



## REDEFINING ONLINE EDUCATION

*Tech signs agreement with Coursera to offer online courses*

By Alex Sohani  
News Editor

In an effort to offer higher education through an easily accessible medium, Tech announced its partnership with Coursera on Tuesday, July 17, to offer free online courses. Tech joins 15 other institutions by offering five online courses among the 111 currently available on the website. According to Institute President G.P. "Bud" Peterson, the move was made in order to "enrich and expand educational opportunities" while "enabling even more students throughout the world to have access to Georgia Tech's expertise."

Coursera, originally founded by Stanford computer science professors Daphne Koller and Andrew Ng, had partnerships with University of Michigan, University of Pennsylvania and University of Edinburgh prior to the addition of Tech and 12 other institutions on Monday. The other institutions to partner with Coursera this year include Duke University, the California Institute of Technology, Johns Hopkins University, University of California San Francisco, University of Washington and University of Toronto, among others.

The courses offered on the website cover a wide range of topics including Mathematics, Business, Humanities, Social Sciences, Computing, Chemistry and Psychology, among others.

"It seems clear that higher education is currently experiencing the first ripples of a wave that could drastically alter the method, scope and scale of educational access and delivery," said Dr. Rafael L. Bras, Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs. "By joining Coursera we seek to expand our presence in that space, provide increased global access to our excellent educational products, experiment with new methods and ideas in the delivery of education and most importantly, enhance the learning options and convenience for our own students."

Tech will start its partnership by offering five courses titled Computational Investing Part I, Computational Photography, Control of Mobile Robots, Energy 101 taught, and Fundamentals of Online Education: Plan-

ning and Application.

The length of the courses that Tech offers can range anywhere from five to 10 weeks long while taking approximately five to seven hours of work per week.

Courses on the website generally consist of multiple short video lectures, with periodic assignments that are submitted online. With each course, the video lectures can be watched multiple times and at the time of the student's convenience so that each student can learn at their own pace. After the initial courses are offered, the Institute plans to offer an even wider range of courses covering multiple platforms.

"The greatest challenge for utilizing this delivery method is transforming my 35 years of teaching experience into short ten-minute lectures. I am a big believer in this approach with today's technology to improve the learning experience," said Dr. Sam Shelton, professor of Energy 101 and founding director of the Tech Strategic Energy Institute.

Coursera is taking a unique approach to online education compared to conventional methods used in the past. Instead of using online multiple choice tests in order to assess the knowledge of the students taking the course, a peer review system will be used in order to "grade" assignments. Whenever an assignment is submitted, the student is also responsible for grading another enrolled student's assignment so the responsibility does not entirely lie on the instructor.

The courses taken through Coursera only serve as supplemental learning, meaning that they are not worth any form of college credit. However upon the completion of a course, a certificate signed by the instructor is given to the student as evidence that the course was passed.

Coursera initially launched on April 18, offering 43 courses prior to the announcement of its new partnerships. Since going online, over 680,000 students from 190 countries have enrolled more than 1.5 million times.

**"It seems clear that higher education is currently experiencing the first ripples of a wave that could drastically alter the method, scope and scale of educational access and delivery."**

**Dr. Rafael L. Bras**

### COMPUTATIONAL JOURNALISM

Georgia Institute of Technology

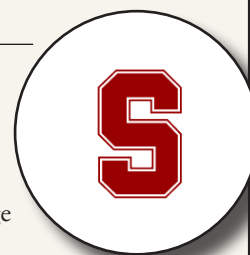


This course discusses the impact computation has had on the entire workflow of photography. It covers the basics of how images are captured, how they are manipulated using pre- and post-processing techniques, and lastly, how images are shared.

### CRYPTOGRAPHY

Stanford University

This class will explain cryptographic primitives and how to use them correctly. Students will understand not only the security of cryptographic constructions, but also how to apply this knowledge to real-world applications.



### HEALTHCARE INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Duke University



Healthcare Innovation and Entrepreneurship introduces students to the definitions and concepts necessary to help them gain confidence in the area of sustainable healthcare intra- and entrepreneurship and to allow them to build innovative solutions.

### GAMIFICATION

University of Pennsylvania

Gamification refers to the application of game elements and digital game design techniques to non-game, real-life problems. This class will examine the mechanisms of gamification, its potential, and how to use it effectively to solve problems.



### PRINCIPLES OF OBESITY ECONOMICS

Johns Hopkins University



This course explores how economics motivate consumer behavior and lead to individuals being different weights, as well as discusses whether government intervention in the markets most closely related to food and activity choices is justified.

Photoillustration by Lisa Xia / Student Publications

## APD, GTPD form partnership through cruiser

By Alex Sohani  
News Editor

The Atlanta Police Department and Tech announced a unique partnership on Monday, July 9, in the form of a police vehicle that will patrol around campus and surrounding neighborhoods. The partnership comes as a result of the rise in crime to Tech students in local neighborhoods around campus. Through Summer 2012, there have been several armed robberies in the area surrounding Tech and one

armed robbery in the North Avenue Apartments complex.

"Due to the recent robberies we have increased the Georgia Tech Police Department's visibility in the Home Park area and surrounding areas. We are doing a buffer patrol, providing a higher visibility on the edges of campus to try to discourage people from coming onto our campus," said GTPD Captain Regina Rogers.

The new Dodge Charger Enforcer II will be added to GTPD's fleet and will patrol Home Park, Atlantic

Station and Midtown along with Tech's campus Tuesdays through Saturdays. The car features both the GTPD and APD symbol on the side and will have one officer from each branch in the vehicle at all times.

The cruiser, costing \$37,000, was purchased after donations by the Midtown Alliance, North American Properties, the Home Park Community Improvement Association and the Atlanta Police Foundation. The car is



Photo courtesy of Georgia Tech Communications and Marketing

The new police cruiser on display at the official press announcement. The vehicle will patrol Tech campus along with several surrounding neighborhoods.



# TECHNIQUE

The South's Liveliest College Newspaper

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Founded in 1911, the Technique is the student newspaper of the Georgia Institute of Technology, and is an official publication of the Georgia Tech Board of Student Publications. The Technique publishes on Fridays weekly in the fall and spring and biweekly in the summer.

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## From the files of the GTPD... Campus Crime

By Kamna Bohra  
Editor-in-Chief



### Stolen Stool

In the morning of June 26, an officer responded to a lost property report with a Facilities employee. The employee stated that, a few days before, he had observed a step stool on the rear of a garbage truck, but when he returned, he noticed that it was gone. The employee was unsure if someone stole the stool or if it fell off the truck while it was in motion. The stool is worth approximately \$200.

### Taking the Psycho Path

An officer arrived at the Flag Building in the morning of June 25, where he encountered Dean John Stein who wanted an individual to be escorted to the Student Health Center.

The individual had allegedly been suffering from auditory and visual hallucinations, resulting in his believing that his mother was poisoning his medication. The officer offered the individual a ride to the health center, but the individual refused, citing a discomfort with getting in the car. Two officers followed the individual on foot to the psychiatric offices of Stamps and left the individual in the waiting room.

Shortly after, another officer was dispatched to Stamps in response to that individual want-

ing to leave the psychiatric office. Dean Stein requested that the individual be escorted off campus with a criminal trespass warning, but by then, the individual had already left the office and was near the intersection of Ferst Drive and Hemphill Avenue.

Up until that point, GTPD had been under the impression that the individual was a current student at Tech due to previous involvements with him, but the Dean's Office confirmed that he was no longer a student at Tech.

Once the officers informed the individual of his warning, he indicated that he understood, writing everything in his notebook and allegedly recording the conversation in a digital audio recorder.

### Teach for Alcohol

In the early hours of one weekend morning, an officer observed an intoxicated female passed out and another female attempting to help her around McMillan Street and Ninth Street. Both individuals were identified as members of the Teach for America program.

The intoxicated female was unable to stand up or to tell the officer how much alcohol she had consumed. The sober female

went with the intoxicated individual to the hospital for support.

### Sleeping Car

Around 5th Street and Techwood Drive on June 24, an officer observed a car remaining still at the green light of the intersection. The officer initiated contact with the driver, who was unable to maintain focus on the conversation. He maintained that he had not consumed any alcohol but had not slept in several days.

The driver consented to an alcohol and drug test, but the officer found no impairment through these tests. The driver struggled to stay awake during the tests.

The officer advised the driver that it was unsafe to continue driving in this exhausted state, and after the driver attempted several calls to his friends, the officer called a taxi car to take the individual and a tow truck to take the vehicle.

### Boozed Bite

In the early morning hours of a Friday, an officer observed a heavily intoxicated female getting up after having fallen down on Fifth Street. As the officer exited his car to meet the female, she fell again, scraping her knee in two places. The female admitted to consuming one beer.

The officer informed the female that Grady EMS would arrive to evaluate her before she could leave, but she became upset, demanding to return to her residence. Her friend arrived to

sit with her until Grady arrived. The friend escorted her to the emergency vehicle, where she eventually complied. She began physically resisting treatment after a certain point, however, and the Grady personnel attempted to restrain her.

The female bit one of the Grady EMS personnel, but did not break skin. She was eventually restrained and taken to Grady Hospital.

### Segue to the Sidewalk

An officer responded to another officer's call late at night on June 28. The requesting officer had fallen off his Segway vehicle while patrolling near Curran Parking Deck. When a landscaping sprinkler system activated, he failed in his attempt to move around a slight bump in the sidewalk and sustained an abrasion to his left knee. The Segway exhibited no signs of exterior damage.

### Bloody Mary

On Friday, June 29, at almost 4:30 a.m., an officer was dispatched to the Beta Theta Pi house in response to a report of a belligerent and highly intoxicated female on location. There, the officer found the female lying on the ground with blood on her forehead from the fall. No one could identify how she had fallen, and two witnesses maintained that she had not had alcohol at the house. She repeatedly shouted vulgarities to everyone on scene until Grady arrived on scene to transport the individual to the hospital.

*Join the tradition of service....*

*...Support Community Connections!*



**The Office of Leadership & Civic Engagement is hosting a collection drive to benefit the Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children.**

**Students are encouraged to participate at their FASET session by bringing a travel size toiletry item or school supply item to donate.\***

**\*Visit [faset.gatech.edu](http://faset.gatech.edu) for more details.**

*Faculty and Staff are also encouraged to participate!*

**Contact: Sarah Perkins**  
**Civic Engagement Coordinator**  
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**404-894-1197**



**Georgia Tech** **Dean of Students**  
Division of Student Affairs





Photo courtesy of Georgia Tech Communications and Marketing

APD and GTPD announce their partnership at a locally held press conference. The two departments have worked closely this summer to find new methods of crime prevention in local neighborhoods.

### Cruiser from page 1

a top of the line patrol vehicle with the latest equipment that will be used entirely for crime-fighting.

This joint patrol is only one of many initiatives that GTPD has made along with other departments through the last few years. GTPD has been meeting with other local campus police departments to compare crime prevention tactics, along with plans for a campus crime prevention task force in the Metro-Atlanta area being rolled out through the mayor's office.

"The impact of this car gives

the public an opportunity to see that GTPD and APD are not two totally separate entities working alone, but do closely work together through partnerships," Captain Rogers said. "This new car along with the new GTPD cruisers that we have rolled out provides a greater visibility to the community that we are proactive and to feel our presence in the area."

On Monday, July 16, the GTPD and APD released video and photos of the two suspects in the armed robbery case in the North Avenue Apartments in another joint effort. The investigation showed that the suspects were

filmed at the local BP gas station on North Avenue prior to coming onto Tech's campus to commit the robbery.

The burglars entered an open apartment on the seventh floor of North Avenue Apartments East and held a gun to a sleeping resident while taking valuable electronics and a wallet earlier this month. The robbery resulted in no injuries.

GTPD will continue to join with local entities in order to provide more services to the Tech community, while responding to any calls made pertaining to any issue arising on campus.

## Breaking *the* Bubble

A lot of things went on outside the bubble of Tech in the past week. Here are a few important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

### Secularists make strides in first post-Gadhafi elections

The first free elections in Libya since the ouster of Col. Muammar Gadhafi saw the National Forces Alliance (NFA) secure 39 seats in Libya's elections for the country's 200-member parliament, known as the General National Assembly.

Libya's parliament is split into two groups for elections, with 80 seats reserved for members of political parties and the other 120 seats open to independent candidates. No party is capable of gaining a majority alone, but with 39 seats in tow, the NFA is well-positioned to establish one via alliances with newly elected independents.

It was a significant victory for the NFA and its leader, Mahmoud Jibril, a U.S.-educated economist who defected during last year's Libyan civil war to serve as interim Prime Minister for the rebel government.

The victory of Jibril's alliance presents a contrast to other Arab Spring nations such as Egypt and Tunisia, which saw Islamist groups secure victories in post-revolution elections.

Over 100 parties and 3000 candidates competed for the 200 open seats, which saw roughly 62 percent of registered voters submit their ballots.

### Windows 8 release date announced

Microsoft announced on Wednesday that its Windows 8 operating system will go on sale on the retail market on Friday, Oct. 26. The release comes three years after Microsoft's last OS, Windows 7, hit the market.

Windows 8 has been designed with tablet users in mind, and so the OS has experienced a significant redesign. Two modes of use will be available: the desktop setup with a start menu, taskbar, and icons, and a new interface known as Metro that will resemble the OS of the Windows Phone and will be optimized for use with touch-screen devices. A separate version, known as Windows RT, will include only the Metro interface and will be included on certain tablet devices.

Of note is that the release of Windows 8 is expected to coincide with the release of Surface, Microsoft's first tablet device, which was unveiled in mid-June.



## Involvement Week

Helping you find Tech's Treasure!

Each year the Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement hosts Involvement Week, allowing organizations an opportunity to reach out to campus about the terrific work and services they provide. Our office will provide tables and chairs for all organizations wanting to participate.

WHEN? August 27 – 31

WHERE? Tech Walkway

TIME? 11:00 am to 1:30 pm

Involvement Week will be August 26 – 31:

Sunday August 26 –

iNight Kick – Off in the Student Center

Monday August 27 –

Recreation, Leisure, Sports Clubs, Performance, and Production Organizations

Tuesday August 28 –

Open House in the Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement (formerly Student Involvement Center)

Wednesday August 29 –

Honor, Departmental, Professional, Educational, Political, Governing Boards, Student Media, and Greek

Thursday August 30 –

Volunteer Fair, Service Organizations, and Community Agencies

Friday August 31 –

Religious, Spiritual, Cultural, and Diversity Organizations

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [atleadandengage@gatech.edu](mailto:atleadandengage@gatech.edu).





## OUR VIEWS | CONSENSUS OPINION

### Tech's Partnership with Coursera *Institute takes steps toward Strategic Plan goals*

The Office of the Provost recently announced Tech's partnership with the online educator, Coursera. This new approach to education is becoming popular among international universities and colleges, and Tech has officially announced its interest and investment in the program.

This decision for the Institute is a courageous and necessary step for Tech's reputation. Tech's decision to invest with Coursera provides ample opportunity to market the Georgia Tech brand by creating name and quality awareness. Following Strategic Plan goals to be a world-class university, Tech joins other prestigious universities in this project, including Stanford, CalTech and UPenn. Joining Coursera and sharing free Tech courses will not only help Tech improve its technology focus on education, but will also increase Tech's international and national visibility as a top-tier institution.

While free online courses may not directly benefit current students at Tech, they provide the opportunity to learn for the sake of

learning. Tech students are not required to take these courses, but the project promotes the ideal that sharing knowledge is powerful and can broaden horizons. This type of enrichment learning will expose information and ideas that will reach a large audience in the global intellectual community.

This partnership between Tech and Coursera is a positive initial step to promoting a Tech education, but other similar initiatives are necessary to be considered a leading educational institution in the U.S. and world. One way of fostering an intellectual community is for Tech to create an iTunesU account where Tech-hosted lectures can be posted in iTunes and broadcasted through podcast, exposing Tech's interest in intellectual discussion. Tech should also begin investing more in innovation at the undergraduate level, forming incubator programs for launching start-ups. The Institute should also better utilize the Center for 21st Century Universities (C21U) as a platform for pushing the initiatives of the Strategic Plan.

*The Consensus Opinion reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board of the Technique, but not necessarily the opinions of individual editors.*

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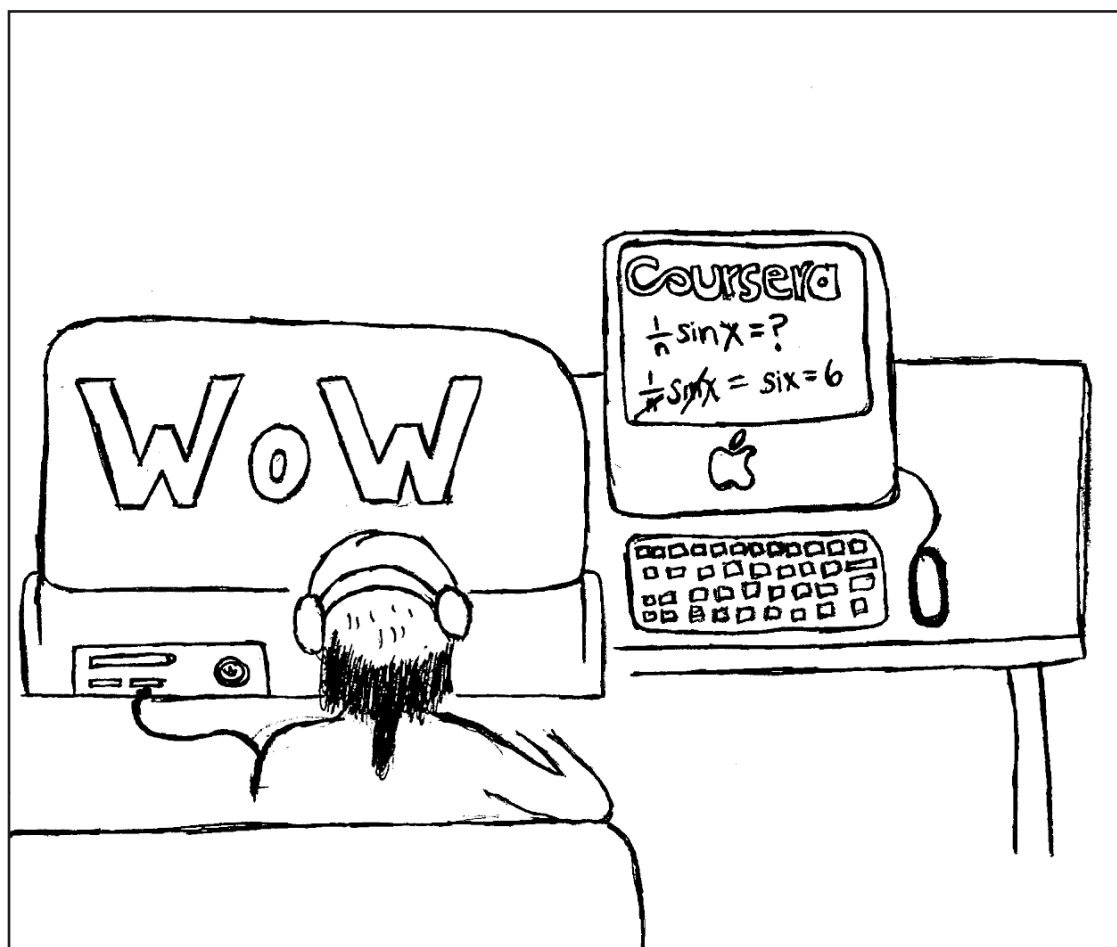
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#### THE NEW TECH CLASSROOM BY MADDIE COOK



## Baking and fracking

By Daily Texan Editorial Board  
*Daily Texan*

(UWire) — Does baking a cake make a mess in the kitchen? Not literally. Chemical changes that occur when cake batter sits in a hot oven don't directly cause spills, greasy counter tops and other reasons for clean up.

Most bakers, however, will respond to that question about a mess more broadly. They will tell you "baking a cake" starts when they line up flour, eggs and sugar on a counter, ends when they confront a sink full of dirty dishes and definitely makes a mess.

Consider similar questions about the purported mess resulting from hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. Fracking is a method of natural gas extraction, which involves injecting millions of gallons of water, sand and chemicals into soft, shale rock underground.

To geologists, "fracking" is the isolated act of fracturing the shale for the purposes of gas extraction. But to so many others — lawmakers, regulators and landowners, especially — "fracking" begins when a geologist instructs an energy company to drill a fracking well on someone's property, ends when the company leaves the same property and definitely makes a mess.

This summer, the Governor of New York is reconsidering a 2008 moratorium on fracking in parts of New York state. As a result, protestors have once more thrown the question of fracking's consequences into the national spotlight and tied up Albany phone lines. The protestors express fears that fracking will cause irreversible harm to groundwater. To the protestors, their concerns about fracking focus on both its before-and-after consequences — including ground spills and mishandling of wastewater.

Where does U. Texas fit into this picture of cake-baking, fracking and New York protestors?

Start with the UT Energy Institute, which was founded in 2009 "on the notion that colleges and universities are uniquely positioned to conduct independent and impartial scientific research," according to its website.

In February, the Energy Institute published a study about fracking and distributed an accompanying press release bearing the headline, "Study Shows No Evidence of Groundwater Contamination from Hydraulic Fracturing". The study specifically argues that the baseline data available about the groundwater sources fracking wells are purported to have contaminated is too limited. Therefore, the study argues, researchers cannot draw conclusions that fracking caused contamination.

The Energy Institute's study also analyzed media coverage about fracking and assessed it as, overall, "decidedly negative."

Such negative media coverage,

the Energy Institute study concludes, spawns the hasty and inaccurate assumptions about fracking causing groundwater contamination.

Read in its entirety, the study's most compelling point calls for more research and more restraint.

But by using the headline "no evidence of groundwater contamination" in its press release, the Energy Institute oversimplified its own study's conclusions and thereby contributed to the media's misreporting about fracking.

The fracking debate needs clarity not oversimplification. The oversimplified headline of the Energy Institute's press release errs on the side of favoring the fracking industry's viewpoint. Notably, UT gets significant funding from companies with stakes in the natural gas industry.

The Energy Institute's study cost \$270,000 to produce, according to a University spokesperson. The Institute's \$1.3 million operating budget, most of which comes from the state's Available University Fund, paid for most of the study's costs. Some funding for the study came from individual colleges, including \$100,000 from the College of Engineering. Natural gas companies didn't contribute directly to the funding. There is no evidence that the researchers were influenced or conscious of any industry funding. But could all of the researchers be entirely unaware of UT's money from natural gas companies?

Regulated and determined to be safe, fracking could be a boon for this state's economy, and an answer to the worrisome questions about U.S. reliance on foreign oil. But by releasing a study in a hurry with an accompanying press release that ballyhooed conclusions about fracking not contaminating groundwater, the Energy Institute contributed to public confusion about the fracking industry. Within the realm of possibility: Further research will show fracking, or at least fracking-related processes, have environmental consequences. By coming out so hurriedly and with a press-release headline so strongly overstating the conclusions drawn by the study, the Energy Institute muddied the waters.

Write to us:  
[letters@nique.net](mailto:letters@nique.net)

We welcome your letters in response to Technique content as well as topics relevant to campus. We will print letters on a timely and space-available basis.

Letters should not exceed 400 words and should be submitted by Tuesday at 7 p.m. in order to be printed in the following Friday's issue. Include your full name, year (1st, 2nd, etc.) and major. We reserve the right to edit for style and length. Only one submission per person will be printed per term.



# Warm welcome back for Formula One

With much anticipation and excitement, Formula One is returning to the United States. The last time the United States was a part of the Formula One circuit was from 2000-2007 in Indianapolis. The inaugural year for the United States Grand Prix in Indianapolis set a Formula One attendance record of around 225,000 people and the following six years had over 100,000 people in attendance. However, the U.S. Grand Prix had the smallest crowds of any Indianapolis Motor Speedway event. Since the 2006-2007 circuit came to a close, the United States has been on hiatus from the sport of Formula One racing until this year.

Formula One will now be returning to the U.S. in November with the United States Grand Prix being held in Austin, Texas. According to Bernie Ecclestone, the President and CEO of the Formula One Group, "For the first time in the history of Formula One in the United States, a world-class facility will be purpose-built to host the event." United States will host then a second Formula One race in New Jersey called the Grand Prix of America starting in the 2013 or 2014 circuit. With these two races coming to America, this means there will be Formula One races in the United States until around 2021 at least.

Any fan of automobile rac-



"If the American public gives F1 a chance, I think it could become the...next dream job for kids all across America."

**Kevin Brawley**  
Photo Editor

ing of any kind should have an interest in Formula One--the most intense type of racing out there today. Although there are not usually the huge fiery, pile-up crashes you see when you watch a NASCAR race or the consistently high-speeds you get with IndyCar racing, Formula One offers way more exciting instances.

Drivers have the added challenge of turn-filled tracks where cars reach speeds of 200 plus miles per hour on a straight away and then slow down to 60 mph to make a turn in a matter of seconds. Formula One tracks also have elevation changes and some are as wide as city streets.

Try navigating around downtown Atlanta streets at over 100 mph. Formula One teams also have to judge the weather on race-day in order to formulate their attack on the race which includes which tires to use (there are six of them), the car set-up, and how many pit stops to make throughout the race. These

considerations don't stop in the pit. From start to finish, a driver has to manage his tires, fuel, and his aerodynamics all while taking in feedback from his engineer and battling the other drivers for that first place spot, not to mention the amount of work and thought it takes to simply drive around the track experiencing 5G's around a turn. Compare that to the measly 2-3G's a NASCAR driver experiences, and the sometimes 4G's of IndyCar racing...I think we have a winner.

The reappearance of Formula One racing in the United States could increase the interest of the sport in a country that obviously likes automobile racing. But honestly, I can't understand why interest in Formula One was so much lower than interest in IndyCar and NASCAR the last time around. Sure, NASCAR is interesting, but at more than 100 laps per race, if you did not notice all the riveting left-hand turns the drivers have to em-

ploy so much skill to make the first 100 laps, I am sure you will catch them on the next few go arounds. IndyCar is a step up from NASCAR, the cars have obvious engineering and aerodynamics behind them whereas NASCAR is heavier and more primitive, but IndyCar still just a race around an oval for several hundreds of laps.

Formula One is a whole different level. Formula One racing requires drivers to be in peak physical conditions, aggressive, precise, and have a true understanding of every aspect of the car and how it operates. Drivers have to learn the track backwards and forwards. There is no time to misjudge a turn while barreling down a straightaway. Drivers also have to be a little bit crazy, sitting just inches above the ground driving at high speeds where with one slight mistake they can end up spinning out or crashing into a wall. If the American public gives F1 a chance, I think it could become the next big thing and the next dream job for kids all across America.

Perhaps this next era of Formula One in the U.S. will provide an increase in interest due to the new tracks and events held in the U.S., and maybe that will inspire some young Americans to go into racing and eventually work their way up to F1.

# Olympic Paradox- London Games 2012

**By Elvira Sihvola**  
Harvard Political Review

(UWire) — A friend recently confessed that many of his most intense emotional experiences have occurred while watching football — the European kind, to be clear. I am not a sports fanatic by any standard, and I doubt sporting events could ever provoke within me a comparable degree of passion. Yet I know my friend's sport-induced hyper-emotions are by no means uncommon. Moreover, they might even provide the key to understanding a phenomenon that has baffled me, one that relates to the 2012 London Olympics.

The presence of the upcoming Games is impossible to ignore in the city. The Underground walls are plastered with posters urging Londoners to prepare both mentally and practically for the hordes of tourists, journalists and athletes soon to flood the already overcrowded megalopolis. Not only are we encouraged to take alternate public transport routes, the mayor and private companies like Proctor and Gamble are asking the public to volunteer to make the city look its best for the tourists and spectators.

There's the price tag [to the Olympics]. These are the most expensive Olympic Games to date, expected to cost roughly \$13.4 billion. That's a modest

101 percent over the initially presented budget. If that fails to raise an eyebrow or two, it might be worth mentioning that much of the funding is coming from "public sector subsidies" at a time when the United Kingdom's national debt is more than 66 percent of GDP.

Sure, we could look at the Olympics as a Keynesian-style stimulus providing a needed boost for the economy. But, regardless of whether one accepts the importance of government stimuli, there's a problem with this particular package: the conservative government is enacting strict austerity measures, while at the same time it spends decadently on the Olympics. Government spending is important, but so is what you spend it on. The government is cutting spending on welfare and education, while at the same time paying for a big Olympic party.

*Weak Justifications*

So, why isn't the public furious? And, why on Earth would London, the capital of an indebted nation want to host such a lavish party? For one, the bidding for the 2012 Games happened back in 2004, when the 2008 recession wasn't even in most people's worst nightmares. The minister for the Olympics has even commented publicly that the city would not have hosted the Olympics had it

anticipated the economic collapse. She later retracted her comment.

Secondly, the Games were marketed as an opportunity to promote tourism and the economic interests of British businesses both at home and abroad. Whoever was making those promises seems to have overlooked some crucial historical data. It has become increasingly rare for Olympic host countries to profit — or even break even from hosting the Games. In fact, it's widely contested whether there is any long term economic benefit for the host at all.

What about the argument that hosting the Games would boost tourism through increased media exposure? This applies particularly well to 'up-and-coming' cities and economies, like Beijing or Rio de Janeiro, who want to demonstrate that they are 'ready' to receive the world. Unfortunately, the argument doesn't hold all that well in the case of London. After all, London is not exactly the 'best kept secret' of the tourism sector. It's doubtful that the city would benefit significantly from additional publicity. To make matters worse the Olympics have been suggested to scare off other tourists due to higher prices associated with the Games.

*Embracing Emotion*

Still, despite this overwhelming mountain of

evidence for why hosting the games wasn't a great decision, there's no point in dwelling on it now. All in all, the rational argument for hosting the Olympics is weak. This is where my friend's observation about intense sport-induced emotion comes in. The only way to make sense of the Games is to focus on all the positive emotion the spectacle can provide.

The Olympics have always been a celebration of human unity, sharing and peace. They provide an escape from many depressing realities of human existence, international politics, economic crises — just like any good party does. There's also a great deal of pride at stake: Londoners frequently comment on how proud they are to be hosting this event, to be welcoming the world into their nation. Whether or not it's rational to be proud about hosting an event they can't afford is irrelevant, since there's no backing out at this point. They might as well go all out and be a happy, proud host.

Moreover, I'd argue that for those few officials, who really understood how little economic benefit the games would yield, the argument was always an emotional one. Even a city with as secure a footing in history as London might find it difficult to resist such an opportunity to boost its own immortality.

## BUZZ Around Campus

What do you think of Tech's new partnership with Coursera?



**Pramod Majji**  
Fourth-year MGT

*"I think the freshmen year classes can be off set by lower tuition fees by taking them online."*



**Kellie Fair**  
First-year ISyE

*"It allows people to take classes that they otherwise couldn't in their home country."*



**Sam Stachura**  
Fourth-year MGT

*"[Provost Bras's email] didn't really give a whole lot of details as to when the courses were to be offered."*



**Eran Mordel**  
Fourth-year ISyE

*"This is one good way to see a new phase of higher education."*

Photos by Kevin Brawley / Student Publications



## OUR VIEWS | HOT OR NOT

HOT<sup>-</sup> or <sup>-</sup>NOT**Batman sold out**

The Student Center Programs Council offered a *Dark Knight* pre-screening to Tech students. The deal sold out within a few hours. The show begins at 7:30 p.m., a four and a half hour advance to the midnight national premiere. Students will flock to Atlantic Station to watch this final episode of the Batman Trilogy.

**GT Cruiser, no punch back**

While the new police cruiser is a positive improvement to our campus's safety, the new police cruiser appears to be limited in its duties. It only patrols for eight hours each night and requires GTPD and APD officers in the car at the same time at all times.

**You've got a friend in the Provost's Office**

The Office of the Provost has sent an email to all Tech students that provides and explains a reporting website. This website is designed for students to anonymously submit any instances in which Dead Week Policy is violated. The website also provides clear descriptions of the policy according to the Georgia Tech Catalog.

**Tears for Trees**

Two of Tech's older trees are being removed due to a beetle infestation which has caused high stress for the arboreal beings. One is located on Tech Green and the other at the intersection Hemphill and Ferst. An expert from the International Society of Arboriculture was brought to campus to determine the trees' fate. The good news is that they will be replaced with healthy trees and not left barren.

# Marriage is personal choice, but should never be taken lightly

As my 20s hit me with full force, I realize that the number of engaged and married couples I know now has increased about tenfold, and I even know a handful of newborn babies now. I tear up a little thinking about how I've grown up with each and every one of them, whether it was in elementary school or my freshman year of college. I "like" all of their Facebook statuses and pictures, and I'm never alone in wanting to share in their happiness.

But world peace could be brought to this planet, and you'd still meet the cynics.

The cynics say these people are too young, too inexperienced, too immature to know who they want to spend their lives with or that they even want to be with one person forever.

Okay, sure, life experience is intended to bring forth maturity, but I've met my fair share of wise nine-year-olds and narrow-minded 50-year-olds, so I can't say that better decision-making necessarily comes with age.

The cynics ask, if the biological clocks aren't ticking, what could the rush possibly be?

If someone gets married as a commitment to having children, but not as a commitment to having a life with a significant other, then he or she is doing it wrong.

The cynics insist that 20-somethings should live it up and grow through their experiences, and the only relationship status for living it up is "single and ready to



"Sanctity of marriage was destroyed when Kardashian got both married and divorced in 72 days, and our generation called it entertainment."

**Kamna Bohra**

Editor-in-Chief

mingle."

I like to think that I'll never stop growing as a person, so if I were to wait until I was done growing, I'd never be ready to get married.

The cynics say rushed and youthful life partnerships destroy the sanctity of marriage. Some go on to say that same-sex relationships should and will never be acknowledged by God, the government or even humanity.

....No. The sanctity of marriage in the United States was not destroyed when the first couple that was "too young" got married or when two members of the same gender decided that their love was strong enough for a life together. The sanctity of marriage was destroyed when Kim Kardashian got both married and divorced in a span of 72 days, and our generation called it entertainment.

But then again, when did it become the whole world's authority and responsibility to tell everyone else when and where and how and at what age and with which gender and through what wedding registry to get married? If two

people are in love, committed to spending the rest of their lives together, through the best of times and the worst of times, how does anyone else come into that picture and tell them they're wrong?

Finding this kind of cynicism and desire to define marriage and lifelong partnerships in the U.S. has been fascinating. Coming from the ethnic background of India, where arranged marriages are historically the norm and where it was always (and sometimes still is) the parents' way or the highway when it came to relationships, I am always appalled to find the masses trying to dictate what marriage should be for others in what is supposed to be a progressive and individualistic country.

I'm not saying that marriage right here, right now is for everyone. It most certainly isn't for me because 1) well, I'm single, so there's that, and 2) I can barely make a firm decision on what to eat for dinner, so I can't imagine any alternate universe in which I am emotionally mature enough to be sure of the rest of my life at the age of 21.

## sliver

www.nique.net

Setting up a new backup drive SUCKS. 4 hours later, at 43% My apartment smells like wet cat. Probably because my cat is wet. I miss pulling an all-nighter every Wednesday, living on a no-sleep high Thursday and being a zombie on Friday. #exniquelife I'm hungry

You that read wrong. you read that wrong, buddy.

I'm bored enough to work on developing an eating disorder

Not knowing when who or when I'll fuck next is depressing

Searching for a job is similarly tragic to my middle school love life. Except I've grown into my nose better.

I love pie.

Achoo Guy for Heisman

swag. swag. swag. swag.

All in haiku form.

Here's some sliv'ring about you

Cute blonde on the bus:

This is a bus! You know how big a bus is?

imma hang up and listen pawwwwl

woopers gonna woop

CHARLIE BATCH

Bring back Time-Out with Alex Mitchell!!!!111!!

Where is the Time-Out section?

I really miss Mitchell the old Sports Editor

be smart. nerdy smart. GTSAA.

iron and others computer crimes

3 years and now my first sliver ever

ALL THE COFFEE IS DOWN!

I used to see this asian guy with glasses a lot taking pictures for anything on campus. he was like everywhere. I think he was shooting for technique articles? I don't see him around anymore. what happened?

you have to renew SAA membership? still worth it!

But that butt you got makes me Sohorni

Late summer session = hell

lasertag...cigar bar...stripclub. ...epic

how do you tell your co-worker that his wife is a total babe?

Luke Bryan marry me

I still miss the Music Listening Room...

"receptionist" was not part of my job description; don't be surprised that i suck at it

More people should hang out in Under the Couch, its awesome! drinking every night during internship... Yet strangely I miss Tech at the same time?!

Harry's still at Hogwarts,  
Rachel's meals are still on the  
table in 30 Minutes and  
Ansel is still king of black & white....  
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## Hinsdale leaves Olympic mark on Tech

By Ian Bailie  
Focus Editor

With the spotlight thrust upon London and the Olympic games, now-famous athletes have become household names. Significantly less known, though, are the people who support those world-class competitors. At Tech,



HINSDALE

and field coach.

Hinsdale began his career in college athletics while attending Ferris State University in Big Rapids, MI. Though not exceptional at a single sport, Hinsdale was able to excel as a decathlete, using his all-around abilities to succeed.

"I was inspired to find a niche on a team," Hinsdale said, indicating that he'd found that on the Decathlon team.

Through his connections in that sports program, Hinsdale discovered his love of coaching. After witnessing the 1978 Olympic Trials for Track and Field, Hinsdale set his sights on coach-

ing division I track and field. He began coaching at Georgia Tech in 1979 after completing a master's degree in physical education and coaching at Ferris State and Eastern Kentucky.

Though he originally thought of the position at Tech as a stepping stone, Hinsdale has remained at Tech. For him, the athletes he coaches are unique in the sport.

"I love the caliber of students athletes [at Tech]," Hinsdale said. "It's home."

Not only has Hinsdale had a long career with Tech, his has also been successful. He coached 13 NCAA national champions, and he helped Georgia Tech graduate Angelo Taylor to the 2000 Olympics. Hinsdale initially recruited Taylor, and coached when he was rated first in the U.S. and second in the world, according to Track and Field News.

Taylor, who won the 400 meter intermediate hurdle (400 IH) event in 2000 and 2008 and was a member of the gold-medal 4x400m relay team, will represent team U.S.A. in the London Olympics this year, and has the potential to win the 400 IH for a third Olympics.

"Based on what I saw in [the Olympic trials]...I would give [Taylor] good a chance, better, than anyone," Hinsdale said.

In addition to Taylor, Hinsdale coached at Tech during the college careers of three other

Olympic track gold medalists; Antonio McKay, Derrick Adkins and Derek Mills all competed on the Tech track team during Hinsdale's time at Tech.

Though Tech has not produced a large volume of Olympic track athletes, those who have gone have medalled, most bringing home the gold. Of the eight possible medals, current and former Tech track team members have won seven gold and one bronze.

According to Hinsdale, Olympic-level track competition is fierce. Athletes must first make it through the "gauntlet," as Hinsdale puts it, of Olympic time trials; between 28 and 34 competitors compete for three spots in the Olympics. During the actual games, the athletes again face a large pool of competitors vying for the top 3 spots.

"To win an Olympic medal in the sport of track and field is an incredible achievement," Hinsdale said.

The excitement of the challenge, though, is what drives Hinsdale in his coaching. Track and field is a sport where, "higher, better, faster," applies, according to Hinsdale.

Currently, Hinsdale is not coaching an Olympic competitor, so will not be travelling to London. He will still be watching, though.

"I'll be zeroed in on the coverage," Hinsdale said.

### OLYMPIC TRACK ATHLETES FROM GEORGIA TECH

#### ANTONIO MCKAY

- Olympics: 1984
- Medals: 1 Bronze; 2 Gold
- Event(s): 400M, 4x400M

#### DERRICK ADKINS

- Olympics: 1996
- Medals: 1 Gold
- Event(s): 400 IH

#### DEREK MILLS

- Olympics: 1996
- Medals: 1 Gold
- Event(s): 4x400M

#### ANGELO TAYLOR

- Olympics: 2000, 2008, 2012
- Medals: 3 Gold
- Event(s): 400 IH, 4x400M

### TIPS & TRICKS

## Olympic broadcasts

By Ian Bailie  
Focus Editor

With the Olympics a week away, it's time students take a look at the Olympic broadcast schedule to ensure they catch the events they want.

#### Watch the Peacock

NBC is the exclusive television broadcaster of the Olympics in the U.S. The Georgia Tech Cable Network (GTCN) broadcasts NBC and NBC HD on channels 10 and 10.1, respectively.

#### Diversify

In addition to television coverage, NBC plans to broadcast all events, live, online. Mobile apps for both iOS and Android phones and tablets are also available.

NBC requires online viewers to register and prove they hold a current media subscription that includes access to CNBC and MSNBC (e.g. cable or satellite).

Students will not be able to use the GTCN as that subscription. GTCN is provided in bulk, so individual credentials needed by NBC do not exist. Up to eight devices and five concurrent streams per registered account are permitted though. So, feel free to use a family member's account.

## Campus changed by Olympic village construction

By Ian Bailie  
Focus Editor

During the 1996 Centennial Olympics, Georgia Tech served as the Olympic Village. In addition to the honor of hosting Olympic athletes, Tech received several new campus elements that have become fixtures in the everyday lives of current students.

#### The Aquatic Center

The Aquatic Center was designed by the architectural firm Stanley, Love-Stanley, P.C., which was founded by two Tech graduates. In addition to hosting the Olympic swimming events, the roof was used to test photo voltaic cells. Today, the grid provides electricity to meet 30 percent to 40 percent of the building's needs.

#### The Kessler Campanile

Funded by the Class of '43, the Kessler Campanile served as a centerpiece for what the "Georgia Tech Plaza." The fan of water in front of the tower was designed to serve as a projection screen, and the upper basin can be drained to serve as a stage. Though currently silent, the fountain also played songs such as Tech's fight song.

#### Alexander Memorial Coliseum

Currently under renovations, Alexander Memorial Coliseum was served as the venue for the Olympic boxing competition. The McDonald's Corporation helped bear the costs of that project, and consequently, operated a full-service restaurant in the facility. The addition of the "Golden Arches" proved controversial.

#### North Avenue Apartments

The North Avenue Apartments (NAA) were built as a major part of the Olympic Village. On-campus projects provided 9,384 beds for Olympic athletes and officials and NAA played a major role in providing part of that space. Given to Georgia State immediately after the Games, Tech gained control of the facility in 2007.

### Kessler Campanile



### Aquatic Center



### Alexander Memorial Coliseum



### North Avenue Apartments



All photos courtesy the Georgia Tech Library Archives



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## Atlanta playwright debuts *Sheddin'*

### SHOWS

#### *Sheddin'*

**PERFORMER:** Tom Jones, E. Roger Mitchell, LaParee Young

**LOCATION:** Horizon Theatre

**DATE:** July 13 - Aug. 19

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Jonathan Peak  
Entertainment Editor

Little Five Points' Horizon Theatre transformed last Friday, July 13, into the backyard man-cave of Walt and his friends in the world premiere of Tom Jones' latest comedy *Sheddin'*. Self-described as a "comic ballad that underscores men trying to recapture their dreams," *Sheddin'* rolls high with laughter, filling the lolls with the acute poignancy that comes from family and friends.

Plot-wise, *Sheddin'* is little more than an update to *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner* with the son's return with a new fiancée. However, in Jones' play the bride to be is a Korean pop-star E'Boa; and the problem is not her race, but her the role she takes.

The play begins with friends Walt (Jones himself), Moses (E. Roger Mitchell) and Otis (LaParee Young) rehearsing as the new opening act for Walt's son, hip-hop superstar Trane (Enoch King). The laughs are abundant

while the friends horse around and Walt's wife Ruthie (Donna Biscoe) shows them who's boss. The good times take a turn for the worse when E'Boa (Francesca McKenzie) is presented as both Trane's fiancée and opening act.

Each character is a joy to discover—some with surprising secrets. The six actors each fill their roles without reserve, from the man-whipping E'Boa to the womanizing Otis. However, the second act falls prey to presumptuousness as the play touches upon many topics, never making a clear statement on any of them.

Still, *Sheddin'* offers a unique glimpse into modern black life in the politically correct world. The men find themselves on the edge, sometimes making ignorant, racist jokes—while the problem they complain of is not race. Instead it is the trio reacting to the loss of their dream and being forced to accept settling.

Highlights for anyone will be the energetic song and dance numbers as old school doo wop meets modern hip hop. And the jokes are often painfully funny, though be warned that the language is not for children. *Sheddin'* in its main theme of finding a place in new times succeeds. *Sheddin'* continues its premiere run at the Horizon Theatre through August, so be sure to catch some of Atlanta's most talented actors in a raucous comedy sure to please.

## Batman keeps genre grounded



Photo courtesy of Warner Bros. Entertainment

By Addison Sheu  
Contributing Writer

After the massive success of 2008's *The Dark Knight* the hype of the second sequel has not let down since. In a press conference with the actors, directors and producers of *The Dark Knight Rises* (opening today), phrases such as "the movie sets a standard" and "an epic master piece" were used to describe the latest Batman movie.

So far it seems that this finale will indeed live up to the standards of its predecessors. But if more reason is needed to go watch the movie, here are just some extra details and incentives that came out of the press conference.

According to director Christopher Nolan, unlike the trend of recent super hero movies, execution of *The Dark Knight Rises* "focuses on staying realis-

tic," regardless of plot, character introduction or action. The film still incorporates CGI, but tries to sway away from it compared to other films such as the recent summer hit *The Avengers*.

One of the focal points of this movie is the appearance of Catwoman within the film (played by Anne Hathaway). One thing to take note of is the name "Catwoman" never is heard in the film, instead Hathaway portrays the "hypothetical" role of Catwoman, in the film she is introduced otherwise. The main reason for this ties to the point mentioned earlier of keeping the film realistic.

"We wanted to expand the story for a second sequel while constructing credible psychological basis for new characters," Nolan said.

Emotionally the film is bound to keep audience on their toes through the length of the movie, submerging them in the threat on

Gotham city and experiencing the stakes at hand.

"In the film we try and be very sincere in the things that frighten us or motivate us...the resonances people find or that happen to occur with what's going on in the real world, they come about really as a result [of] living in the same world," Nolan said.

By doing so the movie not only provides entertainment but also contains themes and symbols one might relate to our society today. The Occupy movement (many standing up against the powerful few) and the war on terror (what it takes to stand up against a powerful "evil") are some of the most prominent examples. The film also harks back to Dickens, both alluding to and paralleling the classic *Tale of Two Cities*. Whether just looking for pure entertainment or seeking something much more, *The Dark Knight Rises* is bound to satisfy all appetites.

## Carlile prepares for upcoming show, talks with Tech

By Jonathan Peak  
Entertainment Editor

Recently the *Technique* had the opportunity to talk with singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile as she tours the nation. Carlile will stop in Atlanta next Friday night, July 27 in support of her latest LP, the wonderful and ambitious *Bear Creek*. Carlile has gained a significant following with her powerful, emotive vocals backed the alt-country stylings of the Hanseroth twins. In her exclusive interview, Carlile discusses her music's unique quality and what to expect next from the Carlile camp.

**With the recent release of your fifth album, *Bear Creek*, do you feel like you've figured out the music industry now and hit your stride?**

"I'm not sure one ever figures out the music industry, but I definitely feel comfortable with the way our band walks through the world and the years we've spent on the road."

**How do you feel about your growing success both commercially and critically with each album? To what do you attribute that?**

"One thing I love about our band is the way we've been able to apply some really great advice that we were given a few years ago from the Indigo Girls about touring and how bringing your music to the people doesn't mean only visiting major cities. It means going into small towns and communities where real things are happening to real people everyday. It's like taking the path that's slightly less traveled. So what happens is we end up in places like Fish Creek, Wisconsin [and] Hershey, Pennsylvania [...] to name a few. I attribute our success to our willingness and ability to travel to places not everyone goes."

**Your music is interesting from a female singer-songwriter in that your music is not distinctly feminine. It has an androgynous feel and the songs are**



Photo courtesy of Sony Entertainment

**stories that could be from any life. To what do you attribute this?**

"Well, two-thirds of our song-writing trio are male first of all. Second of all I have a lot of male heroes and predominant figures that have affected me both socially and artistically. I have an underlying reverence and understanding of men and I tend to write from a neutral perspective."

**What can we expect from your shows now that they are in larger and larger venues, a lot less intimate than before?**

"You can expect us to fight harder to make them more intimate than before."

**What came we expect next from Brandi Carlile? Any major change in sound or genre? A hip-hop album?**

"Ha ha ha! Certainly not. I'm probably more interested than you are about what we can expect. Songwriting tends to be something that happens to me and less about something I plan to do or force. I do plan however, to expand on our Looking Out Foundation [Carlile's philanthropic effort to support local humanitarian efforts through music] and our band's touring career."

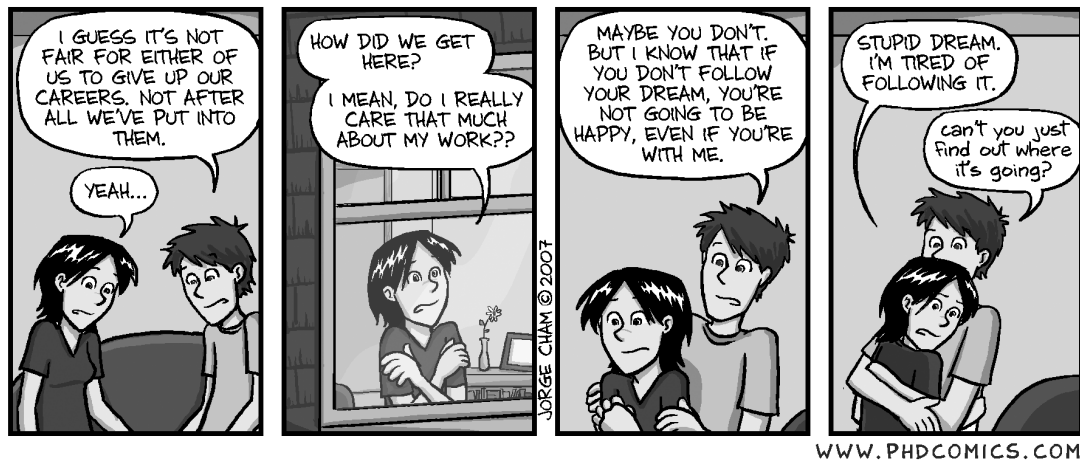
**How much do you feel like you owe your mainstream success to *Grey's Anatomy*, other TV shows and commercials featuring [your music]? Do you appreciate that boost or resent it?**

"The way I feel about sync licensing has evolved into basically just a deep appreciation of this alternative medium to radio. In a time where consideration given to an artists' work has so much to do with popularity and chart position etc. It's refreshing as a songwriter to consider for a moment that when your song is chosen for a sync license, it may be chosen for its content in a more profound way than it would be chosen for radio."

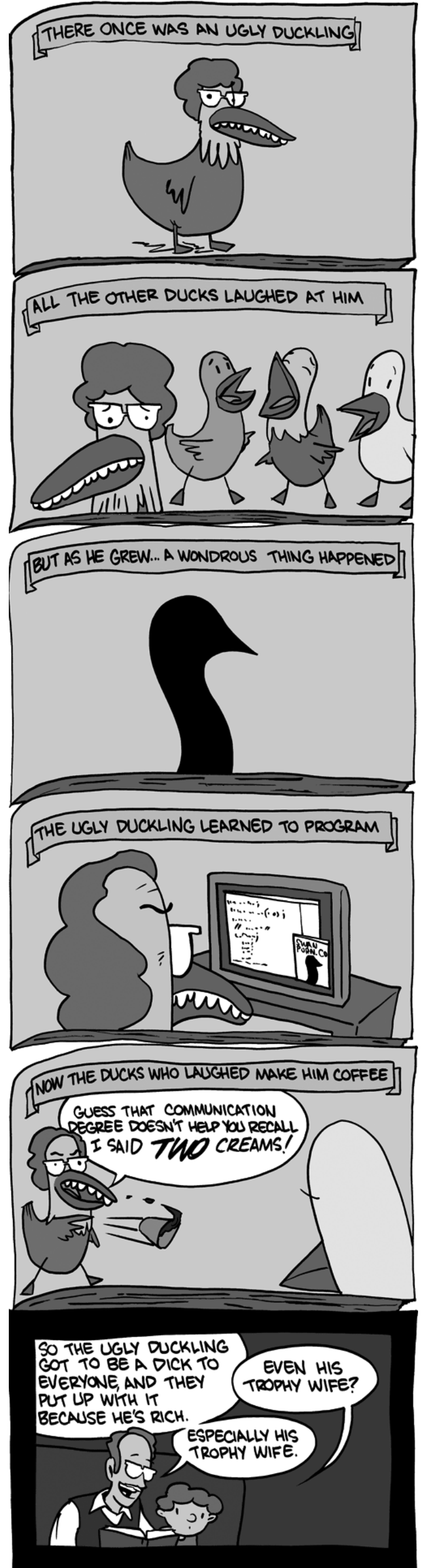
Carlile will play Chastain Amphitheatre with acoustic rocker Josh Ritter opening. Atlanta marks one of her first solo dates this summer after having opened for the Dave Matthews Band. Her concert promises to be spectacular with country-tinged tunes like "Raise Hell" and "Dying Day". Even more exciting though is the prospect of hearing her soaring anthems like her most famous song "The Story" and the tragically poignant "That Wasn't Me" from her latest album.



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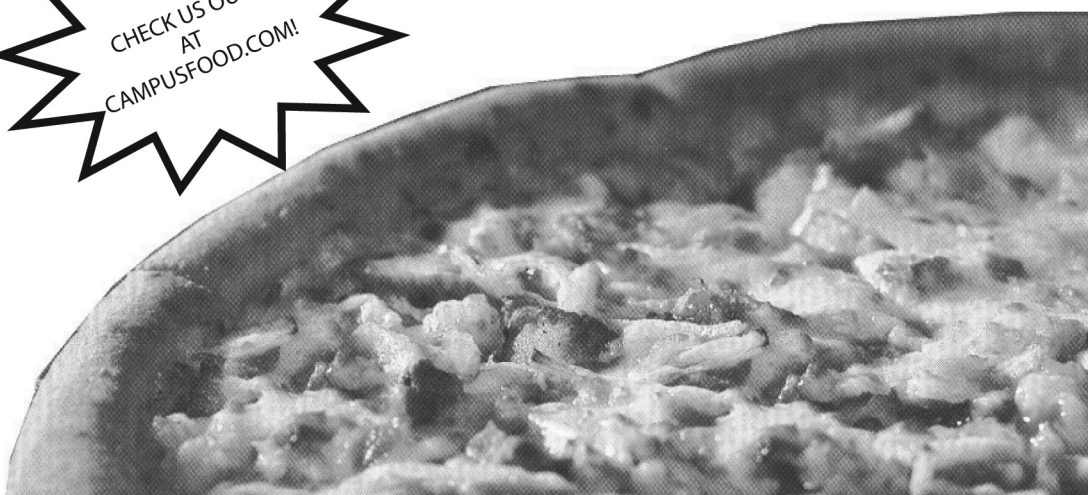
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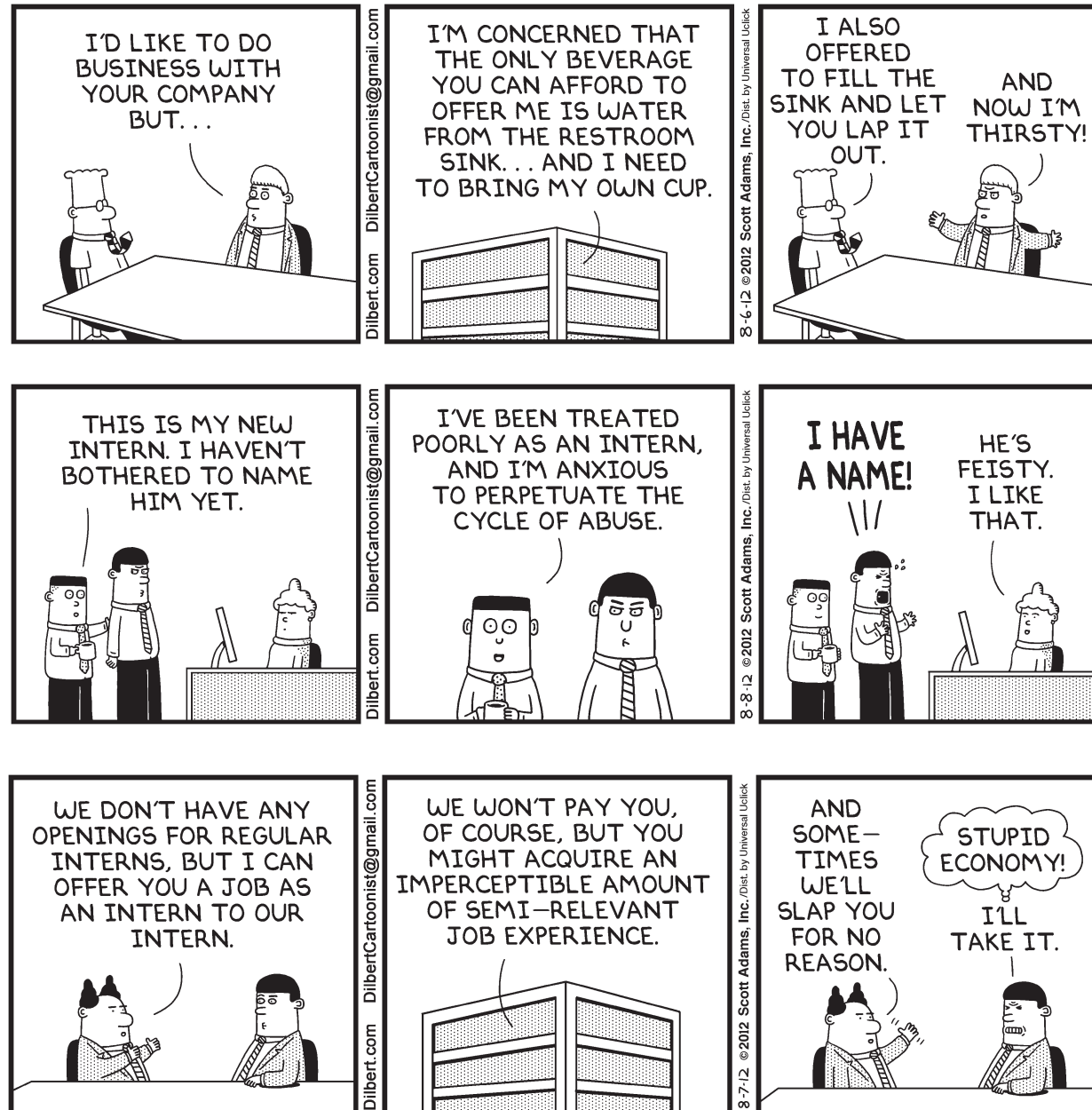
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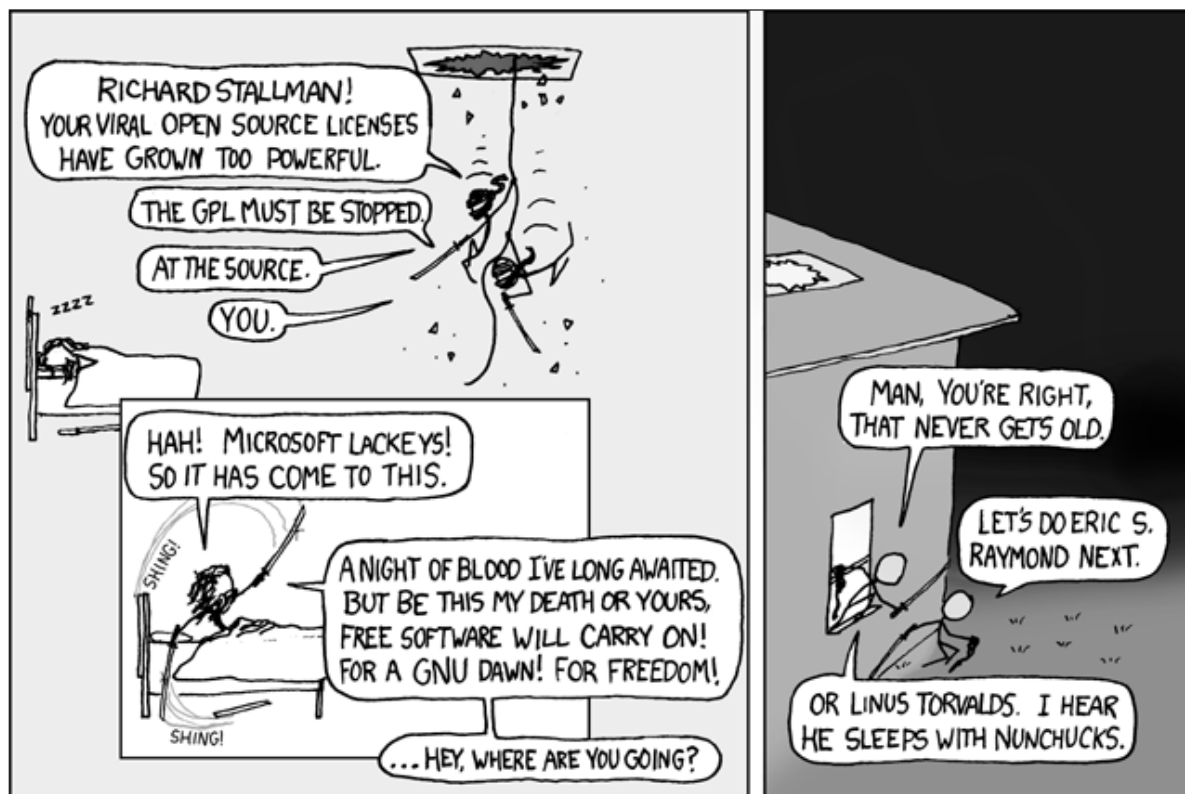
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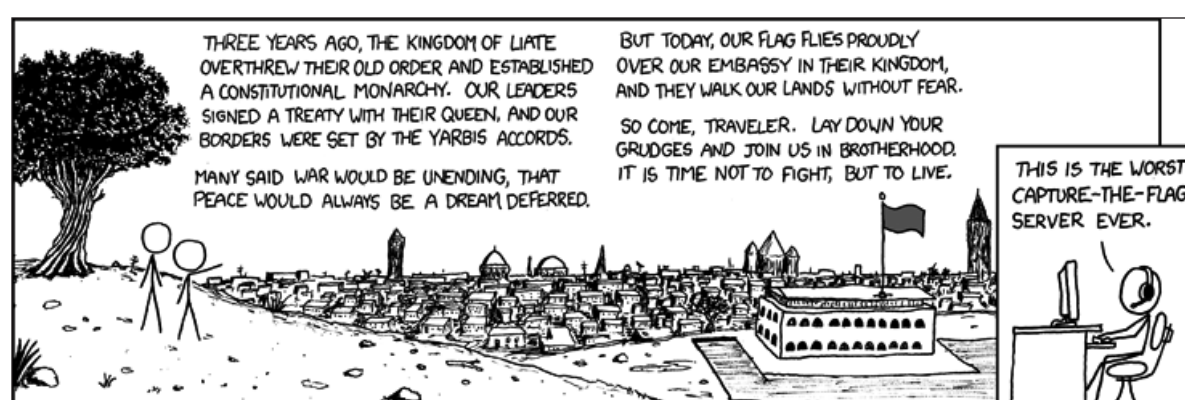
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# Special teams look to be 2012 game changer

By Anna Arnau  
Sports Editor

Paul Johnson has had a successful career as head coach of the football team, leading the Jackets to an ACC Championship in 2009, its first BCS bowl game in 2009, and coaching the team to lead the nation in rushing last season. With success both defensively and offensively, the team has consistently had an Achilles heel – the special teams unit.

Although Coach Johnson has been firm throughout his career on having coaches help in training their own specific unit of special teams, this season he has proven his continued commitment to success by adding to the staff Coach David Walkosky to serve as special teams coordinator and be completely dedicated to special teams success.

Walkosky played his college career at Toledo and has served as a special teams coordinator at several schools across the country, including Toledo, UT-Martin and Washington State. While coaching at Toledo, seven of his 15 special teams units were at one time ranked in the top 15 nationally. The team ranked in the top five nationally in both punt returns and net punting in 2003, and the Rockets blocked 24 kicks in 8 seasons.

Tech has noticeably struggled

with special teams and last season was no different. With an 11-of-18 success rate last season, perhaps one of the biggest weaknesses on special teams is in field goal kicking. The climax of the mediocre play in the kicking department came in the 2011 Sun Bowl against Utah with three missed field goals in the seventh consecutive bowl loss for the Jackets since 2005.

Walkosky is well aware of the strengths and weaknesses of the team, and he has been looking to see where he can make the biggest impact for special teams in next season. It is hard to bring in specialty players specifically for special teams, and coaches are forced to place position players in special teams roles.

"I think we're loaded with special teams players across the board. Every single player, position wise, will be used in our special teams – offensive line, defensive line, everything," Walkosky said.

Another statistic with a stench is kick returns for touchdowns. Tech has not seen a kickoff returned taken to the house since 1998 when Dez White returned a kick for 100 yards against Maryland. Last season, Tech averaged 19.2 yards per return with a season long return of 79 yards by redshirt sophomore A-back Tony Zenon. Walkosky has been quoted multiple times saying that he wants



Photo courtesy of GTAA

**Coach Walkosky instructs players at a recent practice. The coach looks to be number one nationally in all aspects of special teams.**

to be number one in the country on all aspects of special teams. A kickoff return for a touchdown would help achieve such an ambitious goal.

"It's not a goal that we talk about, but every single time we have a kick return it's designed that we want it to go to the house and that's what we're looking for," Walkosky explained.

When asked how he has been preparing for the season and new position, the coach shared that

he's spent an extended amount of time studying film of opponents. With such a big inter-conference game for the season opener, its no surprise that the team has been preparing for "9/3" all summer.

"Our first game is Virginia Tech, and Frank Beamer is a phenomenal special teams coach. He's one of the best ever in special teams in college football," said Walkosky.

Coach Beamer has come to have his style of coaching award-

ed its own name, "Beamerball". Since his career with the Hokies began in 1987, 35 different players from Virginia Tech have scored touchdowns on special teams. It's no wonder that Coach Beamer has built up a reputation for being an elite special teams coach.

Walkosky's first snap in college resulted in him blocking a punt, so he can understand and handle the pressure of the role specialty players serve. So how does a new special teams coordinator for a team that hasn't valued special teams to such a degree until now prepare for a season against coaches like Frank Beamer? For Walkosky, one major component of success on special teams is focus, and he's looking to harp on that to both freshmen and returning players.

"We have to get every player to understand and to have great focus for one play, because you don't get a second chance on special teams," Walkosky said.

With the addition of Walkosky to the staff, the Jackets are looking to do away with their weakest aspect on the field. With hopes of being able to compete nationally on all fronts, the entire program has big hopes for a hugely impactful season this fall.

"Our goal is to do whatever we have to do to help us win football games...We want to try and win every single game."

## Goon squad returns for 2012



Photo by John Nakano / Student Publications

**Tech's offensive line faces the Clemson defensive line in last season's game that resulted in Tech's 31-17 victory over the Tigers.**

By Anna Arnau  
Sports Editor

Football head coach Paul Johnson has a knack for coaching specifically the rushing game, and Tech has come to be known nationally as a team with a rush-dominated approach. Last season, the Jackets lead the ACC in total offense, rushing offense, scoring offense, third-down conversion percentage and fewest sacks allowed. None of these impressive achievements would be possible without a strong offensive line.

The offensive line is crucial for any success in football due to their monumental role in protecting the quarterback and creating holes for runners, among other things. With such success last season, it's hard to expect much more

from the boys that as a group go by "the goon squad". But with four returning starters, including redshirt juniors Jay Finch, Will Jackson and Ray Beno and senior leader Omoregie Uzzi, the offensive line is only looking to improve.

The linemen know that it is a major strength to have so much experience on the line together, and they hope that it will make a big impact on the season. Beno believes that his experiences with Jackson and the cohesiveness of the team will make for better play on the field.

"I know I can trust Will. Usually it's me coming off the blocks and not him, and I know once I secure that guy, Will's got him. That's huge for us," said Beno.

The linemen are also work-

ing hard with the new Director of Player Development, Coach John Sisk. Jackson tells of team-wide improvements in the weight room and places much of the blame on the methods of the new coach.

"Everyone's been working hard since I've been here, but the mindset is just so different because [Sisk] ties everything back to football. We're not lifting weights just to lift weights; we're lifting for 9/3. He's tying everything back into to making us better football players. Just keeping that in our minds is helping us a lot," Jackson said.

Tech football players are completely focused on the first game of the season and are training hard in preparation, and Uzzi is no different.

"We've been breaking it down on 9/3. That's the first game of the season, that's when we're going to make our debut. Often times in the offseason it gets dull and mundane, but [Sisk] has done a good job at... making sure that we know we're doing this for a reason...Virginia Tech is probably going to be one of our most important games. It's a division game, it's going to affect our whole season, so that's just added motivation," said Uzzi.

With the combined experience and offseason preparation of the Tech offensive linemen, it's sure to be another impactful season for the goon squad.

## Harmon named women's tennis coach

By Scott Hakim  
Staff Writer

Tech certainly has a recent knack for finding quality coaches and the new additions make up a group that includes passionate, knowledgeable veterans and positive, eager newcomers. New Women's Tennis coach Rodney Harmon is no exception.

If success was based solely on the passion and experience of the coach, the Jackets would have already won multiple titles. Harmon, coming off of an accolade filled three year coaching stint at the University of Miami in the late 90's, and a nearly twenty year stint as the director of Men's Tennis for the USTA, was named the U.S. Men's Tennis coach for the 2008 Olympics. Most recently, Harmon was the director of tennis at Deerwood Country Club in Jacksonville, Florida.

Living in Atlanta was one of the major contributing factors in his decision to come to Tech. That, and his strong ties to former Tech coach Bryan Shelton who recently accepted a new coaching position at the University of Florida, seems to set up a dream job for the experienced coach.

Ultimately, Harmon's legacy at Tech will be based off of the success of a very renowned team that has made back-to-back ap-

pearances in the Sweet 16 and is prepping for a move into a brand-new facility. Harmon has big plans for the program.

"My goal is to continue to build on the ground work Bryan Shelton built and for our team to excel both in the classroom and on the court...This is one of the best jobs in the country. With the addition of the Ken Byers Tennis Complex and the support of the administration and the fans, we will continue to have a team to be proud of," said Harmon.

Were Harmon to win the NCAA team title, Shelton and Harmon would be the only two coaches to bring in a NCAA team title in Tech school history.



Photo courtesy of GTAA

**New head coach Harmon has high hopes for the tennis team.**