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THE STING

April 28, 2011

SOUTHERN POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY

Volume 64, Issue 3

Disasters bombard Japan

Erin Reno

Assistant Editor

Over spring break, Japan experienced the most powerful earthquake in its history.

According to the United States Geological Survey, at 8.9-9.0 Mw, the Sendai earthquake was one of the five most powerful earthquakes since 1900 when modern record-keeping began.

The March 11th earthquake was preceded by several foreshocks, beginning with a 7.2 Mw quake on March 9. Multiple aftershocks continue to be felt including some as strong as 7.4.

Japan's recent earthquake has even greater geophysical effects.

According to Italy's National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology, the Earth's axis has actually shifted about 25 centimeters causing not only the tilt of the earth to change, but also the actual speed of the Earth's rotation has

increased, shortening a day by 1.8 microseconds.

Following the earthquake, tsunami warnings and evacuations began along Japan's Pacific coast. Similar warnings were announced in 20 countries worldwide including North America's Pacific Coast.

A little over an hour after the quake, waves were seen washing away people, cars, planes, and even entire buildings. Structures that were left standing were badly flooded by the indiscriminately engulfing waves.

It was this surging water that was more destructive and deadly than the actual earthquake. Reports of entire towns being swept away soon came rolling in to news outlets like CNN.

According to the Japan Meteorological Agency, waves up to 33 feet and those reaching as far as six

miles inland had been recorded. As far away as California and Oregon, waves grew to eight feet and tsunami surges hit some areas, causing damage to docks and harbors. But in most places outside of Asia, there was little to no damage inflicted.

It will take massive efforts for Japan to rebuild. Vital infrastructure such as road and railways were heavily damaged. Perhaps the most pressing predicament at hand today is the damage to nuclear power plants.

Commercial plants use nuclear fission reactions to heat water which produces steam that can be used to generate electricity. The International Atomic Energy Agency asserts that nuclear energy is an alternative energy source that reduces carbon emissions.

However, the recent tsunami in Japan has brought back concerns

of public safety involved with this power source. Former Member of the United States' Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Peter Bradford has expressed concerns that the impact of the partial nuclear meltdowns in Japan was "obviously a significant setback for the so-called nuclear renaissance. The image of a nuclear power plant blowing up before your eyes on a television screen is a first."

Japan has declared a state of emergency after the failure of the cooling systems at the Fukushima I and Fukushima II plants.

Heat produced by fission will remain for some time even after the reactor is shut off. With no way to reduce the heat, steam builds up creating a dangerous situation.

Nearby residents were evacuated. The local population has been advised by officials to stay

away until the radioactive situation is resolved.

At Fukushima I Nuclear Power Plant officials from the Japanese Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency have reported radiation levels inside the plant up to 1,000 times greater than normal levels, and levels outside the plant at eight times the normal level.

Even though all reactors were automatically shut down after the earthquake, they still needed to be cooled with power from generators. There were partial nuclear meltdowns when the massive tsunami destroyed these generators.

A large explosion due to a buildup of hydrogen gas at Fukushima 1, blew away the roof and outer walls of the Reactor 1 building. Though the reactor itself was not damaged, the explosion did release a large cloud of dust and

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SPSU is transporting us to a new level

Judy Garrard

Executive Editor

Transportation means more than planes, trains and automobiles. For Southern Poly it means the movement not just of vehicles, but of people, too.

Over a year ago, SPSU decided that a transportation study would be conducted to learn what should be done to create better movement throughout our campus. Partly due to our growth, it was decided there was a need to make some changes.

To learn more about what was done, I spoke with Kasey Helton, SPSU's Director of Auxiliary Services. Hiring a company with expertise in this field proved to be worth the cost, according to Helton.

In the fall of 2009, a request for proposal was submitted to gain approval to hire and then choose the company to conduct our transportation study. Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. was hired, and they began their work in the spring of 2010. In order to decide what would and could ultimately be done, SPSU

formed a committee that consisted of faculty, staff and students.

Kimley-Horn conducted studies that concentrated on vehicles, buildings and pedestrians. They utilized traffic counts, parking counts, online surveys, and personal surveys to assist with creating their recommendations.

These studies looked at much more than the flow of vehicles throughout campus. Existing conditions such as goat trails (areas where people walk across grass so often that a trail is formed) were reviewed in order to assess the need for sidewalks. Other items reviewed were lighting (safety), parking (ratio to cars), and traffic flow (which direction people enter campus and where they park). Also reviewed was the flow of pedestrians on foot and on bicycles, the safety of the campus and drainage issues.

There have been many items already incorporated from the

study. I bet you have seen most of these, but due to all of the new construction, may not have realized that these changes are recommendations of this transportation study.

Our main entrance had a relatively new brick wall that was determined to be a sight-line issue and so it was removed. According to Helton, a new entrance is being designed to include a sign and landscaping that will be both "contemporary and collegiate." The steering committee decided that this is how we want to portray SPSU to the public. We may see this in place by summer 2011.

One of the items that will be done as funds are available is a restructure of the intersection of E. Main Entrance with Hornet Drive so that it creates a safer flow of traffic. A redesign of the intersection of Alumni Drive with Hornet Drive has already taken place.

You may have also noticed new signage around campus that

helps direct us to buildings and very recently signs were placed outside each building (see photograph). Old signage to be removed soon. New standards are in place so that in addition to the obvious consistency with signage, other items such as the manner in which a crosswalk is painted on our streets will also be consistent.

Helton explained that the list of recommendations was much longer than SPSU could afford to do all at once. The committee needed to categorize these items, and it was decided that the priorities are safety and accessibility. Additional lighting around campus is one of the items that will be done in the shorter term. Other items to be installed soon are bike racks and safety bollards (used as an impediment between lanes of vehicle traffic and buildings).

SPSU is growing and many recommendations made will accommodate the future growth of the campus. Although the transportation study is for all intents and purposes complete, changes and improvements will be an occurrence on our campus for a while.

Old and new signage



Photo by Judy Garrard

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In Memoriam

Cody Scott Valentine
June 8, 1989 - April 3, 2011



It is with a very heavy heart that I write this.

Death comes to us all in due time; it is the natural cycle of life. Yet when a young person loses their life, it seems contrary to the true order of things. I, being full of years and having lost a child not much younger than Cody, know only too well the absolute heartache and loss that his family, friends and brothers in the bond feel.

Cody was a tall, strong, young man with rugged good looks and a mega-watt smile. He had a humble spirit and a gregarious nature. He made you feel included—always willing to make time for fellowship. Cody was someone you could call on, and he would be there.

In the three years that I had the pleasure of knowing my brother Cody, I never heard him utter an unkind word about anyone. His classmates, many of whom went to high school with him, concur; this was the Cody all knew and loved.

Cody's first love was music, followed in a close second by his love for the outdoors. Cody loved to hunt, fish and hang-glide; he was a quintessential outdoorsman.

If we can gain anything by this young man's loss of life, it would be that life as we know it can change in an instant, without warning. We must endeavor to cherish every moment that we spend with each other. When all is said and done, for good or bad, memories will be what we are left with.

Cody, my brother, will be missed.

Yours In The Bond,
 Histor
 Michael (Blue) Lawrence
 Xi Chi 549

Sunday liquor sales

Erin Reno
Staff Writer

For most Georgians, buying liquor on Saturday has become a way of life. It's simply a preparatory measure for the Sunday drought. There is the occasional breach in cognition when one forgets and is stuck going to a local watering hole or abstaining altogether. But, for the most part, Georgians have learned to live with the antiquated remnants of the puritanical blue laws.

A "blue law" is a term dating back to the 18th century—a name given to the laws that were enacted in order to enforce religious values. Especially common were laws designed to preserve the Sunday Sabbath. In the mid-to-late 19th century, many Southern and Midwestern states passed a number of such laws that were meant to target non-Christian groups. These laws carried penalties for doing non-religious things on Sunday in an attempt to force religious observance and boost church attendance. Shopping was not the only target; activities as innocent as playing baseball were made illegal on Sunday.

For years, former Gov. Sonny

Perdue refused to sign any bill that would allow liquor sales on Sunday. According to the AJC, his ideology has become common practice throughout the state; if Georgians wanted to drink alcohol on Sunday then they would have to plan ahead and buy on Saturday.

With the election of Gov. Nathan Deal, the issue has been resurrected. Deal has publicly stated that he is in favor of signing legislation that would allow voters to decide for themselves whether to allow liquor sales on Sunday. At the beginning of the fight it seemed that the bill would pass without much fanfare. However, a late-blooming grass-roots campaign in early February gave senators pause.

There has always been resistance to liquor sales on Sunday. Opponents are predominantly religious groups who have moral beliefs against such acts. But, according to the AJC, a surprising ally has joined the fight to maintain the status quo. Liquor store owners have come out against the bill. They do not want the competition from

grocery and convenience stores, who are already open on Sunday and who would face no additional cost if the bill is passed.

What was supposed to be a shining example of bipartisan legislation lingered in the Rules Committee of the Senate. Soon, Republican representatives took a secret vote. It was decided not to move forward with the legislation. Meanwhile, the House had a similar bill waiting to be passed so it could be sent over to the Senate for approval. House Speaker David Ralston and the House bill's sponsor Rep. Roger Williams decided not to move forward with the bill until the Senate passed their bill. Williams pointed out that, "There's no sense sending it over there if they are not going to pass it."

Supporters of the bill have recently been gaining strength. Grocery and convenience stores are huge proponents of the legalization of liquor sales on Sunday. They have hired an imposing army of lobbyists to help get the bill passed. In addition, over 50,000 Georgians

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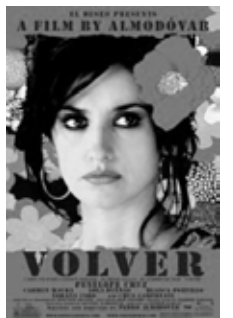
Letter must be signed by the author. Publication and editing of letters will be at the discretion of the editor.

Contact 678-915-7310 to advertise or for other information.

**June issue articles are due
 Friday, May 27, 2011**

International film series

Title: *Volver*
Description: After her death, a mother returns to her home town in order to fix the situations she couldn't resolve during her life.
Date: Thursday, April 28, 2011
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Student Center
Admission: FREE
Hosted by: Bernice Nuhfer-Halten
Starring: Penélope Cruz
Released: 2006
Genre: Comedy/Crime/Drama
Language: Spanish
Country: Spain
Running Time: 121 Minutes



have signed petitions supporting the legislation, according to the AJC. Facebook pages have even been created to further pro-bill efforts.

On Wednesday March 16 Senate bill 10 passed by a 32-22 vote. The House Regulated Industries Committee set up a hearing for

the bill on Monday morning. By Tuesday, legislation easily passed through the committee delayed approving the bill for a floor vote before the House broke for their spring break. The 2011 congressional session ends April 14, and if there is not a House vote by then, the bill will roll over to 2012.

Disasters bombard Japan

Continued from Page 1

vapor. A similar event also occurred at Reactor 3 at the same plant. Reactor 2 was also fully exposed and experts could not rule out a meltdown of the fuel rods.

Other nuclear power plants are trying to prevent additional explosions by reducing the pressure inside the reactors vessels through venting of contaminated steam into the atmosphere. According to Tomoko Murakami, of the nuclear energy group at Japan's Institute of Energy Economics, this will not release significant radiation. CNN has reported stories of a deliberate discharge of coolant water into the sea, and food sources such as milk and vegetables have been contaminated with radiation.

Clean-up efforts are underway.

Japan has even requested a floating water decontamination plant from Russian Prime Minister Naoto Kim, who has called these events "the toughest and the most difficult" crisis Japan has faced since the end of World War II.

Obama the celebrity

Elizabeth Garner
Assistant Editor

Earlier this month, Barack Obama quietly announced his intent to run for reelection in 2012. When Obama took office in 2008 there were many things on his to-do list, but very few have yet to be marked off. With the unrest in Egypt and Libya, as well as the threat of a government shutdown, Obama has been a pretty busy man lately.

As President of the United States, and with the current sad economic state of this country, one would expect Obama to constantly be under pressure and barely have time to be in the public eye. I can agree that part of the President's job is to be in touch with his public, but is there a fine line?

In a January 2010 basketball game between Duke and Georgetown, Barack Obama found the time to sit courtside as well as help announce much of the second half. On April 5, 2010, Obama threw the first pitch at Nationals Park in Washington for baseball's opening day. In July 2010, Obama appeared on The View for a full interview. He spent his birthday flying Air Force One to Chicago for a dinner with Oprah Winfrey and other famous friends. Obama has now appeared on the

cover of Rolling Stone three times.

Additionally, Obama opened for the 2009 Teen Choice Awards, and has appeared on Saturday Night Live, The Ellen DeGeneres Show, The Tonight Show with Jay Leno, and numerous appearances at sports events, including the 2010 NCAA March Madness Butler vs. Michigan State game. Oftentimes, he can be seen playing golf or shooting hoops.

These are just a few examples, but my question is: shouldn't Obama spend less time making these public appearances and more time running this country? He has been deemed by some media outlets as the "Celebrity in Chief" and many say he has crossed the line from politician to celebrity.

Don't get me wrong, I understand Mr. President has the weight of the USA on his shoulders and deserves some free time now and again; but announcing basketball games and posing for magazine covers crosses the line in my opinion. Perhaps he can take more time for these things when we don't have a \$3 trillion deficit and a 9% national unemployment rate (10.2% for Georgia).

A look back at SPSU

Allison Feldman
Contributor

As I'm writing this, I have less than a month until I graduate from Southern Poly. It sometimes hasn't even hit me yet that I'm in college, much less about to finish it. It was so daunting when I had just started here, and now I'm already looking back on it all. It makes no sense how quickly time can fly.

Four and a half years ago, I was deadset on going to Georgia Tech. My life revolved around it, and my family all assumed I was going there. But then I visited the Southern Poly campus and fell in love. It felt exactly like a college campus should to me. I decided to come here before I even knew if I was accepted to Tech.

This campus has changed so much since I started here four years ago. We've added a whole new side of campus, the Student Center is all shiny and new, and the Community Center has been at least three different things. We've been through a lockdown and a flood. I feel like I've become part of this tight-knit community that I'm really sad to leave.

At the same time, this college has changed me. I started here as a shy, tomboyish architecture major. Four years later, I'm a more outgoing and personable, ambitious English major, ready to take on graduate

school at Kennesaw. I've now been skydiving, I've gone swimming with a dolphin, and I've written a novel. My sophomore year, I met a girl in Art Appreciation who instantly became my best friend, and now I can't imagine my life without her.

But now, I'm getting ready to leave it all behind. I realized I have way too much stuff in my apartment and need to figure out how to get it all out in the next month. Announcements are about to be mailed out, my family is planning out how to get to graduation and where to go to lunch after. I've even had friends threaten to sabotage my final project so I can't graduate yet – all in good fun, of course. It hasn't all hit me yet, and it probably won't until I'm back home for the summer, or when I'm laying on the beach and not having any homework to worry about. It's still so surreal, even though it's right here in front of me.

Look out, world. Allison is about to come take you on.

And for what it's worth, I was accepted to Tech. But coming here instead was one of the best decisions I have ever made. Thanks for everything, SPSU. Much love!

process of how to use this site to its fullest potential. It has step-by-step instructions on how to select your future employer, how to build your professional brand; building and maintaining a professional network; and preparing for interviews or other job opportunities.

For more information on a specific topic of interest, choose an option from the "Resource" list on the left side of the home page. In that list, you can find subjects on Small Business, Students Topics and Guidance, Job Seekers, Entrepreneurs, Attorneys, Business Development, Consultants, Journalist, Non-Profits, and Venture Capital. All of these topics can be found under the User Guides section.

Some site features are profiles, jobs, groups, LinkedIn Today and other beneficial features that will give you information on specialized subjects.

In order to search for employment on LinkedIn, it is necessary for you to apply for a free membership. The basic membership allows you to look up and apply for jobs, network with friends who are members on the site and ask industry experts questions about topics that pertain to certain companies.

Although you can use the site for basic information, you can also pay a monthly fee to use advanced features. Check out LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com.

**100th SPSU Commencement
Saturday, May 7, 2011
in our Gymnasium.**

**Speaker will be Shan Cooper,
new V.P. of Lockheed Martin Aeronautics
and G.M. of the Marietta facility.**

**440 estimated students will graduate.
This is the largest number in our history.**

Polytechnic Summit

Brandon Woods
Staff Writer

Fellow SPSU students, it is April and I know what you are thinking: *Just a few more weeks and college will be a thing of the past, finals will be complete and school will be over.*

Well, I am here to tell you that you are wrong—horribly wrong—because there is something coming; an event that is so glorious, so amazing, so important that it could very well be the beginning of a great wave of change that could alter perceptions of college standards across the nation and quite possibly the world.

That event, my dear readers, is The Polytechnic Summit an event being held right here at SPSU from June 8th-10th.

For those of you who don't know, The Polytechnic Summit is a time for polytechnic institutions to gather and share ideas for how to improve polytechnics all over the world.

The Polytechnic Summit is incredibly new—so new that there isn't even a Wikipedia page for it. In order to gather more information on the summit, I met with someone who not only knows a great deal about the subject, but also has a very tricky name to pronounce: Zvi Szafran, Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Dr. Szafran has attended both the first and second Polytechnic Summit at The University of Wisconsin-Stout, a polytechnic university in Menomonie, Wisconsin.

After witnessing these two events, our alma mater stepped forward to host the third Polytechnic Summit on our campus. This year's theme is "Polytechnic Opportunity," and that means that this summit will show how polytechnic schools benefit students, the community, staff, and everyone else involved in this type of school's development.

Remember, polytechnics are a special breed of university. They focus on application more than theory and are very hands-on. In today's society this form of school produces a very important graduate: a potential employee who not only

knows understands the mechanics of their occupation, but can actually put it into practice.

You may not realize it, but many employers are pleased to hire polytechnic students, given the specialized training we receive in areas where other graduates know little to nothing.

Whether it's soldering for electrical engineers or using XNA for game design, in today's economy we need people who don't just have knowledge, but also have the capacity to apply it.

This and so much more is what separates polytechnic universities from so many others. The problem is that not enough people are aware of this type of institution, and if you are like me, before coming to this school you likely had no clue what the word "polytechnic" even means.

You are not alone. There are still a great multitude of people out there who don't know what a polytechnic has to offer, which is why it's important that we educate them and let them know how amazing we are.

So tell potential students that this is the place to go. Tell parents that this is where your child can get a great education. Also, talk to the people with the big bucks. Tell them that polytechnics are the schools they need to help support.

After all, when I proudly proclaim that I go to Southern Polytechnic State University, I don't want people to say, "Oh, well, that's nice." I want them to say: "Oh you go to a polytechnic school! I hear those are really hands-on."

True, that won't happen after this Polytechnic Summit, and maybe not even after the next one, but it will happen, and Dr. Szafran strongly believes that to be true.

So SPSU students, come out this June and participate in the Polytechnic Summit. If you personally can't participate, simply attend. And if you can't attend, tell a friend to go see it for you, record it on their camera phone, and then watch it yourself, and promise yourself that you'll come out next year.

Are you LinkedIn?

Victoria Allen
Staff Writer

Nowadays, searching for a job is a job. It is almost necessary to sit at a computer for eight hours just to look up, register for and submit a resume to find employment.

LinkedIn is a website that allows you to search for jobs, search and communicate with friends in a professional capacity and learn new things about being an entrepreneur. I will give you a brief overview of LinkedIn and how it can benefit you while deciding on a future career.

LinkedIn has been around for eight years. It has a little over 100 million members across the world. LinkedIn is available in six different languages: English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. It provides knowledge on numerous topics that help users find a job, connect with friends in the workforce and educate its members on subjects free of charge.

Being a member of LinkedIn allows you the opportunity to find steady employment with a company that you desire. Before you graduate, it would be a great idea to check out this site in detail.

LinkedIn has a great video specifically created for graduates, called *LinkedIn Grad Guide*, located under the Resources heading. It is a series of videos that inform new and perspective graduates on the

**The 3rd Annual Polytechnic Summit
June 8-10, 2011**

**Abstract/Proposal questions: summit2011papers@spsu.edu
General questions: 2011polytechnicsummit@spsu.edu**

A taste of the east in Cobb County

Andrew Hurd
Assistant Editor

Tasty China
585 Franklin Rd SE
Marietta, GA 30067

Come for: The melt-your-face-it's-so-hot authentic Szechuan cuisine
Pro tip: BYOB, no alcohol is served but you are welcome to bring beer/wine, if of age.
Price: \$11-15 per entrée
Overall: 9/10

When most people think of Chinese food, they think of chunks of meat coated in sweet, syrupy sauces swimming in a sea of rice and vegetables. In all actuality this is about as close to authentic Chinese cuisine as a five layer burrito.

Tasty China, located right down the road from campus at the intersection of 120 and Franklin Road serves up heaping portions of authentic Szechuan Chinese food. Tasty China was put on the national foodie map when world renowned chef Peter Chang took the helm in 2006. Peter Chang, who has cooked for Chinese royalty and at the Chinese Embassy in America, is known for his piping-hot Szechuan style cooking.

The atmosphere and location of the restaurant can be quite deceiving; the restaurant is in a simple strip mall, and has a barren, simple interior that is on par for any standard Chinese take-out spot. This is

where its similarities to a dime-a-dozen restaurants end.

The menu sports three pages of authentic entrees and appetizers, and a page of more conventional American style dishes for the less adventurous eater. While the American style dishes are beautifully prepared and give any other restaurant a run for their money, the real focus is on the authentic portions of the menu. The group I went with recently started our meal with an appetizer of Dan Dan noodles—a dish of thin, tender noodles in a chili oil based sauce topped with crumbled beef and green onions. The dish easily provided an ample serving for all four members of our group, and could have easily been an entrée on its own for one.

For our main course we ordered a variety of dishes: Dry fried duck, crispy shredded beef, a hot and numbing combination, and braised fish with needle mushrooms and chili oil. As the dishes arrived, we realized we could have easily split two entrees amongst the group and left quite satisfied. The hot and numbing combo was the highlight. A blend of chicken, beef, shrimp, and fish along with a myriad of vegetables swimming in an angry red sauce, the dish is presented in large metal bowl onto of a mini gas fueled burner. Constantly under

heat and bubbling, the dish looks quite menacing, and for good reason: The name hot and numbing is quite accurate. The chili oil in the sauce immediately attacks the palate, but the dish is also loaded with Szechuan peppercorns, which have a natural numbing effect. The waves of heat and numbing, along with layers of flavor from the meats creates one of the most intense and pleasurable dining experiences around. The other dishes delivered as well; the duck was tender and well dressed, and the fish was flakey and surrounded by plenty of succulent mushrooms. The only real complaint was with the crispy beef, which was very good but was too salty.

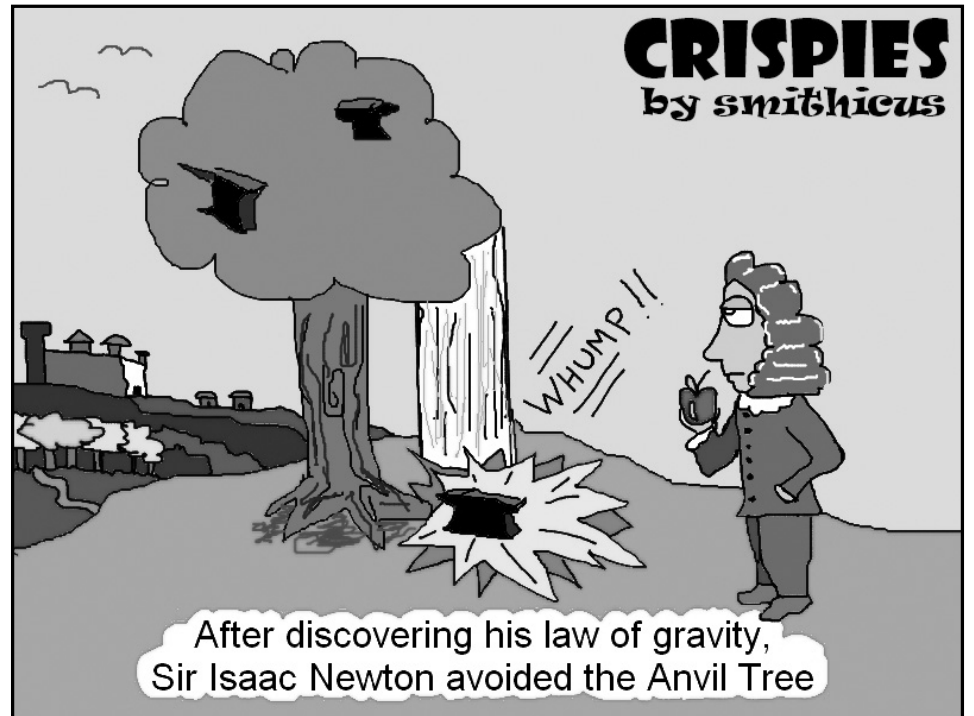
The pricing is higher than the average Chinese restaurant, with most entrees priced between \$11 and \$15, but the portions are enormous and could easily be split between two people, so it would not be dif-

ficult to get in and out with a fairly low bill. The service was quite pleasant, but the restaurant seemed a bit understaffed; one server was visibly sweating and exhausted from how much running around he had to do.

The food does attract plenty of the Chinese students attending SPSU, who love to drop in to get a taste of home. When asked her opinion of it, exchange student Yang Jiao commented that she likes

the food at Tasty China, and is a big fan of the spicy food. She did state that while the food is good, it is a touch different from true Chinese cooking as it is a hint sweeter and contains more fried items.

It is rare to be able to live in the suburbs and have the opportunity to be so close to a restaurant with a national reputation. If you are a fan of adventurous eating, Chinese food, or simply good food in general, Tasty China cannot be missed.



SPSU band concert dedicated to Dr. Gabrielli

Dominic Fredo
Staff Writer

The SPSU Band hosted its annual spring concert on April 14, 2011. The concert was held outside at the amphitheater between Norton Hall and the Lawrence V. Johnson Library.

It lasted approximately 45 minutes, and included easily recognizable tunes such as “Queen in Concert”—a medley including “We Will Rock You,” “Bohemian Rhapsody,” “Another One Bites the Dust” and “We Are the Cham-

pions” —“Kung Fu Fighting,” “Funkytown,” which included solos from saxophonists Tashaun Francis, Richard Barnett and sousaphone player Amanda Blanton, and music from the *Mamma Mia* soundtrack, as well as pieces less recognizable by today’s audience, like Maurice Ravel’s “Bolero,” or John Philip Sousa’s “El Capitan” march.

Band director Dr. Beth Stutzmann said at the concert that this semester’s band has been “one

of the best SPSU has had in recent years.” This semester’s band had 16 members, up from the ten that performed in last semester’s short 20 minute Christmas concert in the student center lobby.

The weather was quite conducive to an outdoor concert; for the audience at least. Several particularly vicious wind gusts caused the performers’ sheet music to extract themselves from the clothespins holding them to the stand. Speak-

ing as one of the musicians in the concert, everything went rather well despite the wind, and this concert was arguably better than the Christmas concert.

The concert was dedicated to Dr. Alan Gabrielli, who is retiring after having served as Dean of Arts and Sciences for ten years, and 33 years as a professor in the chemistry department at SPSU. Dr. Zvi Szafran, Vice President of Academic Affairs and longtime

friend of Dr. Gabrielli, as well as a jazz music fan, was on hand to give Dr. Gabrielli farewell wishes and a bouquet of flowers on behalf of the band.

The SPSU band is always looking for additional musicians, and meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:15 to 5:30 in the Student Center Theater. Additionally, Dr. Stutzmann can be reached at 678-915-4222.





Baby Tommy's

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Next to Hodge's Army Navy

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A SHORT STORY

The mysterious paperweight

Brennan Taylor
Contributor

I was sitting beside the fireplace inside the boss' office sipping a hot cup of tea. We were discussing my rate of pay, when she was summoned elsewhere on account of an urgent message. I began to plan the events of the day in my head, but then suddenly paused to admire my surroundings. The composition of things in the room had grabbed my attention. The shelving and the objects they contained were organized in a unique pattern. The furniture was arranged in a way that made the room seem more spacious than it actually was. By the windows, she had placed a series of objects made of transparent and reflective surfaces. This dispersed light, giving the whole space a bright glow. I decided that this room was not a random collection of stuff, but a work of art.

Perhaps I am getting a bit carried away I pondered... I then speculated about the ingredients of the tea I was drinking, searching for reasons as to why I was so intrigued with the layout of this room. I decided to stand and stretch and at eye level across the room, I spotted a series of old books. Each volume was bound with leather and appeared to contain much wisdom. I walked closer to open the books in order to further understand their content. Printed in the eighteenth century, the pages contained journals about paleontology. The author recorded his campaigns into Mesopotamia, in search of early forms of life; a topic I much enjoyed reading about as a boy.

Propping up this group of old texts was an unusual object. Oblivious to its origin or purpose, I first thought it was an old piece of sculpture. However, upon closer examination I discovered that it was a fossil. The trace of an intricate, spiraling skeleton was set into this weathered stone. I was amazed at how detailed the recording of this prehistoric creature was. I wished to find out more about the mysterious artifact, so I reached out. I picked up the fossil with hands steady like a brain surgeon. My imagination ran wild with speculation of its age, place of excavation, and species. I also wondered if there was any connection to the adjacent books on the shelf. Perhaps it was dug up by the author or from the same time period. I then began to rotate the object, exploring all sides, when a series of small golden characters caught my eye. "Made in China"



Love

Victoria Allen
Staff Writer

I see it, & I have to have it
And so I reach for it
Its not an easy grab
for it comes with understanding
An understanding of ups & downs
I heard something say "don't underestimate"
But the feeling & need is so overwhelming
I dive in without thought
I want the feel, I feel the need
I need to be with
Because I know I can't be without it
I hear that its sweet
I see that its nice
It shall heal my pain
Cure my sickness
Invert my frowns
And when it seems all not well
They say do not walk away
Do not run from
For it does come with confusion
So I will unravel
This is my journey for...LOVE



The girl on campus

Advice from one girl's perspective

The end of the semester is upon us and I thought I would use this issue as an opportunity to explain how to dress for a job interview. Dressing correctly for the interview is just as important as what you say during it. Your outfit says more about who you are than you probably are comfortable with.



1. Suit up!
 2. Even if the job you are interviewing for will never require you to wear a suit, you need to wear one. It shows that you are respectful and serious. I have seen people wear a suit for an interview at a fast food restaurant. It is a tough job market out there and you don't want to be passed over because you didn't invest in a \$150 suit.
 3. You should get a black, medium-dark gray, or navy blue suit (black). These colors are the most versatile and will enable you to wear your suit to any occasion; from wedding to funeral. Men should avoid pleated pants. They are just ugly.
 4. Make sure your jacket fits! To do this, stand up straight with your arms at your sides. The sleeve should just hit the joint between your thumbs metacarpal and proximal phalange. Yes, this means the sleeves will ride up if you stick your arms straight out in front of you. But, this would only be a factor if you walked around like Frankenstein. You also want the jacket to button without pulling. Ladies, if you have big girls you need a two to three button suit to hold those puppies in. Men, the rule is to never button the last button of a three button suit. As for the shoulders you want the seam to hit at the corner of your shoulder. When the jacket fits correctly it will fit smoothly across the back. Men with broad shoulders and a smaller waist should look for "sport" or "modern" fits.
 5. Get your pants hemmed! Spend the \$10 to \$12 to get your pants hemmed. This isn't as important for men, but guys should bring their dress shoes shopping. There should be a nice "brake" at the top of your foot. Ladies, your pants need to hit anywhere between halfway down your heel to right above the floor. There should be no pulling or puckering at the crotch with a well-fitting pair of pants. Pockets can be stitched shut if they poke out.
 6. Women's skirts should hit just below the knee. Never above the knee. And should be paired with fresh pantyhose. Ladies should never wear open toe shoes to an interview! Shoes should be stylish but modest in height.
 7. Men should wear a freshly pressed shirt and tie. If you have a spread collar shirt (a wide gap between the triangles of the shirt) a Windsor knot is highly recommended, otherwise a half Windsor should be fine. If you don't know how to tie a tie, practice before the date of the interview (there are instructional videos on YouTube). The tip of your tie should fall between the top and the center of your belt buckle. When it comes to matching ties, if you have a solid shirt you can have a patterned tie to add some pizzazz. If you have a patterned shirt then stick to a solid tie for the interview. Nothing too outlandish! Stick to soft colors.
 8. Don't pop your collar! Just have it tucked nicely under your jacket.
 9. Don't wear a strong fragrance!
 10. Your shoes should match your belt.
 11. Your socks should match your pants or your shoes. No white socks!
 12. That should be enough to get you started. If you are still confused: ASK FOR HELP! That is what the sales associates are there for.
- If you want the Girl on Campus's advice, you may email me at SPSUGirloncampus@gmail.com, or you can slip it under the door of The Sting office (located in the Student Center).

Bathtub race results

Dominic Fredo
Staff Writer

The final results from this year's bathtub races:

Rank and Team Name

1. Residence Hall Association
2. Sigma Nu
3. Sigma Alpha Epsilon
4. University Honors Program
5. Sigma Pi
6. Pi Kappa Phi
7. Tau Kappa Epsilon
8. Swim Club
9. Alpha Xi Delta
10. Gamma Phi Beta

This year's bathtub race was run on North Hornet Drive, beginning at the volleyball court near the Courtyard apartments and proceeding down North Hornet Drive to the intersection between North and South Hornet Drives and Polytechnic Lane.

A line was drawn at approximately halfway down the track at which point pushers were to let go of the tub and let it roll the remainder of the course to factor in driver skill. Teams competed in a time trial in the morning to determine matchups during the race. In the race, teams had two nonconsecutive runs each, one run in each lane to negate the advantage of the shorter "inside" lane.

Scoring was determined by the sum of both runs, such that the team with the lowest overall time was the

Volunteer T-shirts



Sting directing "traffic"



victor. All ten participants in this year's entry used two prefabricated tubs built by Higginbotham and Associates. Teams were composed of a driver, two male pushers, or four female pushers. Co-ed teams were allowed to compete with the stipulation that there could be two female

pushers for every male pusher for a maximum of four (in all reality, three) pushers.

Two motorized bathtub racers from the "good ole days" made an appearance for the parade lap, as well as Formula SAE.

SPSU's bathtub racers



Photos by Judy Garrard

Did you know ...

You can learn another language

Judy Garrard
Executive Editor

The Language Lab in J218 has acquired Rosetta Stone software from the most recent Tech Fee Funding. Students have first priority, but faculty and staff are also encouraged to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to learn a new language.

Rosetta Stone is a conversation-based program and the following languages are available: Spanish, French, German, Italian, Arabic and Mandarin. Your account will be set up by student lab assistants.

The lab is available anytime a class is not being held. Find the online schedule at <http://www.spsu.edu/sis/Department/SISLab.htm>.



SPSU supports "Our Pal's Place"

Sharon L. Roberts
Contributor

It's been said that the little things make the difference. It is safe to say that when you are introduced to the rescuers and the residents at Our Pal's Place in Marietta, you experience exactly what that means.

Action, action, action is what we were instructed to carry out for our TCOM Small Group Communication class project. The assignment required us to find or develop a program, event and or assist with an organization doing something new and innovative. It was not long before it was unanimously decided that we would focus on animals.

Once our point of interest was identified, the pieces of the puzzle began to fall into place, and we were introduced to the world of animal rescue. Our Pal's Place was introduced to us by one of the faculty members, Professor Ann Parker, who is an advocate to the plight of animals having to be euthanized due to neglect, abandonment and overpopulation. Parker said it best: "We wish this was a service we did not have to provide."

It was clear that our action project would be to aid and assist

Our Pal's Place with the necessities and donations to help in the center's fight for the rights of animals. We SPSU students would answer the call and get the job done.

Our Pal's Place is located at 4508 Canton Highway, Marietta, Georgia. It is an animal advocate organization with a pet adoption facility and education center. Their mission is to provide solutions to resolve current animal welfare issues such as overpopulation. Their main function is to rescue animals from death in county animal control shelters aka "death row." These animals will receive safe housing, rehabilitation, health care and a new start on life.

Visit SPSU'S Our Pal's Place facebook page and the official Our Pal's Place website at www.ourpalsplace.org. Their phone number is 678-798-0202 and volunteers and donations are always welcomed. It is a great cause. There is no such thing as anything being too small to donate. Remember that little things make the biggest difference.



Mr. SPSU: Luis Velasquez, representing Sigma Alpha Epsilon
Ms. SPSU: Re'Ann McCoy, representing Delta Sigma Theta



Photo by Lloyd Terry

New SGA officers

President: Brian Ellison
Vice President: Trent Anderson
Secretary/Treasurer: Antonio Sample

Council Members:

Leighton Anglin	John Greenage	Adam Thomas
Nicole Banks	Alex Harrington	Kevin White
Julie Blakely	Jasmine Johnson	
Chase Carscallen	Matt Kimbell	

Ian Berger shows his commitment to Sigma Pi



Photo by Joseph Pitts

SPSU Construction Mgmt. Dept. Successfully bringing students and industry together

John C. Cameli, President NECA Student Chapter
Erica Sims, Team Member

Combining talent in the workforce, referred to as synergy, results in operations that are more efficient, higher customer satisfaction, and increased shareholder value. The SPSU Construction Management department, under the direction of Chair Dr. Khalid Siddiqi, is successfully leveraging relationships between Atlanta Electrical Contractors Association (AECA), construction department faculty, and most importantly with student participation in the 2011 Green Energy Challenge: Howell Dormitory Energy Audit/Retrofit.

This past October, SPSU placed second nationally with a poster presentation of last year's project during the 2010 National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) held in Boston, Massachusetts. This year's green energy challenge focuses on several specific technical areas of analysis.

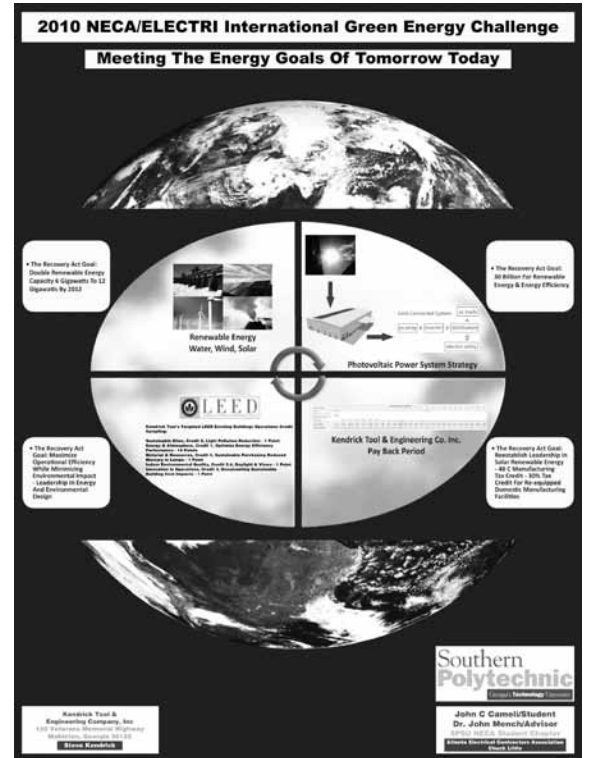
To begin, a proposal for a lighting retrofit of a Howell dormitory room, including lighting fixtures, lamps, ballasts, and controls is considered. Next, a comprehensive energy analysis of the facility, including heating, cooling, lighting, and operations, recommendations for improvement and a feasibility study emphasizing return on investment is detailed. Finally, a general assessment and cost estimate for the adoption of solar photovoltaic panels to offset consumption charges measured in kilowatt-hours is required. In addition, the student team addresses a campus-wide energy awareness proposal.

Faculty adviser Dr. John Mench's team includes John C Cameli (team captain), John Hand, Cyle Cox, Erica Sims, Ying Guo, Yuanlu Wang, and Brannon Baxter. The team selected Howell Dormitory, a four-story building, for their project.

According to Dr. Mench, "Students benefit from participating in NECA's Green Energy Challenge by learning how to do an energy audit—an important tool ensuring efficient use of electrical energy." Dr. Mench sees the relationship between AECA and SPSU growing as AECA provides opportunities to educate students in their brand new electrical training facility, as well as providing student employment opportunities with association members.

Chuck Little, Operations Director for AECA is a member of SPSU's Construction Management Advisory Board and a SPSU sponsor for the competition. Mr. Little says, "SPSU's second place in the poster board convention last year put Atlanta and SPSU on the "national board" within the NECA electrical family." Mr. Lit-

2010 Poster



tle believes in the importance of providing direct input to a higher educational institution such as SPSU that will be producing the future leaders of the industry.

The SPSU NECA team submitted a proposal outline on April 15, project due in mid May. The poster presentation of the project is due in August. Teams will be notified if their project proposal has been selected and will receive an invitation to present their report at the NECA Convention in October 2011, while the poster presentation will be judged during the October convention in San Diego, California.

AECA (offers continuing education open to SPSU students to attend at no cost. Students can see a list of classes at www.atlantaelectrical.org or call 770-454-6400.

Atlanta Electrical Contractors Association



Greek week

Brian Ellison
Contributor

Every year, Greek organizations at SPSU get together and compete against each other in an event known as Greek Week. Greek Week is a time for fun, socializing, and competition. With events like Ping Pong, Human Pyramid, and 3 on 3 Soccer, it is always a great way to kick off the Spring season. Usually held in mid to late March, Greek Week has been a school tradition for many years. This year was no different.

New to this year were the Construction and Rock Painting competitions. Construction offered a way for the Greeks to give back to the community by donating

canned food, while the rock painting competition showed campus pride. Other events include: 3 on 3 Basketball, Kickball, Volleyball, 3 on 3 Soccer, Raquetball, Swimming, Trivia, Ping Pong, Billiards, Gatorade Pong, 4 x 100, Chariot Race, Human Pyramid, Keg Toss, and Tug-of-War. Of the Greek organizations that participated, all did exceptionally well in their efforts.

The final rankings:

1. Sigma Nu
2. Sigma Alpha Epsilon



3. Sigma Pi
4. Tau Kappa Epsilon
5. Pi Kappa Phi
6. Gamma Phi Beta
7. Alpha Xi Delta



ASME attends national conference, wins design contest

Scott Gildemeyer
Contributor

The student chapter of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers at SPSU recently attended the Student Professional Development Conference (SPDC) District F at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Three officers and four members, along with the faculty advisor of our organization attended the competition along with many members from colleges all over the southeast. The conference is a national event in which

mechanical engineering students compete in design competitions, tour industry plants, network, and develop themselves professionally.

The first day consisted of an industry tour at the Mitsubishi Power Systems plant in Orlando. The private tour consisted of machines used to build and repair blades and vanes from Mitsubishi turbines. After the tour, we were treated to dinner and a fun mystery design competition.

The next day consisted of the team design competitions, professional speakers, and a career fair. Four of our students participated

in the new rapid design competition, an event created to encourage teamwork with students of several universities. This year's rapid design challenge was to envision a



SPSU attendees from ASME SPDC 2011 at University of Central Florida
Front row: Nick Byrd; Middle Row: SPSU Advisor Dr. Mir Atiqullah, Joseph Lopez, SPSU Chair Scott Gildemeyer, Danielle Guerra, SPSU Vice Chair Josue Campos
Back Row: Damon Bennett, SPSU Treasurer Matthew Williams

design to minimize CO2 emissions from small gasoline motors. We were then given an hour and a half to come up with a solution and power point presentation to present to the judges for the competition. Two out of the ten teams competing in the competition had SPSU engineering students including graduating seniors Scott Gildemeyer and Matthew Williams, and fellow members Damon Bennett and Joseph Lopez.

Other design competitions that took place were the Old Guard Technical Poster competition, Old Guard Oral Presentation contest,

and the H2Go student design competition in which teams designed and built a prototype for rain energy conversion. SPSU teams utilized the knowledge gained from the advanced curriculum learned at SPSU to come up with creative solutions.

The final day was reserved for the award luncheon, where they announced the winners of all the competitions. Southern Polytechnic students Damon Bennett and Mathew Williams were on the winning team of the very first ASME rapid design challenge. It is truly an honor for our student chapter to win this prestigious event and represent our great college against these other famous universities in the region including the University of Florida, the University of Miami, and the University of Alabama. The victory was due to the knowledge and education obtained from the outstanding staff and faculty at Southern Polytechnic State University.

If you are interested in becoming an ASME member please contact sgildeme@spsu.edu or jcampos@spsu.edu.

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ISA eating contest

Yang Jiao
Assistant Editor

More food, more fun and more friends!

The International Students Association had their Eating Contest on Wednesday, April 6th at the Student Center. About 20 students attended the event, and they ate a total of more than 70 sandwiches. According to Zheyu Fang, the vice president of ISA, "We are here to have more food, more fun and more friends."

The 20 students were divided into two groups, and they had three minutes to eat as much as they could. Each group had two winners, who could go to the next round. The tension was thick in the Student Center. Only one of the four "professional eaters" could win the contest, for which the prize was a laser printer. They did not have time to think, all they could do was eat the food as fast as they could. Finally, a freshman Business Administration major won the game by eating up 10 sandwiches in total.

"I have never been watching people eating like this. It is a lot of fun!" said Zheyu. She was happy to see that students from different countries could get together and have fun.

International Students Association has long been working on creating interesting events to help international student get involved in school activities. They have done great job to build friendship between international students and American students. One of my Chinese friends, who has just been at SPSU for one semester, told me that ISA helped him get used to American life and have more opportunities to be friends with American students.

Zheyu said at the end of the contest "We hope more students can join us, and we all can be friends."

First Rainey scholarship awarded

Allison Feldman
Contributor

Elizabeth Garner, a junior pursuing a bachelor of arts in English and professional communication, has been named as the first recipient of the Ken & Elaine Rainey Endowed Scholarship. She was chosen based on merit and an essay she submitted, and will be receiving \$1,000 for her accomplishments.

The scholarship was created in honor of Dr. Kenneth Rainey, a professor in the Department of English, Technical Communication and Media Arts who passed away in 2006. The majority of the funds for the scholarship have been collected through the SPSU Annual Campaign, with 83 individuals donating since its inception, including faculty, staff members, alumni, professional associations and friends of the Rainey's. As of December 2010, \$31,000 had been raised for the scholarship.

The Ken & Elaine Rainey Endowed Scholarship will be awarded on an annual basis from this point forward.

Hey, look, it's The Sting's Copy Editor



Photo by Allison Feldman

A decision regarding a new mascot for The Sting will be announced in the summer issue.

The High Museum of Art is offering students free admission at any time by showing their SPSU ID. For more information on this and other programs with the High, contact Zvi Szafran at zszafran@spsu.edu



Science Olympiad

Erin Reno
Assistant Editor

If you were in the Q building on Monday March 28, you may have seen the remnants of numerous adventures that took place over the previous weekend. A small motorized helicopter had gotten lodged in the ceiling during a practice flight in anticipation for a competition later that afternoon. On Saturday March 26th, SPSU hosted the Class C (high school level) Science Olympiad.

This year marked the first time SPSU has hosted the State level competition. The best from every region in Georgia came to our campus to compete in applied mathematics, engineering, and science.

Lance Crimm, Professor and Program Director in the Electrical Engineering Department, is the

Regional Science Olympiad Director. He has been organizing the regional competitions here at SPSU since 1990 and this year marked his twelfth event.

Dr. McCartney, Professor in the Chemistry Department and Science Olympiad veteran, assisted Prof. Crimm in this year's planning. With the best of the best descending on SPSU to compete many Professors and students were needed to make sure everything ran smoothly.

There were an overwhelming number of volunteers and everyone had a great time. There were a few hiccups here and there but nothing that the organizers couldn't handle.

Students competed in events like Disease Detectives, Wind Power, Helicopters and even a test event called Sumo Bots (Bottle

Bots meets sumo wrestling).

The day wound down, culminating in the awards ceremony. As Prof. Crimm began the festivities, Dr. McCartney was still gathering results, many that had to be hand graded. Proctors throughout campus turned in their results, and Dr. McCartney had to run them to the auditorium with the names of the event champions.

In the end only two teams can move on to the national competition this May at the University of Wisconsin.

Brookwood High School from Snellville came in first place. Second place went to the Gwinnett School of Math, Science, and Technology.



NCAA tournament: An underdog story

Kyle Carney
Assistant Editor

This year's NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament was watched by more people than any year since 2005.

So many factors go into television ratings and this year more than anything the addition of three more networks—TBS, TruTV and TNT—besides CBS, has allowed more people to watch every game.

However, the Cinderella story of teams such as Butler and Virginia Commonwealth is helping to spark the interest of many basketball fans as well.

Seeing Butler University back in the Final Four for the second season in a row was exhilarating. Seeing Virginia Commonwealth there was *Hoosier*-esque.

According to the New York Times, 14.2 million people watched the Final Four game between VCU and Butler.

It was inspirational to watch the two teams scurry around the floor, playing every play as if it was their last, which is true for many of

the players.

Whereas teams like Kansas and Pittsburgh would have had star players out there who leave after a single season for the NBA, it was a breath of fresh air to watch true student-athletes.

Between the two teams, only Shelvin Mack is expected to be drafted. Matt Howard from Butler and Jamie Skeen from VCU are prospects, but ESPN lists them as late second round/ undrafted players.

One constant between all three players is their grade: Seniors.

Looking over the Butler starting lineup, it is comprised of almost all upper classmen.

VCU is no different.

In a time when most college basketball teams are getting younger, both Butler and VCU paraded seasoned veterans out onto the court. It could be one reason for the recent success of such low ranked teams.

While they may not have the

fire power of some of the upper echelon teams like North Carolina and Duke, they win because of good coaching and experience.

Where Kentucky is forced to look for leadership from a freshman, VCU can look to senior guard Joey Rodriguez and Butler can look to senior power forward Matt Howard. When the game gets tight, you need that experience.

Butler relied on that leadership last year as well and it has gotten them to the National Tournament two years in a row.

It is good for the game of basketball for teams like Butler and VCU to play so deep into the season.

While it hurt almost every person who filled out a bracket, it made the games exciting. They may not have put up the points some of the other schools may have, but they made up for it with tenacity.

It is in our blood to root for the underdog.



Atlanta Thrashers: Last game in Atlanta?

Kyle Carney
Assistant Editor

The Thrashers finished the regular season in 25th place in the NHL. The loss to the Penguins on April 10th could very well be their last game in Atlanta.

Throughout the season, rumors have been swirling around that unless the team has investors willing to put up some money, the team will be sold. In an interview with the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Atlanta Spirit co-owner Michael Gearon spoke endearingly about wanting to stay in the Atlanta community; however, he also understands what it will take to keep the team here.

When asked about moving to another city, Gearon told the AJC: "If we are faced with that as the only alternative, that's what's going to happen. I don't think there is an ability to stomach another \$20 million in losses. We just can't do it. The reality is we need fans showing up and we need investors, or a primary investor."

While it is finally being discussed, this issue has been going on virtually since the Atlanta Spirit purchased the team.

The Atlanta Spirit filed a \$200 million lawsuit against

the Atlanta law firm King and Spalding last January. In the suit, the Spirit cited a "flawed" contract which denied the Spirit the opportunity to sell the team.

Over the past six years since acquiring the team, the Thrashers value has decreased by more than \$50 million, according to the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Atlanta Spirit has also seen \$130 million in operating losses.

With all this litigation, it is no wonder Gearon is desperate to find investors.

There are no more alternatives, and the team may have to be sold. Rumors cite Canada as the destination for the Thrashers should they be sold. It would be a crushing loss for the city.

While hockey may not be the most popular sport in the area, the fan base is loyal. For many hockey fans in the South, the Thrashers are their only opportunity to watch the sport.

"It would be a terrible loss for me," Teddy Macconchie said of the possibility of the Thrashers leaving. "I have been a fan of the team since they got here. I go to as many games as I can and if they leave, I won't be able to watch my favorite team anymore."

These sentiments are shared by all hockey fans in the area. Unfortunately, sports are a business and no business can survive without money. For the sake of hockey, it would be nice to see some investors appear.

CRISPIES
by smithicus



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The Hornets' bats have come alive

Kyle Carney
Assistant Editor

Since hitting a rough patch a few weeks ago, the Hornets have gone on a tear. After dropping five consecutive games against William and Carey University and Brewton Parker respectively, the Hornets have won ten of their last thirteen games.

The timing could not have been better either; with only eight games until the Lee University series, the Hornets will need to be clicking on all cylinders.

Lee is currently leading the SSAC Conference with a perfect 13-0 record and is ranked 2nd in the country in the Coaches Poll. The Hornets will need to continue the offensive onslaught to move up in the ranks.

This offensive production has come from a plethora of players. First Baseman Tagg Lanier has been red hot as of late, hitting .364 with 16 RBIs in the last

Demarcus Tidwell



Photo by Joseph Pitts

13 games. Besides simply hitting, Lanier has also played stellar defense during this stretch, with no errors to go along with 94 putouts.

Hitting behind Demarcus Tidwell has really helped Lanier gather so many RBI's. No hitter on the team has

been on more of a tear; throughout the season Tidwell has racked up some impressive numbers, but during this thirteen-game stretch he is hitting .439.

With Tidwell on base so often, it is no wonder Lanier and the rest of the hitters are collecting so many RBIs.

Ryan Danberry is another player who has come on strong.

Since finding himself back in the line-up in these past thirteen games, Danberry is hitting .381, while also giving opposing pitchers headaches on the bases with three stolen bases.



Photo by Joseph Pitts

All things considered, the Hornets' bats have come alive during this span and do not look to be going away after three consecutive ten-run rule wins.

The quest to win the SSAC Conference title will come down to that final weekend against Lee and continue into the Conference Tournament. The Hornets will also be looking for a 5th consecutive Regional Tournament berth. As long as they continue to play like they have been, I'd say all things are looking up.

Write for The Sting Send to: sting@spsu.com