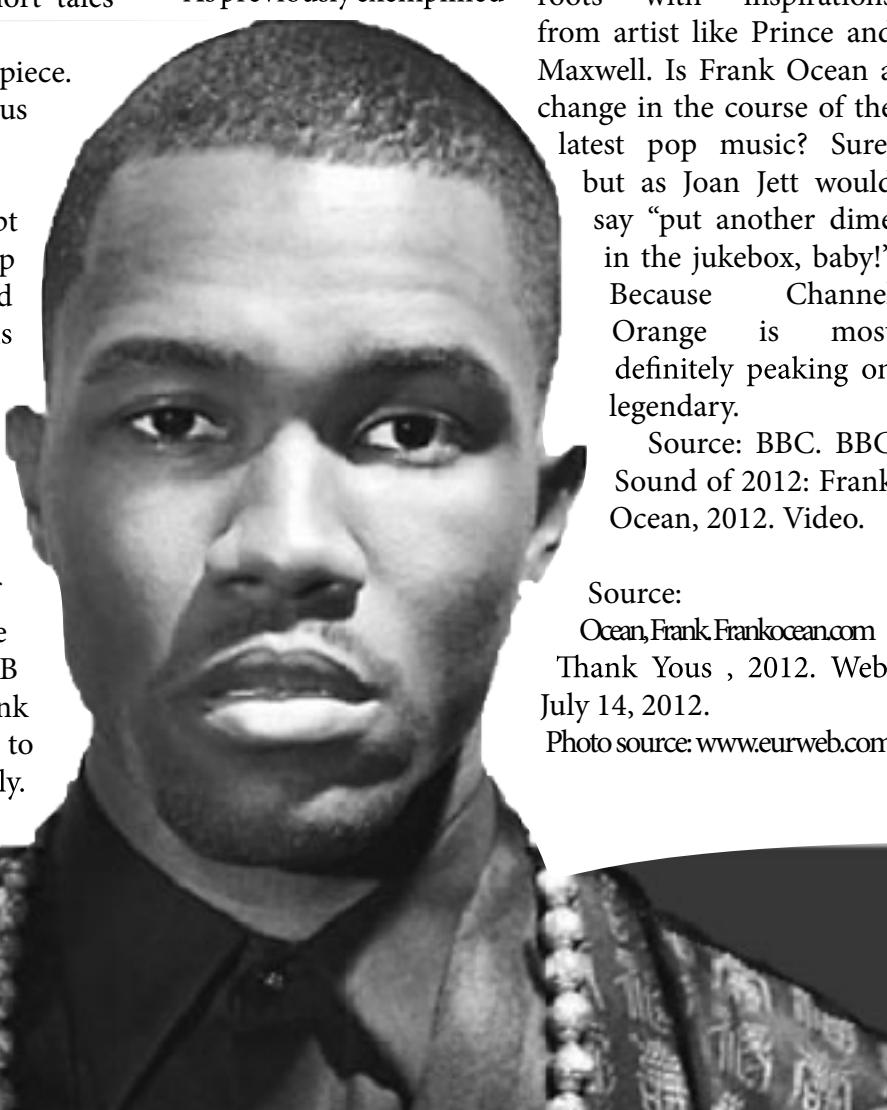
Photo source: www.eurweb.com

SIDE BY SIDE By Christopher Kenneally

In 2002, George Lucas released Star Wars: Attack of the Clones. It was in this moment that the film industry witnessed a major feature length movie recorded digitally and in high definition. 35mm film stock was not used. Instead, the director opted for a new technology. What followed has resulted in a decade-long progression in digital cinematography and its reputation in the industry. The documentary Side by Side, narrated by Keanu Reeves, addresses this blooming technology.

Side by Side argues in favor of digital cinematography and its advantages over film, whether 16mm, 35mm, 60mm, and the all-too-famous 70mm (IMAX). The arguments are comprehensible, logically sound, and ultimately compelling. Throughout the 99 minute runtime, Keanu Reeves interviews various filmmakers for and against digital cinematography. Those in the former camp include James Cameron (Avatar), Lars Von Trier (Melancholia), the aforementioned George Lucas, and the wondrous David Fincher (The Social Network). Those against digital include most notably Christopher Nolan and his director of photography, Wally Pfister. They both may accept why digital is taking off, but they admit they'll be among the last who continue to use celluloid.

The most obvious argument in favor of digital cinematography is perhaps the most convincing: efficiency. In fact, this is the crux of the arguments in the pro-digital realm. The documentary makes it a point to note that with film cameras, you constantly have to stop and reload the film stock as opposed to simply recording on a disc drive. Why would anyone prefer having to constantly reload after ten or so minutes instead of shooting for over a half hour with no breaks? Keanu asks this very question to proponents of film cinematography. Another argument in regards to efficiency, as Keanu notes in the interviews, is that it allows amateurs to get (Continued on page 5)



vibe to this

THE SMELL OF ROTTING FLESH IS PRETTY BAD OVER HERE...

HUMANS VS. ZOMBIES



Image source: <http://www.hvzsource.com/spsu/>

By Travis Wood

The SPSU Foam Ballistics Team hosted their second campus-wide game of Humans versus Zombies at the start of this semester. There were over 250 active players who joined in on the biting and shooting. The ballistics team co-hosted the event with SPSU Housing, enabling Humans could use either Nerf firearms or socks. And, if you didn't partake (or stayed in your room until the final mission

Mack Wilson Student Center steps with their moderator while the Zombies met by the J Building. Each were given their assignment which ranged from recovering barrels from random spots on the campus, to an escort mission, to retrieving parts of a gun to bring back and assemble, and so on and so forth. Some of the Zombie missions were unique as well, but as far as I could tell, the Zombies were simply tasked with screwing over

the Humans in their attempts to win. Missions continued despite the rainy weather.

While I did participate, the game's rules and details were difficult to follow. I talked to the lead moderator Liv Hood to cover my bases. The game started Sunday night, 10 pm, with 3 OZ's (or Original Zombies). Unfortunately, the fastest and most committed Human players were the first to be infected and for the surviving Humans, it all went downhill from there. One particular victory for the zombies was the Tuesday night mission which was to escort an individual marked as a scientist from point A to point B. The Humans present suffered a total wipe,

further fueling the Zombie numbers as well as reducing the Zombie respawn time (the time it takes for a Zombie to play again after being shot) from 15 minutes to 10. These events insured the Zombie numbers wouldn't be further bolstered by the

Hives, a Special Zombie that last year was able to cocoon itself with other zombies, becoming effectively invulnerable.

Moderators were a little shocked by this, so the game took a turn and offered a number of Anti-Virus bandanas. For Zombies, these allowed them to become Humans once again. For Humans, they were essentially allowed a second life after they were tagged. This greatly helped to re-balance

SIDE BY SIDE

(Continued from page 4)

their hands on inexpensive equipment to shoot a short or even a feature. Actor/director Lena Dunham hammers home that she likely wouldn't be where she is today if she did not have access to a Canon EOS 7D, which she used on her feature *Tiny Furniture*. It's this efficiency that allows aspiring filmmakers to enter the vast filmmaking world without having to enroll in film school to use their equipment. Every argument in favor of this new technology is a subset of efficiency.

Pro-digital arguments aren't the only invigorating portions of the documentary. The audience is treated to a history lesson in regards to digital cameras, including the advent of DV (digital video). Director Danny Boyle used a DV camera for his horror film *28 Days Later* and he explains why he opted for that instead of film. It also outlines the progression of HD cameras, including the breakthrough that was the RED Camera.

the game, allowing some of the better players to switch back to Humans. A few Humans were able to get a hold of the bandanas as well. There was also some drama that ensued from one player that was promptly banned from the game.

It finally came down to the last mission on Thursday for Extraction. Despite the sparse showing of Humans during previous missions, the two sides were almost even with favor towards the Human numbers. The multitude of different guns, some regular stock while others had been modified, was a formidable sight.

After a few rapid transitions from place to place, the Humans held their ground around the globe. Although this was the place I finally fell (zombie got me in the back), the Humans succeeded with minimal casualties. In fact, the Zombies didn't chance too many attacks, only a full-scale charge or two. No one was awarded any prizes (mostly due to the fact that 80% of the Humans hid away for all but twenty minutes of

play time) so instead, a Last Man Standing game was played after everything was said and done where Zombies could simply respawn by touching the steps of the Student Center behind the Globe.

And so passed the HvZ opening session for the semester of 2012 for SPSU, but, it won't be the only HvZ of the semester. Another is planned on being held in the month of October, more notably for Halloween. Don't know what to dress up as? Well, hopefully we'll have more than a few of you dress up as zombies. As more HvZ games are held more players will become more acclimated to the rules, allowing newer features to be implemented for the players' amusement. There is also a plan on gathering more moderators for the next session, possibly allowing more flexibility and better and faster responses. Until then, Like the SPSU Foam Ballistics Team on Facebook to find out when they meet together for quick little pick up matches and games. Who knows? I might even see you there.

"THE FASTEST AND MOST COMMITTED HUMAN PLAYERS WERE THE FIRST TO BE INFECTED"

like a coward Human), you missed out.

The basic idea is simple: Humans try to stay alive while Zombies try to tag them and thus turn them into more Zombies. Humans wear a bandana or something like it around their arm while Zombies were theirs around their head. There are Safe Zones as well as No Play zones to keep the game more regulated, and to insure the game suddenly didn't involve indifferent pedestrians. The game ends on Extraction Day, where all surviving Humans must hold out against all of their fallen comrades. Overlooking the game were a total of 10 moderators, 4 from Housing and 6 from the SPSU Foam Ballistics Team.

Every day, there were a total of 3 missions, usually around 12, 3, and 8. The Humans met up at the Joe

We also get to see portions about the RED One, RED Epic, and the Arri Alexa, the latter of which was used in Martin Scorsese's *Hugo*. Layman explanations on how film and digital cameras operate are a fantastic addition to show the differences between the two.

Side by Side's ultimate weakness is the lack of an equal playing field for pro-film supporters. While Christopher Nolan and Wally Pfister tell the audience why they will always prefer it, it feels like their

other arguments were left on the cutting room floor. Their arguments appear to be simplistic and ineffective compared to those of Finch, Cameron, and Dunham. While the documentary is support for the digital community, it should still have a semblance of fair play for the other side. There's only so many times you can stomach that film looks better.

Side by Side is available on Video On Demand through Amazon Instant Video, iTunes, and VUDU.



FEATURES

STANDING OUT

By Bianca Snea

Hello, my name is Bianca Snead and I am currently a senior at SPSU, majoring in Business Administration.

Nekeshia Griffin is an upcoming graduate, a role model to students, and a welcoming roommate. Nekeshia's character is very well noted among her peers. Her willingness to

"I JUST DON'T WANT A CAREER; I WANT TO MAKE A STRONG IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY THAT I LIVE IN."

work hard is reflected in the classroom. I decided to take the time to brief everyone on her accomplishments as a full-time student while living on campus.

What is your current major?

My major is Biology.

What motivated you to pursue Biology?

When I was in 6th grade I started thinking about what I wanted to do when grew up. There was an awards ceremony in middle school. The student with the highest grade point average always won the trophy and I wanted a trophy, so I worked really hard and studied, and I won a science trophy. I had one of the highest grade point averages in science, and I was also a well rounded student.

How do you see this program fitting into your career goals?

This program will fit into my career goals because I am geared toward nature and the environment. I am about protecting the environment, teaching others, and also showing and telling people how they can appreciate nature and the environment more. I don't just want a career; I want to make a strong impact on the community that I live in.

Why did you choose to attend SPSU?

I chose to attend Southern Polytechnic State University because out of all the schools I toured and researched, I was really impressed with the biology

program SPSU offered. The biology program is close knit, and has some very passionate professors. As a student in the program, I am encouraged to become the best that I can be.

Do you think that upon completing your undergraduate at SPSU you will be ready to work in the field of Biology?

Yes and No. Even though I will have my undergraduate in Biology, my final studies will be in the field of ecology, and I will need a Master's degree. However, when I graduate I will be prepared for graduate school.

What courses have been most difficult in your opinion?

The most difficult courses in my opinion have been Organic Chemistry, Human Anatomy, and Calculus.

Tell me about the lab research project you are completing upon graduation?

Under the direction of Dr. Peter Sakaris, I've been researching the Comparison of Sympatric Redbreast and Bluegill Sunfish Populations in Nickajack Creek, GA. Sympatric speciation is the process that involves new species evolving from a single ancestral species while inhabiting the same geographic region. We are currently comparing age and growth rates to measure if one species is

"MY RESEARCH EXPERIENCE WITH DR. SAKIRIS. HE HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL PERSONS DURING MY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE"

out competing the other. Our hypothesis is that the Redbreast will be more successful and abundant in Nickajack Creek than the Bluegill.

Are there any recommendations that you may have for the future of

SPSU?

My recommendation would be that SPSU reopen the study rooms on campus or extend the library hours for studying purposes.

What student organizations/clubs are you involved in?

I am currently involved in the National Society of Black Engineers(NSBE)*Pre College Initiative Chair, the Biology Student Organization(BSO)*Vice President, and PSLSAMP-Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance For Minorities Program.

Have you developed any study habits that you would recommend to other students?

Yes, be organized, have a planner to be more

"I DO NOT TAKE 'NO OR 'I CAN'T' FOR AN ANSWER"

organized so that you can write down your upcoming assignments and exams ahead of time. I like to have everything planned out. Motivating music and studying in groups always help me and keep me focused.

Can you tell me how you managed to be involved in on campus organizations, concentrate on your studies, and balance being a role model for other students on campus?

Time management. My mother taught me to be

proactive and she always kept us busy, so we had no time for negative activities and that has always stuck with me.

Have you done any volunteer work for SPSU?

Yes. I organize a Creek Clean Up that is hosted through the BSO each semester.

We make an effort to restore and maintain Rottenwood Creek with the help of Keep Cobb Beautiful and fellow students.

What has been your biggest challenge so far at SPSU?

Working full time and studying. I try to overcome

any obstacle that I've been confronted with. I do not take no or I can't for an answer. I was willing to do the work that needed to be done for me to be successful and sacrifice what was necessary.

What skills or abilities have you attained since being a student at SPSU?

I have learned to think critically on my feet, stay organized, and to also become a deeper thinker.

Do you have any advice or recommendations for the current freshmen class?

Take school serious from day one. It is okay to have fun, but not too much and learn from your mistakes.

Do you have any advice for the general SPSU student body?

Be active on campus, because there are so many different opinions on campus, there are many things that can be done to improve campus life and the college experience at SPSU. We, the students, are the root of the education industry and we should voice our opinions and take action if we are not satisfied and believe changes should be made. Create your solutions, don't mumble about the problems.

What is one of the best experiences that you can take away from SPSU?

My research experience with Dr. Sakaris. He has been one of the most influential persons during my college experience.

How has living on campus enhanced your experience as a student?

Living on campus has taught me how to compromise and live with different people who have different lifestyles. It has helped me become more productive as a student versus commuting, and it has made my time management much easier.

How has living on campus impacted your grades, character, and/or college life experience in any way?

Living on campus has strengthened my grades, I am able to form study groups, it has also taken away the stress of paying monthly rent,

my time management has improved, it has enhanced by leadership skills, and has put me in a position to where I am more mindful of how I am viewed, so I make sure I am at my best since I know that as a leader I am always being watched.

Tell me about the short term goals and the long term goals you have set for yourself to make it to your senior year and how did you achieve them?

My short term goals were to obtain and internship and get a research position with Dr. Sakaris. My long term goal is to graduate from SPSU with my bachelors and gain entrance into the University of Georgia's, Eugene P. Odum School of Ecology. Making studying as a priority, paying attention and being more interactive while in class, and eliminating distractions have gotten me to my senior year. The use of leadership skills learned in extracurricular organizations has created the grounds for opportunities like research and internships. I've also tried to be ahead of my professors, and speak with other students who

"MY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE THAT SPSU REOPEN THE STUDY ROOMS ON CAMPUS OR EXTEND THE LIBRARY HOURS FOR STUDYING PURPOSES"

have studied under them previously so that I am better prepared and have a greater chance of being successful in their courses.

Do you plan on continuing your education upon completion of your undergraduate studies?

Yes, I would like to go to UGA, and earn my Master's in Ecology or Science Education.

FEATURES

TRAVELING TO CHINA ON SPSU'S DIME

By Toby Pope

I had the opportunity to go to China for five weeks over the summer, and it was incredible. We each only had to pay for our visa, passport, and plane ticket. Jealous? You probably should be. Our trip, which was sponsored by the International Programs department at SPSU; organized by Dr. Linda Sun, the Assistant Director of the International Programs department; and chaperoned by Dr. Jeffery Orr, SPSU ATTIC Director; was only the first of many for our school. So if you missed out this summer and you're interested, chances are you can go next year.

We left for China on June 27, landed in Beijing on the 28th, and hit the ground running. While in Beijing we stayed at SPSU's partner school, North China University of Technology (NCUT), and were shown some of the sights. We saw the Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, and the site of the Beijing Olympics. We stayed until early morning July 1st, and left on a high speed train to Ningbo, which is a port city in China, south of Shanghai. The train ride lasted just under 12 hours and was surprisingly a lot of fun.

Ningbo is where we spent the majority of our time in China, and we were hosted by Ningbo University (NBU), SPSU's newest partner institution. Our trip was largely intended to serve as a pilot program for greater exchanges between the two schools in the future. Study abroad opportunities at NBU are in the works for both Master's and Bachelor's degree programs.

At NBU, we were given lodging with other International students at the hotel that was run by the campus. There were students and schools from all over the world. The UK, France, Thailand, Japan, and Korea were all heavily represented. There were also students from the Middle East and Africa. Apparently, there was an International

Forum going on that no one had thought to mention to any of us, but that just made things more interesting. In this case, "more interesting" meant that three members of our group did a last minute a cappella rendition of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" onstage during the opening ceremony. When I say last minute, I mean we were literally informed a couple of minutes before we were expected to perform. Oh, and it seemed that every other school had dance routines or killer singing. Go figure.

While in Ningbo, organizers matched us up with English speaking partners. The majority of the partners were studying English as their major, but some, like the two that were assigned to me, Shasha and Bird, studied another language. Both of my partners were studying German as their major, and English just as a hobby. Everyone's partners were awesome, showing us around the area, treating us to dinner, and seeing some of the local sights including the Southern Song Dynasty Stone Carving Park, Dongqian Lake, Asoka Temple, and several businesses and museums.

The group left for Shanghai on July 10th, and returned back to the U.S. on July 11th. I was able to stay for nearly four more weeks. For the first three weeks I taught English to little kids in a smaller town called Cixi. I spent my last week hiking and climbing Hua Shan, a mountain in China close to Xi'an with my Chinese partner.

I look forward to sharing stories about the people and places from my trip to China in the future editions of The Sting; there are so many to share. If you're interested in taking a trip to China, stay posted for more information. There will be an informational session later this semester, and we will be sure to inform everyone via The Sting.



**"OUR TRIP WAS
LARGELY INTENDED
TO SERVE AS A PILOT
PROGRAM FOR GREATER
EXCHANGES BETWEEN
THE TWO SCHOOLS IN
THE FUTURE"**



3rd Annual Pumpkin Launch

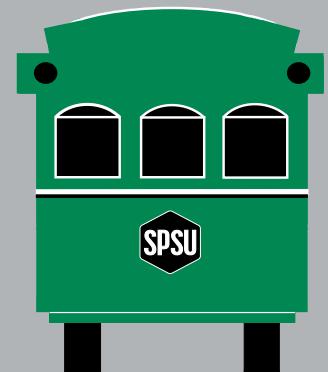


Thursday, October 25, 2012 @ 3:30 PM
Between Howell and Norton Halls

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from outside of the
student center and make
stops at Wal-Mart &
Marietta Square

SPSU Students & Faculty/Staff must present
their Hornet Card for
entry to the Trolley!

FEATURES

PADDLE GURU CHRIS TILGHMAN BRINGS A CHILL PASTIME TO THE BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS

SOUL SURFING FOR THE LANDLOCKED

By Christine Costello

Stand up paddling (SUP) is the fastest growing water sport in the world, or that's the way we see it. We found the almighty paddle board by mistake. It was a random summer day when we visited our local lake, and to our surprise, the beaches were surprisingly empty. We had left the canoe and boat at home, opting for a cool and easy morning swim instead. This so-called simple swim would eventually lead us straight to Chris

Tilghman, the man who is pioneering the sport across the southeast.

We encountered an older couple—two school teachers—that had long surfboards with paddles, gliding around like water spiders on two feet. With childish excitement, I asked the couple for the low down; the what's, where's, and eventually, at whom should I throw my money?

"Some guy up in Blue Ridge," they told me. I was up early the next day ready for some investigating. A short, scenic drive plotted us in Blue Ridge, at Chris' established and welcoming surf shop. An adorable puppy greeted us nonchalantly before picking a cool spot beneath a twelve foot board leaning on its rack.

Chris Tilghman doesn't know where to call home, defaulting to where his parents raised him in Savannah, Georgia. A man of many travels, Chris lends homage to many places around North America

including Puerto Rico, Cape Hatteras, Hawaii, and California. Over the past 25 years, he has established his love and admiration a life of surf. In 2008, his devotion and drive helped him open Stand Up Paddle Surf - Blue Ridge.

HYDRAULIC DREAMS

Meeting Chris Tilghman

could establish themselves as an inland paddle guru. So we asked.

"I am firm believer in doing what you love... happiness only exists if you are enjoying your life, your career. If you don't have time to spend with your family and you're miserable, why bother?"

Chris croons with

Awesome. Really more rewarding than I ever thought. I am truly grateful for that. It took a few seasons to get the hang of business stuff, but it's working out now.

lake. He sat patiently while we attempted and began to understand the basics of SUPing.

Chris is a business man who understands the mechanics of selling what many would call a "luxury" item. At the end of our demonstration, we hadn't spent a dime, yet felt overwhelmed with information and knowledge.

Confused, we headed back to the store to pay him for his time at the very least. He declined, sporting a wholesome, natural smile, knowing we would eventually return. (And return we did, a short five days after our demo.) "We're really stoked about the summit this year... and really excited to see over 150 paddlers compete."

He reminded us of his upcoming SUP Splash Race series, an eight-city paddle tour/race spanning the southeast. This is his second year

putting the event together. In the future, Chris hopes his business will continue to attract water lovers to the mountains, where countless lakes and rivers offer a variety of paddling scenery.

* Find out more about the race at [www.supplashrace.com](http://www.supsplashrace.com)

"ALL I REALLY WANT TO DO IS HELP PEOPLE DISCOVER AN AWESOME LIFESTYLE. SELLING BOARDS IS JUST A LITTLE PERK."

felt like déjà vu and reunion with a stranger. His easy and warming persona made small talk all too enjoyable. Warning: you may find yourself immediately comfortable in his presence.

We weren't sure how inland surf shops operated or what to

positive vibes and a no-complaints/life is good laxity that invites you to ask more, know more, and crave more paddle-speak. Before long, he was hauling a dozen boards out to his truck for us to try on Lake Blue Ridge. Money was the only topic we had not covered yet.

Q & A

How long have you been paddling?

My whole life, really, but most obsessively for the last 25 years.

What inspired you to start your business?

I felt a real need to introduce people to paddling. I felt like I was ready to become a leader in the sport. I wanted to do something

radical and change my life, too.

What is your favorite type of paddling?

Now, I would say ocean paddle surfing. I used to be a white water type of guy, but I just like to chill out and hang loose these days.

What has it been like making a living off paddling?



On the phone, Chris sounded like a perfectly polite twenty-two year old. In person, we were happy to see a humble man in his 50's with an impressive board collection. The questions were endless and to our thorough approval, Chris has all the right answers.

A side from surf, we couldn't help but wonder how anyone



What is something most people do not know about you?

I have two Nigerian dwarf goats and a parrot named Marley.

THE ONE-MAN BOARD SHOW

On the water, Chris showed us the different styles of boards and what they were made of. He explained who should ride what board and on what type of water. He demonstrated the perfect form for avoiding fatigue. With professional attention, he observed how the boards handled beneath us. Like an old friend, he shouted tips from the tailgate of his truck to us, far across the

AEROSPACE DOCUMENTARIES

Thursday Documentary Series

FREE FOR EVERYONE 12PM-1PM O-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
NOV 8	SPACE	STARSHIP ORION - ESSENTIAL SPACE COLLECTION
OCT 18	FIXED WING	QUEST FOR VERTICAL FLIGHT
NOV 1	SPACE	SPACE STAT LIVE - ESSENTIAL SPACE COLLECTION
NOV 15	FIXED WING	FIGHTER PILOT - OPERATION RED FLAG



FEATURES

BITERS

THE ART OF CATCHING ROCK 'N ROLL LIGHTENING IN A BOTTLE

By Jason Ramaley

It has been an eventful 12 months for Atlanta's hometown rock and roll band The Biters. I remember last Halloween I was finally going to get to see The Biters live, but they had other plans. The band pulled out of that Halloween show here in Atlanta to go open a string of dates in the northeast for original Kiss guitarist, Ace Frehley. The Biters eventually made it back to town. I was able to witness the tightest rock n roll band, with real attitude, that ever called Atlanta their home. In a blink of an eye it was off to Europe for The Biters. They rounded out the end of 2011 opening for Chicago legends Cheap Trick at The Buckhead Theater in front of a packed house. Most of the crowd was there to see Cheap Trick as expected. Ironically, by the end of our own Atlanta rocker's set, The Biters had the crowd at its full attention young and old! Many of those same people that were wondering, "Who are these guys?" were now screaming for more. Tuk, the lead singer and guitarist of The Biters had just returned home with the rest his band mates from recording new music in L.A. and Nashville. He had some time to talk to me while he

was out walking his dog on an early September evening.

The Biters front man Tuk, 28, who grew up in Griffin and Barnesville, Georgia, summed up a lot of the challenges that The Biters and other bands face today regarding the once thriving Los Angeles, California music scene. "It's not that people out there are any cooler, talented or more intellectual than anyone else, but L.A. is still the place where the money and industry is." And then there is always the problem that so many bands have faced, being destroyed by producers that want to change their sound. The lead singer goes on to tell me how producers can sometimes tell the band, "no, no, no. I want you to sound new. We want you to sound old." Tuk explains that selling out is not what The Biters are about. "We want our songs to sound like a train that almost runs off the track, and then when you get back to the chorus of the song, you get back on the track, and that's how to define The Biters sound." And not to forget about the current state of rock n roll in the country, Tuk tells me "it's messed up out there, and especially here in At-

lanta. Most bands won't sound and dress like us because it is not hip or popular at all. Right now everyone is trying to be a tough guy, or some dirty pseudo intellectual. People want to look 'redneck' and people want to look 'tough.'" I don't think The Biters really care about everyone's interests; we must salute them for that.

Regarding the new music from The Biters recent recording sessions, the stars have aligned. While performing in Long Beach, California, a producer that happened to be in the audience was so blown away by The Biters live performance that he offered his services for free. His main goal was to capture the explosiveness and attitude of The Biters sound on record, or as Tuk describes the sound, "catching lightning in a bottle." The mixing of the new music is under way. But please do not let all of the great things that The Biters have accomplished fool you. They've had virtually no help financially from any record labels. The Biters' success has come from word of mouth, from people like you and I. We can do so much more to bring a rock and roll scene back to Atlanta. Let's get it

started by getting behind this great band. Those who play alongside Tuk are: Matt on guitar and vocals, Travis on bass and vocals, and Joey on drums and vocals.

We all know that Atlanta is becoming a hot spot for TV, film, and other forms of entertainment. And now you know that we have one of the coolest rock and roll bands in America right here in Atlanta. I'll make a deal with you SPSU students and faculty. Go see The Biters live, and if you can tell me with a straight face that you do not like The Biters, I will wash your car for free. You have my word in print. No motor homes or school buses please.

Your next chance to see The Biters live is on November 11th at The Tabernacle, 152 Luckie St., Atlanta, GA. Also on the bill is California punk rock legends Social Distortion and Canadian singer/songwriter Lindi Ortega. Doors open at 7 p.m. Get there early! The Biters are also planning something very cool for this New Year's Eve in Atlanta! Log onto [wearethebiters.com](http://www.wearethebiters.com) for tour dates, music, and much more.

<http://www.wearethebiters.com/> by Carrie Shetler Clark

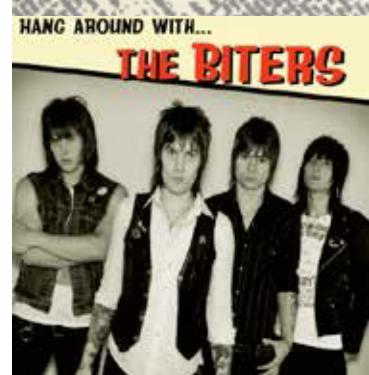


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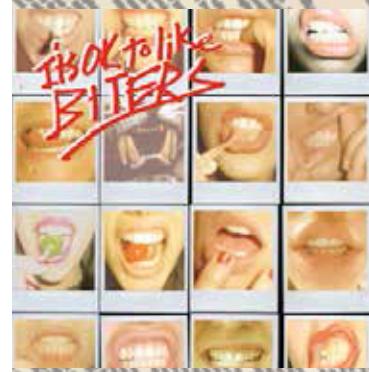
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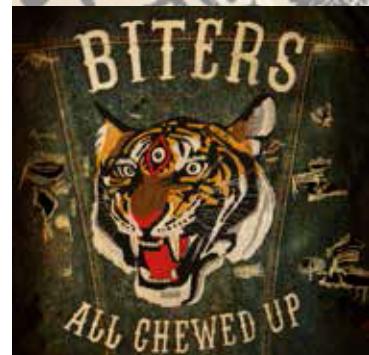
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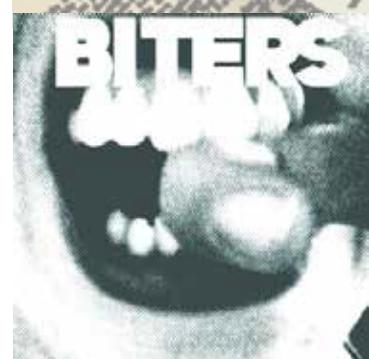
3. IT'S OK



4. ALL CHEWED UP



5. BITERS



FEATURES

CHICK-FIL-A CONTROVERSY TURNOUT

By Travis Wood

Wednesday August 1st, 11:15 a.m., I was one of the many who took part in the Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day. There was no question that I would not use the Drive-Thru. The line curled into a Gold's Gym parking lot next door. It took me about five minutes to find myself a spot in the neighboring parking lot before I was able to walk inside.

It is hard for me to describe just how crowded the restaurant was it was. Sardines in a can, maybe? I think it is safe enough to assume that the sheer numbers would dissuade any indifferent individual from eating there. I ordered at precisely 11:33 and received my food around 11:52, warm and without me needing to remind them. Luckily enough, there were more than a few open tables to spare, so I am able to describe what I see.

The lines stretched back to the rear of the restaurant, many times curving to keep

**"THE LINES
STRETCHED
BACK TO THE
REAR OF THE
RESTAURANT"**

some semblance of order. A dozen or so customers took pictures and recorded videos with their smart phones. There were men and women, teenagers and senior citizens all standing about, waiting patiently for their food. With the large number of warm bodies, employees had to go from table to table to get refills for the customers. The constant buzz of a person yelling to be heard made it no easier. I'm admittedly surprised that there was a complete lack of aggression from anyone in the building. There were those whose orders had been forgotten, which an employee was quick to correct. The customer smiled and politely repeated the order after a meaningless twenty minute delay. I'm surprised my humble



order of a single Chick'fil'A sandwich without pickles wasn't forgotten.

The Christian Science Monitor (a news organization owned by the First Church of Christ, Scientist) reported last month that the chain president was "guilty as charged" for backing "the biblical definition of a family." It's no surprise to me when acknowledging Chick-fil-A's policy of being closed on Sundays. Boycotts and protests went up. It soon became a political issue when the mayors of both Boston and Chicago banned Chick-fil-A from opening any new restaurants within the city limits. Sides were taken on whether or not the First Amendment was being exercised or under attack. July 19th, supporters of the homosexual lifestyle organized a "Kiss Your Partner Day" at Chick-fil-A for August 3rd (more on that later). Two days later, the ex-governor of Arkansas Mike Huckabee advocated a "Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day" on August 1st, two days before the LGBT community's

event. Over 500,000 people RSVP'd to the event on Facebook.

There's no question that the turnout was incredible, not just in my hometown Conyers, Georgia but nationwide. I really wanted to provide some definable evidence as to how much Chick'fil'A profited from the turnout August 1st, but according to ABCNews, the executive vice-president of commerce, Steve Robinson, wasn't going to release numbers from that day.

**"THERE WERE
NUMEROUS REPORTS OF
CHICK-FIL-A EMPLOYEES
ACTIVELY SERVING
THE PROTESTERS,
HANDING OUT FREE
SANWICHES, WATER,
AND LEMONADE"**

Now back to "Kiss Your Partner Day". The objective was pretty simple: go to Chick-fil-A with your partner, kiss, and take a picture while inside Chick-fil-A. Over 110,000 people

were invited. The Facebook event "National Same Sex Kiss Day at Chick Fil A" boasts 14,643 attendees, which was the most concrete numeral value. There are numerous photos on the page and reports of other actions taken.

Torrance, California had a Chick-fil-A vandalized on the side of the store. "TASTES LIKE HATE" was written along with a painting of a cow and a paintbrush. According to the Yahoo! News column Lookout, there were

numerous reports of Chick-fil-A employees actively serving the protesters, handing out free sandwiches, water, and lemonade in places like Wichita, Kansas and Decatur, Georgia. There were no reports on how the protesters responded, although one woman revealed she had a pleasant conversation with the store manager.

At some restaurants like the one in Port Charlotte, Florida, eight o'clock came but nothing happened and no one protested. There was one report of a protester recording himself accusing an employee at Chick'fil'A

**"A DOZEN OR
SO CUSTOMERS
TOOK PICTURES
AND RECORDED
VIDEOS"**

for Dan Cathy's stance. The protestor was later fired from his job in Tuscon, Arizona for the brutal way he had humiliated the drive-thru attendant. Copies of the original video are still up on YouTube.

This sort of news can cause empathy for the actual victims of this altercation, the employees. Not all of the employees' were aligned with their employer. Chick-fil-A itself has hired homosexual and bisexual men and women, and even provides scholarship money for college-bound teens as well on an equal opportunity level. The Huffington Post newspaper has a section called the Gay Voice which has many examples of homosexual and bisexual employees of Chick-fil-A. Nonetheless, the HuffPost Gay Voices, as it's called, cites many stories of offhanded homophobic comments to these employees on August 1st. Not only do they have to suffer these words on their ears, but other employees are abused by the customers they are meant to serve simply for working at Chick-fil-A, case in point from the YouTube video mentioned above.

The situation isn't settled, of course. By the time you read this, August 7th will have already come and gone but it's the date of "Starbucks Appreciation Day," which operates in exact opposition to Chick-fil-A Appreciation Day. Will that be the end of it? Only time will tell, but it's my personal opinion that it won't, not any time soon at least.

Any comments? Complaints? Interested in talking with other students on campus about the issue? Like us on Facebook, The Sting-The Student Newspaper of SPSU, post something, and encourage others to do so as well.

BLOOD AND REMEMBRANCE

By Phillip Collar

I don't remember much before the orphanage. I can barely remember my parent's faces. They died in the war. My father was a soldier and my mother... well, my mother died during one of the bombardments of our village. I can't tell you the details because I don't know. But the sisters tell me that if it hadn't been for my mother, who had held me tight in her arms, I would be dead. Her body managed to protect me from most of the shells, but I can't recall. I just remember being pulled out from the rubble and then getting taken far away and out of the country. There I stayed for three years where I found Frederick, or rather he found me.

I first met him when I was eight. He came by the orphanage before it closed for the night. I was still awake playing in the main room when I saw he and Sister Claudia walk in. He was tall, looming over me in a black trench coat. His hair was long with a slight wave to it.

"Lenore," said Sister Claudia. "This is Mr. Konig."

He is one of the men who helps out the orphanage."

I looked to meet his gaze, and he just stared. His eyes didn't meet mine. He just looked at me like a thing, rather than a person. The same way I would look at one of my dolls. However, after an hour of playing games, he was more receptive. He had a pretty smile and a soft voice. Over the next couple of weeks, Frederick came by every Tuesday evening to play. A month after that Frederick told me something I'll never forget, ever.

He said, "You get to come home with me. Would you like that?"

"... I don't. Where do you live?"

He smiled. "I live in the castle outside the village. I want you to be its princess."

I pondered for a moment. "I'd rather be the queen."

He laughed. "I think I can arrange that."

When he took me from the orphanage he said that we would always be together, and he did not lie. The day I left was the happiest day of my life. Frederick brought

me back to his estate up in the mountains. We rode his stagecoach through the thick forest that surrounded the castle. When I got out of the carriage I was in awe. The castle was gigantic. It had a courtyard and spires that seemed like they could touch the sky. The inside of the castle was filled with winding corridors that were lined with old paintings and suits of armor that guarded the castle.

Over the next nine years Frederick taught me history, and math. He even taught me German and English. I spent a lot of my free time in his library. I read through the volumes of dark lore, and occult Frederick had accumulated. Books about monsters and ghosts that lurked in the darkness. Though during the day Frederick spent most of his time in his study, doing "dangerous work, that was no place for a child." He always made time for me in the evenings. We would play hide and go seek in the dark corridors. But he would always find me as if the darkness wasn't there. I

look back on those dreams like a sweet memory. But it soon changed into a dark, dark nightmare.

I was fast asleep when Frederick woke me in the night, fear dripping from his face. Frederick was never afraid, not ever. He pulled me from my bed and told me to hurry. We went down the spiral stair and through the shadow filled corridors to the library. Frederick pulled on a torch. I could hear the sound of grinding stones echo through the library as a passage was revealed. He hurried me down a flight of stairs. I tripped most of the way down because he was pulling on me. I can still remember the pain in my wrist from where his nails were digging in. He took me into a room that was lit by dim torches. The room was filled with terrible horrors. Old corpses were shackled to the walls. The sides of their necks ripped to pieces like they had been attacked by a rabid dog. The bodies were covered in deep lacerations. In the middle of the room was a large wheel with shackles and rusty

spikes

on it. An old bucket sat beneath it stained with blood.

"Get on the wheel, Lenore."

"Frederick, where... where are we?"

"Get on the wheel, Lenore!"

Frederick had never raised his voice to me before. He clasped the shackles around my arms and ankles. He put a blindfold over my eyes. The pain of the spikes burned over my back, and a sharp agony slid over my thigh. I screamed. I screamed as my skin was peeled away. I begged until I could not make another sound. I felt Frederick hold me close and whispered in my ear, "My dear child I am so very sorry. I thought I could protect you from this life, but they found me. I never wanted this for you. Please forgive me."

He kissed me on the forehead. Then a warm pleasure filled the left side of my neck. My heart stopped.

To Be Continued...

PART I IDRIS' DILEMMA

By Ernest Endsley III

Idris knows something is off as soon as he opens the door and steps into his home. The air is not stagnant with a hint of Jasmine as usual. Oh, the Jasmine is there, but it is prominent, erratic and disturbed. There is also the presence of something else, only vaguely familiar, yet foreign at the same time. His higher-self directs him back to his car. Before he even realizes it, he has already opened the car door and reached for his pistol.

As he walks back towards the front door, Idris' eyes roam over the façade. A new reality has been established. He is walking into unknown territory. The world around him has dissolved into the entrance of his now unfamiliar home. Jasmine again, once a sweet and inviting aroma, brings with

it the stench of uncertainty and invasion.

The 9mm Russian Makarov feels secure in its holster but provides little security as he walks into his own living room like a nosy guest observing everything. Quick glances over the center table and entertainment center don't reveal anything out of place. They didn't take the music system or DVD player; they're still connected. The carpet, matted from many years of foot-traffic and vacuum neglect, don't yield any evidence of interlopers.

Idris feels a slight surge of adrenaline as he peeks into the kitchen/breakfast area to find it empty. There's nowhere to hide in this open space. Next, in the study, the familiar foreign scent is present here. Not strong, but

they were definitely in this room. No books missing. Computer is still connected. The desk has been shifted through.

And there it is: confirmation.

The most subtle of displacements revealing the most blatant of violations: intrusion.

Time freezes. The silence is deafening. Idris stands in the hallway for an eternity, half wanting to walk out of the house and call the police, and half wanting to dispense his own dose of justice. Then, a popping sound reverberates through the silence. It's the noise of an intruder trying to stay frozen in a statuesque pose, but inevitably having to move to relieve the pressure of aching joints.

It came from the bedroom,

Idris' bedroom. Idris goes numb and cold. His right hand authoritatively rips the Makarov from the holster. As soon as Idris takes a step into the doorway of the bedroom, a shadowy blur darts from behind the dresser. Idris only processes a glint of black metal in the invader's hand as it rises towards him.

Instinctively, Idris dives towards the room across the hall just as the intruder fires four rapid shots, hitting the bathroom door across from the bedroom. Instinctively, Idris dives towards the room adjacent to his bedroom just as the intruder fires four rapid shots hitting the bathroom door that was behind him. Idris lands flat on his back, gun trained on his bedroom door.

Whoever steps foot in

the doorway is dead. No sooner than the thought has materialized does the blur appear as well. Two shots; an involuntary "huck" and then the stumbling feet. A crumpling body tumbles and slides the remainder of the wood floor hallway coming to rest at the cusp of the carpeted living room.

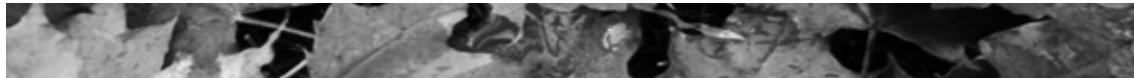
Regardless, Idris is still cautious. He is absolutely certain that the target was hit with both shots since there are no bullet holes in the bedroom door towards which he was aiming. Idris semi-rolls and crouches on one knee, listening - nothing. No sound. No whimpering or writhing. No gurgling or involuntary spasms. No erratic, staggering footsteps - nothing.

(Continued on page 14)

FEATURES

FALL IS HERE

By Randy Brown Jr.



There are four seasons in a year ladies and gentlemen (unless you include the Wedding Season), but only one provides so much high anticipation. Fall is here. If you are having a bad year, fall is here. If you are hungry, fall is here. If you love Mother Nature, fall is here. I love the fall season. Why is fall so important?

10. Fall is important because you will have to give him Saturdays and Sundays off ladies. It's football season! A man has to have his football. We do strange things when we don't have our football (see #9).

9. Women discover that men have "that time of the month" every weekend that football is taken away from them. We'll fold our arms and pout. Get spontaneous migraines. Break out in hives or heavy sweats (or if it's really bad...both!). We can't hear or comprehend what you're saying (some will argue that this happens regardless). We'll catch an attitude and roll our eyes if we hear the neighbors cheering next door. We'll even shed a tear after reading those infamous text messages from our friends: "MAN! Did you see that catch by Megatron!" (or for the people that text the way they write: "mN! Did u c tht catch by #81!?)

8. The night temperatures are cooler (code for dressing

in layers). Scarves, gloves, the head gear, overcoats, jackets (or your favorite leather jacket for those of you that have been wearing that thing since middle school), boots, sweaters, etc.

7. Thanksgiving is not far off (Talk about that spread at grandma's house). If you enjoy the fall season for nothing else, you enjoy it because of Thanksgiving dinner.

6. There's a chance that a presidential election is not far off. Which means: annoying promos, debates that should be relabeled "Wrestling Entertainment"...with an empty chair, high school pep rallies (oops) I meant party conventions, and citizens taking their party fights to social media outlets (or the comment sections at the bottom of online news articles).

5. Halloween and the questionable costumes that tag along with the comical holiday (I don't know how wrapping yourself in cardboard and labeling the material "Frosted Flakes" constitutes as a costume).

4. Bonfires are back in full swing. I hear someone in the back saying, "build a fire and cuddle." (Gentlemen take a hint)

3. Hot Chocolate next to a well-lit fireplace (Because in my house, growing up, the fall season was code for: Turn

off the central heat and use your blankets. And don't let the temperature get below 30 degrees; doubling up on the socks and wearing a two sweaters was normal).

2. Soup and Grilled Cheese. It doesn't really matter what kind of soup it is (alright I take that back. You can't go overboard.) No one can deny Soup and Grilled Cheese. Vegetarians can eat soup and grilled cheese. It's quick and easy to make. Did I mention the grilled cheese?

1. Spending time with family. The holiday season is not far off. If the fall does nothing else it prepares us for those special moments that only the holidays can offer. Your favorite cousin, auntie, or uncle is able to take time off from work to hangout (Don't act like you have no favorites in your family). Lights, candles, ice rinks (which look awesome but I want no part of) New Year's Eve, etc. No better season than the now. No better season than fall.

Bonus! Here's an extra reason to love the fall: All campers, hikers, and backpackers rejoice! The bears are preparing for hibernation (Hopefully. You can never be too sure these days with global warming). If you see one out on the trail remember, fall is here...and forget that I wrote this.

year or so. He has been watching over her since her husband died in combat overseas eighteen months ago - her and her son, DeVaughn.

DeVaughn is dead now, too. DeVaughn was taken from her by the hand of the man who embraced her in his mother in her time of need and support; taken by a man she had begun to open up to and grow fond of as well.

DeVaughn was taken from her by Idris.

-look for Part 2 in the NEXT edition of The Sting

AWKWARD

By Maria Guerra

We are experts at being awkward and do not realize it. There are countless opportunities to practice the art of awkwardness every day and we need to take advantage of them. You are familiar with awkward moments, right? Maybe you are one of those lucky ones who don't know about these amazing situations.

These are the times when you wish you had that invisible Harry Potter cloak or a remote control with a rewind button to press and magically go back in time. Let me explain what they are all about.

Picture this: you are leaving the library and bump into a guy that was in your calculus class two semesters ago. You greet each other and have a two second conversation about the weather. However, just when you think this encounter is over, you both start walking in the same direction.

One word: awkward. At this moment, you wish you had chosen to walk in the opposite direction, had stayed at the library, or frankly had done anything else but walk in the same direction as him. The uncomfortable chuckles and smiles make their appearance, along with a little more weather talk and the always pleasant, and may I say awkward silence.

The rest is history. Moments like this one remind you what it means to be alive, really. Awkward moments make great stories and if they don't, they at least make your day

a bit different. Try finishing this sentence: The awkward moment when...

If you are not an expert at the art of awkwardness, or you are just in denial, here are some good awkward moments that are worth checking out:

"AWKWARD MOMENTS MAKE GREAT STORIES"

1. That awkward moment when you get a friend request from your parents.
2. That awkward moment when someone is trying to get on the elevator but the doors close and they make eye contact with you.
3. That awkward moment when you're not sure if you put on deodorant.
4. That awkward moment when you trip in public and you attempt to gracefully recover, but you know someone probably saw you.
5. That awkward moment when you realize that you texted the wrong person.

Source:
thatawkwardmoment.com

IDRIS'

(Continued from page 13)

He eases over toward the doorway and sees the interloper's pristine basketball shoes and fitted but worn jeans lay motionless near the end of the hallway. He notices streaks of blood that look like a runway converging into an ever increasing puddle of crimson. For the first time, Idris feels all of the tension and apprehensions dissipate from his body.

Idris catches a partially obstructed view of the perpetrator's face. The look of surprise on the wide-eyed gaze is distantly familiar. It's a face that is young, but is just beginning to show signs of manhood. Baby-smooth skin with patches of bearded stubble.

The perpetrator's gun

drops by his waist side. Dangling like a heavy weight in his hand, dead and electrified at the same time. Idris rises to his feet leaning against the door frame as a support. With every measure of ascension, Idris feels as though his body and soul are moving further and further apart. As though reaching his full height were in sync with him attaining a full awareness of the situation. Never taking his eyes off of the now prone figure at the other end of the hallway, he is bombarded with the realization of what has just transpired.

The unfamiliar scent he could not place earlier was the aroma of lemonseed, a natural soap that is sold by Mona down the street at the holistic center, a woman that Idris has developed a fondness for over the past

Would you be able to fight off an attacker?

Fight Back!



RAPE PREVENTION Seminar

The SPSU Police Department is offering a women's only rape prevention class that's open to faculty, staff, and students for \$10. Attendance of four 3-hour classes is required for course completion.

To register contact Sgt. Chandler : JChandler@spsu.edu

Dates: Tuesday, Nov. 6th, 2012; Thursday, Nov. 8th, 2012
Time: Tuesday, Nov. 13th, 2012; Thursday, Nov. 15th, 2012
Location: University Columns Activity Center

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SPSU GAME JAM

By Connor Cobb

I received one of the most profound and invaluable statements about my chosen major at last year's Games Jam, and I still remember it to this day. It was about five in the morning, the rest of my group of four had retreated to the nearest comfortable place to get some rest. Our code was giving us trouble, so I opted to stick around and get everything working, since we were already running behind. The room that we set up in was also hosting a handful of other groups, who were currently running on a skeleton crew or had packed up for the night altogether. In the midst of my C#-induced frustration, a member of a different group came and offered me the remnants of their bulk order of Krystals sandwiches. Being seven hours past dinner, and five hours from breakfast, I gladly accepted his generous offer. While I scarfed down my newly acquired late-night snack, its previous owner made a passing comment that I would never forget. "This is what being a game design major is all about, you know. Eating stale junk food at Five o'clock in the morning while you try to get your code running."

It's a scenario that game developers know all too well: a deadline is fast approaching, and suddenly weeks of work (or more) must be quickly finished in a matter of days. Countless hours of sleep is forgone and time spent at the office goes far past what it normally is. Oh, and you also don't get paid overtime. The SPSU Games Jam (and others) recreates this scenario, but thankfully, without the crushing sense of desperation that normally accompanies it. For the uninitiated, the Games Jam is an event held twice a year, in which the participants break up into groups and develop a

game based around a given theme. The groups have 48 hours to design, build, and test their game. Anyone who has ever dabbled in game design knows that's not much time at all, so groups are encouraged to keep their scope small, and their sleep time smaller. It's a neat way to give hopeful game designers a chance to experience what it's like to produce an actual game, all while learning about the hardships involved in doing such.

The event began at five o'clock on Friday the 7th with a brief opening

"A DEADLINE IS FAST APPROACHING, AND SUDDENLY WEEKS OF WORK (OR MORE) MUST BE QUICKLY FINISHED IN A MATTER OF DAYS"

ceremony. Rules, schedules, and general tips were discussed, after which the 100+ members divided up into groups. After a brief trial run with the theme of "Bacon," that my temporary group somehow turned into a hypothetical game about kidney stones, (don't ask) we were given the actual theme: "The eye of the beholder". I personally couldn't think of anything to do with it, but the groups around me were tossing out ideas like there was no tomorrow. We then moved back to the J building where we would be ostensibly living for the next two days. Initially, we only had a few rooms open to inhabit, but the group would eventually take over the second floor. After paying my entrance fee and receiving my name tag, I lugged my monolithic PC into a room towards the back of the building, and set up alongside a team that would go on to win the equivalent of second place. Since there were no hard rules about what you had

to work on (the theme was more of a suggestion) I took advantage of the time to work on a game project for one of my classes, effectively going solo.

At this point, the groups were buzzing with excitement, bouncing ideas off one another, drawing up some rough concept art, and fleshing out the game mechanics. By the time dinner had arrived, most had moved on to setting up the framework of what would eventually be a playable game. Friday night's meal came courtesy of Little Ceasers, a feast

that would facilitate the stacking of 60 pizza boxes from the floor to the ceiling. It was at this point that the Caffeine Tower, a beverage monument made out of our collective used coke cans, began to take shape by the stairs. The snack room was also now open for business, to which I would make many visits before the weekend was over.

The group I set up with was moving right along at a decent pace, and with almost a dozen members, it was probably the biggest unit there. The room itself was a mess of extension cables, dual monitor set-ups, and custom built PC's. Down the hall, the second floor atrium was a muted buzz of activity; various members conversed, swapped ideas, and stories alike. Other rooms were just as active, with some holding five or six groups at once. The snack room was never empty, as there was always someone perusing the stock looking for leftover pizza or a caffeine fix to help them through hours that followed. As the event stretched into the unreasonable hours of the night, some individuals made their way home to rest, while others stuck around to burn the midnight oil. There were several that elected to do a little of both. Some students came here from as far away

as Columbus University and SCAD, so making a quick trip home wasn't really an option. These people found sleep wherever they could get it, with some being lucky enough to snag a couch in the atrium. Others simply put down a pillow in the back of a dark room. I retired to my apartment for a few hours of sleep just after sunrise.

The next day's process repeated its predecessor. A breakfast of oversized muffins and bagels ordered in bulk would be served, and after that, a lunch of sandwiches and chips. Work would continue until dinner, graciously provided by Chick-Fil-A. Afterwards, production was kicked into a high gear, where it would stay until the Four PM Sunday deadline.

After the deadline, the exhausted groups would drag themselves and their equipment to the closing ceremony. A raffle was drawn for some classic games and gear, from which I managed to snag a copy of Beyond Good and Evil, and finally, groups were able to show off the product of their sleepless labor. Games of all different shapes, sizes, genres, and styles were shown off, most of which featured a giant eyeball of some sort (the titular, "Eye of the Beholder"). After some brief deliberation from the judges, the winners were announced, with first prize scoring free tickets to SIEGE, and with that, the Games Jam was over. Tired, sore, and generally exhausted, I managed to drag myself back to my room while everyone else attempted to do the same, in some way or another. It's odd, but in any other context, working on a project with little to no sleep for days at a time would sound like a miserable experience, yet at the Games Jam, it was anything but.

Though I only worked on my own project this time, I look forward to the next Jam with great anticipation.



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November 1, 2012
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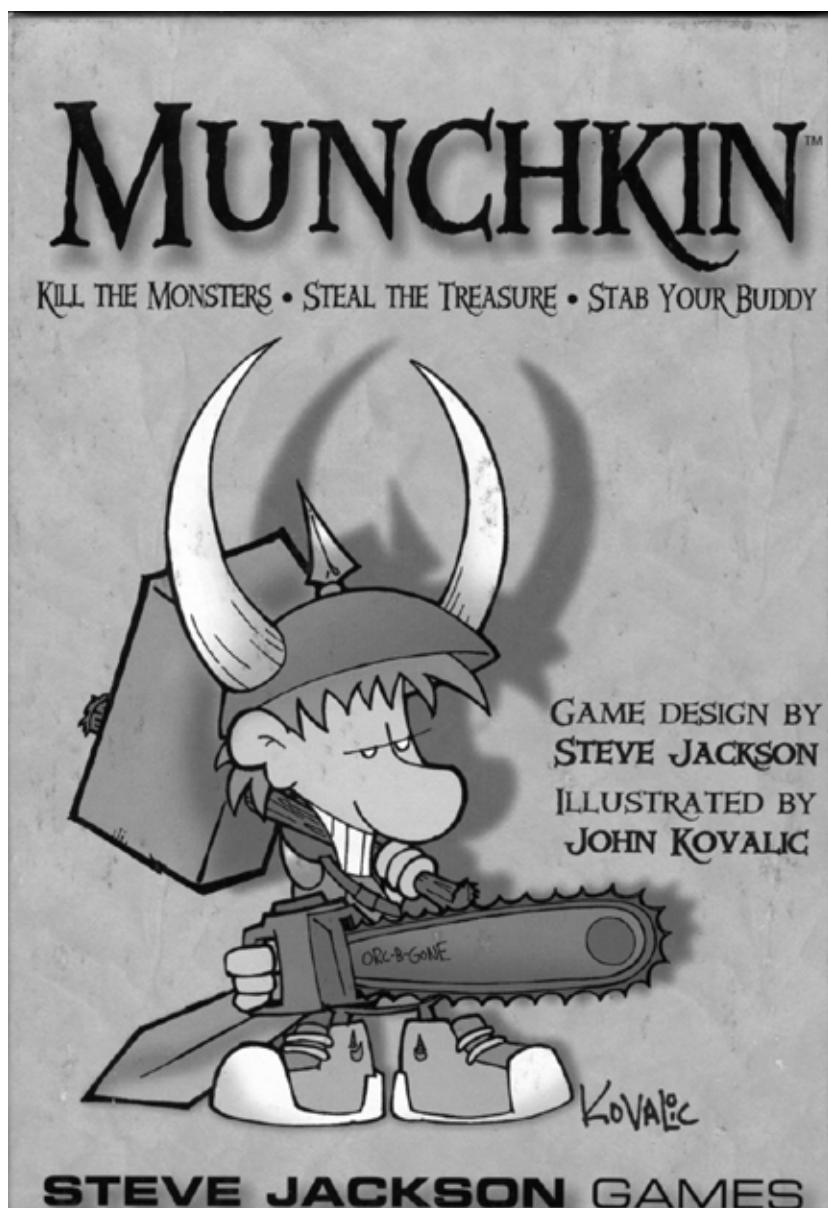
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REVIEWS

PLAYING CARDS

MUNCHKIN

By Travis Wood



card game Munchkin and its expansions, along with other themed decks. What is Munchkin, you ask? Munchkin is a fairly unique game, created by Steve Jackson games. The ultimate goal of the game is to reach level 10 faster than your friends, either by killing monster, selling items, or benefitting from special cards. You play with 3-6 people, all who will help you and hinder you. "Kill the Monsters, Steal the Treasure, and Stab Your Buddy."

One particular facet of the game is just how liberal and vague the rules are. The description on the cards always supersedes the rules in the instructions but sometimes the expressed effect is lacking. Almost every owner of a game of Munchkin has house rules different than another owner because of reasons like this.

However, the instructions have a way of dealing with inconsistencies like these; the manual quotes "Any

games include things like Item Enhancers, Steed Enhancers, Ship Enhancers, and so on and so forth. Doors divide up into Monsters, Curses (which are Traps in other decks), Monster Enhancers, Races, Classes, Cheat cards, Wandering Monsters, and so on and so forth. There are a score of other different Door cards from other decks, like Accents, Mojos, Loyalties, Madness, Portals, and many, many more. Other expansions include other side decks, like Dungeons, Spells, and Fairy Dust cards.

One of the best features from Munchkin games is the ability to mix decks together. Want to play as a Cyborg Wizard with a French Accent? Maybe you'll be using Poisoned Chopsticks and the Unnatural Axe to help you kill Great Cthulu! Not only that, but you could

be riding your XXX Wing with your Loud Hair Alien Sidekick who's holding a mix of four guns and blades. The decks really do mesh together well, and the images and combinations you can get from playing are nonsensical and thus hilarious at times.

As for actual gameplay, Treasures are always good

"ANY OTHER DISPUTES SHOULD BE SETTLED BY LOUD ARGUMENTS, WITH THE OWNER OF THE GAME HAVING THE LAST WORD."

other disputes should be settled by loud arguments, with the owner of the game having the last word."

It's a bit of a silly way of solving things but it follows the theme with Munchkin itself. Every different themed deck humorously references and sometimes mocks the material it's based off of (with things from the original Munchkin deck, which is fantasy themed, like Hippogriffs, Wight Brothers, Pukachu, Lawyers, Squidzilla, or Crabs), which gives another inciting reason to play.

There are two different decks (at least) for every Munchkin game, Treasures and Doors. From there, Treasures divide up into equipment, one time use, specific effects, Go Up a Level (or GUAL cards), and one Hireling. Treasure decks from other Munchkin

drawing the top card from the Door cards and flipping it over. If it's a Monster, you fight it. If it's a Curse, you suffer from it. Anything else goes into your hand. For fighting Monsters, you have to overpower them, not tie them, by having your combat level higher than theirs. Your combat level is decided from your level plus your equipment cards as well as any one-shot items you throw into the combat. However, this game wouldn't be as much fun without other people. Other players might throw in one-shot items against you or use other cards to Enhance the Monsters. After all, they don't want you to win.

If losing, you might ask another player to help. If you do so, that player adds their combat level to yours, as well as putting themselves at the monster(s)'s mercy. Of course, who'd want to do that for free? Killing a monster gives at least one level and a certain amount of Treasure. Levels aren't negotiable, but Treasures most commonly are. You can suddenly turn the game into a sort of bartering system. Players might try to ask for one fewer Treasure than the other guy just so that they might get a reward instead, which of course benefits the person who needs the help. Of course, some players might have cards or abilities that benefit them for helping, so it's always wise to check their cards in play before accepting anyone's help.

After you Kick Down that Door and there's no monster, you have two options before you, Loot the Room, where you draw another card and go to Charity, or Look for Trouble from your hand and play a monster.

If you draw a Curse card when you Loot the Room, you're able to play that on any other play at any time, especially right about when they're going to win. At the end of a person's turn, they're only supposed to

have 5 cards in their hand; anymore they have to give to the lowest level player(s) in what's called Charity.

Once it's been played once, everything falls into place rule-wise. Games can take anywhere from 30 minutes to a couple of hours. If a group of players get tired of regular play, they can play 'Epic Munchkin' which consists of going to level 20 instead of 10. You have to kill a monster to reach levels 19 and 20 instead of 10 and once you hit level 10, you Kick Down the Door twice, having to deal with both cards at the same time. This could mean you're hit by 2 Curses or 2 monsters potentially. Also, every Race/Class/Mojo/Accent/etc. gets a new ability that's found online at Steve Jackson Games around Munchkin.

I find Munchkin to be one of my favorite board/card games to play and have an extensive collection that's still growing. It's a little pricey (around \$20 for a central deck and \$12-15 for an expansion) but the replay value insures that every game will be different. It's not perfect but nothing else is. And if you ever want to play it yourself, the Game Lab on Campus in the J Building has both the original Munchkin and the Star Munchkin decks for people to play. So, go ahead. I encourage you to try it out.



VIDEO GAME

SLEEPING DOGS

By Connor Cobb

Originally slated to be third installment of the True Crime series, Sleeping Dogs has arrived on the scene as a new sandbox crime game to join the ranks of Grand Theft Auto and Saints Row. The game takes place in Hong Kong, as returning ex-patriot and undercover cop, Wei Shin attempts to infiltrate the local Triad. As the story progresses, however, Wei finds himself torn between upholding the law, and his loyalty to the Triad. The narrative makes for a neat gameplay mechanic, in which siding with either the Triads or the police gives you different rewards and upgrades, as well as altering the dispositions of those around you. Like most sandbox games, players will want to familiarize themselves with the road, so it's refreshing to know that driving in Sleeping Dogs is fantastic. The arcade-style handling serves as a breath of fresh air for those of us who have



never quite gotten over the abhorrent car physics found in GTA4.

Sleeping Dogs also takes a different direction in regards to gameplay, because unlike most sandbox games, guns are relatively scarce, and as such, using them is a fairly bland experience. Instead, the combat relies heavily on its fantastic martial arts system, which takes its inspiration from Arkham City, in addition to with several environmental takedowns to add to the variety. Hits are brutal, and the accompanying sound effects make it feel like each blow has some serious weight behind it. This gives the combat system a wonderful sense of catharsis. Sleeping Dogs also sprinkles in a variety of mini games, as well as the quintessential sandbox collectables, making for a complete package that players will not want to miss.

VIDEO GAME

DARKSIDERS 2

By Connor Cobb

The comic book-flavored world of Darksiders is back with its second installment, Darksiders 2: Death Lives. Like its previous outing, Darksiders 2 features God of War gameplay styles, with

Zelda-esque dungeonering and puzzle solving, mixed in with some light platforming or Prince of Persia. This time around, however, the game incorporates randomized loot drops in the vein of

Diablo. Questing for loot is quite entertaining, and smart interface options makes equipping new weapons as fluid as possible; however the loot grind does wear thin after several

hours. Darksiders 2 really shines is with its combat, which is as satisfying as it is fun. A handy collection of unique weapons and loads of combos makes combat encounters visceral and fast-paced. The aesthetics provide for some nice eye candy too. The world of Darksiders 2 is colorful and exciting.

Technical graphics are another issue entirely, sadly. While the game looks great at a distance, none of the textures or models can survive a close-range scrutiny. In the game, players will take on the role of Death, a horseman of the apocalypse who sets off to exonerate his fellow horseman, War, after the events of the first game. The lore takes a cue from the game's Graphic Novel inspiration, which is to

say the story is convoluted and nonsensical. The story is a tangled mess of prior history and motivations, but the main trust of the story is easily understood, thanks in part to some great voice acting. Overall,

**THE WORLD OF
DARKSIDERS 2 IS
COLORFUL AND
EXCITING**

the whole direction feels appropriate. Like its predecessor, Darksiders 2 draws upon many different games for inspiration, resulting in a product that, while unoriginal, is loads of fun to play. With up to 20 hours of gameplay, players will easily get their money's worth.



SPORTS

LADY HORNETS

GAME ON!

By Amanda Blanton



(Continued from page 1) get in the national rankings and compete with the best teams in the SSAC.

Coach Dawkins invites the entire SPSU community to wear their white and green and cheer on the Lady Hornets this fall. The team opens its season with an away game against cross-town rival Kennesaw State University on Nov. 2 at 6 p.m.. Their first home game is the next day against Bryan

College of Dayton, Tenn. at 2 p.m. in the Hornet's Nest (SPSU Gym).

"We need your support for home games this season," said Coach Dawkins. "We want the Hornet's Nest to be the toughest place to play in the SSAC. What could be better than watching some great college basketball for free? All you need to bring are those SPSU colors, your voice and tons of SPSU spirit!"

Each home game is free to SPSU faculty, staff and students with a Hornet Card. General admission is \$5 for visitors. Go Hornets!

(Note to layout peeps: Below is the schedule I would like to be included somewhere in the sports section, if not near my article. Also, there are a couple pics from the Athletic website. Feel free to use one or both with the article for some extra visual "oomph")

2012-13 WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/02/12	Kennesaw State^	Kennesaw, GA	6PM
11/03/12	Bryan College	Marietta, GA	2PM
11/09/12	Clayton State University	Morrow, GA	7:30PM
11/13/12	Reinhardt University	Marietta, GA	6PM
11/16/12	Belhaven University*	Jackson, MS	6:30PM
11/17/12	William Carey College*	Hattiesburg, MS	4PM
11/20/12	Voorhees College	Marietta,	6PM
11/30/12	Spring Hill College*	Marietta, GA	5:30PM
12/01/12	Loyola University (LA)*	Marietta, GA	3PM
12/15/12	Johnson & Whales (FL)	North Miami, FL	2PM
12/19/12	Reinhardt College	Wales, GA,	5:30PM
12/22/12	West Virginia Tech	Montgomery, WV	2PM
12/31/12	Bryan College	Dayton, TN	6PM
1/04/13	Faulkner University*	Montgomery, AL	6:30PM
1/08/13	Truett-McConnell*	Marietta, GA	6PM
1/12/13	Brewton Parker*	Mt. Vernon, GA	2PM
1/14/13	Emmanuel*	Franklin Springs, GA	6PM
1/17/13	Brenau University*	Marietta, GA	6PM
1/21/13	Southern Wesleyan*	Charlotte, NC (Time Warner Cable Arena)	5PM
1/26/13	Lee University*	Marietta, GA	2PM
1/29/13	Coastal Georgia*	Brunswick, GA	6PM
2/02/13	Emmanuel College*	Marietta, GA	2PM
2/04/13	Brewton Parker*	Marietta, GA	6PM
2/09/13	Brenau University*	Gainesville, GA	2PM
2/12/13	Southern Wesleyan*	Marietta, GA	6PM
2/14/13	Lee University*	Cleveland, TN	6PM
2/16/13	Morris College	Sumpter, SC	2PM
2/21/13	Coastal Georgia*	Marietta, GA	6PM
2/23/13	Truett-McConnell*	Cleveland, GA	2PM
3/13	SSAC Tournament	Montgomery, AL	TBA
3/13	NAIA National Tournament	Frankfort, KY	TBA

^ Exhibition

* SSAC Games

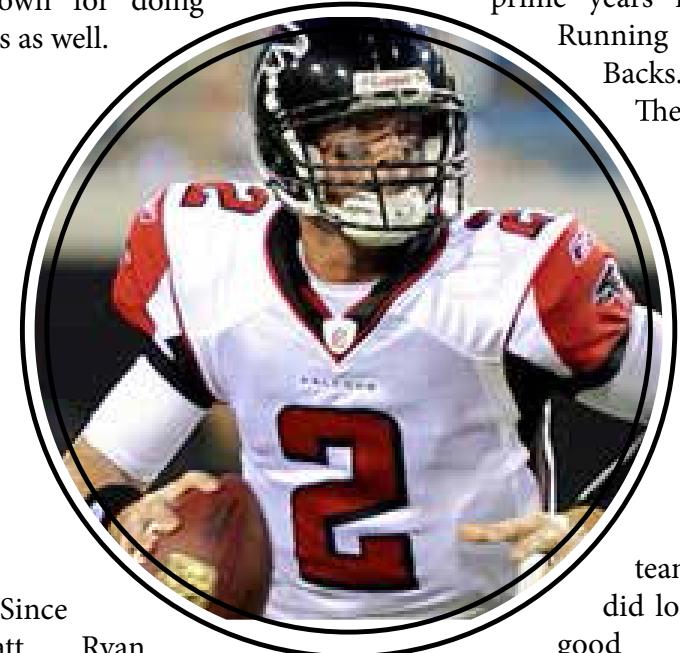
THE ATLANTA FALCONS: 2012 PREVIEW IS IT THIS YEAR?

By John Leslie Gibson III

SPSU - As we move further into the NFL season, Falcons fan are excited to see their lovable team on television and at the Georgia Dome. Once again the team is being accompanied by high expectations to reach the Super Bowl. As Atlanta sports fans, we are holding our breath because our pro sports are notoriously known for having a great regular season and collapsing in the post season. The Atlanta Braves and Hawks are also known for doing this as well.

He is still young, but some of the pieces around him aren't. This may be future Hall of Famer Tony Gonzalez's final year playing and Michael Turner is 30 years old, which is past prime years for

Running
Backs.
The



team did look

good as

they obliterated

the Kansas City Chiefs (Tony's first time back at Arrowhead Stadium to face his old team) 40-24. But the schedule that remains will get more difficult:

- 1 @ Kansas City-W
- 2 vs. Denver-W
- 3 @ San Diego-W
- 4 vs. Carolina -W
- 5 @ Washington -W
- 6 vs. Oakland -W
- 7 BYE WEEK
- 8 @ Philadelphia
- 9 vs. Dallas
- 10 @ New Orleans
- 11 vs. Arizona
- 12 @ Tampa Bay
- 13 vs. New Orleans
- 14 @ Carolina
- 15 vs. New York
- 16 @ Detroit
- 17 vs. Tampa Bay

I think this will be the year the Falcons go all the way, but as Atlanta sports fans, none of us will be shocked if they make the playoffs and choke once again.

NEW ATHLETIC STAFF POSITION SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR

By Amanda Blanton

This semester, SPSU has added another position to its growing athletic staff. Steve Ruthsatz is our new Sports Information Director (SID). This position is brand new to our school and is an awesome addition to our Hornet program. I talked to Ruthsatz to find out more about him and what his roles are as the SID.

SID Roles

When asked what his main duty was, Ruthsatz explained that his job is to promote and publicize SPSU and its four athletic teams, players, coaches and staff. He does this by writing game stories, news releases and feature stories about any and all athletic events. Media relations is an important aspect of the SID job and Ruthsatz gets coverage for our teams and student athletes. He also maintains all athletic records and statistical files.

One very exciting thing I learned from him is that we will be getting a new athletic website, SPSUHornets.com. This will go live later this year and Ruthsatz will be the main contributor and manager of the site.

In addition to the media aspect of his job, Ruthsatz is the game manager for all home events where he focuses on statistics and overall operation of contests. He is also the liaison between SPSU and the Southern States Athletic Conference and the NAIA where he handles nominations for various player/coaching awards and the reporting of scores and stats.

"What I've enjoyed about my position so far here at SPSU is the ability to put together a sports information operation from scratch," said Ruthsatz. "I was the first full-time SID at both Tusculum College and at Kennesaw State University, so this is nothing new to me. I enjoy getting to know our athletic staff and other people on campus. The sports teams here have been very successful in the past and I look forward to promoting and publicizing them as they continue to succeed."

About Steve

Ruthsatz attended one of the first and top universities for sports management,

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

CHASE ROBINSON

By Amanda Blanton



The Basics:

Name: Chase Robinson

Hometown: Huntsville, AL

High School: Lee High School

Position: Guard

Height: 6'3"

Jersey Number: 1

Year/Grade: Junior in the classroom, senior on the floor

Starting this issue, I will interview one student athlete a month and give them a spotlight in the Sports section of The Sting. I know we are in the thick of soccer season, but it is never too early to get hyped for basketball! I talked to Chase Robinson of the Runnin' Hornets to find out a little bit about him, his basketball career, and what the team is up to this off-season.

Question & Answer

Amanda Blanton: Is there any special meaning behind your number?

Chase Robinson: Yes, it is my favorite number. I have had it since high school.

AB: You're a transfer student, right? Where did you come from and what brought you to Southern

Ruthsatz comes from an athletic background. In high school, he played four sports and earned eight varsity letters (three in golf and

(Continued from page 14)

baseball and two in basketball). He also played basketball at Firelands College, a branch of Bowling Green State University. These days, he enjoys golfing and playing catch with his stepson, Brett Whitfield, who is a senior baseball player at North Cobb High School.

I was curious to know what his favorite teams were. "On a professional level, I'm a fan of most of the New York teams: the Yankees, the Mets, the Jets, the Giants and the Knicks," said the self-proclaimed

Poly?

CR: I transferred from Kennesaw State University. I came for the New Media Arts major in the English, Technical Communication & Media Arts department.

AB: What are your career aspirations?

CR: I would like to play professional ball and get into the film industry.

AB: How long have you been playing basketball?

CR: Since I was four years old

AB: What has been a highlight of your career?

CR: At the first school I played basketball at, Duquesne University, we upset Xavier College.

AB: Any pre-game rituals?

CR: I'll listen to some music like Jay-Z or get a nap in.

AB: Have a favorite basketball player you watched growing up/currently?

CR: Growing up I watched Michael Jordan but Lebron James would have to be my current favorite player.

AB: Favorite NBA team?

CR: Miami

AB: Watch any other teams on a regular basis?

CR: The Patriots and Yankees

AB: Ever played any other sports?

CR: Football

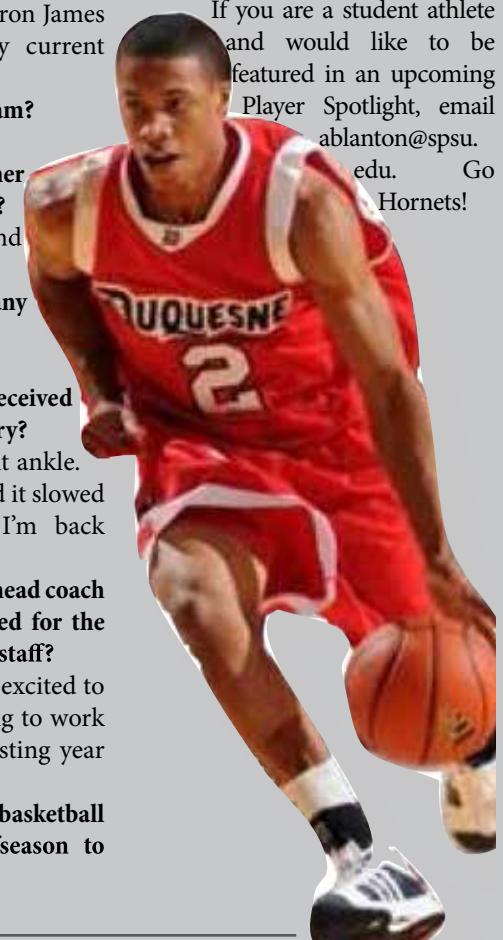
AB: Have you ever received a basketball related injury?

CR: I broke my right ankle. I was out for a while and it slowed me down some but I'm back stronger than ever.

AB: SPSU has a new head coach this year. Are you excited for the changes to the coaching staff?

CR: Yeah, I'm really excited to see how things are going to work out. Should be an interesting year for us.

AB: What is the basketball team doing in the offseason to prepare for this season?



CAN THE SEC BE UNSEATED IN COLLEGE FOOTBALL?

By Robert Barnard

The 2012 college football season is underway and the SEC has once again emerged in the top 25 national rankings. With Alabama and LSU sitting in the #1 and #2 spots, it does not seem likely that any team will be able to unseat them. Is there any conference that can compete with the SEC?

This season began with an SEC and Big Ten showdown between Alabama and Michigan at a neutral site. It ended with Alabama

all but embarrassing Michigan with a final score of 41-14. After that kind of game, it is hard to imagine any team being able to measure up to Alabama. Currently, the SEC has four teams in the top 10 spots in the AP Top 25 rankings. Having this kind of representation makes it hard to argue that there is a more dominant conference in college football today. We will have to stay tuned to see how the 2012 season unfolds.

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