

# Reporter rediscovers joy of electronic games

By Adrienne Fedyna

**A**bsolutely no Nintendo in this house."

That was our household rule when I was growing up. My mother held out for four years against all our nagging. She knew the negatives and therefore did not like video games.

Then as fate would have it, my father took us to the store while she was out of town. Soon, she returned home to find us crowded around a brand new Nintendo, busily watching Mario bounce around the screen.

While I am not a regular player of video games, I grew up with brothers who became well versed in the virtual gaming world. I'm a video game nerd by proxy. After spending time with them, I could name all 26 characters of Super Smash Brothers in the order of which they appeared in the game.

Now in college, I live with three girls, none of who play video games regularly. As a result, my knowledge of gaming has plummeted. I hadn't thought much about the recreational differences between male and female students until this weekend.

I was at my guy friends' apartment and watched as they enthusiastically played Halo 3. I attempted to follow the action, only to find that I no longer cared about its complicated intricacies.

Something I felt so apathetic about resulted in hours of fun for them. They entered a catatonic state, their sole focus on the TV. This morning one of



MY OPINION

"I could name all 26 characters of Super Smash Brothers."

those guys told me he set off the smoke alarm when he turned his attention from cooking to a game being played.

I discussed this with my roommate, who said she was also disinterested in games. Like me, she preferred socializing with friends.

Do the games inhibit one's social life? Do people who play games for hours on end become socially mature at a later age? These were among the questions we pondered.

Just as we concluded that guys must see something in video games girls don't, we stumbled upon our mutual love for *The Sims*. Soon our conversation turned to the different lives our simulated families led.

As neither of us had played in more than a year, we reminisced about the countless weekend hours spent playing.

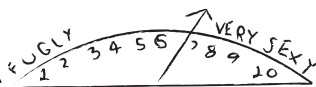
Then it hit us — we should make a Sim family of our apartment and the guys' apartment and see how they interact.

So we made a pact. She would finish her homework and I would write this column, then it would be time to play *The Sims*.

Obviously there are some flaws to our original theory. Either way, I'm going to spend the remaining hours of my weekend in the same catatonic state as my guy friends ... and I'll probably thoroughly enjoy it.

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## SEXYMETER



**VERY SEXY**

**Snow causes accidents, traffic; is still awesome**

The pain of snowballs makes up for the pain of the inconvenience.

points: 10 comparable to: Bob Dylan

**HOT**

**Hanukkah is underway**

Perhaps menorahs were the real cause of this week's fires.

points: 7 comparable to: Beastie Boys

**UGLY**

**State College is ON FIRE!!!!**

Three places in one week! Be safe with those menorahs, people!

points: 2 comparable to: Lenny Kravitz

**FUGLY**

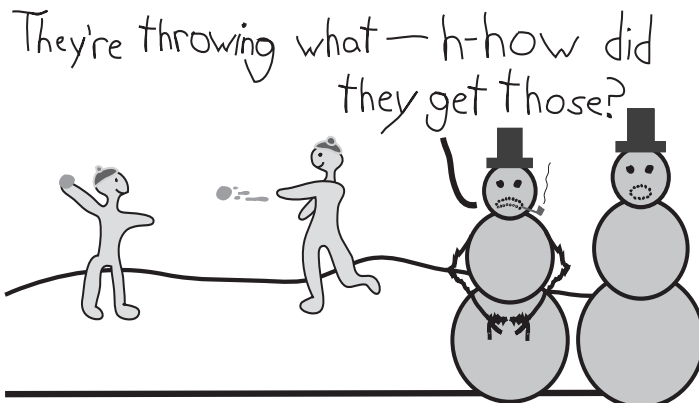
**Faculty Senate tries to make finals week worse**

You're not learning if you don't take five finals in a single week!

points: 1 comparable to: Neil Diamond

**STATE COLLEGE'S SEXINESS THIS WEEK:  
A'IGHT**

overall average: 6 comparable to: Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley of KISS



William A. Wellock III

## WOULD YOU RATHER:

EAT YELLOW SNOW OR HAVE YOUR TONGUE STUCK TO A POLE?

"I would eat yellow snow, it would be more painful to have your tongue stuck to a pole."

**Sankalp Nagpal**

sophomore - health policy administration



"I would much rather eat yellow snow because you always run the risk of it tasting good."

**Peter Emerick**

senior - human development and family studies



"Have my tongue stuck to a pole because yellow snow would require animal feces probably."

**Rachel Luzio**

senior - information sciences and technology



"Tongue stuck to a pole because I can't eat disgusting stuff."

**Jee-In Hyung**  
sophomore - art



"I would rather have my tongue stuck to a pole because I could probably get my tongue off of it."

**Jocelyn Avery**  
sophomore - English



"I guess I would rather eat yellow snow because it might be a snow cone and not pee."

**Christina Clabbers**  
senior - public relations

