

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER

THE STING



ONLINE AT spsu.edu/the_sting

November 2, 2012

Volume 66, Issue 3

PUMPKINS AND BATH TUBS AND GOATS! OH MY!



THE END OF OCTOBER AND THE BEGINNING OF NOVEMBER MARKED A CHANGE IN SEASON: A CHANGE IN THE WEATHER SEASON, AN ACTIVE POLITICAL SEASON, AND THE ARRIVAL OF ANNUAL CAMPUS ACTIVITIES ON SPSU'S CAMPUS.

By Randy Brown Jr.



First Year Experience hosted their third annual Pumpkin Launch. The open field in between the Norton and Howell halls was a launching pad for pumpkins that reached the rooftops of Housing's Courtyard apartments. On October 24th Greek organizations took part in their annual Goat Night event in the Student Center Theater. Fraternities and Sororities took to the theater stage showcase their skits and dance moves. For the third consecutive year SPSU students took part in the popular Bathtub Races; a staple on campus for over 30 years.

INSIDE THIS EDITION



P. 3

**OPINION:
AGAINST HAZING**



P. 6

**FEATURES:
THE METHOD FOR CPR**



P. 8

**FEATURES:
STUDY ABROAD**



P. 15

**POETRY:
TIME DID NOT STOP**



P. 17

**REVIEWS:
BORDELANDS 2**

P. 18

**SPORTS:
PLAYERS OF THE WEEK**

OPINION

LONG DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS

By Sharon Roberts



I think the hardest thing for me was the day I had to leave. The scene was similar to death. The morning was a somber one. I looked at my scattered belongings, which sat in a corner. I watched as he walked by me, oblivious to my mood change. I wondered if there was some other chick coming by after my send off.

Long distance relationships are challenging. There's a great feeling you get the day your mate arrives. That great feeling is also overshadowed by the enormous weight you feel when it is time to go.

We dated for about seven months before he decided that the long distance thing was not going to work for him. I thought it was the ideal arrangement, absence was suppose to make the heart grow fonder...not make it grow cold and distant. Who writes these sayings? Did they have proof before the declaration was made? I resent being given such false hope!

The weekend that we spent together went by too

fast. Unbeknownst to me, it would be our last. I tip-toed around the house. I knew he had something on his mind, but I chose not to ask what. When you are in a long distance relationship you tend to avoid those heavy topics that can lead to arguments or disapproval. There isn't enough time to mend things and so in my case I chose not to rock the boat.

We pulled up to the airport terminal. The tears started to stream down my face. I tried to yawn, but my tears were too heavy. I couldn't hide my emotions. As the last bag was deposited in front of me, I put my arms around his neck and held him tight. I couldn't let go. It felt different. He was gone in an instant. When I turned around I could only see the tail lights of his car.

Seven days later, during a conversation of insecurities, he said, "I can't do this anymore." I pulled my ignorance card and asked him what it was that he couldn't do. I knew what he meant. He needed a local

partner to come home to, not a part time companion, which is what I was. What was I to do, force him to accept my temporary situation? I conceded to his request. The memories are the hardest to overcome. I'm still healing from the blow and rehearsing the "I should have done more" in my mind. I miss him. I hope he misses me, and I understand. We never mapped out what we wanted or how we would navigate through the time we spent apart.

I'm not ruling out long distance relationships. I think that they deserve a lot of attention in the beginning. Making an effort to communicate your feelings with out the fear of losing is important.

My advice to you: make it your business to handle your business. Leave no stone unturned. When it comes to making it clear, state what you need in that relationship. Remember, absence doesn't always make the heart grow fonder it may just make it grow farther. -slr



GREEN HORNET RADIO

TUNE IN @ WGHR.STREAMON.FM
LISTEN TO WIN GIVEAWAYS!



WANT TO BE PART OF WGHR?
FOR INQUIRIES E-MAIL
DONSTORY74@GMAIL.COM

WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE?

By Falyn Eaden

IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING NICE TO SAY, DON'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL.

Imagine for a second that you are in class watching your professor give a lecture. Everything is going to plan. The professor continues on from slide to slide according to their topic. The next slide is pulled up. It is a picture of our president, Barak Obama, giving what is to be understood as a speech. He is holding a microphone in one hand and scratching the top of his head with the other, expressing a face of uncertainty. The kind of blank look you get when someone asks you a question and you pause are in deep thought. From the back of the classroom you hear someone shout out, Curious George! You pause, delaying in a reaction. How is everyone else reacting? Am I overreacting? The teacher, after an awkward pause, tries to continue as if nothing was said. You can no longer concentrate

because in the back of your head you keep hearing the repetition of Curious George. What would you do?

This is a real scenario that happened here on the Southern Poly campus. Maybe the individual was prejudice. Maybe the individual said the wrong thing at random. However,

"THIS IS A REAL SCENARIO THAT HAPPENED HERE ON THE SOUTHERN POLY CAMPUS"

no matter what the race the comment is unacceptable and disrespectful. The fact that I am of the same race as Obama and the culprit is not, definitely caused me to be a little uneasy. Another point to think about is this: Why didn't the professor address the comment? As a minority



on campus this is the last thing I want lingering in the back of my head. I'm not writing this to alarm others of prejudice students. I'm writing this to inform students about comments like this. They can be misinterpreted as prejudice and harmful.

A FRATERNITY MAN AGAINST HAZING

DO NOT CROSS THE LINE

By Christopher Harris

ALL FRATERNITIES HAVE VALUES WHICH THEY HOLD TO THE HIGHEST OF IMPORTANCE. PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INITIATED INTO FRATERNITIES SHOULD, OF COURSE, REPRESENT THOSE VALUES AND IDEALS, BUT THERE ARE ALWAYS THOSE WHO SLIP THROUGH.

In order to represent those ideals and have your fraternity be how it should, you should make sure the pledging process accurately represents those values. The idea that you should live according to the values you hold (seemingly or otherwise) should be common sense among fraternity men. It is, after all, what you promised to do. And no fraternity advocates hazing. Hazing is counter-productive to making the best fraternity.

I have often heard that “pledging gets easier as the years go on.” This is undeniably true. As fraternities move forward, they significantly reduce the amount of hazing. But this isn’t a bad thing like the stereotypical TFM-esque fraternity man might say. This reduction in hazing is an improvement, both in the quality of initiates, and in reaching the fraternity’s

ideals. I’m writing this on the last day of the National Hazing Prevention Week, so you might say that I’m writing this only because of all of the advertising that campaign has had; we’ve seen with many movements, people lose passion for things after the main event is over. This is not the case for me.

As a fraternity man who disagrees with hazing, I am constantly reminded of the negative effects which can occur at the pledge’s expense. As a brother of Pi Kappa Phi, I strive to be the best leader I can be. I hope to reflect the values that my fraternity represents. I hope that I am able to pass these values on to the men who wish to join my fraternity.

“AS A BROTHER OF PI KAPPA PHI, I STRIVE TO BE THE BEST LEADER I CAN BE.”

I can think of no better way to instill these values than through service. Not service as in cleaning my house, or obeying our commands, but service as in helping people who can’t help themselves. The philanthropy of Pi Kappa Phi has a mission statement which reflects this: Building leaders of tomorrow by serving people with disabilities today. I want the people who wish to join my fraternity to be leaders.

I want them to represent what Pi Kappa Phi stands for. Can positive values be taught through negative behaviors? Possibly, but not in any meaningful way. Relationships can certainly be formed over the hatred of someone. But is this what we should encourage?

We wish to call these men our brothers, so we should encourage bonding over something respectable, such as service. While every fraternity is different, and I know next to nothing about most other fraternities, I would bet that no fraternity believes that hazing is the way to reflect their ideals.

I can see the effects among people who have pledged a fraternity. I’ve seen cause distrust, disloyalty, and animosity towards the people you are supposed to want to call your brother. I love my brothers to no end, but I’m certainly closest to, and have the most respect for, those who treated me as a person and with respect. I can say that those brothers who would have hazed me if they could have are the ones that do not have as much respect. This is why I affirm my stance against hazing: I will be a leader, not someone who hazes.

EDITORIAL

EDITORIAL STAFF

VICKI NIX
Editor in chiefRANDY BROWN JR.
Managing EditorVANESSA BORRAS-PATINO
Layout EditorLELAND ROBERTS
WebmasterJEFF GREENE
Faculty AdvisorBARRY BIRCKHEAD
Administrative Advisor

By Vicki Nix

As the end of the semester approaches I find it exciting and overwhelming at the same time. The moment I've been waiting to experience seems to be coming up to slap me in the face. You might think I'm talking about graduation, but I'm not. I fell into being editor of The Sting and have always known that I would step away before my final semester in preparation for graduation.

Well, that means that I'll step away from the helm at the end of this semester and have only one more edition to leave my mark on The Sting as its Editor in Chief. The list of unfinished articles and unfinished ideas is longer than what I completed.

The accomplishment that we have made at The Sting is truly a "we" accomplishment. Any time you have an organization comprised of transient members with the longest tenure being 5 years (you hope) it can be difficult to provide continuity from year to year. My mission was to provide a structure that opened the doors to the editorial house of The Sting. The editorial board now consists of editors for the operation of the organization, not just the publication.

The system of newsroom hours allows the editors to have regular communication and keep the creativity and energy of the publication moving and progressing. Each editor is consistently on the lookout for assistance in their pursuit to find their replacement. Working with the designers and writers allows the editors to identify those with the spirit of a teacher and communicator to further the building of a strong infrastructure of a college newspaper.

The first step in identifying the next generation of editorial staff came at the 2012 Modern Media Conference hosted by Georgia State University in September. We had over 20 of The Sting staff in attendance, more than any other university attending.

The keynote speaker Michael Koretzky critiqued the college newspapers of any staff brave enough to hear his frank observations and advise. Knowing that we have not yet arrived to

where we want to be, I took our paper with Randy and Vanessa dragging behind me for his critique. He surprised us with a few "I see where you are going" and "I like how you've done this." Maybe I under-sold us a bit as I approached him, but it was nice to have an outsider see the progress being made.

The conference had several sessions, some were simultaneous and we had to split up, but everyone walked away ready to hit the ground running with all the new ideas.

Also presenting at the conference was:

Tim Harrower with a full first day session on "Futurizing the News."

Jovita Moore, WSB News Anchor

Hollie Mannheimer, Director of the Georgia First Amendment Foundation

Jamie Morrison, CNN Senior Assignment Manager

Kelly Byrom, Art Director for HLNTV.com

Doug Richards, 11Alive reporter

Matt Bors, cartoonist and Pulitzer Prize finalist

Mark Rice and David Simpson, former AP writers

Sheri England, Senior Director, CNNI & HLN

Production Unit

Scott Tufts,

Executive Producer,

InSession on truTV

Mark Johnson,

Photojournalism Lecturer,

University of Georgia

Joel Kight, Social Media

Director and Online News

Editor, Athens Banner-

Herald

Jim Zachary, Editor, Clayton

News Daily and Henry

Daily Herald

Gabe Khouli, News Editor,

Covington News

We look forward to our next conference hosted by the Georgia College Press Association and the Georgia Press Association in Athens, GA in February. This will be a great time for the staff to learn about newspaper publication and each other. This conference will be overnight and we plan to use the time brainstorming and finding the synergy to take us forward.

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 discretions of the editor.

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

SPSU ITEMIZED TUITION

ONE, TWO, THREE, FOUR... WHAT ARE WE PAYING FOR?

By Vicki Nix

HAVE YOU EVER LOOKED AT YOUR ACCOUNT STATEMENT AND REALLY THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT YOU ARE PAYING OR DO YOU BEHAVE LIKE AN OSTRICH AND HIDE FROM IT TO AVOID THE PAIN? EITHER WAY, YOU ARE THE ONE PAYING TO BE HERE AND I THINK WE SHOULD PAY ATTENTION!

We are fortunate to have a community where we can have influence on how some of this money is spent. Many universities are so large that an individual may feel helpless about having influence on the money spent at their university. Step up and be counted...more importantly, be heard.

UNDERGRAD TUITION \$2,277.60

Thirteen credit hours for In-state tuition. An out of state student would pay \$8,816.11.

TECHNOLOGY FEE \$75.00

The 2012-2013 Tech fees provided for new hardware and software. A complete list can be found at http://www.spsu.edu/techfee/project_proposals/fy2013.htm You can participate now! The call for the 2013-2014 term Technology Fee Project Proposals has started.

All Students, Faculty, and Staff are encouraged to submit project proposals to the Technology Fee Review and Evaluation (TFRE) committee. This is your opportunity to shape the learning environment at SPSU. Students are encouraged to initiate the proposal process. Current updates about the process and any changes can be found online at: <http://www.spsu.edu/techfee> - Submitted proposals and updates regarding the process can be found online via the SPSU Tech Fee website at <http://www.spsu.edu/techfee>

ACTIVITY FEE \$49.00

The main budgeting committee for student activity funds at Southern Polytechnic is the Budget and Finance Committee of the Student Government Association. The various student organizations submit budgets and are approve for their funding by the Student Government Association. KNOW your SGA officers and attend the meetings. Just like any other politician, they want to know how you want them to spend your money. If you don't speak up, they don't know.

RECREATION FEE \$51.00

Did you know that you have a gym membership! The services that come with this fee make it the bargain on the page. This fee provides the foundation for many services managed through the Wellness center.

Intramurals (a sports program that offers a variety of programs)Facilities (two racquetball courts, locker rooms with showers, a full size 25 yard lap swimming pool and an outdoor sunbathing deck)

My Student Body (an alcohol and drug education program)Fitness (Classes ranging from Cardio Kickboxing, to Indoor Group Cycling to Beginner Swimming and Water Fitness - Beginner - intermediate level classes)

A Healthy YOU! (A web page with a lot of links for anyone looking to improve their health.)

ATHLETIC FEE \$108.00

Look for this fee to go up! Southern Polytechnic State University is currently a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), playing smaller schools within the Southern States Athletic Conference (SSAC). For SPSU athletics to remain a member of the NAIA, at least two sports must be added to the athletic program by Fall 2015. If SPSU chooses not to offer the minimum sports to be NAIA compliant, its athletic teams would suffer serious sanctions.

HEALTH FEE \$23.00

Student Health Services ("The Clinic" is located in the Rec and Wellness Center. A nurse is on duty to take care of minor illnesses and emergencies. If you further treatment is necessary you may be referred to WellStar Physicians Group.)

INSTITUTION FEE \$300.00

Transportation/Facilities Fee 105.00Students are charged a transportation fee to cover the cost of the maintenance of parking lots, sidewalks, overhead covers, and other amenities. This fee allows students to register to park a vehicle on campus. \$75 of this fee is currently being used to retire the debt on the parking deck.

TOTAL TERMCHARGES \$2,998.60

At the time of this printing...we are still researching what this one is all about. The monthly payment on my student loan for this semester would be \$34.51 if I didn't have a \$50 monthly minimum. Cha - Ching...at \$50 per month it will be paid off in approximately 6 years.

PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

THE GROWING PROBLEM WITH FACTCHECKERS

By Christopher Harris

With the start of the presidential debates between President Obama and Governor Romney, many news organizations have attempted to “fact check” some of the claims made in their debates. This has brought forth a few big problems.

It's often argued that the media slants “left” inherently. While this is certainly not true, as evident by the many far right news outlets, news organizations have made many attempts to appear as unbiased as possible, and this is often done by pointing out the same number of cons (e.g. lies, gaffes, etc.) and pros (e.g. kept promises, accurate claims, etc.). But this is problematic. It's certainly possible that one person could make more, and even worse, false claims than another.

The fact checking group FAIR (Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting) calls this a false balance (9/11/2012) “[A]sk yourself: If you're a profit-seeking outfit, which do you prefer, the appearance of fairness or the inner peace that comes with knowing you've done the right thing?” For example, FAIR pointed out (10/03/2012) one of the problems with a recent Time piece about who, between Obama and Romney, is “most deceptive”, and sarcastically summarizes the article by saying “Romney lies more, and bigger. But Obama tells

**“THEY DON'T
ACTUALLY LOOK FOR
ALL THE FACTS”**

the more effective kind of lies: the ones that are more

Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/donkeyhotey/8052091470/>

accurate. Got that?”

Another problem that arises from some fact checkers is that they don't actually look for all the facts. When addressing Romney's claim that he wants a \$5 trillion tax cut, John Berman of CNN accurately pointed out that Romney does this by closing loopholes and reducing reductions. FAIR points out (10/05/2012) that Romney hasn't specified the plan to make up that

amount, and that critics show it's “mathematically impossible without raising taxes on the middle class...” They go on to say, “That's a strange way to do a fact check. If you take Romney ‘at his word,’ even though he hasn't really explained how his plan would work, then he must be right.”

The news media seems so focused on “appearing” fair that they completely miss the mark. In order for the

fact checks to be fair, then both sides have to be on equal grounds. Regardless of which side of the political spectrum it is, it's always possible for one to simply be more dishonest, to not keep promises, and to simply avoid the facts, more so than the other side. This needs to be something that journalists keep in mind with this upcoming election.

VENEZUELA PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS 2012

1 BUS, 8 HRS, LOOKING FOR CHANGE

By Maria Guerra



I got on a bus with 55 other people on the night of October 6th, destined to New Orleans. Those who live in Georgia and Florida had to make this trip in order to participate in the Venezuelan presidential elections. The trip took about 8 hours which felt more like 30 minutes due to the anticipation everyone felt. We got there at four in the morning and immediately got in line outside the Ernest N.

Morial Convention Center of New Orleans. There was excitement and optimism in the air. Thousands of Venezuelans traveled to New Orleans looking for political change and a better future.

Hugo Chavez, a socialist who has been in office for 14 years, became president in 1999 when I was 6 years old. His enthusiasm and promises were keys to his election success. Chavez has been in office ever since.

Unfortunately, shortly after becoming president the table turned: his enthusiasm turned into aggressiveness and the promises he made turned out to be lies. Chavez has spent his 14 year presidency bashing the middle and upper class, idolizing Fidel and Cuba, and instigating violence and hate amongst Venezuelans. This year, during this presidential election, everything seemed destined to change. A young, intelligent and motivated politician named Henrique Capriles presented the country a different political agenda: one that would unite Venezuelans, one that would include better schools, more security and better

opportunities for the youth. Capriles became a synonym of hope and restoration, of a better tomorrow and more opportunities for everyone. After standing in line for five hours I found myself, for the first time in my life, in front of a ballot: excited and hopeful. It is difficult to describe the exact feeling,

“AFTER STANDING IN LINE FOR FIVE HOURS I FOUND MYSELF, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, IN FRONT OF A BALLOT: EXCITED AND HOPEFUL.”

but it was an incredible experience. I felt butterflies in my stomach as I put an ‘X’ on Capriles's face. That same day all 56 of us got on the

bus at four in the afternoon. At around 11:30 PM, the results of the election were announced. The results were painful. Chavez had won once again and will begin to serve a 6 year term starting January 10th 2013. Without having time to say anything, tears filled my eyes; the bus became silent. Half of the country voted for Capriles, but the other half remains under Chavez's spell while of course enjoying flat screen TVs, new washing machines and other gifts received for supporting his party. I have to say that I have not been able to shake off the disappointment and sadness I felt after receiving the results. However, I know my country deserves better and I have faith that change will come sooner rather than later.



Photos by: Maria Guerra

FEATURES

HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT THE NEW METHOD FOR CPR?

By: Kathy Remenyik

HOW DO YOU ADMINISTER CONTINUOUS CHEST COMPRESSION TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO MAY BE SUFFERING FROM CARDIAC ARREST?

PRELIMINARY STEPS:

1. Lay the person flat on their back.
2. Check for responsiveness by shouting at and shaking the person. You can also form a fist and with pressure rub their chest bone. Do not remove their clothing.
3. Call 911 or instruct someone else to do so.

DO'S

1. Place the heel of your hand to the center of the individual's chest (area between the breasts/nipple line)
2. Stack the heel of your other hand on top of the hand you placed on the individual's chest.
3. Lock your elbows. Center your shoulders over the center of the individual's chest (Locking your elbows and centering your shoulders enables you to apply compression appropriately) approximately 2 inches deep at 100 beats per minute.
4. Now begin falling and compressing into the person's chest about 2 inches.
5. Lift hands from chest after each compression (This is important because it allows the chest to recoil; air can enter and blood can flow)
6. Compression rate should occur at 100 beats per minute (Stayin' Alive by the Bee Gees is a popular notation of the speed of 100 compressions/beats per minute). The jab-jab motion of 100 beats per minute is the most successful at helping the blood move forward to the brain.

DON'TS

- Check pulse
- Clear the airway or perform mouth-to-mouth breathing
- You need no certification to provide continuous chest compression. You are not at legal risk due to Good Samaritan laws.
- Don't wait! For every minute delay, the survival rate drops by nearly 10%.

That's it! Pump on the person's chest in this manner until professional medical help arrives. Do not stop. With every compression you administer, you are squeezing the person's heart, making a heartbeat. Do not stop if the person is gasping. Gasping is a sign of cardiac arrest in 55% of cases. Do not worry that you might be harming the person. You are saving a life.

What if you can't continue the process until medical professionals arrive? If another person is available to administer continuous chest compression, ask him to kneel down and immediately begin the procedure when you stop. You can coordinate together to keep the procedure continuously administered.

Continuous Chest Compression was developed by Gordon A. Ewry, MD and Karl Kern MD at the University of Arizona College of Medicine. For a video about continuous chest compression and how to administer it, go to:

<http://ahsc.arizona.edu/node/730>

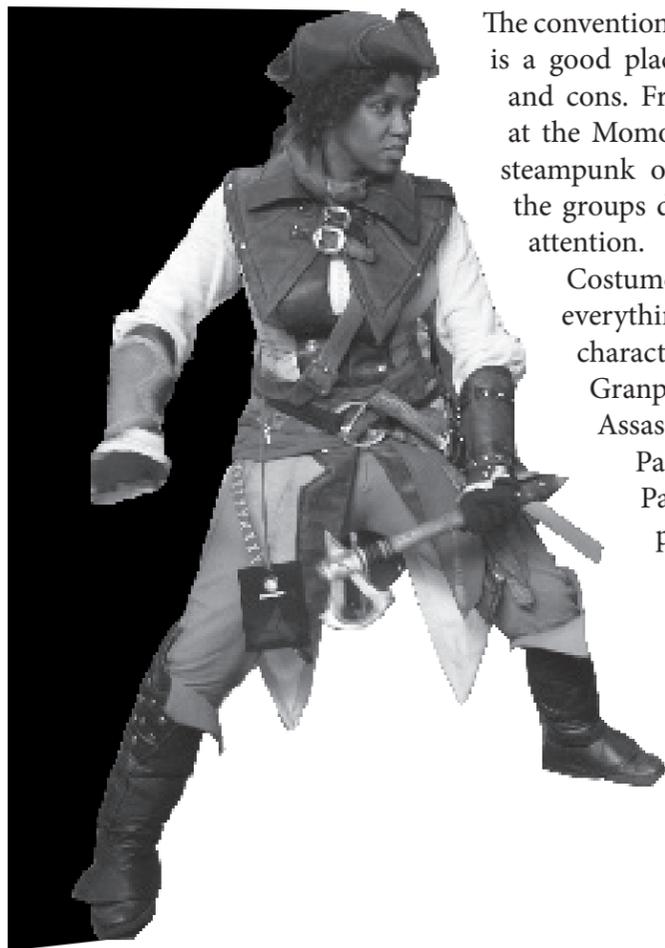
WHY IS CONTINUOUS CHEST COMPRESSION IS BETTER THAN CPR?

- No mouth-to-mouth resuscitation is necessary. Adults who have cardiac arrest typically have enough oxygen in their body. The flow of blood is key to survival.
- You do not need to be certified to administer Continuous Chest Compression.
- It is simple to remember how to administer.



ANIME WEEKEND

By James "Goggles" Cunningham



The convention known as Anime Weekend Atlanta is a good place to meet different organizations and cons. From video games and winged cats at the Momo Con table to the free candy and steampunk oddities at the Anacro Con table, the groups do whatever they can to grab your attention.

Costumes are the order of the day, with everything: various Batman villains, anime characters, Solid Snake, Aveline De Granpre, Metal Gear Solid, and the new Assassin's Creed.

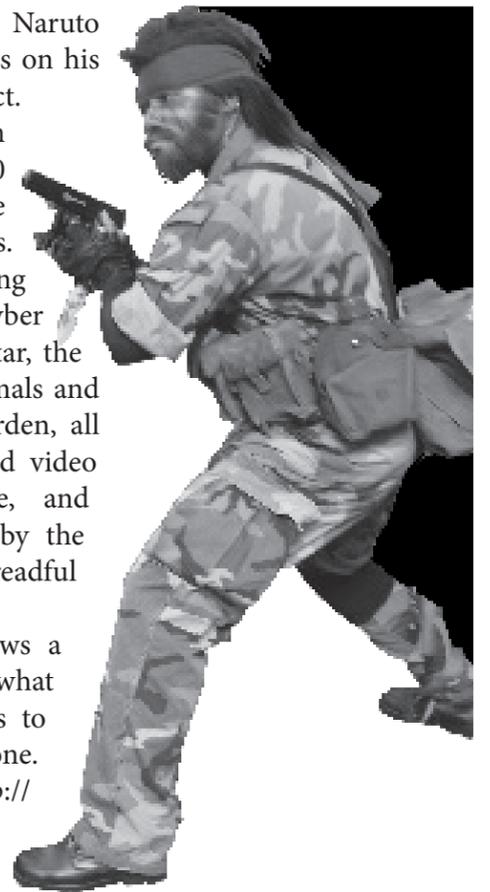
Panels are a big part of the convention. Panel topics include costume and prop making, the silly antics of the Gaia Online, and World of Hentai panels.

The dealer room that spreads across the massive 72,000 square foot convention hall is always one of the highlights. The massive amount of activity in the dealers room ranges from sudden dance sessions to a man dressed as Jiraiya

from the anime Naruto collecting signatures on his summoning contract.

The dealers' room features over 250 dealers with a large variety of items. Everything including the furry and cyber punk gear of Pawstar, the fantasy stuffed animals and wings at Bast's Garden, all kinds of anime and video game merchandise, and steampunk goods by the local Penny Dreadful Productions.

AWA always draws a crowd no matter what - make your plans to attend the next one. See you there. <http://www.awa-con.com/>



Photos by: James "Goggles" Cunningham

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<p>Student Mock Presidential Debate 12-1 p.m. Student Center Theater</p>	<p>Rape Prevention Classes at University Activities Center November 6, 8, 13, & 15 5:30-8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Finding Internships: Orientation to SPSU's Program 12-1 p.m. Student Center Ballroom B</p>	<p>SPSU Band Concert 4:30 p.m. Student Center Theater</p>	<p>Runnin' Homets vs. Clayton State University 7:30-8:30 p.m. Student Center Ballroom B</p>	<p>High Museum of Art's College Night Featuring access to a special exhibition First Forum: Modern Mosaics 1913-2013</p>
<p>International Film Series - The Wedding Party (Germany) 6-8 p.m. Student Center Theater</p>	<p>Rape Prevention Classes at University Activities Center November 6, 8, 13, & 15 5:30-8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Career Opportunities Fair 12-3 p.m. Cable Galleries</p>	<p>Soldering Workshop November 15-16 5-8:30 p.m.</p>		
<p>Men's Basketball - SPSU vs. Bob Jones University 7-9 p.m. Gymnasium</p>	<p>Runnin' Homets vs. Voorhees College 6-8 p.m. Gymnasium</p>		<p>MUST Ministries' 10th Annual Gobbie Jog Thanksgiving Morning In downtown Marietta</p>		
				<p>Men's Basketball - SPSU vs. Spring Hill College 7:30-9:30 p.m. Gymnasium</p>	

YOU ARE INVITED

TO The 16th ETCMA Senior Portfolio **Open House**

AT J-212, Atrium Building

ON 5:00-7:00pm

PS Wednesday, 28 Nov 2012
Light refreshments served

SOUTHERN ENGINEER'S BOOKSTORE
1101 S. Marietta Parkway
Marietta, GA 30060
FALL UNIVERSITY www.spsu.edu/etcm

LAB J-212 Senior 20th November Information Document

English
Marilynna G. Granda-Davies

SPSU Andrada Erdoss
Monego Johnson
Dr. Holmes-Korn **Technical Communication** Dr. Smith
Tyrane Lively
Julian Jones
Jana Coody

Media new digital **Arts Portfolio**
Yiwen Zhao
Yichen Wang

2012
Toby Pope Melanie Allen
Nathan Atkins Ruo Mo
Anna Karosteleva

Quality Refinishing
Mirror Resilvering

Specializing in
American Oak Furniture

CHARLES UPCHURCH ANTIQUES
5133 Floyd Road Mableton, GA 30126

770-944-1567
Cell 770-364-4257

Email: ucharles@bellsouth.net
www.upchurchantiques.com

SOUTHERN ENGINEER'S BOOKSTORE

Gary Gaines
Store Manager

1011 South Marietta Parkway
Suite 2
Marietta, GA 30060

(770) 499-8434
gary@sebookstore.com

FEATURES

STUDY ABROAD

¡VAMOS A MADRID!

By Kevin Van Der Horn

SPSU TAKES STUDENTS ABROAD TO SPAIN: HEATHER SEELY RECOUNTS HER EXPERIENCE.

For quite a while now, SPSU's Spanish department has taken students on trips to Spain during the summer season. I had the opportunity to hear all about the trip from a student that went in the summer of 2010: Heather Seely. She is a junior here at SPSU, majoring in psychology. Heather took Spanish throughout high school and continues to take the class in college. She feels that it is to her advantage to know more than one language.

Bernice Nuhfer-Halten teaches Spanish at SPSU. She orchestrates the Madrid trips for Southern Poly students. Heather really enjoys having Nuhfer-Halten as a professor. Nuhfer-Halten encouraged Heather to go on the Spain trip. Heather figured why not? She was saving money and attending group meetings with other

students that were going.

The students going to Spain did not leave straight from Atlanta to Madrid. The group flew to New York first. Heather did not leave with the main group from Atlanta. She left early with her friends from Atlanta. Students from other colleges flew from New York to Spain as well. Heather was sick the first few days in town, because of the climate change. The hot Spain weather caused some of the students to sleep in the middle of the day. This rest period is called a Siesta in Spain.

The students stayed at an all-girls school. The meals in the cafeteria were prepaid as part of the total fee that students paid for the trip. There was a cafe in the school run by an old couple, Jesus and Maria. Heather said that she and the other

students really enjoyed going to the café. Jesus and Maria were really fun and let them take shots.

Heather took a class, which was conducted in Spanish. She also took a class, taught by Nuhfer-Halten, while she was in Spain. Heather said she was nervous about the class, but later adjusted. Class was early in the morning; dinner was late at night, all of which made Heather extremely tired before the next day. She would only get three hours of sleep each night. Some of this was partially Heather's fault. As I later found out, she often stayed up late hanging out with friends. Nonetheless, she managed to get her siesta after her morning class most days.

The students received a five

day break after midterms while in Spain. Heather planned a trip ahead of time to Ibiza with her friend who worked in Denmark. Booker another of Heather's friends joined her. Other students went to places like Portugal and Barcelona for the break. Some stayed and partied in Madrid. Heather was in Ibiza when Spain won the FIFA world cup. Imagine all of the crazy celebrations. While

“THE HOT SPAIN WEATHER CAUSED SOME OF THE STUDENTS TO SLEEP IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY. THIS REST PERIOD IS CALLED A SIESTA IN SPAIN”

in Ibiza, Heather visited the largest nightclub in the world. The food in Spain was different, but delectable. There were tapas (gourmet/

bar food) everywhere. She also mentioned that Ibiza's seafood was fresh and delicious.

While in class with Nuhfer-Halten, Heather had to visit particular areas in Madrid and write about them in Spanish. She went to Madrid's Central Park and rode the subway everywhere. The last three days of the trip they spent in Paris. The group reserved a hotel in Paris. Heather was able to ride the riverboats and see the Eifel Tower. She went to, both, the Louvre and the cemetery where Jim Morrison is buried. Heather

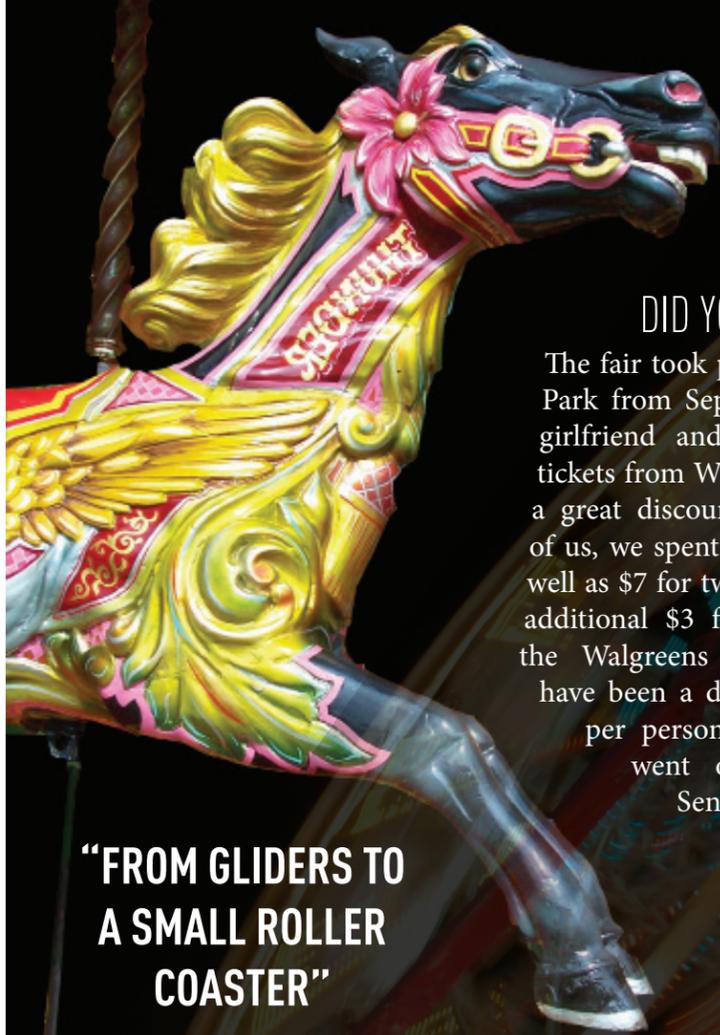
said she made lasting friendships on this trip and would recommend it to anyone.

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/davidht/7530235974/sizes/o/in/photostream/>



NORTH GEORGIA FAIR

By Travis Wood

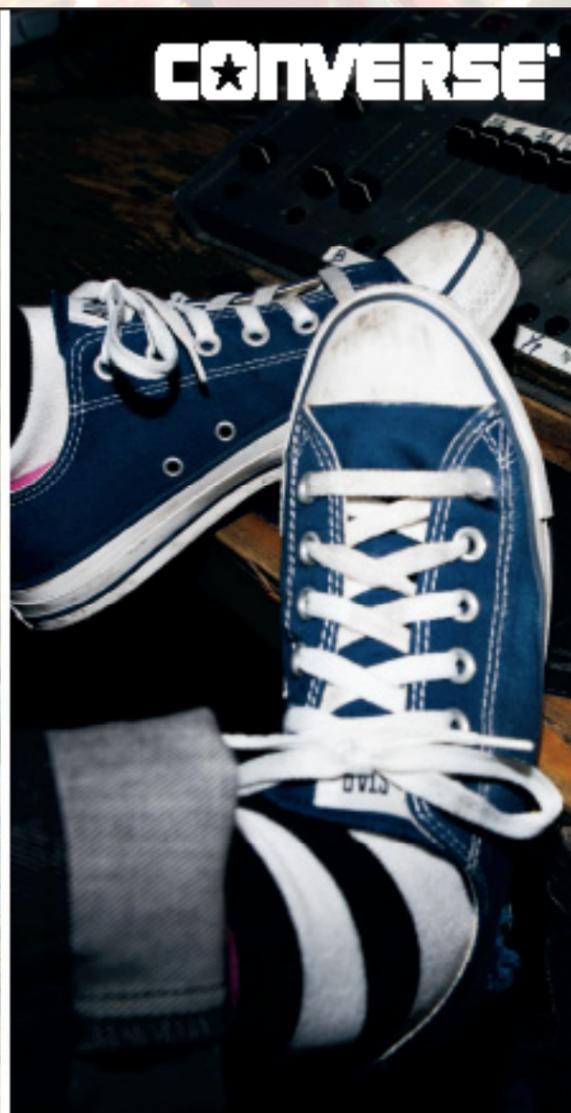


DID YOU GO THIS YEAR?

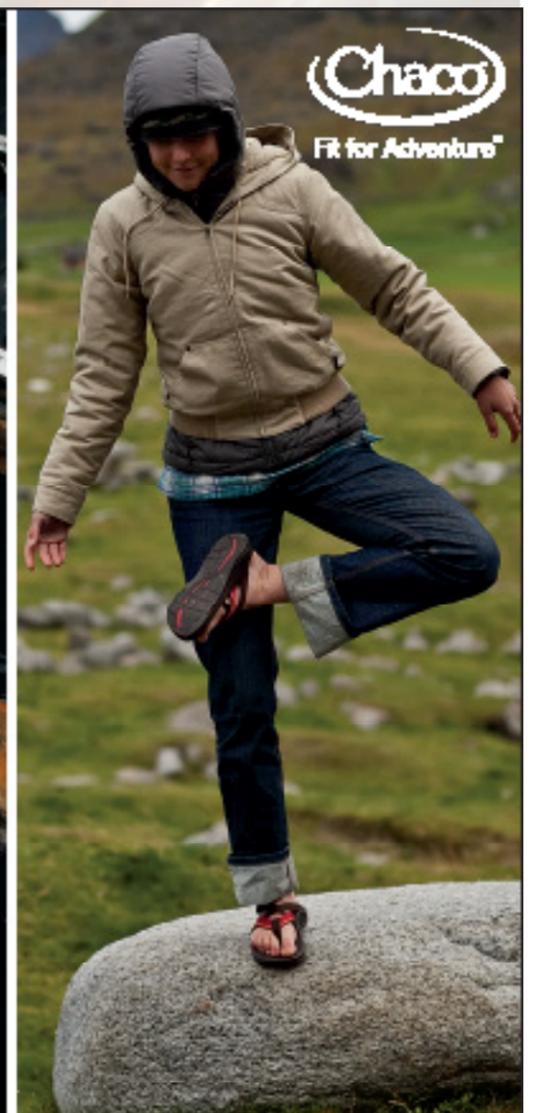
The fair took place at Jim R. Miller Park from September 20-30th. My girlfriend and I purchased some tickets from Walgreens and received a great discount. Between the two of us, we spent \$33 for 66 tickets as well as \$7 for two admissions and an additional \$3 for parking. Without the Walgreens discount, it would have been a dollar a ticket and \$7 per person per admission. We went on September 21st, Senior Citizens Day, which afforded all 55+ years old free admission and had

specific games and activities for this age group during the day. Also, the radio station 104.7 The Fish hosted a concert, which featured the band Newsboys; although I missed it. Do 33 tickets a person sound like a lot? I thought so, until I found out every ride there were at least 3 tickets to ride once. They had the typical rides (as you can see in the photos) from gliders to a small roller coaster, to a Ferris wheel and The Swinging Ship. They also had plenty of carnival-esque foodstuffs and small shows from comedy to trick performing with bikes, both motorized and not. I preferred to save my money. But, I'll tell you what. Temperatures had cooled off so it was pleasant to walk around despite the crowds of people and the place was well lit. Also, the lines for the rides weren't too awful either (of course, we went early-ish on Friday instead of the weekend). So hey, if you're thinking of taking your significant other somewhere different and fun, check to see when the North Georgia Fair sets up shop again. If you're worried about money, look into Walgreens or any other store offering special deals. They're there. You just gotta look.

"FROM GLIDERS TO A SMALL ROLLER COASTER"



CONVERSE



buckhead · east cobb · kennesaw · little five points · gwinnett

Info Line: **770.491.6775**
facebook.com/coolshoesatlanta



abbadabba's
coolshoes.com

STUDENT LIFE

BATHTUB RACE



By Kevin Van Der Horn

It is that time of the year again: Goat Night! This year's event had a massive turnout. The student theater was filled to capacity. There was excitement in the air, and cheering as the different groups performed their routines on stage. Why does Goat Night bring about so much enthusiasm from the student-body?

The origins of Goat Night are something of a mystery. There are a lot of rumors as to how Goat Night came to be, but no one knows the true story. According to one account, a goat pasture and goat pen used to be located on the school grounds. Some claim Goat Night originated from that. Another claim

is that back in the day, a student somehow gained access to the administration building and let a goat loose inside. This action resulted in the goat tearing up plastic plants, ripping up papers, documents, and defecating all over the building. The costs of the damages were tremendous. These are just some of the many rumors to beginnings of the infamous night.

Goat Night takes place one evening, but there are goat night traditions going on throughout the week. Goat Night is a competition between all the fraternities and sororities. This contest is based on a point system. The first round is a banner contest.

This event usually takes place during homecoming week. Each fraternity designs their banners with a basketball theme in mind.

“ANOTHER CLAIM IS THAT BACK IN THE DAY, A STUDENT SOMEHOW GAINED ACCESS TO THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND LET A GOAT LOOSE INSIDE.”

The second round is the change war. Change is positive and paper money is negative. Each fraternity competing sets up a table in the student center. Students walking by donate money to a preferred Greek

organization. The money raised goes to a charity of each organization's choice. A strategy used during this contest is bombing another

group's table with cash to bring down their amount of points. One year, there was a fraternity in the lead and all the others got together and dropped that fraternity's amount of points down by bombarding their table with cash.

The actual Goat Night begins with an eating contest. The eating contest consists of taco bell tacos and slushies.

Next, each fraternity/sorority performs a skit that has to include a live goat. Each fraternity used to have their own live goat. However, three years ago one of the goats broke its leg. The university got into a lot of trouble for that because it was considered animal cruelty. Now, SPSU provides the goat for Goat Night. This event was previously held in the outdoor amphitheater. Each Greek organization performs a choreographed dance. This is the most heated and competitive event of the night. Kappa Phi Beta ended up with all the glory after this year's goat night.

PUMPKIN LAUNCH

STUDENT LIFE

By Joseph Pitts

We know the fall season is upon us when we see the leaves changing colors and pumpkins hurtling through the air at SPSU's annual Pumpkin Launch. Students from various majors positioned themselves between the Norton and Howell dormitories to catch the pumpkin extravaganza up close and personal.

Three waves of teams were given three opportunities to launch their pumpkins as far as possible. The teams throwing mechanisms varied from catapults to sling shots and even an air-powered canon. The lawn between the dorms was littered with the remains of decorated pumpkins at the end of the event.

The team with the air-powered canon (International Pumpkin Smashers) destroyed their last pumpkin, launching it onto the roof of courtyard building 3000.



GOAT NIGHT THROUGH THE WINDOW

By Falyn Eaden

Before October 24, 2012 I'd never attended a Goat Night at SPSU. Before entering the Student Center Theater I could hear the chants and cheers overflowing into the lobby. The first order of business however, is the name itself. Goat Night is Goat Night, not to be confused with G.O.A.T Night. Yes, there is a significant difference between the two. With the entire theater filled, I managed to find a decent place in the back to stand. From here I waited anxiously.

Ten Fraternities and Sororities all competed against one another through five competitions...for

reasons that I'm not sure of. Maybe it was to prove who the G.O.A.T of Goat Night were perhaps. The competition consisted of coin collecting, skits, dancing/stepping/, banner design, and eating. Now the eating and coin collecting competition was self-explanatory. But the highlight of the night, from a non-participant's point of view, was definitely the skits and dance competition. Here's why!

The skits were a creative way of showing the identities of each fraternity and sorority. You could clearly tell what they liked to do, what interest them, and what they find entertaining. There

were skits spoofing current shows like, Family Feud, That 70's Show, and The Real Housewives series. Other skits were created completely from scratch, incorporating a genie, friends feuding during supper, and men without shirts. Within these skits about eight of the ten organizations incorporated a live goat. Each goat that was presented was different than the last. Meaning there must have been at least eight individual goats in the facility. This is where I had the epiphany that this is really Goat Night, not G.O.A.T Night!

If that was not enough to blow your mind, then allow

me to continue. After all the skits were complete we had a brief intermission by the name of Kyle Grooms. Yes, Kyle Grooms from The Chappelle Show! Everyone in the theater listened to the Stand-Up Comedian intently waiting for the next moment to explode in laughter. Grooms did a fantastic job, taking our minds off of competition and brought Southern Poly together as a whole. At that point we were all one. We were all a family of students. So Kyle Grooms, we thank you for that.

Now back to the show. Like the skits, the dances were a way for the Greek

organizations to show their individuality. There were a large array of songs and different styles of dance, from hip-hop to rave and techno. Some dance performances consisted of all the above together, all of which were enjoyable. In the end there could only be one organization standing.

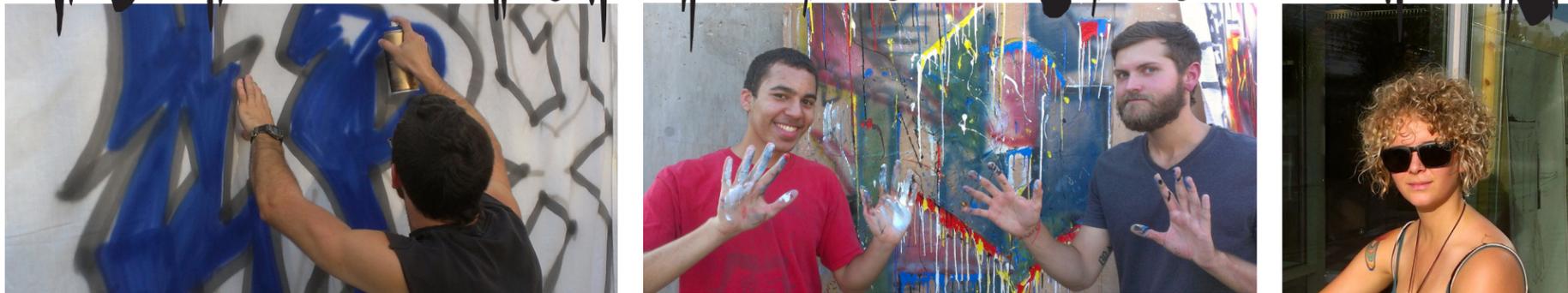
For those of you who lack interest in Goat Night, haven't heard of it, or just could not make it for whatever reason, be sure to mark it on your calendar for next year. I look forward to seeing you there because I won't miss another one for the remainder of my student career.



STUDENT LIFE



GET YOUR ART ON!



Architecture students gathered in the lawn of the Design 2 building for a painting exercise. No prior art experience was required to join in on the fun. Tools such as spray paint and paint brushes were used to mark the empty cloth draped across the cement wall.

OPEN HOUSE THE NEW RECRUITS

Hundreds of prospective students visited SPSU for the fall semester Open House. The SPSU faculty band played several tunes for the visitors in the auditorium. Orientation leaders led tours around campus. Student organizations held an organization fair to close out the day.



STUDENT LIFE

CAREER FAIR

YOUR FUTURE AWAITS



Students presented their resumes and portfolios to over 60 visiting companies. CNN, AT&T, Turner Broadcasting, Turner Construction, Software Engineering companies, Georgia Aquarium, Lockheed Martin, Aflac

BLOOD DRIVE

SHARING IS CARING



October 4, 2012
 The Student Center
 Anthony Pantina, Grant Hasford, Sarah Cullom, Christopher Dima
 With blood drop (Devran Greenwood)
 Giving blood: Jeremiah Ballew (in yellow); in background Christopher Ferrier-Williams (in red)



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ROBERT BARNARD
Science and Technology
Editor

Tap To light Up
TunePad To Create
Extraordinary
Tunes & Music!

SPSU GRADUATES DEVELOP NEW APP

TECHNOLOGICAL SUCCESS

By Robert Barnard

HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHERE YOUR DEGREE WOULD TAKE YOU ONCE IT IS ATTAINED? HERE IS SOME INSIGHT TO THIS QUESTION THAT PLAGUES US ALL. I RECENTLY LEARNED OF A NEW APP CREATED BY CURRENT SPSU GRADUATES, TOMMY TORNROOS AND MARSHALL MILLER. I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW TORNROOS ABOUT THIS APP.

RB: What degree did you obtain at SPSU?

TT: Tommy obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and minored in technical communication and Marshall graduated with a major in computer science.

RB: When did you graduate?

TT: I graduated in 2009 and Marshall Miller graduated in 2011.

RB: What is some advice you can offer to current SPSU students?

TT: My dad once told me, "Out of ten ideas for apps or businesses you have, seven will break even, two will fail, but one will succeed." That is how I look at everything we do, failure happens to everyone at some point but what really matters is what you do after it. That mindset can be applied to anything in my opinion, don't be afraid of failure, embrace it and learn from it.

"FAILURE HAPPENS TO EVERYONE AT SOME POINT BUT WHAT REALLY MATTERS IS WHAT YOU DO AFTER IT."

RB: What are some of the other APPS you have designed?

TT: We have developed quite a few apps now. By November we should have almost 10 out. Our first app was for Mac computers which removes video distortion from converted video cassettes. This is called SproutConverter and is available here: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sproutconverter/id525882005?mt=12>.

We have made a couple simple games just to get them out there for people to play with. They are honestly nothing special but they have taught us a ton in regards

to how Apple works with approving and posting apps. We have also learned how to code better and make more exciting and better apps to do better in the huge app market: <http://itunes.com/apps/gearsprout>. And our favorite app so far is TunePad which is a music creation device. It is kind of like those Tenori-on devices Yamaha makes. <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/tunepad/id556683901?mt=8>. We have a computer version of TunePad coming out, an app to have fake mouths called Mouth Mover, an app to make flowing and artistic drawings with calm background music, a skiing app, a maze app, and an app called Laser Wars which will have little vehicles trying to get each other to crash.

Easy & Fun!

Perfect for Any Age!

COOL PEOPLE LOVE THIS PAGE

Time Did Not Stop

By: Randy Brown Jr.

I told him that if he waited patiently
she'd emerge from the glare and fog
or some heaven-like function.
My truism led him to desperation.
He looked to me for advice and
wound up dancing with quartets of leaves in the wind.
Funny creatures we put faith in.
I gave the man a flannel to steady his heart.
His belief in a crucifix led him to
languish next to trees for support.
I guess monocles don't make us genius,
or dignified Samaritans for that matter.
More like Harlequins wielding paper plates.
In his end,
he attempted to weld his femur to her feet;
latching on,
scratching,
only to be thrown into a pile of her historical fleets
or every man she'd meet
or inglorious feats.
I guess monocles don't help us understand Venus.
There's a better chance of learning Entropy plus
equations of Albedos.
In his last attempt,
he stroked harpsichords,
hoping to lift her head from the sea.
He bled in an aforementioned truth.
His wisdom or youth had not prepared him for the last
line's latter.
He voided life with spite.
A waste of a light.
A castrated mind.
I warned him from the beginning,
she would debunk his value and ideals,
his spirit,
his soul.
She anchored his death,
live from the eerie gates.
An inscribable gesture from her to him,
written in stone.
He fell from grace,
but his soul was not alone.
I eschewed myself from her surroundings in the days
that followed.
Vehemently running,
losing myself in a maze,
a puzzle she could not solve,
let alone save.
I protected myself from her and "them",
the others that she embodied or resembled from the
past,
by living in trees who's branches
crawled past clouds and mountain peaks.
I nearly met his fate once before.
There was no way I'd fall from grace twice,
God help me if it seems...

A Wacky, What The? Short Myth Tale!

By Falyn Eaden

Long, long ago there was an octopus in the sea.
This octopus' name was Ocho. Ocho fell in love
with a spider of the land. Her name was Amelia.
Burdened with the issue of separation, due to lifestyle,
the relationship was hard to maintain. At least once a
day they would meet at the shore to express their
love to each other. Ocho would always tell Amelia that
he'd find a way for them to run away together. Ocho
contemplated night after night, but no solution. About
a week later, Amelia had news for Ocho; she was
pregnant. They agreed that the eggs should be nested
in the sand of the beach. Ocho made sure to be at the
birthing site. This is how the starfish was created.
Through their love, an animal could be on land or in
the sea, never separated from their partner. The kid
starfish now visits both parents regularly.



Ignis Fatuus

By Randy Brown Jr.

And so it began with a nostalgic bang.
The seafarer of his time
or rather a seafarer of the mind
discovered mirth in a being other than himself.
A blatant mermaid painting came to life.
He had previously vowed never to
court a manatee as his wife.
He quelled the "Nine Men Never Win" theory
and rebuked portents not aligned with his story.
His milestone was properly recorded
along with the extinction of narwhals
in almanacs.
The seafarer and mermaid grew together,
forming a unified bond equal to papacies.
It took an earthquake to shake him awake,
followed by scurvy's lopsided heartaches.
He prayed for short-term amnesia,
only to receive synaesthesia,
the intimate dose.
He stood in a hammock and announced that he was
cursed.
It seemed that he'd lost happiness in favor of hurt,
contemptible, mean, despicable truths.
The seafarer never saw happiness.
And though life left clues,
he may his mind believe he saw something,
someone he never knew.

REVIEWS

TELEVISION

A PERSPECTIVE ON DEXTER: "ARE YOU...?"

By Jay Mehdee

AFTER NINE MONTHS OFF OF THE ULTIMATE KILLING CIRCUIT, WE ARE FINALLY BACK TO THE SHOW'S GREATEST CLIFFHANGER MOMENT SINCE THE DEATH OF RITA.



Photo source: <http://screeninvasion.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/Dexter-Face.jpg>

Warning: This article contains spoilers!

What happens next will certainly change the course of the Morgan's relationship forever. Debra chooses to cope by falling back on what she does best: solving mysteries in the most circuitous ways possible. Even Dexter's artful, truth-warping skills are no match to his own sister's determination.

It's quite a shock to see a half-dozen seasons worth of deception be utterly done away with over the course

of a single episode. "Are You...?" has managed to pack an entire season's worth of twists and revelations into one installment. Unfortunately, this might end up hampering the pace of the rest of the season, especially if no equally-compelling storylines are brought up.

Where the series will go from here is anyone's guess. That's one of the strengths of the show's writing team. Here we will take a look at the style presented by the writer of this particular

episode.

This episode was written by Scott Buck, who's a very talented writer. Among these are "The Damage A Man Can Do" from the third season and "Hello, Dexter Morgan" from the fourth season. Both of these older episodes dealt with paradigm shifts in Dexter's lifestyle, specifically people finding out his dark secret. In those two episodes as well as this one, the revelation is dealt within distinct ways.

In "The Damage A Man Can Do", Miguel Prado,

played by Jimmy Smits, is given a participating role in the killing ritual. Dexter has given Miguel the skills and equipment needed to become a vigilante serial killer, but over time this warps Miguel's already damaged psyche to the point that he abuses his newfound abilities. In "Hello, Dexter Morgan", Arthur Mitchell, a long-time serial killer played by John Lithgow, taunts Dexter when he refers to him by name in the middle of the police station.

Both sequences led to the

deaths of the characters involved. I do not mean to jump the gun too much, but it is not outside the realm of possibility that Debra could end up paying the ultimate price for learning Dexter's secret. However, I greatly doubt that Dexter would personally do the dirty work on his own adopted sister.

The ride through this season promises to be breakneck in pace, as the cat is finally out of the bag!

VIDEOGAMES

TORCHLIGHT 2

By Connor Cobb

The first Torchlight, while quite fun, was the embodiment of the term: "Diablo Clone". The Sequel hopes to turn that title into: "Diablo Killer". First and foremost, the biggest complaint about Torchlight 1 was its lack of cooperative multiplayer, and I'm happy to say that issue has been remedied in this newest iteration. Torchlight 2 can support an impressive 6 players in a single game, though some smaller areas can get quite cluttered with a full party. Another huge improvement from the original is the variety of

locations. The game spans multiple environments, as opposed to the original's single town. Of course, a game like Torchlight 2 would be nothing without its randomly generated loot. To that end, TL2 gets everything right, as the loot is varied, enticing, and every bit as much fun to use as you can imagine.

Enemies follow the same path and are refreshingly varied and challenging, while also being satisfying to defeat. Despite being the insane loot-driven click-fest that had made the genre so popular, the game

rarely feels like a grind. The story is about the same as the original, as it serves as a meager justification to push forward and continue clearing dungeons. While there was nothing particularly appalling about it, the narrative never really excels anywhere either. Players will not, however, be slipping back into the roles of their original characters, instead they are introduced to four new classes: the Engineer, the Outlander, the Embermage and the Berserker. The Engineer specializes in dealing massive (albeit slow)

damage, while the Outlander works best with ranged projectiles, the Embermage excels in all forms of magic, and the Berserker can move fast and hit hard.

While I only had a little time to try out each class, they all feel balanced, and more importantly fun to play as. Similar to the original, each of these classes come with their own customizable pet which can serve as a pack mule and attack enemies, as well as the immeasurably useful feature to sell your excess loot mid-dungeon crawl. But all of this pales in comparison to

its biggest feature, offline gameplay! Yes, Torchlight can be played without the need for a constant internet connection. What a novel concept. Though the base game is already a decent length, a "New Game+" feature and modding support will make its lasting value much longer, and at just 20 bucks, I can highly recommend it. At the end of the day, Torchlight 2 is an improvement on everything that made the original so much fun, and a wonderful alternative to those of you who still feel burned by Diablo 3.



VIDEOGAMES

BORDERLANDS 2

By Connor Cobb

There are only three games I have been looking forward to this year. First, *The Darkness 2*, which came out in February and I thoroughly enjoyed. Second, *Hitman: Absolution*, the release of which I await with cautious optimism. The third and final game is: *Borderlands 2*. I along with many others have fond memories of the first *Borderlands*, but those of you who are new to the party should know that the series is a first-person shooter that centers around a Diablo-style randomly generated loot system with an emphasis on four-player co-op.

This time around, things have changed as Pandora has come under the control of the Hyperion Corporation, with Handsome Jack at its helm. The four Vault hunters from the original game return as NPC's fighting Jack's relentless onslaught of Pandora. There to help them are the four new classes to play as: the Gunzerker, the Assassin, a Siren and a Turret-wielding Commando. The Gunzerker, can dual-wield guns for a short period of time, the Assassin, is able to cast a decoy and turn invisible, the second Siren, makes targeted enemies very vulnerable with her phase lock ability, and finally the Turret-wielding Commando, whose voice and characterization will seem oddly familiar to anyone who has played *Orcs Must Die*. The core mechanic of the *Borderlands* universe and the randomly generated Loot had

been greatly expanded upon in just about every possible way. Weapon variety has also been greatly improved.

Combat is marginally improved from the original, and though the gunplay would get tedious if taken on its own, the variety of tools *Borderlands 2* leaves at your disposal keeps things entertaining.

Borderlands veterans will remember the occasional bit of humorous dialogue from the original. That too, has been drastically improved in the sequel with almost every NPC interaction yielding some form of joke (many of which are quite clever). The dialogue is definitely a strong point for *Borderlands 2*, but despite the witty writing, the game does push some pop-culture references too much. I know I'm not the only one who audibly groaned when an NPC referenced an "arrow to the knee" joke. Thankfully, the comic book art direction and visuals are always pleasing to look at, and while you will see a lot of snow a variety of locations help bring the colorful and vibrant world of Pandora to life. The story of *Borderlands 2* is a mixed bag, though. While the first *Borderlands* was light on narrative, *Borderlands 2* makes a concerted effort to tell a good story and mostly succeeds. The story arc has some engaging twists and a few good characters, particularly Handsome Jack, however,

things get frustrating when control is taken away from the player: Plot Armor will dissolve, important characters will make sophomore mistakes and get killed, and the player will be forced to walk into obvious traps because there's no other way to progress the story. Despite that, the story succeeds in keeping things interesting, and the witty characters add some spice to life on Pandora. My biggest criticism of the first game was that the amount of fun you had with it was directionally proportional to how many friends you had with you, meaning solo runs weren't particularly fun. It's not so bad in the sequel, but as the tagline says, "Mayhem Awaits. Bring Friends". All in all, *Borderlands 2* is probably the first high-profile game release this year that managed to live up to the hype and despite its flaws, it is well worth your time and money.

WEAPONS

Each weapon manufacturer has specific traits that can be found in each of their weapons:

- Vladof guns have an exceedingly high fire rate
- Maliwan weapons will always have an elemental damage effect
- Torque guns fire exploding bullets
- Tediore guns are tossed (and explode) like a grenade when attempting to reload them
- Hyperion guns will improve in accuracy the longer they are fired
- Jakobs guns focus on dealing massive damage at the expense of everything else
- Dahl weapons have a burst fire ability when using iron sights
- Bandit weapons place magazine size and ammo capacity above all else
- Atlas and S&S guns don't exist anymore, having gone out of business after the original *Borderlands*.



SPORTS

AMANDA BLANTON
Sports Editor

SOCCER

TWO HORNETS AWARDED PLAYER OF THE WEEK

By Amanda Blanton

Photo source: <http://spsu.edu>

This season, two SPSU soccer players were awarded Player of the Week awards. Freshman midfielder Adis Islamovic was the Southern States Athletic Conference

(SSAC) for the week of September 17-23. Senior goalkeeper Dennis Kramer was selected as both the SSAC Defensive Player of the Week and the

National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Defensive Player of the Week for his performance during the week of Oct. 1-7.

Islamovic is one of SPSU's fresh faces this year and has had one hell of a rookie season. The San Diego native is the first Hornet to win Player of the Week honors in almost two years. During the week of his award, Islamovic had a goal and an assist as SPSU went 2-0 in SSAC play. He has started every regular season game for the Hornets and scored six goals.

Kramer, our senior goalkeeper from Berlin, Germany, is a key player for the Hornets this year. Standing at a mighty 6'6," Kramer helped lead the team to two conference

victories the week of his award. He made three vital saves and allowed just one goal in the games verses No. 17 nationally ranked Southern Wesleyan University and Truett-McConnell College. Over the course of the season, Kramer has started every game and has recorded a whopping 34 saves. He takes the No. 6 spot in the NAIA national rankings in goals against per game (0.760). This is the first time Kramer has won either award and he is the first SPSU soccer player to win a NAIA Player of the Week award.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS

IN FULL SWING

By Julie Hill

A great deal can be learned from participating in sports. For example, the ability to work on a team is one aspect that can be a tremendous benefit to athletes. Athletes work and bond together as they have one common goal: to win the game. Playing sports is a healthy and responsible method that will assist folks in classes and in the workforce. It's that

time in the semester where students are stressed and overwhelmed with school. The SPSU Recreational Sports and Wellness Department can help you blow off some steam and take a break from academics by joining an intramural team.

One of SPSU's most popular sports, flag football, started on September 13.

Numerous amounts of touchdowns are achieved by sneaky students. When one team scores, the other team soon gets their revenge. I asked Evans Ferrell, who plays for the Bombthrowers, why he participates in flag football. He said that he enjoys it, and joked that there was nothing else to do besides sitting on his butt.

Other intramural sports

are offered as well. Golf, softball, racquetball, dodgeball, powerlifting, whiffle ball, and volleyball signups have ended for the semester. However, it's good to know about them in case you decide to play next semester. Signups for the Basketball Skills Challenge open on October 12th and will be available until November 9th. Ping pong

and pool tournaments will also take place. Registration for those is open now though October 26. Any and all (non-varsity) students are welcome to play intramurals so sign up today! For more information, please visit <http://www.spsu.edu/recwellness/>

2012 NBA PREVIEW:

WHO'S GOING TO WIN?

By John Leslie Gibson III

WESTERN CONFERENCE

This might be the last year that we get to see the exciting Oklahoma City Thunder together... preferably because of James Harden's expiring contract. This team wins it all if Kevin Durant becomes more assertive and Russell Westbrook learns the disciplines of a true point guard.

Wow! The Los Angeles Lakers had a great offseason, signing Dwight and Nash to play alongside Kobe and Gasol. On paper this team should go to the finals, but their perimeter defense is suspect. Their guards (Kobe and Nash) are a combined age of 72; this is something to worry about.

The Spurs are the Spurs and when you doubt the team you will pay.

Lob City! The Los Angeles Clippers with Chris Paul and Blake Griffin are very exciting. Getting Lamar Odom, Jamal Crawford, Matt Barnes, and Grant Hill should help this team out. If they can avoid the Spurs in the Playoffs, they should be a team to look out for.

On June 12, 2012, millions of viewers, the Oklahoma City Thunder, and 28 other NBA teams witnessed LeBron James win his first ring with the Miami Heat. And how can we forget about the USA men's basketball team dominating this summer in the Olympics in London? I don't know about you guys, but I am ready for the NBA season to start. The question on everyone's mind is the same as always, "what team is going to win it all?" Will it be LeBron, D-Wade, and the Miami Heat or will the L.A. Lakers be back on top? The Lakers recently acquired All-NBA big man Dwight Howard and future hall of famer Steve Nash. Maybe the Thunder make it

back to the finals.

The NBA is very star-driven in the sense that only a few teams, usually the same eight or nine, go far in the playoffs. Of course, there are some sleepers, but usually you can count on about eight teams having a legit shot at the title. Since 1996, only seven teams have won the NBA championship (Bulls, Spurs, Lakers, Pistons, Heat, Celtics and Mavericks).

Below, I will make a prediction on who's going to win it all based on last year's playoff teams.

In the West, I will eliminate the Jazz, Nuggets, Grizzlies and Mavericks for various reasons. In the East, I will eliminate the 76ers, definitely the Magic, the

Knicks (sorry Carmelo), and the Bulls (only because of the injury of Derrick Rose).

So that leaves the Heat, Pacers, Celtics, and the Hawks in the East and Spurs, thunder, Lakers, and the Clippers in the West.

2012 NBA Playoff teams

#	Eastern	Western
1	Bulls	Spurs
2	Heat	Thunder
3	Pacers	Lakers
4	Celtics	Grizzlies
5	Hawks	Clippers
6	Magic	Nuggets
7	Knicks	Mavericks
8	76ers	Jazz

My prediction for the NBA Finals will be the Clippers and Heat, with the Heat winning it a second straight year.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

The Heat this offseason added Ray Allen and Rashard Lewis to give them extra three point shooters, and in Miami's big three and this will be a tough team to deal with.

The Pacers are a young, physical team that made Miami worry a little in the second round. With players like Danny Granger, Roy Hibbert, Paul George, and George Hill, I don't see this team going anywhere anytime soon.

The Celtics did lose Ray Allen in the offseason. Kevin Garnett is always injured, and don't get me started on Paul Pierce. This team will have to rely on triple-double maker point guard Rajon Rondo to carry this team to the playoffs and maybe the finals.

The Hawks got some additions by subtraction. They got rid of overpaid Joe Johnson to the Nets and dropped colossal bust Marvin Williams. They also picked up underrated point guard Louis Williams. Let us see how a Josh Smith/Al Horford offense will fare as opposed to the disappointing Joe Johnson offense.

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

ASHLIE BILLINGSLEA

By Amanda Blanton

For this month's edition of the student athlete player spotlight, I hunted down the talented Ashlie Billingslea of the Lady Hornets. Ashlie is a transfer student and will soon begin her second season with the SPSU women's basketball team.

Shortly after signing with Southern Poly, Head Coach Laquanda Dawkins had some great things to say about Ashlie. "She's smart, active and sure of herself in the point guard position," said Coach Dawkins. "Ashlie has a wealth of experience and is considered by many one of the top point guards who played in the NJCAA. Her shooting precision and passing skills will have an immediate impact at SPSU. Ashlie's focus and dedication to her game and academics are a great fit for our up-and-coming women's basketball program."

2011-2012 SEASON STATS

Total points: 368
Average points per game: 20.44



Photo source: <http://spsu.edu>



INDIVIDUAL GAME HIGHS:

Total points: 29 vs. Lee on Jan. 1
Field goals made: 11 vs. Southern Wesleyan on Feb. 11
Total rebounds: 9 vs. Southern Wesleyan on Jan. 17
Free throws made: 9 vs. Lee on Jan. 21
Assists: 7 vs. Morris on Feb. 4

The Basics

Name: Ashlie Billingslea

Hometown: Atlanta, GA

High School: Stephenson High School

Year: Senior

Position: Guard

Height: 5'5"

Number: 3

Major: General Psychology

Question & Answer

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

Ashlie Billingslea: It's my favorite number.

Amanda: How long have you been playing basketball?

Ashlie: I have been playing basketball for 15 years now. I have always been an athlete, but I started playing basketball when I was 8 years old. I'm 23 now.

Amanda: What has been a highlight of your career that

really stands out to you?

Ashlie: During my senior year in high school (2006-07) I lead my team to a 31-1 record and our 4th consecutive Region Championship. I really learned what being a leader was all about and I made a bond with my teammates that I will always cherish.

Amanda: Any pre-game rituals?

Ashlie: I'll have a light meal, take a short nap, relax and listen to music (R&B). I also visualize myself in the game, making plays and doing well, and pray.

Amanda: Have a favorite basketball player/idol you watched growing up/currently watch?

Ashlie: Male- Jason Kidd, Allen Iverson, Micheal Jordan, and Lebron James
Female-Sue Bird, Diana Taurasi and Simone Augustus

Amanda: Do you have a favorite NBA or WNBA team?

Ashlie: I root for the Miami Heat and my hometown teams the Atlanta Hawks and Atlanta Dream.

Amanda: Do you watch any other sports on a regular basis?

Ashlie: Football, the Atlanta Falcons

Amanda: Ever played any other sports?

Ashlie: I played softball when I was younger and in high school. I also like to play football, but never on a real team or anything.

Amanda: Have you ever received a basketball-related injury? If so, how long were you out/how did it affect your game?

During my freshman year of college I tore my ACL. I was determined to play and to get back on the court; I was only out for three months. The injury affected me mentally because it was my first year in college and nobody expects to be injured, es-

pecially when your team needs you. It also affected me physically because the rehab for my ACL was very painful. But I remained determined and knew that I would have to work twice as hard to get back where I was at[SIC] and even harder to get better than I was.

Amanda: What is the SPSU women's basketball team doing in the offseason to prepare for this season?

Ashlie: Conditioning, weight-lifting, individually working on our weaknesses and strengths in the gym, meeting with coaches, understanding our goals for the team and trying to stay on top of our academic work.

Amanda: Do you have any personal goals you would like to accomplish this season?

I just want to keep my team encouraged and motivated. I want a winning season and I would like to win Player of the Year!

Amanda: What are you most looking forward to this season?

Ashlie: Winning and having fun!

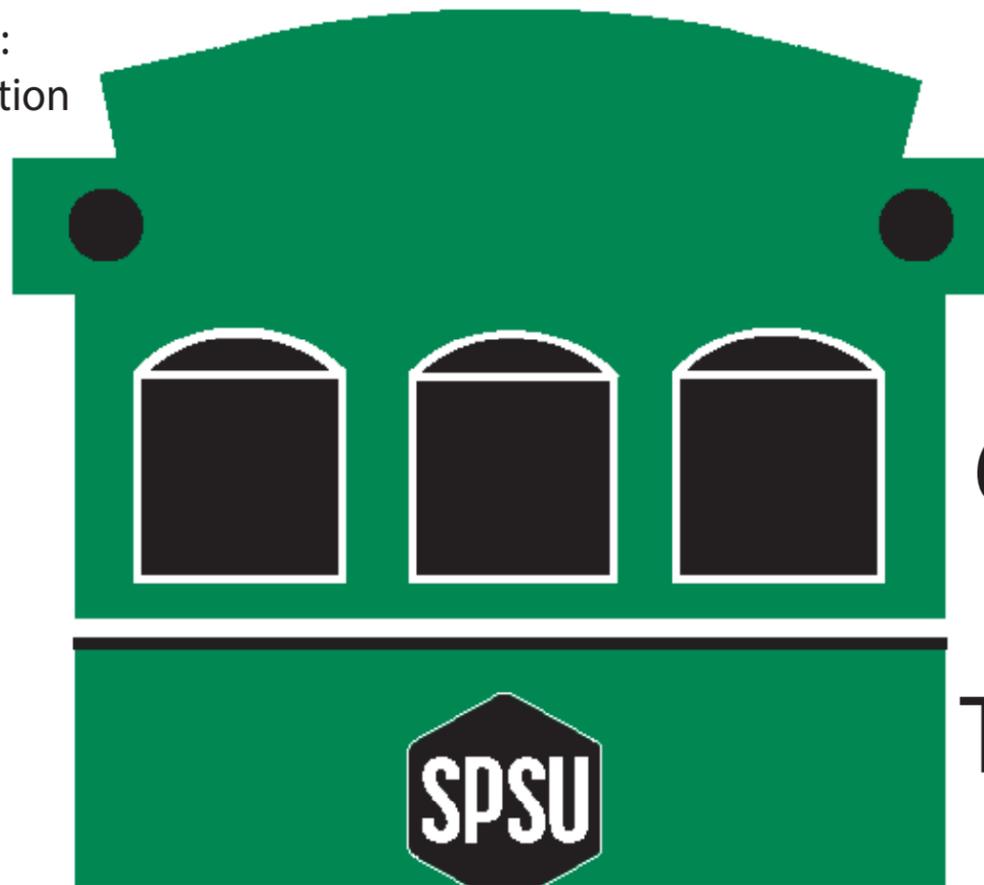
Amanda: And finally, what are your career aspirations?

Ashlie: I am hoping to continue with my basketball career, (WNBA or playing overseas) for a few more years. As far as my career in psychology, I hope to work with juveniles in a detention center or get into alcohol & drug rehabilitation for adults.

Another thing Ashlie shared with me was that she has a two-year-old son named Xavier. She is a self-proclaimed "Mom-Student-Athlete." As you can see, Ashlie is an extremely talented, a driven young woman, and a key player for the Lady Hornets. I can't wait to see her and the rest of the team ball out on the court this season!

Catch a FREE Ride!

Brought to you by:
University Transportation



6PM-10PM
EVERY
THURSDAY*

*Day is subject to change. Look for weekly announcements.

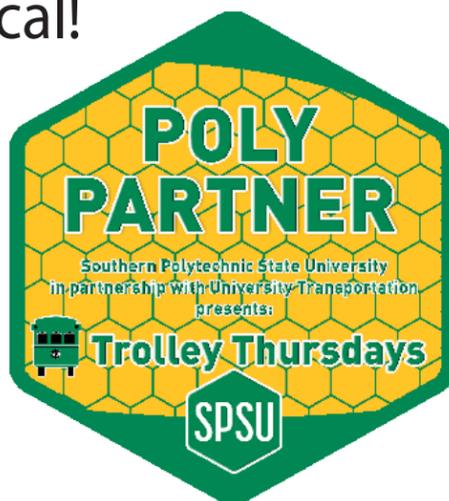
Trolley Thursdays

Look for our Poly Partners!

More Poly Partners to come! Be sure to check storefront windows for the Poly Partner decal!

Poly Partners agree to offer discounts on Trolley Thursdays to all SPSU HornetCard holders.

- Al's Barbeque
- House of Lu
- Laziza
- Shillings
- Square Cutz



Trolley Stops:

- Front Steps of SPSU Student Center(Look for sign)
- Wal-Mart Shopping Center
- Marietta Square