

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY'S SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

THE STING

Volume 67, Issue 01

August 13, 2013



WE THE STUDENTS?

OPINION

Declaration & Proposal of a Student:

CREATING A STUDENT SENATE

By Daniel R. Silver (Twitter: @dan8sil)

WE THE STUDENTS of Southern Polytechnic State University are here to become successful in our fields of interest, and according to University's mission, to empower us with the ability and vision to transform the future.

WE THE STUDENTS are excited with the expansive growth of the campus and enrollment.

WE THE STUDENTS find it important to voice our opinion to ensure that a rapidly changing campus still benefits all students.

I, Daniel R. Silver, a student with no elected affiliation with the Student Government Association executives or council members, finds it necessary that the student body needs increased representation of ALL STUDENTS who go to Southern Polytechnic State University;

WHEREAS, past and current Student Government Association (SGA) executives and council members are becoming increasingly constrained to only monetary allocation hearings and resolutions;

WHEREAS, the need for additional representation shall be a separate body to ensure all issue can be address without further constraint on the current SGA;

THEREFORE BE IT PROPOSED, that this separate, but additional representative student body government SHALL be called, the "Student Senate"; and be it further

PROPOSED, that the Student

Senate's responsibility is to voice any issues or concerns that any student may have in their Designated Department, Academic School, or the Campus Services; and be it further

PROPOSED, that the Student Senate shall have one (1) student senator for each department of every Academic School; and be it further

PROPOSED, that all five schools SHALL have the same number of Student Senators as the total number of departments of that Academic School; and be it further

PROPOSED, that each Student Senator shall be nominated by their department's Faculty Senate member and confirmed by the students of that department;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the current students and alumni of Southern Polytechnic State University will always be affiliated with this Alma Mater, and a lack of student body voice can weaken future Alumni Relations and Support

Let me know of your suggestions and feedback by email (dsilver@spsu.edu) or Twitter (@dan8sil), and use #SPSU

#StudentSenateProposal

*Academic Schools include:

The School of Arts and Sciences
The School of Engineering
The School of Architecture and Construction Management
The School of Computing and Software Engineering
The School of Engineering Technology and Management

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10 SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher

Dear SPSU students:

Welcome to new Southern Polytechnic State University students! And welcome back to all of you who are returning to campus this fall.

SPSU's primary strategic goal is student success, and the faculty and staff are committed to helping all students succeed and graduate. One key to student success is being engaged in the University community. If you are actively engaged in campus life, chances are good that you will do better in your studies, too.

So how do find out about what's happening on campus? Here's a list of 10 sources of information that can help you figure out what you want to do on campus – and how you want to be engaged.

1 E-MAIL

A weekly e-mail message about activities and events on campus is sent to all students on Monday morning from Ron Lunk, Director of Student Life. (This is known affectionately as the "rlunk e-mail.") Be sure to check your SPSU e-mail account for this weekly update.

2 SPSU.EDU

The University's website (www.spsu.edu) has news about the people and events on campus. On the right side of the homepage is a calendar with upcoming activities. If campus operations are disrupted, this information will be posted on the home page as well. (In other words, if we have a "snow day," you'll find that news posted here.)

3 HORNET TV

Hornet TV – in the lobby areas of many buildings on campus – displays information about activities, academic programs, speakers, and student organizations.

4 HORNET ALERT

Hornet Alert is SPSU's emergency notification system. If we have an emergency on campus (a fire, a major traffic accident, or some other event that requires quick communications to ensure safety for the University community), the University Police will use this format to notify students, as well as faculty and staff. All students who are enrolled in classes are automatically registered for emergency alerts to be sent to your SPSU e-mail account; you can also register a second e-mail address and up to three phone numbers, so that you can receive text messages and recorded voice messages. Notices about "snow days" are also sent via Hornet

Alert, so make sure your contact information is entered. (You can do this at the University Police website <http://www.spsu.edu/police/>.)

5 SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter and Facebook also provide information about activities at SPSU. You can follow "@OfficialSPSU" on Twitter and like "Southern Polytechnic State University – SPSU" on Facebook.

6 FACULTY

Faculty will often mention upcoming campus activities in class. Some faculty members provide opportunities for extra credit in their classes for participation in campus events, too.

7 WGHR

WGHR, the student radio station, shares information about special events on campus, particularly when the staff is doing a live remote broadcast or providing music for a special event.

8 WORD OF MOUTH

Flyers and good old-fashioned word of mouth are also great ways to hear about what's happening. Your friends, classmates, and neighbors will share information about campus

events, and you can play an important role by letting them know about events you are interested in.

9 SPSU MOBILE APP

The SPSU mobile app will be available this fall. You may download the app to any smartphone from the Mac App Store or Google Play and connect with SPSU news and the calendar. You will also be able to receive "push notifications."

10 THE STING

And, of course, The Sting, SPSU's student newspaper, is also a great source of information. Randy Brown, Editor-in-Chief of The Sting, has an explicit goal to help increase attendance at campus events hosted by student organizations, so the newspaper will also be sharing information with the entire University community.

With all these sources of information, you'll know about lots of opportunities to be involved in activities and events on campus. Please join in. And I hope to see you at many events this coming fall. Welcome again!

Go Hornets!

**Dr. Lisa A. Rossbacher
President**

GREEK LIFE

Going Greek

By Christopher Harris

IT'S THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER, SO YOU'RE SEEING ALL OF THE GREEK ORGANIZATIONS ON CAMPUS REALLY COME OUT OF THE WOODWORK.

It's the time known as "formal recruitment"! I want to share with you what I know, so you can make the best out of this exciting time.

There are three councils of Greek organizations: Interfraternity Council (IFC), Panhellenic Council (PC), and the National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC). IFC covers the chapters Theta Chi, Kappa Sigma, Pi Kappa Phi (the one I'm in), Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Sigma Nu, Sigma Pi, and Tau Kappa Epsilon. PC covers the chapters Alpha Xi Delta and Gamma Phi Beta. NPHC covers the chapters Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

Each of the three councils does formal recruitment differently, but there are some general things to look for. The all have a big first event where you get a general idea

of what each chapter is. For my council, IFC, we have something called "Round Robin" on August 19th where you walk around and talk with

recruitment (and yes, the information may be a bit skewed to IFC information): you can receive an invitation to join every chapter possible,

starting point for who to look at. When you find a Greek organization you're interested in, make sure to get to know them.

If Greek life is something you're interested in, I'm happy for you. Going Greek is one of the best decisions I've ever made, and I hope you decide to make it too. If you have further questions about Greek life in general, please contact the director of Fraternity and Sorority Life, Anne Montgomery, at rmontgom@spsu.edu.



each chapter. Every council has something similar to this. From there, recruitment depends on the council.

Here's some good information that you should keep with you as you go about formal

called "bids," but you can only accept ONE. Make sure you get to know people in every organization you're interested in. The following few articles are "about us" articles that have been submitted to The Sting, so you can use this as a

Every organization is different. There are differences in the type of people, cost of dues, philanthropies, social calendars, values, you name it. That's why it's important for you to find the best fit for YOU.



EDITORIAL

- AS WE ARE -

By Randy Brown Jr.

Members of the student body do not expect your displeasure with the new transportation regulations to alter any decisions. It will not. Do not expect your disapproval with the quality of food in the dining hall to improve the quality of food that you receive in the dining hall. It will not. Do not expect your disfavor with anything on campus here at SPSU to change anything. It will not.

Why? Nothing will change simply because we are a divided student body that only complains. We never join together and speak up about anything. Why should we expect anything to change?

I have listened to your complaints and read your emails about all things concerning the new parking regulations. Yet, I wonder how many of you will attend the first SGA general body meeting to voice your opinion. How many of you are willing to sign a petition? We can talk all we want. I can talk all I want. Nothing will happen.

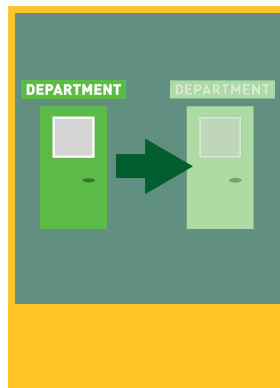
YES,

students should be an integral part of the decision making process.



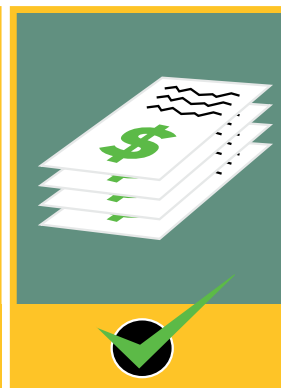
YES,

departments on this campus should be more transparent.



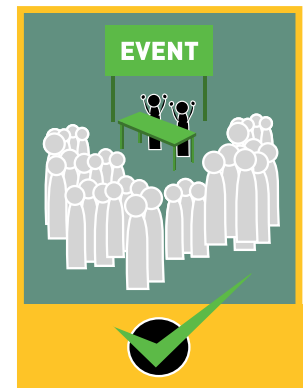
YES,

this campus should be overflowing with information about where our money is going.



AND YES,

there should be students arriving in droves to attend events on campus.



“They are doing what they’re supposed to do.
Providing for us what they believe we want.
We cannot blame anyone but ourselves.”

But you are clearly dissatisfied, right? How is anyone supposed to know? How is anyone supposed to know that you want the dining hall to stay open later if you do not join together and demand it? How is anyone supposed to know that you want more concerts on campus, or more special guest speakers of your liking, or the ability to park wherever you want if you do not join together and demand it?

Say what you want, but every administrator, every member of faculty and staff here at SPSU will do what is best for this university and its student body. It is their job to do so. But the administrators, faculty and staff cannot read minds. They can only assume that the student body is comfortable with changes of any kind being made.




This university and the money that you put into it will grow with or without your voice/input/opinions/suggestions. While I do have a view of student involvement I choose to share them as I see fit, mostly here. My views cannot change anything. I am only one, but we are many.

I imagine that someone reading this believes that no matter what the students whine and complain about, it will not change anything. The cold truth is that they are right; it will not. And so that's where we are presently. Here we, as a student body, will continue to be, standing idle. Do not blame the administrators, faculty and staff for changes that you do not like, here at SPSU. Do not blame Housing, Res. Life, Transportation, Food Services, Student Life, or anyone else on this campus for doing their job. They are doing what they're supposed to do. Providing for us what they believe we want. We cannot blame anyone but ourselves. We do not speak up.

Maybe we, as one student body, are comfortable with changes taking place on campus. Maybe we, as one student body, are ok with a very small portion of students showing up to basketball games and other campus events. If so, then disregard this message. Forgive me for speaking too loud.

PARKING VIOLATION FEES

By: The Student General



Unregistered Vehicle	\$15
Failure to Display Permit	\$10
No Parking Area	\$25
Expired Meter	\$10
Falsifying records	\$50
Obstructing traffic flow	\$50
Parking on Landscape	\$75
Parking on Sidewalk	\$75
Unauthorized Parking in Handicap Space	\$100
Immobilization Fee	\$50
Reserved or Service Space	\$50
Parking Beside a Red Curb	\$50
Parking Beside a Yellow Curb	\$25

Laura Jane Dangler

February 22, 1990 - July 28, 2013



Our campus community lost a sister recently. She was vibrant, intelligent, and witty. Her opinion was something fierce and carried a voice that never relinquished the floor with point unmade. Her eyes were intense when she spoke. She could admit being wrong, which is a trait few manage consistently. As a senior in English, Technical Communication, and Media Arts, Laura Jane put to practice what she did best. She touched lives through thought brought by tangible word. Tangible because you felt those words—her words—and they moved you.

Case in point, I speak of a woman that successfully wrote a rhetorical analysis on “The Jersey Shore.” Rhetoric was an intimate class of 15 students, and many topics were—to the casual eye—far deeper than reality television. It was not until Laura would later successfully defend this most interesting of topics that everyone in that class would see the intelligence, the

unique viewpoints, and wit that was Laura Jane. Every class I took with this remarkable young woman was enriched for having her presence. She taught me, and I resolved to teach her. She made me want to give back. She inspired me.

Laura was to graduate this December. We looked forward to mentoring and growing her work through her final semester. We had spoken of coffee just last Friday, and here on Thursday she is physically not able to be there. Yet, she speaks to us still. Her friends hear her voice, her laugh, and her opinions still; we all do, and I look forward to keeping them in my mind for many years to come. She is one of those people you don’t say goodbye to. You can’t. Instead, when situations arise you carry their torch, you live their memory, and you smile.

Rest in peace, Laura.

—Nathan Atkins
(classmate,
mentor, and
friend)



JOIN THE STING

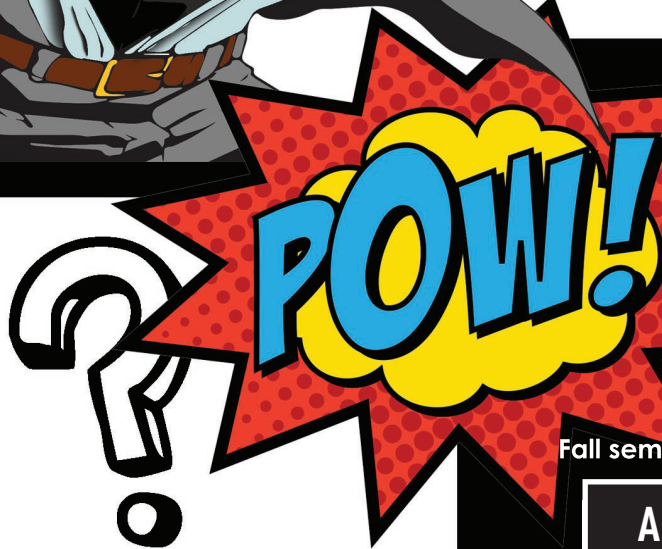
YOU CAN JOIN THE STING! ANY STUDENT, ANY MAJOR!

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1. Register with SPSU on Orgsync (use your school email)
2. Request to join as a member of The Sting (without password – click “don’t know password”)
3. Your request will be accepted within 48 hour



Fall semester staff meetings take place at 12 noon in A-216 of the Student Center.

AUGUST

16

SEPTEMBER

13

OCTOBER

11

NOVEMBER

8

Contact us by email:
sting@spsu.edu
 or phone:
 678-915-7310

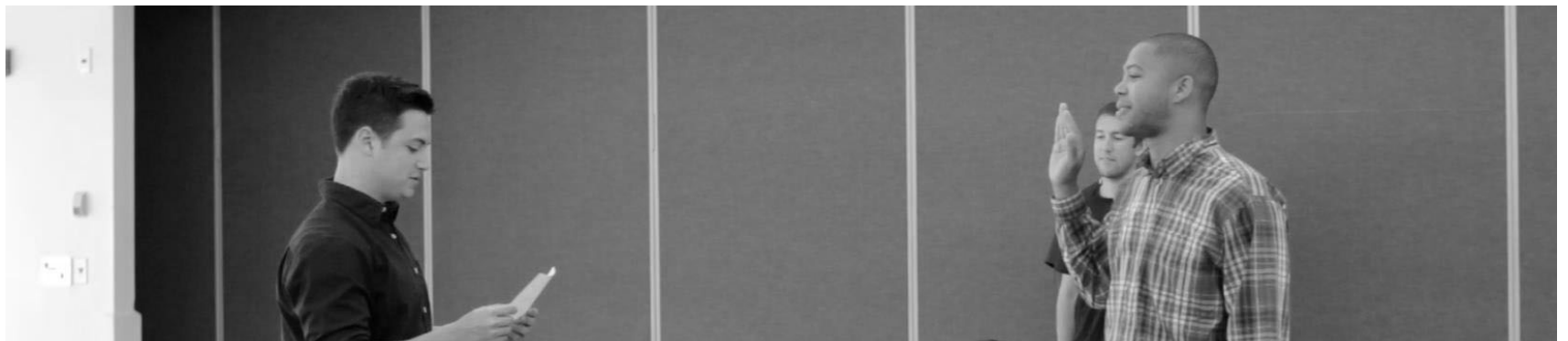
SGA General Body Meeting

Location: Student Center Ballroom



Date: August 20, 2013

Time: 12 noon



Note: General Body Meetings occur every other Tuesday throughout the school year

OPINIONS

Starting Fresh

SPSU JOURNEY ORIENTATION

By: Christopher Harris

During the summer Southern Poly saw hundreds of students come to one of the four Journey Orientation sessions. Students got a two-day experience, walking them through important topics like financial aid, transportation, and housing, and more fun topics like the organization fair and welcome games.

Students start their first day by getting their Student ID cards made (don't lose those!) and getting assigned different groups based on things like their major. Throughout the two day event, students stick with these groups, getting to

know the people they'll be working with in classes for the next four years. At the close of the first day, some students go home for the night, while other students stay in Hornet Village for the new experience of living on campus.





“Journey Orientation provides a great way for incoming students to get used to going to college...”

The highlight for me, of course, was the organization fair. I worked The Sting’s table, where we’re running a raffle for an Xbox 360 (which you can still get tickets for!). Each orientation session had around ten different student organizations come set up tables and meet the incoming freshmen, whether it’s the Greeks trying to start off formal Rush, or the Baptist Collegiate Ministries or ROTC.

Journey Orinetation provides a great way for incoming students to get used to going to college, while the same time starting the bonds of friendship and professionalism that students will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

OPINIONS

Wednesday, August 14

**Welcome Week Bash
Cookout and Laser Tag**
(Location - Between the dorms,
Time: 5 pm - 8 pm)

Thursday, August 15

Organization Fair
(Location - Outside Q Building,
Time: 11 am - 2 pm)

SPSU Live
(Location - Baseball Field,
Time: 8 pm)

Friday, August 16

Headphone Disco
(Location - Student Center,
Time: 9 pm - midnight)

SPSU WELCOME WEEK

**Get the Scoop
with Greek Life**

(Location - Student Center,
Time: 4 pm)

Screen on the Green

(Location - Outdoor Amphitheater,
Time: 9 pm)

**What is Campus Activities
Board (CAB)?**

(Location - Outside Stingers,
Time: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm)

**Hornet Pride Field Day
& Tailgate**

(Location - Soccer Field,
Time: 4:30 pm)

SPSU Soccer Game

(Location - Soccer Field,
Time: 5:30 pm)

Tuesday, August 20

Wednesday, August 21

Thursday, August 22

Friday, August 23

THE BIRTH OF A PRINCE

Royal Madness

By Cristina Guerra

THE BIRTH OF PRINCE GEORGE ALEXANDER LOUIS OF CAMBRIDGE HAS SPARKED A STRONG REACTION IN PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD.



The world's eyes were set on Prince William and Kate Middleton the moment they got engaged on October 2010. This was only the beginning of what was to become royal madness. A year after the highly anticipated and televised royal wedding, which was watched by two billion people, the royal couple announced they were expecting their first child. Speculation on the sex of the baby soon inundated newspapers, magazines, TV shows, and the web.

The birth of Prince George Alexander Louis of Cambridge, who was born on July 22nd of 2013, has sparked an even stronger reaction in people around the world and was definitely the talk of the summer. Numerous landmarks around the world were "turned blue" to celebrate the birth of the new prince, the Niagara Falls, Trafalgar Square, and The London Eye are only some of the landmarks which were lit up in blue lights in celebration of Prince George's birth.

With so much going on every day, the birth of this baby has undoubtedly united people around the globe. Some were united by the common interest of what the name of the new prince would be, others were astounded by the fact that the new royal parents were choosing to be more modern, deciding to announce the birth of the heir by email. While others, are united by the symbolism of Prince George's birth, which is one of hope of a better and more modern tomorrow.



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FEATURES

THE CAROLLA PIRATE SHIP TAKING NO PRISONERS

Jason Ramaley



His parents just plain sucked. Taco Bell wouldn't hire him. Terrestrial radio and television were too "low brow" to keep him. Now, at the vibrant age of 49, Carolla is showing the exit sign to all of the big time Hollywood movie production companies that have crippled people's visions and stolen their ideas. Just as "The Ace Man" demonstrated to the world a few years ago that we really don't need monotonous terrestrial radio cluttering up our lives, Carolla is now taking on the motion picture industry with his upcoming film "Road Hard."

So you may ask, is Carolla footing the bill? Enter Crowdfunding. "Crowdfunding", and similar programs like "Kickstarter" aren't exactly new project funding platforms, In Carolla's case, he has a one million dollar goal

to green light the movie and is very close to the goal in less than two weeks since the announcement. There are multiple levels to donate and with each tier there is an exclusive gift for your donation. For example, you can give as little as \$25 and your name will be in the closing credits, \$180 will get you to a private screening with Carolla himself, and a mere \$2700 will get you an acting role in Road Hard.

Adam Carolla's Road Hard is a story about the lives of aging road comedians and starring along with Carolla is David Allen Greer. If you tune in to Carolla's podcast regularly you should be very familiar with the great David Allen Greer. In some of his most recent appearances on the podcast, David has been tapping into the quintessential essence of the late gospel singer Teddy Pendergrass

vocally - over a bed of backing tracks to various classic rock and pop songs. Greer has done it all; Masters degree from the Yale School of Drama, and has been consistent face on TV, movies, and Broadway for over 30 years.

Also starring in "Road Hard" is Ileana Douglas, who we all know from such classics as Goodfellas, Cape Fear, To Die For and many other film and TV roles. Last but not least is comedian/columnist/actor Larry Miller. You probably know Larry from the movies Pretty Woman, The Nutty Professor series with Eddie Murphy, and the television drama Boston Legal. Check out AdamCarolla.com for everything you need to know about the movie Road Hard, and be sure tell a friend about Carolla's Broadcasting Empire/Pirate Ship."

CONGRATS!

HERE AT THE STING HARD WORK AND PERSEVERANCE PAYS OFF. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS AND ALUMNI FOR SUMMER/FALL INTERNSHIPS AND/OR JOB HIRINGS IN THEIR RELATED FIELD:

Vanessa Borrás-Patino

Former Layout Editor

Graphic Designer at CNN

Jason Hartmann

Layout Editor

Digital Media Assistant at TEDxPeachtree

Digital Media Artist at iFusion Marketing

Ernest Ednsley III

VP Director

Videographer at TEDxPeachtree

Patrice Parker

Layout Assistant

Creative Director at DK Gallery

Sahil Budhwani

Layout Assistant

Intern at the High Museum of Art

Randy Brown Jr.

Editor in Chief

Student Assistant in SPSU's OFSD

Sharon Robers

Columnist

Public Relations Intern at SPSU

Cherise Randle

Layout Assistant

Student Design Assistant at Office of Faculty Support & Development

Joe Thomas

Sports Editor

Sports Contributor at Yahoo! Sports

Brandon Rich

Layout Assistant

Website Designer at The Fastest Dog Inc.

Leland Roberts

Webmaster

Website Designer for The Fastest Dog Inc.

Maria Guerra

Features Editor

Community Affairs Intern at Univision

Mike Gregory

VP Assistant

Technical Director at Recycling Works TV

Travis Wood

Copy Editor

Writer at Vain LLC



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National Society of Black Engineers

"To increase the number of culturally responsible black engineers who excel academically, succeed responsibly and positively impact the community."

Southern Polytechnic State University

Meeting times:

Thursdays @ 12pm and 7:30pm

Joe Mack Wilson Student Center, Building A

President: Kyle Phillips

Spsbe.president@gmail.com

Public Relations: Anna-Belle La Force

Spsbe.pr.chair@gmail.com

Membership Chair: Joseph Amichia

Spsbe.membership.chair@gmail.com

◇ Tuesday, August 12

"Fresh Recruit or Unknown Pro"

Flag football game between dorms. Recruit for intermural and a chance to network with upcoming freshman

◇ Thursday, August 22

"General Body Meeting"

First general body meeting for interested SPSBE members

SPSBE Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2202583635/>

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FEATURES



FALSOsophy

WITH FALYN EADEN

GODS BLUE EARTH

Yes, blue earth. If 70% of the earth is covered in water why do we insist on calling it God's Green Earth? I've searched aimlessly for an answer to this very question and found nothing. Why hasn't this question been answered? Was it that nobody else thought to ask it? Well ladies and gentleman I'm here to tell you that today, that question gets answered.

When you think of the color green you think of one of three things: money, growth, or saving the environment. All of these things are looked at as a positive. Money brings the idea of prosperity which is also associated with success. Growth represents the idea of improvement and advancements. Saving the environment, or going green, represents compassion and concern. This is what I call ideal earth, the earth that everyone wants it to be. All of these things are present but not heavily enough to

obtain the name God's Green Earth.

Here is an unnecessary example. If you order a small drink and they ask if you want to upsize it with 30% more drink and you say yes, you wouldn't call that drink a large! It would be a medium. What I am saying is you can't name something based solely on 30% of its makeup. There are a lot more poor people than prosperous, cruel than compassionate, and stagnant than growing.

For my next point!

Blue represents a multitude of things as well including hope, faith, and sadness. I'm going to weigh heavily upon the sadness here in the beginning. This is because not only are we as people experiencing this emotion but there is a great deal of disappointment in the eyes of our God! Every day there is something

else to be sad about. You see it on the news, hear it on the radio, and experience it in your personal life through death, relationships,

“Blue represents a multitude of things as well including hope, faith, and sadness.

friendships, and plenty other factors. Not to mention every time we fall short of God's expectation. We'll call that 30% remembering the water/earth example. So where is the other 40% coming from? It is coming from hope and our faith. We as people go through trials to bring us closer to God. We use our amount of hope and faith to turn these trials into testimonies, which

in turn makes God happy. There is always more hope and faith than our sadness because if it were the other way around we wouldn't be able to make it day by day.

Here is an unnecessary analogy: Sadness would be the seas of the earth, hope and faith would be the oceans, all combining to make up 70% of earth.

Which is why this is God's Blue Earth. Another thing I'd like to point out is that there is no association with God in the ideal (green) earth. Now take some time and let your body digest these edible ideas.



NEW SPORTS EDITOR JOE THOMAS

Allow Me to Introduce Myself

By Joe Thomas



When I was a kid, I went to a lot of sporting events with my dad. Mostly we went to Braves games, since we lived right by the stadium. Occasionally the partners from the law firm where my mom worked would give us the tickets to Hawks games, in the old Omni. These seats were fantastic, floor level, right behind Ted Turner. We went and saw the short-lived Atlanta Magic soccer team, and the more successful Atlanta Ruckus, now known as the Atlanta Silverbacks. We went to the Olympics when they came to Atlanta; my dad works for MARTA and volunteered during the games, so we were able to get some great tickets.

The point of all this is that throughout my entire life I've been steeped in the Atlanta sports scene. But until very recently, it was just a hobby. I mean, I'm a huge fan of the Braves, Falcons, Hawks, Silverbacks, etc. (I never really got into the Thrashers. Trust me, I tried, but hockey was tough to get into.) Sports journalism never really occurred to me as a possible career. Some interesting things have happened since I came to Southern Poly that have caused me to rethink

that.

The first thing that happened was that I changed my major. I came to SPSU to major in Construction Management; I was interested in sustainable building and LEED

“So I have been re-examining the possibilities open to me in the journalism field, and it wouldn't have happened without Southern Poly.

certification. After taking a few construction classes I realized that it wasn't exactly had in mind. At the same time, I was taking English and doing pretty well, and my professor encouraged me to look into the ETCMA department. I did, and after my first year here, switched to the English and Professional Communications degree program.

This summer, I stumbled across an interesting job posting. Yahoo! Sports was looking for contributors for

a handful of baseball teams, including the Atlanta Braves. Knowing that I would be the sports editor this fall, I sent in a piece, thinking that it would be a good way to get some practice in sports writing. They liked it, and offered me an assignment covering the Braves for their contributor's network. So I have been re-examining the possibilities open to me in the journalism field, and it wouldn't have happened without Southern Poly.

I'm looking forward to covering the Hornets this year. Southern Poly has a strong tradition of athletics and more of the student body should know how hard these athletes work and how successful they have been. If you see me around campus and want to talk sports, feel free to stop me; I'm never too busy to talk shop!

SPORTS

2013 SOCCER SEASON

Unlike Any Other

By Joe Thomas

IN THE SIX YEARS SINCE HEAD COACH KOM MOMENI HELPED START THE SOUTHERN POLY SOCCER PROGRAM, THERE HAS BEEN TREMENDOUS GROWTH, BOTH ON AND OFF THE FIELD.

According to Momeni, not only have the results and quality of play improved, but the facilities and administration of the team have taken steps forward, as well. But as the team prepares for the 2013 season, they face challenges unseen in years past; challenges that are forcing a reexamination of goals and what a “successful” season would entail.

Last year, the soccer team was wildly successful. Playing in the most difficult conference in all of NAIA, the team played to an 11-4-1 record during the regular season, and advanced to the SSAC finals, dropping the championship game to AuburnMontgomery. They entered the national championship tournament with high hopes, and made it all the way to the Elite Eight before losing to the number one seed, Lindsey Wilson College. Driven by their two All-Americans, Dennis Kramer and Emeka Maduka, the season served to continue to build the already strong national reputation for SPSU soccer.

With the departures of Maduka, Kramer, and six

other starters this season, this season promises to be Coach Momeni’s most challenging yet. He says that while the goal for the

of this year’s team against any previous team; with only three returning starters, no one knows what to expect.

Not only are there question

a multitude of nationally ranked soccer programs, and the team’s non-conference schedule is more difficult than previous years as well.

over a good team means more, and a loss to a good team is not as damaging. However, with few breaks in the schedule, a relatively inexperienced team will be facing a true test nearly every match.

All of this uncertainty lends an air of excitement to the 2013 season. With no one to fill the shoes of the departed All-Americans, the responsibility will be left to previously unheralded players to step up, creating opportunities for new stars. When asked what fans should look forward to this season, Coach Momeni said that it will be exciting to see how his team responds to uncertainty and how they continue the legacy previous squads have left behind. This season, no one knows what to expect, so it is up to the team to define success for themselves.

With no one to fill the shoes of the departed All-Americans, the responsibility will be left to previously unheralded players to step up, creating opportunities for new stars.

program is always to win a national championship, that may prove difficult for this squad. It will be impossible to gauge the relative success

marks on the field, but the Hornets face their most difficult schedule yet this season. The Southern States Athletic Conference features

Momeni sees the schedule strength as both a blessing and a curse; in the national rankings, strength of schedule is weighted heavily, so a win

Former SPSU Soccer Star Danso Making Waves in MLS

EX-HORNET STARTS IN MLS SOCCER MATCHES

By: Joe Thomas

The Portland Timbers of Major League Soccer are having their best season since joining the league three years ago. They have drastically improved their defense, allowing the fewest goals of any team this season. One member of that league-leading defense has Southern Poly roots.

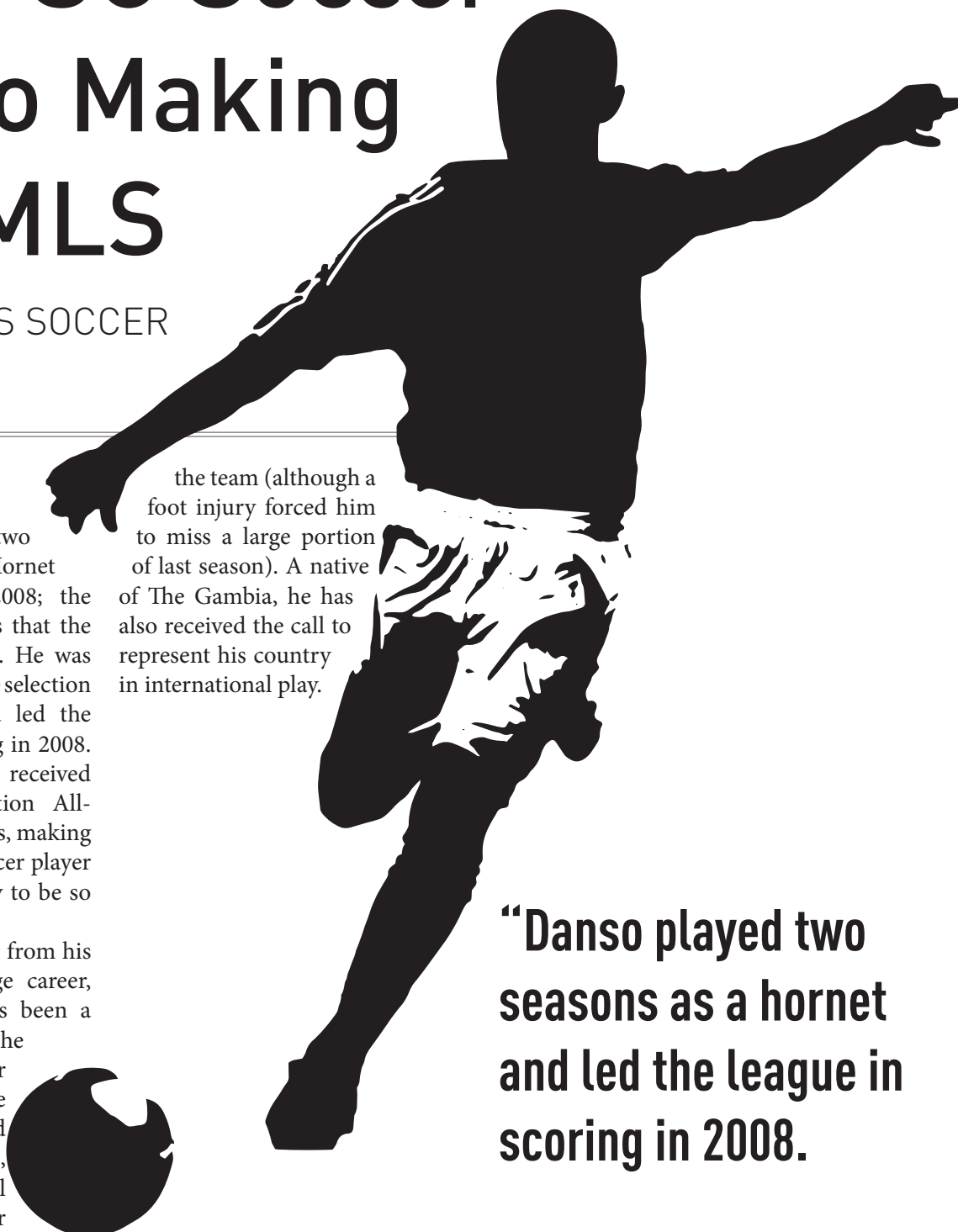
Mamadou “Futty” Danso is one of the anchors of the Timbers’ defense. He has played for Portland his entire professional career, a career that stretches back to before the team even joined the MLS. But before that, he helped build Southern Poly’s reputation as an NAIA

soccer power.

Danso played two seasons as a Hornet in 2007 and 2008; the first two seasons that the program existed. He was an all-conference selection both years, and led the league in scoring in 2008. That season, he received honorable mention All-American honors, making him the first soccer player in school history to be so honored.

Since moving on from his successful college career, Futty Danso has been a constant on the back line for Portland. Since the team joined the MLS in 2011, he has started all but 3 matches for

the team (although a foot injury forced him to miss a large portion of last season). A native of The Gambia, he has also received the call to represent his country in international play.

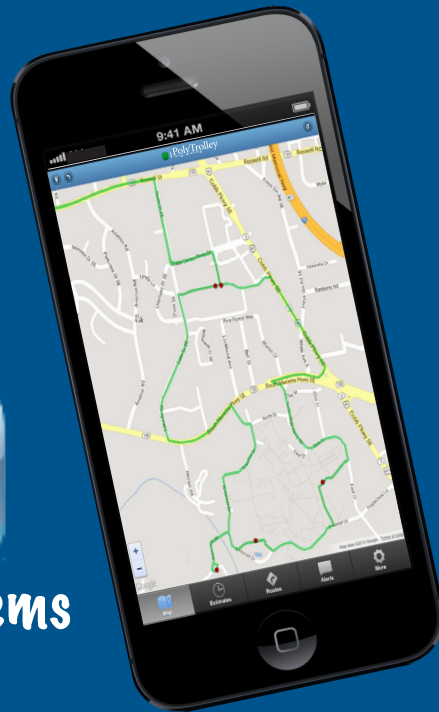


“Danso played two seasons as a hornet and led the league in scoring in 2008.

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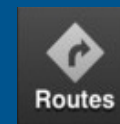
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