

Voicing Our Views

ASU to benefit: historic structure donated

Arkansas State University has acquired an antebellum house in Chicot County so that the historical building could be saved.

Preservation specialists researched on what should be done to save the Lycurgus Johnson House on the Lakeport Plantation, the 143-year-old structure, from going to ruin.

The Sam Angel family, the plantation owners, decided to donate it to ASU, putting it under public ownership to best benefit the property, according to Dr. Ruth Hawkins, ASU's museum director.

Students and faculty alike will benefit. The acquisition of the plantation will enhance the doctoral program in Inheritance Studies as it will offer internships, field experience and research of the property.

It will allow a closer look into the agricultural history of the Arkansas Delta. It will offer opportunities for archeological study, research for history classes, photo options for photography classes and project assignments for public relations classes to devise a marketing plan for developing it into a museum.

ASU is acquiring more than a run down building; it's acquiring another piece of history, waiting to be researched.

Voicing Your Views

Every issue, The Herald editorial board and staff voice their opinions in the editorial above. Here's a chance for others to put in their 2 cents. The question this issue is:

How do you think the acquisition of another historical structure will benefit ASU?



"I think it's good because it will draw attention from the community and potential students to our college."

— Aimee Parrish, a junior mid level education major of Lepanto.



"I think it would help as far as historical references, but it would probably upset some black students."

— Brandi Lewellen, a junior nursing major of Little Rock.



"We have an opportunity to tell a story that hasn't been told, of the people who cleared the land, made lumber, built the house and farmed the land-in other words, the slaves at that time."

— Dr. Rick McDaniel, interim vice chancellor.



"I think anything that is going to benefit us today will benefit future generations by telling them what we stand for."

— Sue Brown, university health center secretary.



"It is important because it helps build cultural awareness of the university."

— Jerald Robinson, a senior marketing major of Jonesboro.

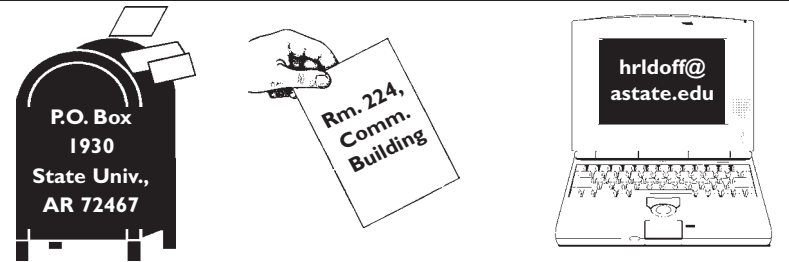


"I think it would help in preserving history and another landmark where people can research and study."

— Deanna Barton, secretary of dean of education.

— By Kayti Isacksen

Send a Letter-to-the-Editor



The purpose of the opinions page is to provide a forum for all Arkansas State University students, faculty and staff to express their views. Any student, faculty or staff member may submit a letter-to-the-editor.

- All letters must be:
 - Typed
 - Double-spaced
 - No longer than two pages
 - Include your name, major, classification and hometown
 - Include phone number for letter verification.

'The Hairoid' parody amuses columnist

The Village Idiot

By Jeff Chastain



"Imitation is the most sincere form of flattery." -- I don't know who said that.

Let me be the first to congratulate the anonymous person who has constructed a parody site of our very own student newspaper.

Even though the site lacks a firm foundation of design principles and ease of navigation, the point is well taken. The best part of this is that it's funny. I like it. I laughed hysterically when I first saw it.

The current version, whose banner reads: "Parodying the student newspaper of Arkansas State since last week," basically uses the Oct. 22 online version of The Herald to establish news and opinion content.

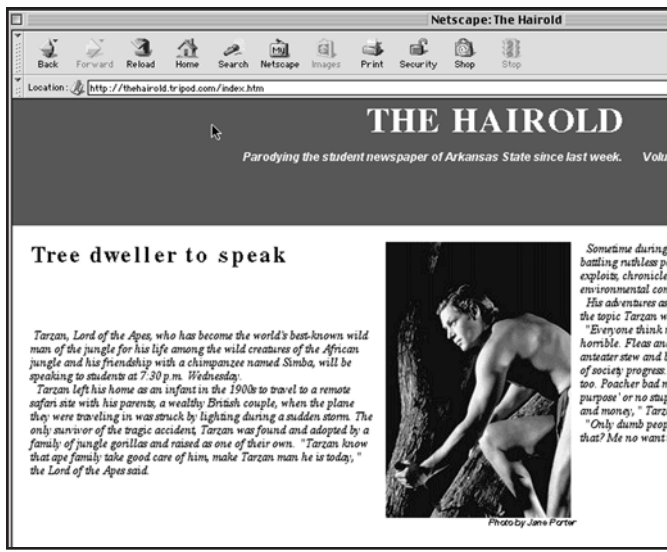
The parody site, named The Hairoid, takes news stories, letters to the editor and cartoons that have run in The Herald and puts its own twist to make light of the content.

The concept here very roughly

follows the style of The Onion, a satirical online newspaper. The rewrites are first class, in my opinion. The comics, however, weren't that impressive. (Note to comedian: If you're going to do something, at least do it

right.) Some of the more funny aspects of the parody site include:

- * using Chez Gueverra's face for a Voicing Your Views picture
- * changing the "Former tree



dweller to speak" story about an activist that lived in a tree for sever-

al years to "Tree dweller to speak" about Tarzan

* The Onion-style rewrite of the dangers of Anthrax story.

My only problem with this site is that the comedian or webmaster, failed to sign his/her work. I don't think that it has taken away from the hilarity of the site, but I would simple like to know whose handiwork this is.

I also would have liked to see some sports parody or even a different take on the campus crime report. The possibilities are endless.

So, my anonymous friends, keep up the good work. I hope I provide some birdcage fodder for your site in the near future.

View the site at <http://TheHairoid.tripod.com>

Jeff Chastain is a senior journalism major of Stuttgart. E-mail him at jchastain@hotmail.com.

Student speaks for all organizations

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter to defend not only the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and all organizations on campus. It seems to me and many others who obviously seem to be eating it up, that The Herald has become more like The National Enquirer than a factual school paper.

I have found myself waiting impatiently for each issue to come out to see what the Herald staff has come up with or what "disappointed students" have to say about the punishment that was given.

First of all, I would like to address the way all this semi-factual reporting started. When the administration found out about the incident and was planning on taking action, the whole student body found out about the incident at the same time. Was it really anybody's business but the administration's and the fraternity's? I don't think so. Not until

action had been taken and a decision had been made, those not involved should have found out. I have been following the reports of the Herald closely and am disgusted to see that each new story has false information and is misleading. I don't know whether your staff is misinformed or if they just feel like exaggerating the truth, but I do know that it is very unfair to any organization to have its problems posted all over the front page of a campus newspaper when no judicial decision has been made.

Second, now that a decision has been made, don't you think one report is enough? These guys have put everything into this fraternity: their money, their time and their hearts. Now, it has all been taken away from them. Don't you think you should lighten up? Maybe it's funny to some people, but they can laugh about it on their own time. They don't need The Herald drawing stupid cartoons that "exaggerate" the truth.

Maybe some people don't agree with fraternities and sororities. They think they drink too much, party too

much and that they are irresponsible. Yeah maybe, but guess what? Not only do fraternities and sororities take part in these actions. There is at least one person in every organization on this campus that also participates in these deviant acts (yes Scott, even you're beloved debate team). Organizations are just that. They organize people who have similar values and try to make them closer--maybe as "brothers," maybe as "sisters," maybe just as people who want to strive for a common goal.

Don't get me wrong. I do want to state that it is obvious the fraternity made a huge mistake. They know it and they don't need to read about it every week. (not to say the other fraternities aren't making the same mistakes, they're just not getting caught).

Lastly, I want to recognize the administration, more specifically, the judicial board. You've done a great job of finding the beginning of the culprits who are breaking the rules on ASU soil. Now that you have punished one, it is only fair that you punish the rest. It's not only fraternities and sororities breaking the rules, but every recognized organization on campus can admit to alcohol abuse and other deviant acts.

I hope this letter will be the last printed in response to the punishment of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity.

Give them some peace and let them put this behind them.

Danielle Tackett is a sophomore undecided major from Cabot.

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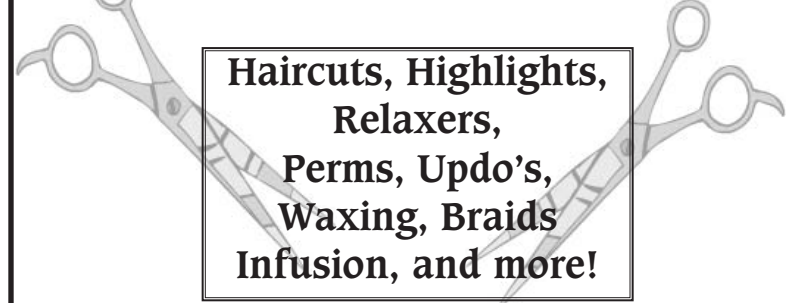
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Meghan Hackney
heraldads@astate.edu

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The Herald of Arkansas State University
P.O. Box 1930
State University, AR 72467
(870) 972-3075
fax: (870) 910-8042
e-mail: hrlldoff@astate.edu

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