



## Stark State College Setting a Green Example

BY ELIZABETH SIDEL & KRISTA SCHWEITZER

Stark State College was one of hundreds of colleges around the nation this month to host the National Teach-In on Global Warming Solutions, a national effort to spread awareness of an ever-growing climate crisis.

On Feb. 4 and 5 Stark State College students, staff, and faculty attended seminars, films, and discussions to get the conversation flowing about what they can do to make Stark an even friendlier green campus.

Environmental Health & Safety Technology students Tiffany Boring, Bob Keller, and Melissa McConville, along with Jack Kurtz, vice president of Information Technology and Geoff Starnes, Network Systems & Security coordinator, all presented the ways Stark State is already going green.

Currently, Stark State is in the process of installing motion light sensors in classrooms and offices and utilizing more efficient light bulbs. SSC has also begun initiatives to incorporate more efficient heat pumps, both in the new J building and throughout the rest of campus.

The maintenance department has also started using green cleaning products that do not contain chemicals. The switchover to green cleaning products will be beneficial to both students and the maintenance crew.

The IT department reports that Stark State has reduced energy costs by 80 percent. For instance, out of the 450 employee PCs, 300 of them have been replaced with more efficient computer parts, saving over \$16,000 and reducing energy consumption by over 450%. IT has also transitioned to electronic paystubs to reduce paper consumption.

E-Learning is also helping in the effort to go green. Not only have online tests, quizzes, and teacher evaluations helped reduce paper consumption, but Web 2 and Web 3 courses also help to cut down on parking lot chaos, classroom congestion, and the need for additional buildings.

According to Boring, the toilets at Stark State are also a big improvement. New toilets have a dual flush feature to conserve water, and each new waterless urinal is reported to save up to 40,000 gallons of water in a year. Boring admits she even snuck into a men's room once to check them out.

Stark State has already done a lot to make the campus a greener place, but the Environmental Health & Safety Technology majors are brainstorming ways to take green even further. Boring, Keller, and McConville suggest putting more recycle bins by the printers, utilizing double-sided printing, and using less Styrofoam. Down the road, they would also like to see even more green features such as a water tower, which would collect rainwater for toilet flushing, and a rain garden, which would collect rainwater runoff before it reaches the sewer. Boring envisions teaming up with Kent Stark to create a rain garden on campus.

The biggest conclusion that arose from the Teach-In discussions was the need for green awareness. Understanding, action, and teamwork are vital if we want to enhance the green practices already in place at Stark State.

For more information on how you can help the green effort on campus (and elsewhere), see page 4.

### In This Issue

- 1 Stark State College Setting a Green Example
- 2 Upcoming SSC Events
- 2 Editor's Note
- 3 Parking 101: A Free Lesson on Parking...
- 4 Opinion: The Detestation of Junk Mail
- 4 Lean and Green
- 5 The Cleveland Cavaliers: So Far, So Good
- 6 Bittner Reviews: Slumdog Millionaire
- 7 Meet the Student Informer Staff
- 8 Quiet Study Room Schedule - Spring '09
- 8 Coming Up



# THE Student INFORMER

STARK STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY STUDENT NEWSPAPER

## EDITOR

Krista Schweitzer

## ASSISTANT EDITOR

Michelle Stroh

## ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS

Greg Bittner

## FEATURE WRITERS

Norm Winn - Elizabeth Sidel - Krista Schweitzer

## ADVISORS

Jonathan Judy - Beth Williams

## EMAIL

studentinformer@starkstate.edu

## ONLINE

<http://www.starkstate.edu/studentinformer>

<http://groups.myspace.com/sscstudentinformer>

Facebook Search: SSC Student Informer

## The Student Informer

Stark State College of Technology

6200 Frank Avenue

North Canton, OH 44720

## Editor's Note

Hello, Stark State!

My name is Krista Schweitzer, and I am the new editor for the Stark State Student Informer. I have an awesome staff with me this semester: Michelle Stroh, assistant editor, and writers Greg Bittner, Norm Winn, Liz Sidel, and hopefully more to come. Accompanying us are advisors Jon Judy and Beth Williams.

After a very abbreviated survey, I discovered very few SSC students actually know about their student newspaper. My primary goal this semester is to change that. We have lots of exciting plans for the paper: Fresh story ideas, new writers, entertainment and sports columns, as well as all your Stark State happenings.

The Informer has never run advertising before, but we would also like to change that. If you or anyone you know is interested in advertising with the Informer, send us an email: studentinformer@starkstate.edu.

As excited as I am to bring you interesting and helpful news this semester, the fact remains that the semester end comes quickly (and most of the staff will be graduating). This is where you, Stark State students, come in. Because this is *your* newspaper, we want you to have a share in it. Next time you're online, check out the Informer MySpace and/or Facebook pages. We would love your comments, questions, and suggestions for an even better newspaper.

For now, enjoy the first 2009 Informer edition!

Sincerely,

Krista Schweitzer, Editor

## Upcoming SSC Events

### Student Activities & Services Fair

Thursday, February 26th

Where: Cafeteria

Time: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### Submit to CIRCINUS

March 13 - last day to submit!

A literary journal for Stark State students

### Aultman Blood Drive

Wednesday, March 18

Where: Atrium

Time: 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Save the date!

## Stark County Collegiate Job Fair

Tues., March 31, 2009  
2:00 - 6:00 pm  
Kent State Stark  
Professional Education &  
Conference Center  
[www.sccjf.net](http://www.sccjf.net)

Sponsored by the Career Centers of:  
Kent State Stark, Malone University,  
Mount Union College, Stark State College,  
Walsh University

# Parking 101

## A Free Lesson on Parking in Inclement Weather

BY NORM WINN, STAFF WRITER

As students at the Stark State College of Technology (SSCT), we know the rigors of finding a parking space when coming to class. There is a definite shortage of parking due in large part to the growth and expansion of the campus. This problem is compounded by the recent inclement weather. There are a variety of techniques that can be seen in the SSCT parking lots. The techniques range from the haphazard “I’m-going-to-take-all-the-room-I-can-because-I-can” technique, to the macho “park-on-top-of-the-snow-pile-because-I-gotta-big-truck” technique (one of my favorites because I “gotta” big truck). This has now led to a severe parking shortage during times of rough weather (i.e. - tons of snow and cold weather not letting the snow melt).

Due to this growing problem at SSCT, there is a need to educate the students of SSCT on how to better manage this problem. How better to teach than to offer a short course in proper techniques of parking: Parking 101. This is a free lesson with absolutely no credit hours offered. The intention of this course is to educate the student populace on parking management in these frigid times. This course will give pointers to those participating in the program on how to better manage the parking space availability at SSCT.

The first lesson in successful inclement weather parking is to “calibrate” your parking before the winter weather. A good place to do this is any parking lot not covered in snow where the lines are clearly visible. To calibrate your parking, simply find a parking spot open between two cars. Pull into this open spot and take note of the distance between your car and the other. Calibration complete!

The second lesson has nothing to do with parking. One needs to become conscious that when the parking lot is snow covered, it is slippery. Do not expect to drive fast and stop on a dime, because it’s not going to happen. This is also significant because when the lot is plowed, students have to walk on the roadways if they do not want to climb snowy mountains to get to class. So being a couple of minutes late to class is better than running down a fellow undergraduate.

The next step is critical in setting up the entire parking scheme. If you are the first to park in a row, the placement of your vehicle is critical. If lines are visible through the slush or snow, park accordingly. If no lines are present, place your vehicle as close to the end of the row (or pile of snow) as possible using your calibration settings. This sets up the entire row for parking. If the spot you are parking in is next to other cars, once again use your parking calibration and park next to the other vehicle as if pulling into a spot with visible lines. Do not, under any circumstances, park with more room than necessary just because you can (That is high school stuff – you are a college student now).

Following these rules can open up literally dozens of parking spots. While researching this topic, I drove around the parking lot at approximately 9:45 a.m. on a Tuesday. After looking at all the horrible parking techniques, I estimated that there were about 42 to 47 spaces used up by careless parking. The biggest offenders seemed to be the aforementioned “I’m-going-to-take-all-the-room-I-can-because-I-can” drivers. Maybe this was done by accident, but after seeing so many cases of this, it is hard to believe it is just coincidence.

### FAQ’s:

- What does one do if there are cars parked in a row with no lines visible, and then you notice the lines before you park? Just ignore the line at this point and continue parking as the others have done.
- What if you get to the end of the row and some of the spot is covered in a snow pile? Do you just pull on to the pile? Not unless you have a big truck. Just proceed to the next row because damaging your car for a good spot is not worth the hundreds of dollars it may cost to repair it.

Hopefully this Parking 101 course will help alleviate some of the problems associated with parking SSCT. Unfortunately, the only real improvement will be when there is more parking at SSCT, which is another problem in its own right. With very little space left to build and the city of North Canton not allowing parking garages, parking will continue to be a major obstacle at the growing Stark State College of Technology.

## Opinion

by the Student Informer Editorial Board

# The Detestation of Junk Mail

Who cannot wait to get home each day just so they can get to their mailbox, pull out the stack, leaf through the whole pile, and then gleefully open all their junk mail? Yeah, we didn't think so.

According to ForestEthics, whose mission it is "to protect Endangered Forests and wild places, wildlife, and human wellbeing," American households receive a whopping 800 pieces of junk mail in just one year. This amounts to 100 billion pieces of junk mail each year (Yes, you read that correctly: 100 *billion*). To further this disgusting statistic, now compare U.S. junk mail to the whole world.

United States junk mail makes up 30% of all the mail delivered in the world.

Junk mail is perfectly recyclable, yet 44% of it needlessly ends up in landfills.

So what can you do about it? For starters, three things:

- 1) Recycle your junk mail!
- 2) Go to ForestEthics's campaign website: [www.donotmail.org](http://www.donotmail.org), and sign the petition to enact the Do Not Mail Registry. Do you remember the National Do Not Call Registry? This is exactly the same idea, only this time to prohibit horrendously large amounts of junk mail.
- 3) Tell others, then tell your others to tell others. The more people who know about the petition, the closer we are to less junk mail.

Currently, the Do Not Mail petition has over 81,000 signatures (and it has been growing steadily). With Stark State's help alone, we could add 9,000 more.

# Recycling at SSC and Beyond

Recycling is great, but it's only as good as the people who are doing the recycling. Here are a few guidelines for recycling, both at Stark State, and elsewhere:

## PAPER

- The staples can stay in.
- Paper clips must be removed.
- Don't recycle anything confidential

### Acceptable paper products:

- newspapers
- magazines
- phone books
- flattened corrugated/cardboard boxes and cartons
- pizza boxes (no wax paper liners left in)
- junk mail
- office/computer paper
- hard-cover books
- brochures

### Unacceptable paper products:

- Post-It Notes
- wax paper
- wax-corrugated boxes

## PLASTIC

- Remove the lids (they're a different composition that cannot be recycled)
- Only recycle #1 and #2 plastics.
- Labels do not need to be removed.

## GLASS

- food and drink containers only
- only clear and brown glass are acceptable
- no mirrors, light bulbs, etc.

In the 2007-2008 school year, Stark State recycled over 23 tons of paper and over 1.5 tons of glass and plastic. It would be great to recycle even more in the 2008-2009 school year. If you have any questions about the recycling program at Stark State, contact Valerie Mayle at: [vmayle@starkstate.edu](mailto:vmayle@starkstate.edu).

# The Cleveland Cavaliers So Far, So Good

BY GREG BITTNER, SPORTS WRITER

Being a Cleveland sports fan can be frustrating. The Indians had a rough year, losing CC Sabathia didn't help, but the Browns took the cake for biggest disappointment. There were whispers throughout the sports world of the playoffs. Even the Super Bowl. Alas, the season was pathetic and hard to watch as many Browns fans have become familiar with. But with every poor season comes the glimmer of hope. A new coach, a new front office, a new draft pick, and a brand new season open to the possibilities of success. Cleveland fans are starved for a winner. They're starved for a team to rise above the competition and perform as professional athletes are paid to perform well. There is one team in Cleveland that is making some noise. There is one team in Cleveland whose athletes are earning every cent of their rather large paychecks. There is one team in Cleveland that carries the hopes and prayers of an entire championship-starved city on their broad shoulders: The Cleveland Cavaliers.

The season started early for the Cavs this year when they added Mo Williams to the roster during the offseason. It was crucial to get Williams before training camp began. Not only was this the first year for Williams to be at the Cavs' training camp, but also last year's midseason additions of Delonte West, Ben Wallace, and Wally Szczerbiak. This was the first time for the entire team to be on the same page early in the year and it helped that there weren't any contract holdouts or issues.

Having taken the Boston Celtics to the brink of elimination in last year's Eastern Conference Semi-Finals, the Cavs' first game of the season was against those same Celtics. It was a loss, and, for a brief moment, fans had to be wondering if this season was going to turn out as hoped. That's when the Cavs just took off and made winning a foregone conclusion. They soared to the top of the Central Division and are currently jockeying against the Celtics for the number one spot in the entire Eastern Conference, with the Orlando Magic very much still in the hunt as well.

At the all-star break the Cavs are 40-11. They have set franchise records for most consecutive home wins and fastest team in franchise history to win 40 games. Fans have seen Zydrunas Ilgauskas break the franchise record for most career rebounds. They've seen LeBron James break the record for career steals and become the youngest player in NBA history to score 12,000 points. Fans have also watched West and Ilgauskas fall to injury. Ilgauskas is already back and West will be back shortly after the all-star break.

The first half of the year has been eventful, but the second half of the year is where everything picks up. Teams are going to be making their final pushes towards the playoffs, and our battle against the Celtics will be ongoing. The Orlando Magic must prove how strong they are by playing without injured point guard Jameer Nelson for a few weeks. Every loss will be magnified for every team, every game could change the landscape of the playoffs, and every injury could destroy the hopes of a city.

This is it, Cleveland fans. This is the best chance we've ever had. This is a team that has the talent and the mentality of a champion. Put away the thoughts of past disappointments. Throw your Indians and Browns frustrations out the window. For now, pull out your iPod and start listening to the tune of hope. Hope can sometimes be enough to spur change, and the Cleveland Cavaliers seek to change our losing ways. Good luck Cavs. We're all counting on you.

**Want to see  
your ad here?**

Well, now you can!

Advertise in the Student Informer.

For more information, contact:  
[studentinformer@starkstate.edu](mailto:studentinformer@starkstate.edu)



## SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE BY GREG BITTNER

A story that is bold, dark, sad, and beautiful, “Slumdog Millionaire” takes viewers on an emotional roller-coaster full of tears and smiles.

Jamal Malik, played by Dev Patel of British Television fame, is an 18-year-old boy from the slums of India who is a contestant on the Indian version of “Who Wants to be a Millionaire?” The movie begins with text on the screen that reads, “Jamal Malik is one question away from winning 20 million rupees. How did he do it? A) He cheated. B) He’s lucky. C) He’s a genius. D) It is written.”

Being a mere slumdog from India, people question how he knows answers that an uneducated person generally doesn’t know. Before Jamal has a chance to go for the 20 million rupees, he is brutally interrogated by police and is forced to explain how he knows every answer. The truth is, Jamal doesn’t know the answers by having read encyclopedias or watching the History Channel, but through the incredible circumstances and tragedies that make up his life. His first answer stems back to when he was a little boy, and the answers chronologically coincide with the story as it progresses. This allows viewers to follow the story easily and not get too lost through the flips from flashback to present day.

Salim, Jamal’s brother, is a critical presence in the story. The two were always together and did their best to look after one another. Although their personalities clashed at times, they formed a bond that allowed them to survive on the fast-paced streets of India.

Despite the struggle and pain in his life, Jamal met a girl named Latika and fell in love with her. His only reason for being on the show wasn’t for money, but the hope that Latika, whom he was separated from, would be watching. Their touching relationship is magically intertwined inside the story, and audiences are so drawn in that they can’t help but hope that the two will somehow find a way to be together.

Needless to say, I was more than impressed with this movie. Not only is it nominated for a Best Picture Oscar, but should also win by a landslide.

The movie ends as it began, with only text on the screen. It shows the answer to the very first question of the movie. And the answer was...

## *From the* Writing Center Desk

BY LEAH SCHELL-BARBER,  
WRITING CENTER COORDINATOR

### *Stark Raving Writers*

An On-Campus Creative Writing Group

All Stark State students are welcome to join the Stark Raving Writers, a new creative writing group. Meeting every other Thursday, you will have the chance to share your writing, and workshop with other creative writers to improve your work.

#### Meeting Details

1:00 - 2:30 in Room G200b

March 5, March 26, April 9, April 23

EXPLORE YOUR IMAGINATION.  
EXPOSE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE.  
REVEAL THE WRITER WITHIN YOU.

---

## CIRCINUS

A literary journal for Stark State students

**Be Creative, Get Published**

The submission deadline is  
**MARCH 13**

#### Submission Guidelines:

- All Stark State students may submit work
- Submit your work to the Writing Center
- Include your name and contact information on each piece.
- All poetry and song submissions be limited to four pages per student
- All fiction, creative non-fiction, and screen plays be limited to 12 pages per student.

EXPLORE YOUR IMAGINATION.  
EXPOSE YOUR CREATIVE SIDE.  
REVEAL THE WRITER WITHIN YOU.

# Meet the Student Informer Staff

So we know that you know, if you want to know.



## **Krista Schweitzer, *Editor***

Krista began her coursework at Stark State in the fall of 2007, after a one-year stint at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa on the beautiful island of O'ahu (Yes, no joke). As a Technical Communications major, Krista has had the chance to explore the vast realms of the English language much further than she ever expected to. As a kid, she would spend hours behind the computer screen designing fake newsletters; to finally have the honor of designing real ones is practically a dream come true. She only wishes her Informer days could be longer; she will graduate in May.

## **Michelle Stroh, *Assistant Editor***

Michelle has attended Stark State for several years, and will also graduate in May with a degree in Technical Communications. Before her years as a “tech comm”, she was a student in the Information Technologies department at Stark State and graduated in 2008 with an associate's in Interactive Media Technology. In her spare time, Michelle enjoys spending time with her family.



## **Greg Bittner, *Entertainment and Sports***

Greg is currently a Technical Communications major at Stark State, and this will be his last semester. He has worked at Regal Entertainment Group Interstate Park 18, in Akron, for over four years. In his spare time, Greg enjoys seeing movies, playing sports, and spending time with friends and family. He is a die-hard Cleveland sports fan and he enjoys going to different sporting events throughout the year. Greg would like to thank everyone involved with the SSC Student Informer for allowing him the opportunity to be a part of it, and he looks forward to writing quality articles for fellow students to enjoy.

## **Norm Winn, *Staff Writer***

Like many of the Informer staff, Norm is a Technical Communications major. He has enjoyed his last two years at Stark State, but is very excited to be graduating. A former Marine, Norm currently works at Aultman Hospital. As a new writer for the Student Informer, Norm is looking forward to providing students with informative articles. If he can manage it (and he'd like to), he'll also throw in a little satire for good measure.



## **Elizabeth Sidel, *Staff Writer***

Liz has been a student at Stark State since the fall of 2005. She currently serves as the secretary of BLAST (Business Leaders at Stark State). She will be starting in the Dental Hygiene program in the fall of 2009. Liz is the youngest of three children. Besides attending Stark State, Liz also works as a hostess at Grinder's Above and Beyond in Dover.

## Quiet study room schedule for spring 2009

Atrium too loud? Cafeteria too crowded? Do you have a group project to work on, but nowhere to go? Here are the rooms available for group work and quiet study sessions:

B100	TR MW F	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 7:00 am - 8:30 am 8:00 am - noon
B104	TR MW	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm 7:00 am - 9:00 am
B106	MTWR MTWR	7:00 am - 8:30 am 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
B108	MTWR F	7:00 am - 9:00 am 7:00 am - noon
B111	MW MW	7:00 am - 9:00 am 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
B113	MW	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
B217	MW TR	7:00 am - 8:30 am 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
E202	MW TR	7:00 am - 9:00 am 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
E206	MTWR	4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
E207	MW	8:00 am - 10:00 am
G101	TR MW	2:00 pm - 4:00 pm 7:00 am - 9:30 am
T109	MW TR	noon - 4:00 pm 8:00 am - 3:00 pm
T120	MTWR MTWR	7:00 am - 8:30 am 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm

### *Want to Write for the Informer?*

We're looking for a few good writers to make the Informer an even better paper.

Think you have a good edge on a story and want to tell your fellow students about it? Show us what you've got!

For more information, contact the Informer at:  
**studentinformer@starkstate.edu**

### Announcing a New Informer Feature **YourVoice: 50 Words or Less**

Got something on your mind you want to share? Whether it's about Stark State, world events, sports, entertainment, or the myriad other topics you could pick from, we'd like to hear from you.

#### **YourVoice** Submission Guidelines:

- 1) Keep your opinion to 50 words or less. Longer opinions will not be published.
- 2) You must include your full name and major with your submission.
- 3) Keep your opinions respectful. Profanity will not be tolerated.
- 4) Email us with the subject line "YourVoice" to **studentinformer@starkstate.edu**

## **Coming Up**

in the next issue of the Student Informer

- The THEME is 'Dream Team'
- Health Bits
- YourVoice: 50 Words or Less
- Bittner Movie Reviews
- and much more!