

# CAMPUS LIFE

Technique • Friday, March 24, 2000

## On campus housing

Buzz Around the Campus asks students what their opinions are of the new housing process. Is it better or worse? **Page 12**

## Faces at Tech

Who's the face in this issue? This week features Dave Mayeski, a new West Campus Residence Life Coordinator. **Page 13**

# Parental notification possible for student alcohol violations

*Under revised policy, parents would be notified of certain alcohol-related violations by students under 21; input sought from students, parents*

— BY CHRIS BAUCOM —

A RECENT AMENDMENT TO THE FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT ALLOWS UNIVERSITIES TO NOTIFY PARENTS IF THEIR UNDERAGE CHILDREN ARE FOUND TO BE DRINKING ALCOHOL. A TASK FORCE IS EXPLORING HOW—AND IF—GEORGIA TECH SHOULD IMPLEMENT A POLICY OF PARENTAL NOTIFICATION. THESE AND OTHER ISSUES WILL BE DISCUSSED IN A STUDENT TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 11:00 A.M. ON THURSDAY, MARCH 30 IN STUDENT SERVICES ROOM 117.

Before the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, or FERPA, was passed in 1974, university administrators acted *in loco parentis*. That is, a dean could act on a parent's behalf, and all academic and disciplinary records were available to parents.

During the 1960s, a strong student rights movement surfaced which culminated with the enactment of FERPA in 1974. The act effectively prevented the release of educational records without student permission. Since that time, little has changed in the arena of student records privacy.

Several recent, high-profile deaths due to alcohol abuse on college campuses elsewhere have led to the changes in FERPA that now allow parental notification in cases of underage drinking.

According to Karen Boyd, Senior Associate Dean of Students, binge drinking is on the rise at colleges across the nation. Although there have been no recent alcohol-related deaths on Tech's campus, over twenty people were sanctioned for being dangerously intoxicated last year.

The current procedure, although not in writing, is for the dean to notify parents only in cases where a student is admitted to the hospital as a direct result of alcohol abuse.

At this point, members of the GT SMART Coalition are exploring the possibility of implementing a broader parental notification policy at Tech. GT SMART coordinators, along with student affairs administrators, are seeking input from everyone who would be affected by a change in policy—parents, administrators, and students, the group that stands to feel the most impact.

No policy decisions have been made, although a recommendation is likely to come before the end of spring semester.

Some parents have already been consulted about the process, and a town hall meeting will take place next week to inform and gather feedback from students.

Dean Boyd met with a group from the Parents' Association Wednesday night to discuss the issue of parental notification. Parents were given the opportunity



By Andrew Pae / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**Dean Karen Boyd, left, discussed the possibility of notifying parents if their underage children are caught drinking.**

nity to ask questions about the current alcohol policy, and then discuss their values and what they would like to see in a parental notification system.

Some parents didn't want to be notified of alcohol violations unless their child was about to be expelled, while others wanted to hear about the very first offense—regardless of how mi-

nor the infraction. The general consensus was that parents should be notified after the second offense, or a level two violation.

The parents identified a few guiding themes: they don't want their children's memories of Tech to be only about alcohol, and, they don't want their students

See *Alcohol*, page 14

## Student Foundation visits other schools

By Julia Trapold  
Campus Life Staff

The Georgia Tech Student Foundation was chartered to give back to the Tech community. Their organization raises funds from students, alumni, and friends, invests the donations, and then grants money to students and student organizations whose projects will enhance the Tech community.

The GTSF was founded in 1986 with a \$100,000 donation from J. Erskine Love Jr., a 1949 graduate. The foundation currently has an endowment of \$700,000, and has 850 student donors this year. Their goal for the year is 2000 donors. Donations from students always remain invested; the money granted to organizations comes from the gains on the investments. There are three committees in the GTSF: development, which gathers donations from students; investment, which determines how the endowment will be invested in the market; and allocation, which grants awards.

Amber Sansom, graduating senior and Secretary of the GTSF, said, "Our purpose is to teach students philanthropy and give them the opportunity to improve the Tech community." The goal of the GTSF is to get young alumni and current students to give back to Tech.

However, last weekend four members of the GTSF decided to help another school. Sansom, along with senior Mary Nishimura and juniors Jeff Leber and Megan Winn, traveled to Lynchburg, Virginia, to visit Randolph-Macon Women's College to give presentations on the student foundation. GTSF President Jon Eisenberg said, "The reason these four students were selected to go on the trip is due to their commitment to the GTSF. The Board of Trustees felt they were the best to represent the student foundation and Georgia Tech."

Randolph-Macon, a small liberal arts school, is forming its own student foundation, which will be called the Peggy Penn Weitnauer Student Foundation. The students are starting with a \$250,000 donation from John Weitnauer, a Georgia Tech

See *GTSF*, page 14

## Tech Beautification Day cleans campus

By Brinda Ramaiya  
Assistant Campus Life Editor

Freshman Council will sponsor the second annual Tech Beautification Day next weekend on April 1. "In addition to being a great day for practical jokes, it is also a great day to give back to Georgia Tech and have a lot of fun," said Nate Watson, event organizer and member of Freshman Council.

This year's Tech Beautification day begins with registration at 8:00 a.m. and a free breakfast at 8:15 a.m. Afterwards, volunteers will work on a variety of projects such as planting bushes and shrubs, washing buildings and sidewalks, laying pine straw, and building trails. In addition to students, organizers expect several faculty members to attend.

The projects will end around 2:00 p.m. with T-shirts and a free lunch. "If you want

See *Beautification*, page 14

# After changes, students explore housing options

By Jennifer Hinkel  
Campus Life Staff

As the weeks count down to the end of spring semester, the outcomes of the housing's recent policy changes are manifesting themselves in many ways. Student opinion varies, and differing viewpoints are often due to differences in class standing, credit hours, and lottery numbers. However, all students, whether living on campus or off, will be making the decision of what they will call home in the fall of 2000.

Options include on-campus housing such as traditional, suite, or apartment rooms, sorority and fraternity houses, and the myriad of off-campus apartments and houses. As Tech students search for the perfect living space for fall, many express contrasting opinions as to the benefits and

disadvantages of different options, and why they will choose to live where they do.

Among the most popular reasons for wanting to live on campus include convenience, social life, price, and the high-speed Internet connection. Although many students who wanted to live on campus in the fall did not make the housing cut-off, a few others swear that they would much rather not live on campus.

Off-campus alternatives offer more space and freedom, even at a lower price. An added advantage to living off-campus is the ability to "get away from Tech" and have a place apart from campus and free of distractions.

Traditional dorms at Tech are small and noisy, say some students. However, some students see advantages to the tra-

ditional style rooms. Psychology major Barry Arnson, who lives in one of the non-freshman east campus dorms, said the traditional setup "forces you to be

**"The commute is not bad, [but a disadvantage is the] bad internet connection."**

Steven Whittington  
Off-Campus Student

social." Nevertheless, he cited the major disadvantage as "sacrifice of personal space."

Suite style dorms, such as Woodruff and Harris, offer larger bedrooms and semi-private baths.

Some students believe these dorms offer the most spacious rooms available on campus.

"The major problem with suite living is sharing one shower with four people getting ready in the morning—especially if there's no hot water," said an undergrad who lived in Woodruff last semester.

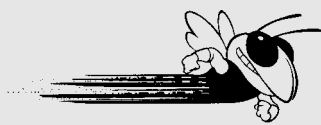
On-campus apartments appear to be the "promised land" of housing. Everyone wants one and there simply are not enough rooms to meet demand, especially for these more private and comfortable rooms.

"Eighth Street is fabulous, you can walk everywhere and are always in close proximity to other students," commented one economics major on a west campus apartment.

Greek housing offers an on-

See *Housing*, page 15

# Buzz Around the Campus



**Question** of the week

“What do you think about the new housing process? Better or worse?”

Feature and photos by Alisa Hawkins.



**Angelica Hurtado**  
ISyE Junior

*“It’s gotten better, but I still think co-ops should be guaranteed housing.”*



**Adam Broughton**  
ISyE Junior

*“I like housing so much that I moved off campus.”*



**Bart Gubbels**  
ISyE Grad

*“Priority should be based on the number of years a person has been on campus.”*



**Daniel Grayson**  
ISyE Junior

*“Giving younger students priority is better for their success at Tech.”*



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# Campus briefs

## Technique editorial staff applications due next week

Applications for editorial staff applications are available in the Student Publications office located in Room 137 of the Student Services Building. Completed applications are due by Friday, March 31 and may be placed in the box marked "completed applications" in the publications office. For job descriptions and an online applications, please visit <http://www.nique.net/info>.

## TEAM Buzz volunteers needed for Fall 2000

The TEAM Buzz committee is currently looking for volunteers to assist for its Fall 2000 community service day. Activities include service project planning, publicity, registration, and student, faculty, and staff involvement. For more information, e-mail [teambuzz@gatech.edu](mailto:teambuzz@gatech.edu).

## CultureFest 2000 seeks volunteers, participants

The 16th annual CultureFest, sponsored by the International Student Services and Programs and the Student Foundation, will be held this year during the week of April 1-9. Events will include an International Film Festival, Cultural Performance Night, cultural displays, soccer tournaments, and plenty of free food from all around the world.

For more information about CultureFest 2000, contact Debbie Harper at [debbie.harper@intprog.gatech.edu](mailto:debbie.harper@intprog.gatech.edu).

## Need help finding a roommate for Fall 2000?

Still undecided about fall housing plans? The Student Government Association has established a website to help people find places to live and roommates to match. The site, located at <http://sga.gatech.edu/housing>, is a simple online bulletin board for people to post housing availability and needs. Please e-mail Eric Hollins at [gte275e](mailto:gte275e) with questions or feedback about the site.

## WAM to host speaker Shirley Mewborn next week

Shirley Mewborn, vice president of Southern Engineering and the first female president of the Alumni Association, will speak Monday, March 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westbrook Gallery of the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts.

Katie Koestner will also speak next week at "Take Back the Night," which will be held Thursday, March 30 at 8:00 p.m. at the Ferst Center for Arts. The event will begin with a speakers on sexual assault and empowerment and will end with the candlelight vigil at the Campanile.

For more information on any of these events, check out the WAM website at <http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/wam>.

# FACES

## Faces at Georgia Tech

- Profile on Dave Mayeski -

By Daniel Weksler  
Campus Life Staff

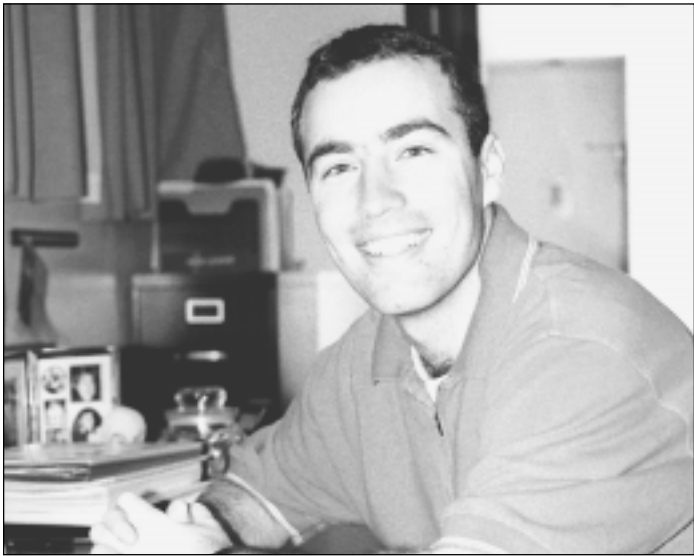
When spring semester began a few months ago, there were some changes in housing staff across the Georgia Tech campus. Danielle McDonald, west campus Residence Life Coordinator, or RLC, moved on to become Tech's Student Activities Coordinator. The person who took over her housing job was Dave Mayeski.

Dave came to the Georgia Tech campus from the University of Tennessee, where he held a similar position. Dave joins his wife Kori Mayeski, who is one of the RLCs on east campus.

Dave received a bachelor's degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland. From there, he went on to get his master's in social work at the University of South Carolina. After that, he headed to Tennessee where he was employed in the housing organization with a position similar to his current one.

During the time he spent in college and afterwards, he had the opportunity to meet two United States presidents. He met Ronald Reagan in 1987 while working with the Boys Nation Program, and was introduced to Bill Clinton at the Summer of Service in 1993.

Dave says there are many advantages to working on the same campus as his wife. "Working with my wife is a big benefit because



By Alisa Hawkins / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

**Dave Mayeski is a new west campus Residence Life Coordinator for the Department of Housing's Freshman Experience program.**

we can have meals together almost anytime we want, whereas most couples don't have that option when they work in different workplaces."

The Mayeskis also save on gas and travel time since not only do they have the same destination for work, but also they live on campus. They also work with various freshman groups such as the Freshmen Experience newsletter, Freshmen Activities Board, Volunteer F/X, and Co-Ed.

The workplace itself is enjoyable for Dave, from his point of view.

"I feel very fortunate that I got to choose what I do here at Tech,"

he said, "I enjoy being able to watch the students as they come, and as they progress towards graduation."

The fact that Tech has such an outstanding academic record compared to the other schools that he has been at, and the added pressure that comes with it for the students, makes it even more satisfying for Dave to see that students graduate.

If students ever have any problems, concerns, or questions, or simply want to meet the new RLC on west campus, Dave encourages them to stop by his office. He wants to know as much of Tech population as possible.

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GTSF

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alumnus, in memory of his wife Peggy Penn, a Randolph-Macon alumna. The students at Randolph-Macon wish to model their student foundation on Tech's because the GTSF is the only student foundation in the nation in which students perform development, investment, and allocations without outside help or supervision.

The four members felt very welcome at Randolph Macon. Megan Winn, Development Campaign Director, said, "They had a reception with the president and administrators for us – it was a very big welcome." Sansom agrees. "We also got to experience the social life there," she said. "The students took us out and made us feel at home."

While at the college, the GTSF members gave a basic introduction to their foundation, and then they divided into their respective groups within the foundation. Once split,

they gave seminars to the students teaching the basic structures and functions of each of the groups. Jeff Leber, Senior Financial Director, said, "The students there expressed interest in continuing a relationship to get structure and guidance while starting their student foundation. I see a continuing relationship between the two foundations."

The GTSF members were proud to represent Georgia Tech and enjoyed their trip.

"Our campaign slogan this year is, 'It's good to give back,' and we as members of GTSF have been given so much that it was nice to be able to share that with another school," said Winn.

Mary Nishimuta, Vice President of the GTSF, said, "Our mission is to help the community and this is going beyond that."

Sarah Swager, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Randolph-Macon Women's College, said, "I am confident that the insights [they] have pro-

vided will be helpful to us both in the immediate and into the future. I also hope we will have the opportunity to consult with the Georgia Tech Student Foundation in the future."

Leber said, "Leaving, we felt that we had made a momentous impact on the students there. In the future we can look at their school and see how the student foundation has grown and be proud that we were part of the process."

The GTSF also plans to help other schools. "We're hoping this will start a series of consulting trips. We know some other schools who are interested in starting a student foundation like ours," Winn said. "There is overwhelming interest because no other foundation is structured like we are," said Jeff. Mary said, "It was a first and hopefully it won't be a last."

For more information, please visit the Student Foundation's website at <http://www.gtsf.gatech.edu>.

Alcohol

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leaving Tech with a drinking problem.

"The issue of parents wanting notification is for them to be able to help rather than to cause more problems for the student," said Marie Woodruff, co-chair of the Parents' Association. "This is not meant to be punitive. All of the parents here were concerned with being able to intervene in order to avoid the problems in the first place."

Beautification

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a better campus come and help out! Community service is a great way to improve the world we live in as well as have a lot of fun with your friends," said Watson.

Tech Beautification Day was started by the 1998-1999 Freshman Council. "It was a great way to have fun and contribute something

In addition to seeking student input at the town hall meeting this Thursday, Dean Boyd has already met with SGA and plans to meet with Presidents' Council and other student groups.

An open forum to discuss if and when parents should be notified of alcohol violations will be held in Student Services Room 117 at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 30.

at the same time, everyone who came left with more than they came with," said Tony Agusti, co-founder of the event.

Online registration is now available at [www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/freshmancouncil](http://www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/freshmancouncil), or e-mail Nate Watson at [gte474p](mailto:gte474p) with any questions.

# THE TECHNIQUE

The South's Liveliest is now accepting applications for section editor and assistant editor salaried staff positions for 2000-2001.

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No previous newspaper experience is necessary, although writing skills are helpful. Please visit <http://www.nique.net/info> for detailed job descriptions and an online application, or stop by the *Technique* office in Room 137 of the Student Services building. The deadline for applications is Friday, March 31.

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Housing

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campus option with many of the benefits such as proximity and internet connection, but many of the sorority and fraternity houses are experiencing room shortages, especially as students lose their housing elsewhere.

Living on campus may be closer to class and more social, but the many off-campus options offer their advantages as well, such as having fewer distractions, more study time, and the freedom of escape from a hectic campus lifestyle.

Steven Whittington, an Industrial Engineering student, lives in Marietta. He chose to live off campus because married housing at Tech is “not great.” Where he lives in Marietta, he enjoys plenty of family time with his wife and son. “The commute [to campus] is not bad,” he said, but a disadvantage is the “bad internet connection.”

Three of the many apartment choices near campus are Peachtree Walk, Fernwood, and Hartford Place. Other students opt to rent a house in Home Park, the area adjacent to the side of campus, or in houses near Howell Mill.

Andrew McCown lives on Tenth Street in Peachtree Walk, which offers single, double, and loft apartments, but the cost is more than that of a campus room. “There is no real benefit to living off campus,” said McCown. He will be moving to a campus room in the fall, and feels “excited” about the change.

Fernwood, another popular apartment complex, is home to many Tech and Georgia State students. The apartments, whether single or double, are spacious, and residents

can enjoy luxuries not available on campus, such as keeping pets and the complex clubhouse, which can be rented for parties.

Hartford Place, located off Northside Drive on Northside Circle, is “about the same price as campus,” said Tad Merriman, a past Tech student who shares a two-bedroom apartment with two other students. “I would say the price is comparable, and you get a little more space.” However, he complains of a slow Internet connection as well.

Home Park houses, once an inexpensive way to live near campus and enjoy sharing a house with a group of friends, have become more expensive in recent months, with homes currently selling for almost \$200,000 to the dismay of those who were considering this option. Still, rooms are available to rent in Home Park as well as other residential areas close to campus, even if purchasing a home is impossible. Those who live in houses enjoy spacious accommodations, laundry facilities, full kitchens, and even faster Internet connections, as many houses have added cable and DSL connections in the anticipation of student renters.

Choosing a place to live will remain a challenge as long as on-campus housing shortages remain and off-campus alternatives seem less attractive to searching students. Since there is not enough on-campus housing to meet demand, several students feel that the Department of Housing shares responsibility in helping those who lost their rooms find suitable alternatives before the beginning of next fall’s term.

Feature Photo Sailing Club and the Alumni Association’s Ramblin’ Reck



Photo Courtesy Georgia Tech Sailing Club

The Alumni Association’s replica of the Ramblin’ Reck isn’t really pulling this boat past Tech Tower, but is sure looks that way. The Georgia Tech Sailing Club is hosting a new member barbecue tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. at the Water Sports Club House located on Tenth Street. Anyone interested in sailing is welcome to attend, and no previous experience is necessary. For more information, visit the club’s web page at <http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/sailing>, or e-mail [sailing@gatech.edu](mailto:sailing@gatech.edu).

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