

## Vigil for protesters

Students hold remembrance ceremony for victims of violence in Iran. ▶ 7



# Centergy parking deck collapses, no injuries



Photo by Blake Israel / Student Publications

Four floors of the Centergy parking deck in Tech Square collapsed on June 29 leaving heaps of debris as well as crushed and damaged cars. No one was injured in the incident.

By Zimu Yang  
Staff Writer

On June 29 a Midtown Atlanta parking deck at the corner of Spring Street and Fifth Street collapsed around 12:30 pm. The 1,415-space garage mainly served employees of the Centergy building, RBC Bank, Georgia Tech and patrons of the nearby L.A. Fitness Center.

Roughly 700 vehicles were re-

moved from the deck and 45 were rendered unusable as a result of the four-story "pancake-style" collapse. No injuries were reported as a result of the collapse.

Hardin Construction was the general contractor for the Centergy parking deck, which was completed in 2004. However, Metromont Corporation was the subcontractor which did the actual construction work. The building was fabricated from

precast concrete pieces manufactured at Metromont's facilities in Greenville, SC and Hiram, Ga. The parking deck has not been inspected since receiving its certificate of occupancy upon completion, and there had been no complaints since. Consequently, city officials did not feel the need to conduct what would have been a costly inspection.

"Obviously, we're...very concerned about what took place

and we're trying to figure out what could've happened," said Bill Pinto, president of Hardin Construction. "Nobody should be concerned about a parking deck anymore than - some plane crashes and all of a sudden you say, well, I can't go on that plane anymore - that's not the case."

However, Hardin Construction was recently fined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in the Atlanta Botanical Garden bridge collapse. The pedestrian bridge collapsed last December, killing one construction worker and injuring 18 others. According to OSHA's report on this accident, Hardin Construction and two other companies had placed support towers too far apart and had not properly inspected the structure.

"It's unfortunate that a connection [between the two incidents] continues to get made. They're absolutely and totally different situations," Pinto said.

Typically, structures such as bridges and parking garages are "over-designed" to handle any excess stress.

"In the design phase, we try to allow for some tolerances. We design for a stronger structure than it ought to be," said Robert Leon, a professor of civil engineering at Tech.

One striking aspect of the Centergy parking deck collapse is that such collapses normally occur during two phases: during or soon after construction, or when the structure has aged so much that it is falling part. The Centergy deck, however, has been in operation for only five years.

According to Harry Gleich, Vice President of Engineering for Metromont Corporation, the company has a clean slate and has done construction work on other concrete garages in Atlantic Station, Emory and the World of Coke. While he did not offer any speculative explanations for the collapse, he did rule out the possibility that the structure had been overloaded.

"Weight should not be an issue," Gleich said.

David Tyndall, head of Gateway Development, the company that owns the parking deck, reported that an exterior beam extending from one column to another, called the spandrel beam, had popped out. What forced the beam out is under investigation.

"With regard to those who had been affected and lost cars, we have been in contact with them and the property insurance companies," said Harry Conley, president and CEO of Fifth Street Management Company. "All of those issues have to be worked out. In the meantime they have been instructed to contact their insurance companies to make arrangements for other modes of transportation and then come back and talk to us."

Current rebuilding estimates project that repairs will take between three to six months. However, work won't begin until the investigation into the cause of the collapse has been finished.

"No repairs will begin until the cause of the collapse is determined," Conley said. "There will be some preliminary meetings in the next few weeks and a new design plan put into place."

# Thompson named new Ferst Center Director

By Sijia Cai  
News Editor

George Thompson, former professional dancer and general manager of the American Conservatory Theater, has been named as the new director of the Ferst Center for the Arts.

He steps into the position more than a year after former director Jay Constantz left Tech. Stephanie Lee, marketing director of the Ferst Center, served as interim director until Thompson was appointed last month.

As manager of the American Conservatory Theater, Thompson was responsible for organizing the production and operation of 14 shows per year. At the Ferst Center, he will be in charge of not only organizing each season's performances but also administration and fundraising, among other things.

"Early in my career, I worked at the State University of New York. That gave me a very student-centric perspective on managing a campus arts program. So coming to Tech is like a homecoming ex-

perience for me," Thompson said.

Thompson has over two decades of experience in managing arts organizations. One of his most significant accomplishments was increasing the budget of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center's operating budget from \$7 million to \$27 million while serving as executive vice president there.

"We had three very strong finalists, but George stood out because of his background and interviewing ability. He is really the best person to take the Ferst Center to its next level," said Bill Schafer, Vice President of Student Affairs, who chaired the search committee for a new director.

According to Schafer, after the former director left, a company called the Management Consultants for the Arts Inc. worked with Tech to develop a comprehensive report on what the future direction of the Ferst Center should be. One of the recommendations was that the Center needed to deepen its connections with the academic side of campus.

"I think there are many con-

nections that we can draw between the arts and engineering. Dance and architecture, for example, use a lot of the same nomenclature. Trying to find those connections while bringing world-class art to the campus is a main part of what I want to do," Thompson said.

Traditionally, the Ferst Center has been funded through state funding, revenue from performances, and fundraising. In light of the decreasing state budget, Thompson says that a main priority for the Ferst Center will be making sure that all the performances can pay for themselves and that further efforts to increase attendance, both from within and outside of the campus community, are undertaken.

"The Ferst Center cannot and should not be just another presenter in a vast array of presenters around the country. We need to brand our programming so that it's distinctive," Thompson said.

Another main focus of Thompson's is getting students more involved in the performing arts.

"When students come to a university, they are pulled in so many



Photo by Adebola Adedire / Student Publications

George Thompson, a former professional dancer with 20 years of experience in arts management, is the new Ferst Center Director.

different directions. I would just like to expose the arts to them, maybe bring in an outdoor performance or simply ask students

for their opinions. But I am heartened by the large number of our students who do come to all of our performances," Thompson said.



# TECHNIQUE

The South's Liveliest College Newspaper

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 during the fall and spring and biweekly during the summer.

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## Campus Crime

By Sijia Cai  
News Editor

### Student robbed...again

On June 29, a Tech student was walking by himself on Mecalaslin Street between 15th and 16th Street when he was robbed at gunpoint. According to his report, a large black SUV pulled up to him as he was heading northbound towards 16th Street. Three black males jumped out of the vehicle and pointed handguns at him. One of the suspects was wearing a white shirt while the others were wearing dark clothing. The student was forced to give up his backpack and cell phone after one of the attackers ordered him to surrender his wallet and struck

him on the head with the handgun. After taking the student's possessions, the suspects told him to run away, upon which he did so and alarmed the police. Even though the victim was slightly injured during the incident, he refused medical treatment and was released. Neither Atlanta police nor Tech police were able to locate the suspects.

### Don't solicit on the street

On June 26 at around noon, officers received a report that a person was walking around the road on North Avenue at Williams Street, soliciting rides and

business. The person was arrested for soliciting drivers in a public setting and was released to the Fulton County Jail. Interestingly, two days afterwards another person was arrested for soliciting passing drivers for rides and business at the same intersection. This time the incident was reported in the evening; the offender was also arrested and transported to the Fulton County Jail.

### When high, keep to yourself

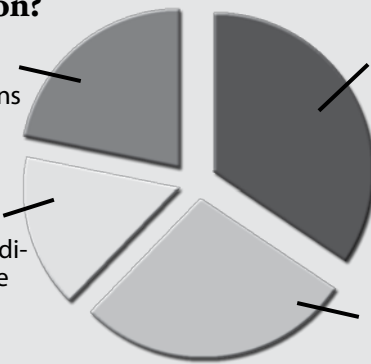
On June 29 at approximately 2 a.m., officers arrested a man for public intoxication at the corner of Tenth Street at State Street. The suspect was obviously drunk and was found to be in possession of marijuana and drug related equipment. Officers ran a check on the offender and subsequently released him to the Fulton County Jail.

## POLL OF THE WEEK

How do you feel about the Iranian presidential election?

**18.89%**  
They have elections in Iran? No way!

**13.33%**  
It was fair and democratic. Ahmadi-nejad won because the people picked him.



Based on 90 responses

Next issue's question:

How do you feel about the Centergy parking deck collapse?

Tell us at [niquen.net](http://niquen.net)

# TECHNIQUE

THE SOUTH'S LIVELIEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

## SUMMER SCHEDULE

### TECHNIQUE IN NEWSTANDS:

FRIDAY, MAY 22  
FRIDAY, JUNE 12  
FRIDAY, JUNE 26  
FRIDAY, JULY 10

### TECHNIQUE THE SOUTH'S LIVELIEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

STAFF MEETINGS  
FREE PIZZA!

7 PM

TUESDAY, MAY 26  
TUESDAY, JUNE 2  
TUESDAY, JUNE 30

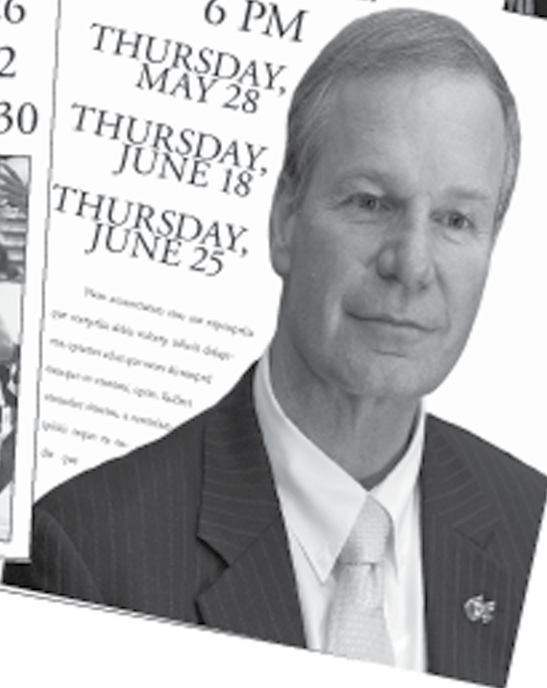


### TECHNIQUE THE SOUTH'S LIVELIEST COLLEGE NEWSPAPER

PHOTO MEETINGS  
FREE PIZZA!

6 PM

THURSDAY, MAY 28  
THURSDAY, JUNE 18  
THURSDAY, JUNE 25





# Tech helps launch “green” mission

By Vijai Narayanan  
Senior Staff Writer

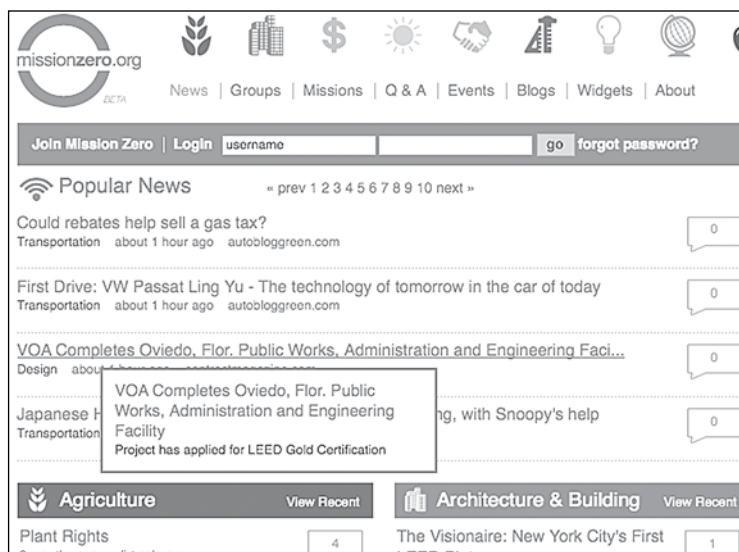
Tech has recently been named as a founding partner for Mission Zero, an online community that offers a place to share ideas and ask questions about sustainability issues. The goal of the website is to provide resources for companies interested in taking steps to become zero waste or carbon neutral. Moreover, it is a place for interested participants to learn about sustainability practices and how to implement them.

This resource was developed by Interface Inc., a local Atlanta company and leading manufacturer in the carpet industry. The idea for Mission Zero was conceived by Ray Anderson, a Tech alumnus and founder of Interface Inc. Anderson is also recognized as a pioneer in the sustainability field and was one of the first company executives who sought to make his company zero waste.

“Mission Zero provides a base for companies to put out their goals for the world to see and to become more environmentally sustainable by forming ideas through networking and discussion,” said Sarah Mallory, Student Communications Director for GreenBuzz, an on-campus sustainability resource.

Mallory said that individuals play a critical role in the project by asking questions and helping the community come up with answers.

The Mission Zero website includes a comprehensive news section that offers information on topics such as agriculture, design and environmental policy. The site also includes a mechanism for groups to take on smaller goals, or “missions,” such as switching to compact fluorescent light bulbs.



A screenshot of missionzero.org shows industry-related forums.

In addition, the site includes a social networking component where individuals, as well as members, can participate in group discussions to share ideas and ask specific questions.

“The more information and interaction there is on the site, the more global support it will attract, so that more people can join and make positive change happen,” Mallory said.

According to Mallory, Mission Zero was a logical step for Tech after GreenBuzz was developed in early 2008. She said that Tech strengthens its position in the sustainability field by participating in the project. In fact, Tech was the only university invited to be a part of Mission Zero.

“Interface approached Tech because of its research efforts in the field of sustainability and its track record on environmental issues,” said Terry Blum, Professor in the College of Management and an initial point of contact for Mission Zero.

“We are especially excited about the students getting in-

involved. This next generation is critical to maintaining the momentum that has been started,” said Joyce LaVelle, Senior Vice President of Marketing for InterfaceFLOR. “We sought out leaders who will contribute valuable information to the site and be able to recruit their own stakeholders... to build and sustain the community.”

In the early stages of the project, Tech played a mainly advisory role on how to build the community and raise the project’s visibility. According to Mallory, the next step would be attracting faculty, staff and students to get involved in the mission as well as to suggest possible improvements to the website.

Interface Inc. plans to step away from the project once the final version of the site is released. Afterwards, the site will be run by the community alone.

“Anyone anywhere can participate, which is so exciting to us because it is the community, not Interface, who will determine where this will go,” LaVelle said.

## 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 around the world.

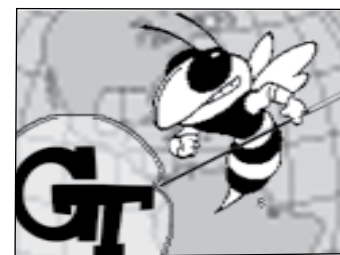
### King of pop Michael Jackson dies at age 50

On June 25, Michael Jackson, legendary singer and entertainer, died of a cardiac arrest at the age of 50. His personal doctor, Conrad Murray, reported that he had found Jackson in bed, not breathing, and had conducted CPR before alerting the police.

When paramedics arrived on the scene, they tried to resuscitate Jackson but were unsuccessful even after he had been moved to the UCLA Medical Center. The police reportedly found numerous strong painkillers and other prescription drugs in Jackson’s home, while Murray’s car has been towed for evidence. Murray, however, has denied prescribing any dangerous drugs to his patient.

Jackson had been scheduled to perform 50 sold-out concerts at a London arena, which he had indicated would be the “final curtain call” of his career. The concerts, as well as the public memorial service, were organized and promoted by AEG Live, which reportedly had a three-and-a-half year contract with Jackson.

Jackson is survived by his three children, his siblings, and his parents. His mother, Katherine Jackson, has temporary custody of the children. The will also names Diana Ross as guardian of Jackson’s children in the



event that his mother is unable to take care of them. There is media speculation that his previous wife, who gave birth to his older two children, will be seeking custody of them.

A public memorial service was held on July 7 at the Staples Center in Los Angeles and featured a variety of performers such as Stevie Wonder and Mariah Carey. It is still unclear where Jackson’s body will be put to rest.

### Plane crashes into Indian Ocean, 1 survivor

An Airbus 310 operated by Yemenia Airlines crashed into the Indian Ocean on June 30 with 153 aboard. The plane was en route from Sana’a, Yemen to Moroni, Comoros and crashed off the coast of a Comoros island a few minutes away from the airport.

Most of the passengers on board were French citizens who were heading home for vacation and had boarded the flight after a stop at Sana’a. Since Comoros does not possess any sea rescue capabilities, two French aircraft and a vessel searched for the crashed airplane.

Out of the 153 passengers and crew aboard, only one, a twelve year old girl named Bahia Bakari, survived. According to Bakari, she could not swim and had no life vest but held on to aircraft wreckage for more than 13 hours in the water until rescued. Her mother, who was traveling with her, did not survive the crash. She has been flown back to her home in France.



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Lee is the most amazingly stunning woman I have met.  
Ohh I forgot I like beer. So I like girls, cars, beer, and pies more or less in that order.

is it bad that my gatech email inbox has 18,000 emails in it  
Trolley fail.

i have no idea who mr. r hoffner is, but now i would like like to kick him in his shins. good going buzzport announcements --  
Hello from Lithuania! Or should I say labas?!

rackley  
Challenge 09

i just spiked my punch using free fall motion...physics is getting to me...

the ratio is finally getting to me...this is a problem...  
So apparently the people next to you at a red light WON'T go crazy for a sharp dressed man.

I thought everyone liked ZZ Top.

mo mo don't leave me :-(

NAN shower lottery: the losing streak is ridiculous...

she did what?! o.O

http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/studentsforlife/index.html

omg stupid thermo stealing my beauty sleep.... my bed awaits me..

why is GT dining hall food so good? this pizza tastes like the opposite of cardboard with no tomatoa sauce

Hi, billy mays here!!!!

omg mj I will miss u in my heart u were my life and I will listen to thriller on repeat forever

what's my name?

my boyfriend's new car is so sexy!! i hope to inherit it one day lol  
Bleach is GREAT!!! (the anime, not the cleaner, the cleaner is just ok)

Is it bad when you can relate to most of XKCD?

you broke your promise again-- of course, u went to boston.

if you click "reply all" on a mailing list, i will round up exactly 17 people, find you on facebook, and tar and feather you. stop being douche bags



## OUR VIEWS CONSENSUS OPINION

### Crime still a concern

#### *Administration and GTPD should work with students*

Crime around Tech has been the topic of discussion for students for the past month and deserves still more attention than it is being given. While we appreciate that the student reaction so quickly sparked the extension of the Stingerette service from campus to door of off-campus housing in Home Park and Centennial Place, this is not enough to make students safe.

In the recent town hall meeting held by College Democrats, some students left feeling as though the only advice given was not to walk at night anywhere.

This advice, while sound, does not address the practical needs of students. Students must be able to get home after studying at night. For now, the extended Stingerette service helps students to protect themselves, but what will happen in the fall?

Student initiatives, such as a town hall meeting addressing crime held by the College Democrats are a clear demonstra-

tion of student activism, and the administration and Atlanta PD should respond in kind.

Beyond emails, the administration itself has yet to reach out to students to help them feel safer. We applaud students for trying to make their voices heard on this issue, but now Tech needs to step up and answer. For once, students are willing to take action, interested and concerned about crime. Tech, GTPD and Atlanta police should take this opportunity to tell students about crime prevention.

It would be great to find a way to make the extension of Stingerette services permanent and financially feasible. Perhaps Tech could extend a bus route off campus, much like the green route. However, there would have to be some way for students to be safe at the bus stops while they wait. If Tech students can come up with Waitless on their own, though, surely a notification system for the buses can be created to do the same.

*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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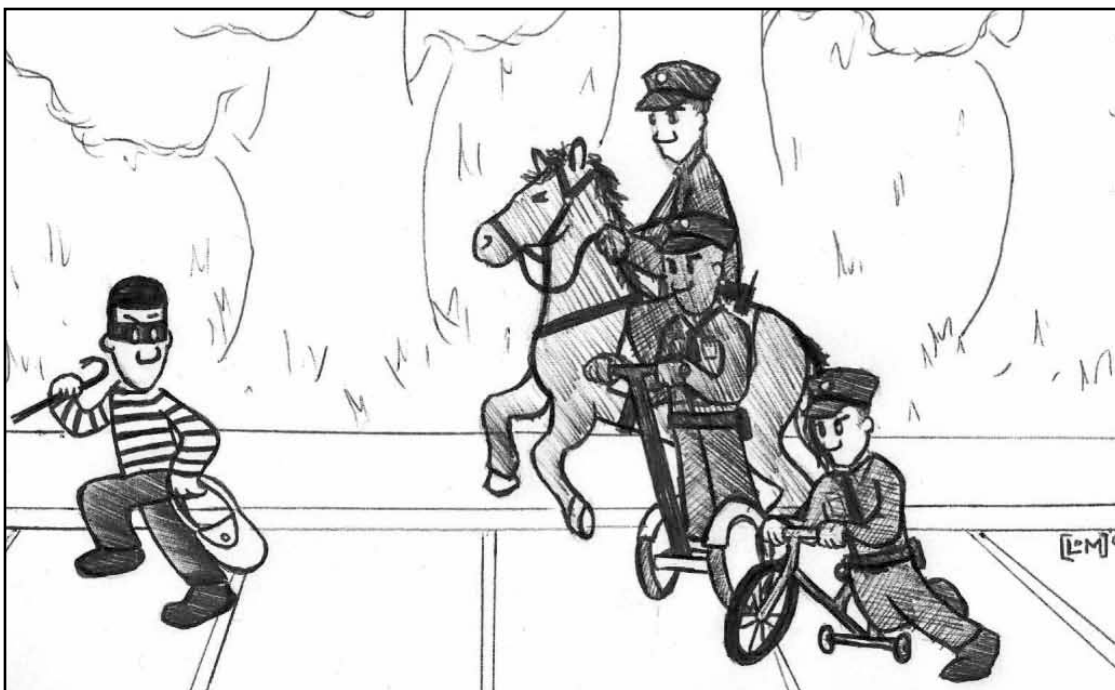
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## EDITORIAL CARTOON BY LUKE MASTRANGELO



**On-campus road blocks encourage alternative transportation**

## YOUR VIEWS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Administration should take action

President Peterson, thank you for keeping us all in the loop on steps Tech is taking on public safety. As a faculty member concerned about community, who commutes by foot from Midtown, I follow these topics with interest.

However, I am disappointed in reading this bulletin that the only solutions suggested are on the part of the police on the one hand, and individuals on the other. What is the role of the Institute?

There are many things Tech could do besides liaising with the police and educating individuals that would help us all stay safer.

For example, the areas of construction sites and the detours around them are very poorly lit; fixing that would make them less appealing as hiding places and safer for pedestrians to navigate.

At present, there are long waits in the dark for scarce and inadequate shuttles. Students writing in the *Technique* have also pointed out the potential to increase safety by improving campus transport.

The trolley and shuttle system could be a usable alternative to parking or walking alone for those who must come to labs, offices, the library, or student events at night, if there were reliable increased frequency, expanded routes, and well-lit secure waiting places.

Students, staff and faculty who have to come in from off-campus late at night have to park very far from their labs and offices, forcing them to walk across empty parking lots and a dark campus. Changing late-night parking rules would be a bureaucratic hassle, but would increase safety. These are just a few ideas; there are many more ways to make campus safer.

Bigger conversations need to happen about how to strengthen the communities in neighborhoods around Tech to make them safer for all of their residents. Tech should be a good neighbor by being in dialogue with non-Tech residents of those neighborhoods and supporting their initiatives to improve community centers, schools, youth programs and the like, as well as making sure police are accountable and their practices are transparent so that they can earn the trust of community members at Tech and beyond.

Fundamentally, I hope someone at Tech is thinking: what besides more police and individual common sense can we do to make our community safer?

Anne Pollock  
STAC assistant professor

#### **If you must commit a crime, don't use a gun**

Upon reading the influx of letters regarding recent incidences of crime near campus, I feel led to offer a different perspective. Crime is often an economic problem. As the economy worsens, crime increases. With lack of jobs and other alternatives, people become

#### 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.

desperate, and resort to crime. Previous submissions have explored local law enforcement to improve their efforts. Since this has already been done, I address this letter to the criminals.

As a child growing up in Atlanta, my house was robbed a few times. We never had cash in the house, and computers and televisions were too large for petty thieves to carry, so we were out less than fifty dollars after those incidences.

The only items robbers ever took with them were VCRS and boom boxes. If we were never robbed, we would probably never have upgraded to DVD and CD players, and I would still be listening to mix tapes on cassette and watching VHS movies. My parents now live in the suburbs and will probably never upgrade to Blue Ray. The reason I can talk about these few incidences so lightheartedly is that they weren't armed robberies.

No one can convince me that firearms are necessary to rob a Tech student. What are we going to do to you, gouge your eyes out with a mechanical pencil? I've never heard of anyone dying from getting hit in the back of the head with a TI-89. Simply demanding that I empty the contents of my purse is sufficient.

If I were robbed on my way me from the library at night I would consider that a bad day. If you robbed me at gunpoint, I would suffer a traumatic experience that would probably blight any good memories I may have of Tech.

Plus, the punishments for armed robberies are much more severe. Why take on the unnecessary risk? While I don't condone crime, it is a nearly unavoidable with an economic downturn. However, the unnecessary use of firearms is bad for everyone.

Korin Reid  
Fifth-year CHBE

#### **Healthier food should be offered, not donuts**

Am I the only person who views GT's recent decision to bring Dunkin Donuts to the student center abhorrent? Just what



# Amusement parks turn people to drones

Amusement parks have, since the dawn of civilization, been available for the delight of every community imaginable. Birked from the ideas of carnivals and fairs, it has grown into the beast that we know it today, resembling small cities hosting iron serpents and various other attractions.

But the irony ensues through the symbol being an antithesis of what it really represents, a somewhat desensitization of culture itself.

Disney had a vision of creating “lands” which would help stir the imagination of the patrons that visit. This was meant to allow these individuals to partake in different experiences throughout their visit; going from “future land” to “frontier land” exhibits a contrast in every aspect of life.

I soon realized that this was not indeed the backwash of Disney’s amusement parks. Instead individuals become mindless, disregarding all the fine details that Disney put in place, completely ignorant of their surroundings.

After coming back from Disney World, during the July 4th weekend, I was intrigued by the sociological mentality of the crowd. They are herded like cattle, mindlessly walking, pushing, and shoving toward their destination.

One by one, each head swaying left and right, we walk to the same rhythm as



“The public no longer thinks while inside the vicinity, but instead succumb to the nature of our...frightening endeavors.”

**Kelvin Kuo**  
Photo Editor

if we were all being lead to an inevitable end. Walking down, everyone is bounded by steel cages that lead through long walkways, a maze for our senses.

The public no longer thinks while inside the vicinity, but instead succumb to the nature of it, our final destination of frightening endeavors. Fighting to become the first in line, there is no affinity to other human beings, but instead only towards the groups they are in.

Civilization as we know it crumbles and rots as we degrade to animalistic beings. Slowly as we inch forward, each individual becomes more tightly knit and familiarity no longer matters. Oblivious to their current status, until finally a glistening steel steed appears to take them away.

Our true selves come out while mounted on the track of any roller coaster. Anticipating the events to come, yet only able to sense and live for the moment. Once the cart is unleashed, our inhibitions are

dropped and fear grabs us by our tails, unexpectedly. With nowhere to hide, our raw emotions shine for everyone to see. Sheer fright, enjoyment, indifference is casted, and we always lust for more devolved into what civilization has strived to avoid.

The corporation dehumanizes us, facilitating our tendencies to graze on the ideas of riding the next big roller coaster. Thrill seekers are no longer thrill seekers, but instead another statistic in their books.

Every aspect of the park is planned, so we no longer have to think, no longer have to anticipate our fate.

Our humanity drops right as we lay our feet on the asphalt, suddenly and inevitably transformed into the monster that hibernates inside of us. I find that people no longer have empathy for each other, but only fend for themselves, and their direct subsidiaries.

With park prices increasing recently raising the admittance to each park, the new price at

80 dollars for a day, worth of musky sweat, harsh sunlight, and rude patrons does not tickle my fancy.

I find myself fighting to get my moneys worth also. I believe that I could easily receive the same treatment, if I wanted to, for free at any local public park.

What is the method to this apparent madness we call amusement parks? Are we there living for the moment, in order to degrade ourselves into mere beings?

Why do we pay top dollar to mindlessly wander the pastures developed by amusement park giants? I ask myself these questions after each endeavor, waiting for a clue on what is truly fascinating about these stables.

While leaving the park, I see the same ritualistic mannerisms that consumed the ones that dared enter. Individuals marked after the exit of the park, as if branded for reentrance.

With the lingering euphoria, we exit as we had entered, funneled through wires into transportation that will lead us away, shipped back to our dwellings, leaving us with bewilderment and a blasé attitude toward what they have ahead, lusting for more adventure. This desensitization has made me wonder why we always allow nature to rule nature in these situations.

# 25 year plan should embrace all majors

It seems President Bud Peterson has decided to take another go at developing a 25-year plan for a major university, as he announced to campus Monday by email.

His first, the “Flagship 2030” plan for the University of Colorado at Boulder, referred to a goal of establishing a “new flagship university of the 21st century”. Tech’s current strategic plan contains similar wording: “the technological research university of the 21st century”. While references to the 21st century are textbook marketing-speak, in this case it represents an actual development that has to occur for Tech to remain not just an elite university, but relevant as a driver of progress in our society.

Some of the items in Tech’s new plan will be usual elements of such university strategic plans: improving education and research, promoting diversity, expanding financial aid availability, and so forth. These are worthy and necessary goals but these represent the current status quo. Tech has done a great job at being an excellent institution by the traditional standards of an engineering school. But to truly live up to being a 21st century technological research university, Tech will need big adjustments to its approach.

I strongly believe that, first and foremost, Tech needs to drop the notion that it is an



“For too many, the primary measure of Tech’s success is how high *U.S. News* has ranked our engineering programs.”

**Craig Tabita**  
Editor Emeritus

engineering school by definition. Almost as a matter of policy, from the top to the bottom, it seems everything at Tech is supposed to be about engineering first and foremost, and then the other disciplines where there is room left over. Even the selection of Peterson as Tech’s president, depending on which member of the presidential search committee you ask, was based in part on satisfying a requirement of being an engineer. This does not represent much of a commitment to the success of Tech’s other programs on the part of those individuals having control over Tech and its future. For too many, the primary measure of Tech’s success is how high *U.S. News* has ranked our engineering programs.

The problem with this is that technology is not just about engineering anymore. Technology is now intimately intertwined with every discipline, including all of the departments and majors at Tech, and it is technology that will carry those disciplines forward

into the future. Therefore, in the future a technology-centered institution like Tech should be at the forefront in all sorts of fields, and Tech has the duty of carving new paths for these disciplines to follow. If Tech is doing its job as a technological research university, fifty years from now the institute will be renowned for its research in areas like public policy and computational media, and the success of its alumni in those fields.

Yet, right now non-engineering programs at Tech are often overlooked and discredited. Tech needs to bring these other programs up to the same level of excellence, and meanwhile work to fix their reputations and clear up people’s misconceptions. Such a move, even if it requires diverting resources from the beloved engineering departments, will in the end produce a more complete and better renowned technological research university. This benefits everyone, even the engineers.

Perhaps at this point, we

will no longer have a campus where students who aren’t studying engineering feel like they don’t belong here. A campus where students have mutual intellectual respect for one another will produce a more unified campus community and a more pleasant atmosphere. Suffice it to say, with regard to certain majors that intellectual respect doesn’t entirely exist at the moment.

It’s time for Tech to move out of the past. It’s time to forge new definitions of success while forging new campus traditions. I can only offer my own perspective of what that means and how it should be done, but I’ll be severely disappointed in any 25 year plan that doesn’t take very seriously our non-engineering programs and recognize how vital they are to Tech.

Peterson’s message to campus included a reference “directed discussion sessions” to be held this fall as a chance for students to be involved. My suggestion is to take these sessions very seriously and make time to prepare for and attend them. As students, our perspective is critical towards setting Tech’s course for the next 25 years. For most of us, the majority of that time frame will be spent trading on the reputation of Tech as an institution after having graduated, with a degree whose value will be highly dependent on the success of this 25 year plan.

## BUZZ Around Campus

What was the best part of this summer?



**Caleb Galeos**  
Fourth-year CS

“Graduating.”



**Tyler Meehan**  
Third-year CS

“Going to the beach with my family.”



**Rachel Munnerlyn**  
Fourth-year CS

“Going to Stone Mountain and doing sky hike.”



**Amanda Magabo**  
Third-year CE

“Going to Costa Rica.”



## OUR VIEWS HOT OR NOT

## HOT-or-NOT

**Stingerette extended**

In response to the recent spike in crime in off-campus neighborhoods, the Stingerette's route has been extended to take students directly to their homes in Home Park and in Centennial Place for the rest of the summer. Hopefully, this will make students safer on the way back from long hours slaving at the library. We also hope that something similar can be put in place for the fall to ensure continued safety.

**Prestigious presenters**

Muhtar Kent, President and CEO of the Coca-Cola Company, has been selected as the speaker this December for the engineering ceremony and Admiral Truely, Air Force research pilot and Tech grad (AE '59) has been selected for the non-engineering graduates. Both are prestigious additions to our ceremonies and all graduates have yet another reason to look forward to graduation.

**Centergy deck falls**

A part of the parking deck of the Centergy building in Tech Square collapsed, crushing four levels of cars. No one was hurt, but the cars were unrecoverable in that section, while the others could not even recover their intact cars immediately for fear of collapsing another part of the deck. There is a vague fear of the demise of other parking decks in the area as now this contractor's bridge and deck have fallen.

**Useless light**

If you have ever been unfortunate enough to be caught at the traffic light at Atlantic and Ferst, you know how long you can waste time and watch nothing happen. Since Atlantic is now closed off from both directions, no one is turning either left or right there, but rather simply stopping to enjoy the weather. Perhaps the little traffic on Atlantic deserves only a stop sign to save time.

# Leave behind a legacy in life

Over 20,000 people turned out on this past Tuesday to honor Michael Jackson, the one and only "King of Pop." In his lifetime, MJ sold over 750 million records, supported 39 charities, won 13 Grammys, and revolutionized the world of music. People are going to remember Michael Jackson forever because he left behind a legacy of all the amazing things he did in his lifetime.

Although most of us don't have MJ's moonwalking skills or his collection of awards and honors, we all still have something unique to leave behind—our experiences and the lessons we have learned. Inevitably, after four, five or six years, all of us will "get out" of Tech. The question is if the valuable things that we have learned and the great things we have done will leave with us, or if they will be passed down.

This is a fundamental question that everyone should think about, especially in the context of student life and leadership. As both students and leaders we should have the posterity to think about not only the here and now, but also how we can leave a legacy for the future.



"Although most of us don't have MJ's moonwalking skills... we all still have something unique to leave behind."

**Jonathan Saethang**

Chair of PCGB and Managing Editor

A legacy is not simply a litany of accomplishments; it is a conscious effort to manifest intentions into actions. The objective of leaving a legacy should not be solely for recognition or for validation. Rather, the most important defining aspect of a legacy is to leave behind a positive impact.

It is essential to consider the ways that we can best make positive impacts that will continue on after we are gone. For example, philanthropy is a critical part of many student organizations that seek to give back to the community. Conducting a one-time service project is a great way to have a positive impact on the present, but establishing an ongoing program that continues to carry out service projects is a way to carry that impact into the future. While

it is important for us to take initiative in the present, it is more important for us to empower others to continue our work in the future.

One important way to help pass on lessons learned is to conduct a proper transition. This is probably one of the most common mistakes that a student organization can make. Many student organizations have struggled because those in charge did not share any information, thereby making their successors repeat the same mistakes that they endured.

As busy Tech students, it becomes very easy for us to get caught up in the tasks at hand. It is a vital skill, however, to have the ability to think ahead about what the future holds. What legacy will we leave?

## Donuts from page 4

we students need, yet another multinational fast food corporation serving us nutritionally-void food that preys on our addiction to sugar and fat. Add Dunkin' to our impressive list of quality food establishments like Chick-fil-A, Pizza Hut, and Burger King.

The last time I checked, energy and nutrition do not come from simple carbohydrates, refined white sugar, and saturated fat. They come from complex carbohydrates, found in fruits and vegetables. The stuff they put in the

smoothies that they make at the location that will be replaced by Dunkin' Donuts. We will be replacing real food with junk food. Health and quality are not associated with Dunkin' Donuts.

It is because of our addiction to sugar and fat that 1 in 3 children born after the year 2000 will get early-onset diabetes and part of the reason we are the fattest country in the world. The idea that GT would not only allow, but actively recruit such an unhealthy enterprise that makes bad choices more convenient for students actually epitomizes everything wrong with our country's health system.

I'm not sure which is more repulsive, the "food" they serve at Dunkin' Donuts or the poor decision to replace the only place to get fresh fruit on campus (the CRC smoothie place doesn't count because its never open) with a donut shop. A fruit bar is the exact thing we need, and its being taken and replaced by an unhealthy fast food chain. Don't let the low prices fool you. You get what you pay for.

Health and nutrition are about as high a priority on the GT Dining Service's list as safety and prevention are on the GTPD's list.

Nathan Black  
Fifth-Year EE

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## ISA hosts remembrance ceremony for protesters in Iran

Photo by Adebola Adedire/Student Publications

Students gathered at the Campanile on last Tuesday to honor the victims of the violence currently taking place in Iran.

**By Vijai Narayanan**  
Senior Staff Writer

The Iranian Student Association (ISA) hosted a remembrance ceremony on June 30th to honor victims of recent violence in Iran.

The event, which was held at the Campanile, highlighted issues facing Iranian society today, as well as the problems faced by members of the Iranian-American community at Tech.

"We really wanted not only to educate the community about what is going on in Iran but to also bring together the Iranian-American community so that they could share their concerns about what is going on in Iran," said Melissa Parham, second-year CHBE and president of ISA.

In recent weeks, violence has rocked the capital of Iran, Tehran, due to disputed results of the country's presidential election.

In the days leading up to the election, the main opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi emerged as a strong contender against the incumbent, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. After the

election, the opposition accused Ahmadinejad's government of orchestrating a wide-scale fraud and stealing the election away.

The Supreme Leader of Iran, Ayatollah Khamenei, has come out in support of Mr. Ahmadinejad. However, other members of the clerical establishment have expressed doubt about the legitimacy of the election, suggesting a strong fissure between the otherwise united government.

As a result, the streets of Tehran have erupted with protests, which were attended mainly by students, young people and women.

Seen as a serious threat to the Islamic Republic since its founding in 1979, the government has harshly clamped down on dissidents, making use of the pro-government Basij militia and more recently, the Revolutionary Guard. As a result, many protestors were injured and some killed.

Due to a ban on foreign media in Iran, traditional news outlets have turned to social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter for information. The Iranian government has

blamed western media for inciting the riots.

Parham stressed that Tech's ISA does not have any political or religious affiliation but instead held the remembrance ceremony as an appeal to end the violence in Iran.

"The latest events have moved every Iranian, all over the world. The taboo has been broken about speaking out against the government's injustices. Although we cannot be directly involved with the change movement, events like this really help the community come together," said Mr. Abel, a member of the local Atlanta community and an Iranian-American.

The remembrance ceremony began with a reading of a Tehran professor's personal account of the protests, intended to humanize the protestors and understand what it would be like to protest in that political climate.

The event also included a candlelight vigil for the victims of the recent violence in Iran as well as the airing of songs in Farsi and a recitation of the Iranian national anthem.

Organizers also handed out green arm-bands, similar to those worn by the protestors, in an effort to show solidarity for their cause.

"I was really motivated by what I saw on TV and the web, and I was concerned about how students from Iran would cope," said Rev. Chris Hannum, who attended the event to learn how to support Iranian-American students at Tech who seek him for help.

Other attendees had a more personal connection to the events in Iran.

"I am half Persian, and I wanted to pay respects to my family in Iran," said Daryoush Vaghar, fourth-year ME.

The delicate nature of the political and social climate in Iran was highlighted by the fact that many attendees of the ISA event did not want to be filmed or provide their names to reporters and event cameramen, fearing that it may have unintended consequences.

"The one positive that has come out of the violence in Iran is that the Iranian people are more united and together in a way that they weren't before," Parham said.



Photo by Dean Liao/Student Publications

Above: Sasan Tarassoli (left) and Behrouz Mostafavi (right) hold up signs and candles at the Iran Ceremony.

Right: Students place the Iranian flag on the Campanile. Right (above): Students light candles in the Campanile. Right (below): The last candle is lit, spelling out the word "Iran".



Photo by Adebola Adedire/Student Publications



Photo by Adebola Adedire/Student Publications



Photo by Dean Liao/Student Publications

## Students voice concern over off-campus safety

**By Kate Comstock**  
Contributing Writer

Due to the recent spike in crime in the Home Park area, many students are concerned that if they move off campus simply to cut costs, they will incur another expense in risking their safety.

To address concerns about crime in and around campus, students met in a town hall style meeting Wednesday in the Student Center with representatives from the Atlanta Police Department (APD), the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD), Atlanta City Council and the Institute's Office of the President.

The representatives emphasized the importance of working together to create a safe environment for everyone and that the situation is very important to everyone present.

"I am [scared to walk home] now, actually. After the Hampton Street thing I ride my bike now," said Home Park resident Chet Sanders, fifth-year EE, in reference to the armed robbery that took place June 23.

Officers at the meeting stressed that the reason Tech students were victims of crime in Home Park had more to do with the time they were out on the streets of Home Park.

The robberies generally occur between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m., and officers assured that in any area of Midtown it would not be wise to walk alone or in pairs during those hours.

The officers strongly recommended that students wishing to walk to campus at night should take the Stingerette, because many of the robberies occur while the victim is on foot and the thieves are in a car.

"Our students are targeted because they are out. But they're not targeted [because they're Tech students], that's just not true," said Chief Melissa Crocker of GTPD.

Students and Home Park residents expressed concern that the inability to walk to and from campus at all hours is a major drawback for a community that is known for being so pedestrian friendly to students.

In response to students' need to travel during these hours, the Institute now offers Stingerette services in Home Park for the summer. By the fall, SGA hopes to secure a flat rate for students traveling to Home Park by taxi.

"Twelve robberies involving Tech students since February is twelve too many," said Jim Fetig, associate vice president of Marketing and Communication for the Institute, "but we realize that the situation [in Home Park] has changed, and it's going to take the cooperation of the neighborhood."

Representation from the Home Park Community Improvement Association was also present at the meeting.

The group is interested in enlisting the help of Tech students who live in the area to help form a neighborhood watch group that can report any suspicious activity.

The officers agreed that one of the strongest defenses the Home Park community has lies in creating a strong support system that is proactive and reports any suspicious activity.

"Get to know your community. From a policing standpoint, we depend on you guys just as much as you depend on us. If all of you know your community to [the point] where you know who's coming in and out of your community and can give us the information when someone is suspicious, it goes a lot further [than when something has already happened]," said Crime Prevention Officer Ian Mayberry of GTPD.

Officer Mayberry also added that if anyone sees what he or she believes is suspicious activity, they should call 911 immediately.



# Table tennis team achieves national recognition

By Yameen Huq  
Contributing Writer

The player leaps to counter the fury of his opponent, knocking volley after volley right back at him. The opponent responds with equal ferocity, breaking through his defenses, getting in just the right position, releasing an unstoppable force in order to ensure victory.

Table tennis is a sport requiring the utmost concentration, precision and effort. Tech's own table tennis team is a prime example of this level of effort and commitment. Having already achieved national-level status and recognition, Tech's table tennis team plans on progressing even further in the uphill journey against other nationally-ranked teams. The girls' team in particular has done well, scoring in the top four at the national level. The matches at the national level typically involve four single players and a doubles match. Victory is decided on a best of five scale.

"We just started about two and a half years ago. We are ranked number 15 in the country," said Paul Balla, third-year AE and team vice president.

The team has been improving ever since they entered the competitive circuit through a combination of skill and determination.

"We have practice three times a week. [On] Tuesdays and Fridays [practice is] open for all types of members," Balla said.

"Thursdays are for people who want to become more serious in the sport. We have 15 members on the competitive team," said Abishek Kumar, ME graduate student and team president.

The team has finished first in Georgia for the last two years and plans on going to the nationals in Rochester, Minn. this year.

"We finished first in the regional tournament again. We beat every other team including Georgia and Georgia State," said Kumar.

The national tournament is not the only place where this team faces off against opponents. They have several tournaments throughout the semester and plan on having even more tournaments in the semesters to come.

The team itself has a long history. It started as a casual club founded by Mark Peterson, ME '08, the team's first president.

The team has since experienced a turn towards competition as well as a changing guard of presidents. Aaron Scott, ME '08, a former president of the organization, designed a mechanical engineering project that shot balls using gravity for people to use as practice.

Kumar himself has been play-

ing since 10th grade for fun.

"I got serious with it just recently. I came to Georgia Tech, but in my first two years there was no real club, but there were good players. In my third year I met with Aneec, a third-year ME and one of the best players in Lebanon. I also met with Mark Peterson, the president," said Kumar.

"We got an inactive club off the ground. At first, Peterson was only interested in recreational play, but we made sure he was interested in competing with other teams," Kumar said.

"I transferred here a year ago from Gainesville State College. I played there recreationally. I wanted to join a team and so I met Aaron Scott, and he really got me involved in this club," Balla said.

The team hopes to become an even greater club, and climb above their top-15 ranking from

last year.

"This year we hope to finish in the top 10. If it becomes a varsity sport, while I don't think it's possible, we could have a lot more members and scholarships for people. Anyone can get involved, but to join the [competitive] team you have to pass tryouts and be in the top ten or fifteen. To go to nationals you have to be on the A-team," Kumar said.

Several of the team's members are graduating this year, so the current members are really hoping to recruit some fresh, talented faces.

"We actually have a new person coming next year with 10 years of table tennis experience. His mom emailed about her son, asking how the team here is. So people really do know that we are the best in Georgia and one of the best teams around," Balla said.



Photo courtesy of the GT Table Tennis Association

The table tennis team placed first in Georgia for the last two years and is ranked 15th in the country.

## Safety

from page 7

Officer Mayberry suggested that other ways to try and stay safe in the community are trimming back bushes to eliminate potential hiding spots and adding lights to the outside of homes.

Chief Cochran of the APD assured meeting attendants that the recent criminal acts are "on their front burner and they would like to put the [suspects] in jail."

She also assured them that the Atlanta Police Department is working hard to locate the responsible individuals but cannot release all of the information at this time.

They are planning to construct road blocks in hopes of finding individuals in the area that have outstanding warrants and are participating in illegal behavior.

She would not comment on any plans to place undercover officers in the area as part of a sting operation.

The Home Park area is patrolled by the APD in conjunction with the Tech Police Department.

The Georgia State Troopers also offered to start patrolling the area to create a stronger law enforcement presence in the area.

Residents in Home Park should call the APD to receive the fastest help, but GTPD often accompanies them to the calls and assists in backup when necessary.

The meeting was organized by the College Democrats at Tech and comes on the heels of President G.P. "Bud" Peterson's June 23 press conference with the Atlanta Police Department to announce the arrests of three suspects in relation to the May 4 shooting of a former Tech student at Tivoli Tenside.

When prompted as to why the crime in the area has escalated, Chief Crocker said that there has actually been a decrease in the amount of crime in Midtown and at Tech.

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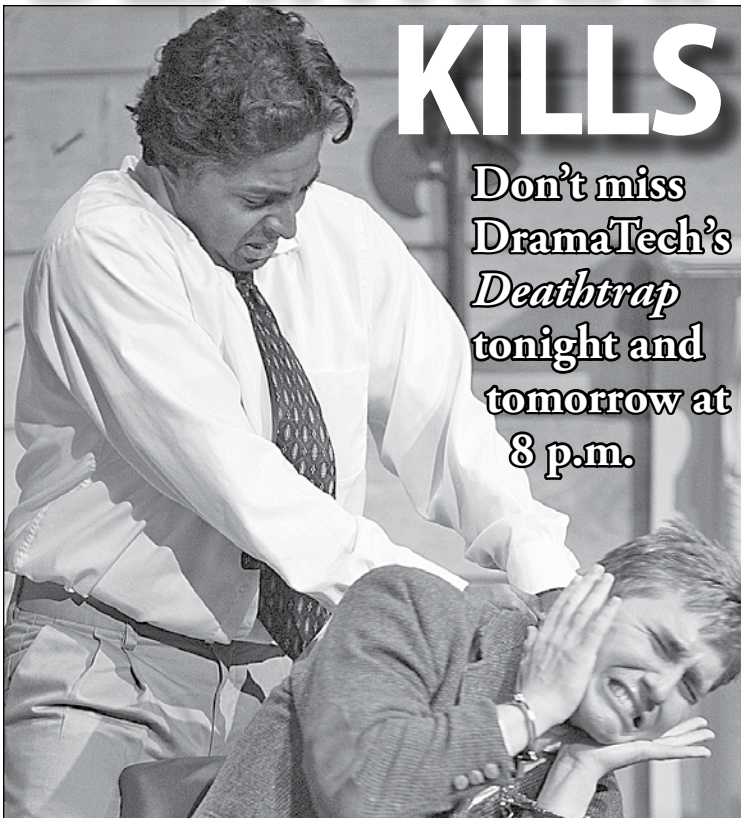
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Will I go to jail if I kill my roommate's dog in the middle of the night?  
types of engineering  
It's weird being in Atlanta for a few hours without visiting campus...  
Chris, your terrible music makes me want to punch you in the stomach.



## DEATHTRAP



# KILLS

Don't miss  
DramaTech's  
*Deathtrap*  
tonight and  
tomorrow at  
8 p.m.

Photo by Kelvin Kuo/Student Publications

### THEATER

#### Deathtrap

**GENRE:** Comedy thriller

**STARRING:** Brittany Roberts and Tamil Periasamy

**DIRECTOR:** Melissa Foulger

**PLAYWRIGHT:** Ira Levin

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Alexandria Stephenson  
Contributing Writer

*Deathtrap*, the longest running comedy-thriller on Broadway, boasts twists and turns enough to make any audience member dizzy and doesn't disappoint. The style of the play, especially the writing, is very indicative of the period in which it was written. Some word choices and references are so obviously from the seventies that one can't help but chuckle.

Sidney Bruhl, a playwright most famous for the longest running play on Broadway, has retreated to his home in Westport, Connecticut in order to work on a new play after all of his most recent ones have flopped. He is joined by his wife of eleven years, off of whose trust fund he is living.

After receiving a superbly crafted manuscript from one of his students at a seminar he led, Sidney jokes to his wife Myra that he should kill the boy for it—especially since the manuscript's author Clifford Anderson has made only two copies and no one knows of his work.

Myra is naturally quite disturbed by this prospect, and when Sidney invites Clifford up to Westport from New York, Myra makes sure to stay in the room to ensure Sidney does nothing rash. Once Clifford confirms no one knows of his manuscript or where he is, Sidney is free to act, and he takes complete advantage of his opportunity.

I will point out that the play's ending is a bit strange and was a muddle of actions that weren't substantiated by any kind of real characterization. But besides the ending action of two of the characters, everything else was well thought out. The main characters weren't static, and two of the supporting cast members were hilarious foils for one another and the main characters. One such character, Helga ten Dorp, was played by a man dressed as a woman—an eastern European woman, complete with accent and all. Matt Carroll did quite a good job filling those womanly shoes, not to mention that his accent was fantastic.

Carroll wasn't the only superb actor in *Deathtrap*. The entirety of the troop was quite impressive. Brittany Roberts tackles her portrayal of Myra's internal struggle between condoning and condemning Sidney's murder of Clifford beautifully. Tamil Periasamy as Sidney does an enchanting job with the antihero, making the audience both root for and revile him.

Brian Webber's turn as an ingenuous first time author rings true, and the latter parts of his performance are pitch perfect. Finally, Johann Margulies as Porter Milgrim, the Bruhls' lawyer, is fantastic.

The writing and the acting weren't the only exceptional things in this production. The set and costume design were superb. That is the thing that most impresses me time and again when I see DramaTech productions. The craftsmanship that goes into creating the backdrop for the actors is fantastic and engenders complete immersion in the story.

It is a joy to go to DramaTech, partly for the great repertoire and acting, but also for the heart and the soul that goes into their productions. *Deathtrap* is no different, leaving audience members glad for the five bucks they paid to see the play.

## Inferior plot defeats *Transformers*

### FILM

#### *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*

**GENRE:** Action, Adventure

**STARRING:** Shia LaBeouf and Megan Fox

**DIRECTOR:** Michael Bay

**RATING:** PG-13

**RELEASED:** June 24, 2009

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Chris Ernst  
Staff Writer

*Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen* is a hot, hot mess. It's so hot it should be on a tin roof, or be dropped. But however bad any review may be, people will still go to see this movie. Nothing can stop the power of sex appeal and robots together.

It earned \$16 million on its Wednesday night premier alone, which is a record. It earned almost \$600 million in two weeks. This movie is so shiny that people will stand everything else that is terrible about it.

The story makes no sense and the way it is presented in the plot is chaotic at best. There were so many action scenes the dialogue punctuated the fights ... not the other way around. For being two and a half hours, a great, complex

story could have been carefully designed to engross the audience. But instead, it is action followed by explosions followed by yelling, running and explosions.

There was no way for it to end well because absolutely nothing had been done over the course of the movie. It just ends, the credits roll and then the audience wonders what just happened.

This movie is too big for its own good. There are too many fighting robots and not enough reason for them to fight. Everything was very epic, but for no reason. What was not epic was the ending.

For being so grandiose, there should have been multiple dimensions in peril, not just some machinery, or aliens, or Megan Fox's empty head or whatever it was. This script is so incredibly terrible and cut and pasted together there was no way it wouldn't be one of the worst movies of 2009. To be fair, it is a causality of the writers' strike.

The plot holes are jarring, distracting and confusing. The heroes walk out the back door of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, which is located in downtown Washington, D.C., they are suddenly in a field with the majestic Rockies in the background. There were no apologies or attempted Lucille Ball style explanations. It just was.

Also, Petra is not visible from the Great Pyramids, so there is no way the heroes ran from one to the other. And if there is a mythical gun, why not use it on more than one thing?

Shia isn't given much to do and only really has one moment to shine. It's about four seconds long and then something explodes or invades earth or bursts through a wall. Furthermore, Shia is in one of the robots when it transforms. I thought there might be a cool control room, Shia driving a huge robot, but instead he is just running on the ground a shot later like nothing happened. Somehow he traveled several hundred feet to the ground safely, quickly and without a hitch step.

As a final note, someone needs to be either fired or promoted regarding these "racist robots." It is a steaming pile of controversy that could have been avoided easily, but then GM would have to be plugged elsewhere in the movie. The robots add nothing to the movie and could be excluded entirely, but instead I guess it was supposed to be funny.

But the movie is just so shiny. It's so pretty. It's so pretty it hypnotizes the audience into apathy. This is its only redeeming factor. The robots are pretty, Megan is pretty and the \$600 million isn't arguing.

## LP fails to rival members' previous work

### MUSIC

#### Discovery LP

**LABEL:** XL Records

**GENRE:** Indie Rock

**TRACK PICKS:** "Orange Shirt," "So Insane" & "Carby"

**RELEASED:** July 7, 2009

**OUR TAKE:** ★★★★★☆

By Mark Jackson  
Contributing Writer

The duo consisting of Vampire Weekend's keyboardist, Rostam Batmanglij, and Ra Ra Riot's singer, Wes Miles, makes a lot more sense than you may think. They were friends even before their respective bands blew up, Batmanglij has production cred with VW and Miles has a voice that would suit almost any moderately paced pop instrumental. When I found out they were making an electronic album together (one that has been in production since 2005), I wondered what exactly they were aiming for.

In a *Pitchfork.com* interview they revealed some of their original ideas for a Discovery album—use hand claps in every track, use lots of vocal melodies (along with Auto-Tune, the effect T-Pain uses) and have every member of the band play synthesizer. *LP* was a pop experiment from its

conception.

"Orange Shirt" and "Osaka Loop Line" kick off the record and coincidentally were the two songs that made rounds on the Internet long before the album was released on Tuesday. Synthesizers pulse, glitter and climb on "Osaka Loop Line," and we get our first taste of vocal looping and tempo shifting. Auto-Tune is briskly used to touch up the ends of phrases, and the sound is genuine given the limited instrumentation. Hi-hat ticks are also a Discovery favorite and they show up on "Orange Shirt."

Ra Ra Riot's "Can You Tell" is remade and dubbed "Can You Discover?," and in all its Auto-Tune glory, it's not all that bad. It just doesn't match up against the record's best tracks. I say leave it up to other people to remix your other band's songs. I guess they came to the realization that nobody was going to inject Auto-Tune into a Ra Ra Riot song any time soon.

The trio of "So Insane," "Swing Tree" and "Carby" (featuring Ezra Koenig of VW) is quite impressive, and it's on songs like these where Discovery seems to find their niche in the sea of synthesizers.

Production is crisp, percussion is used fluently to shift speeds drastically and the vocals fit somewhere in the middle. Auto-Tune is taken away for the most part, and the songs wouldn't have it any other way.

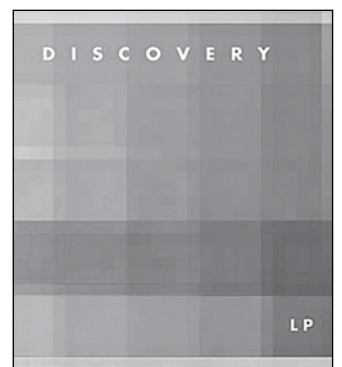


Image courtesy of XL Records

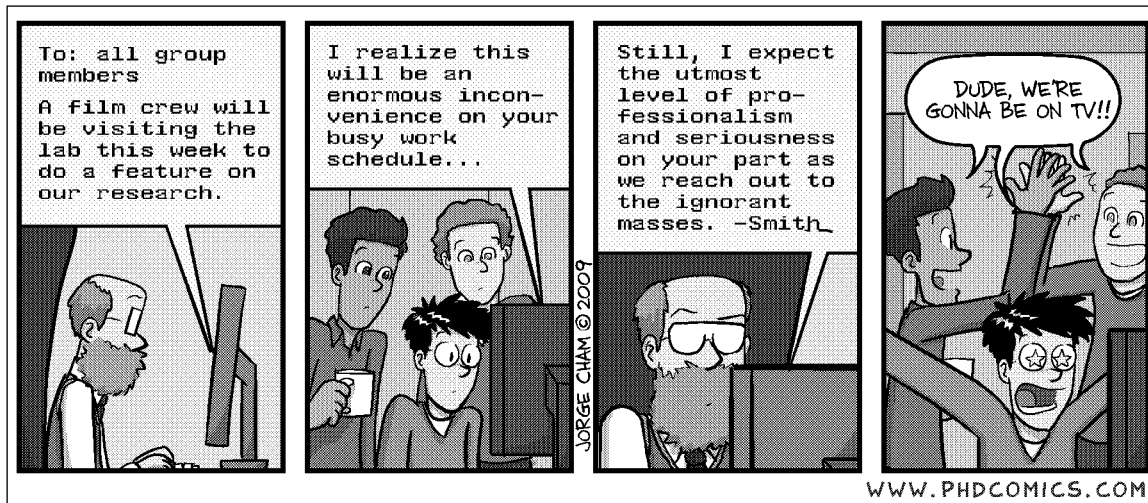
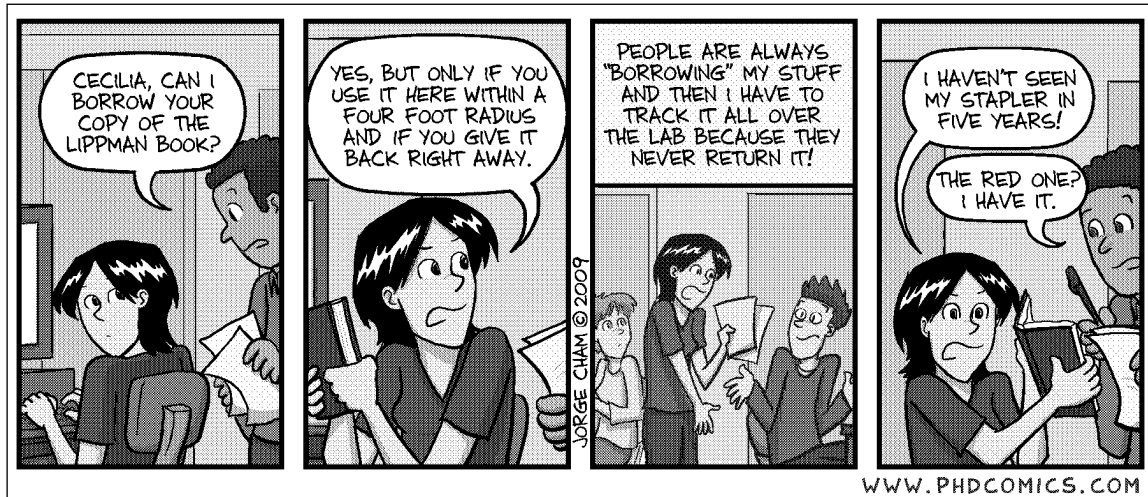
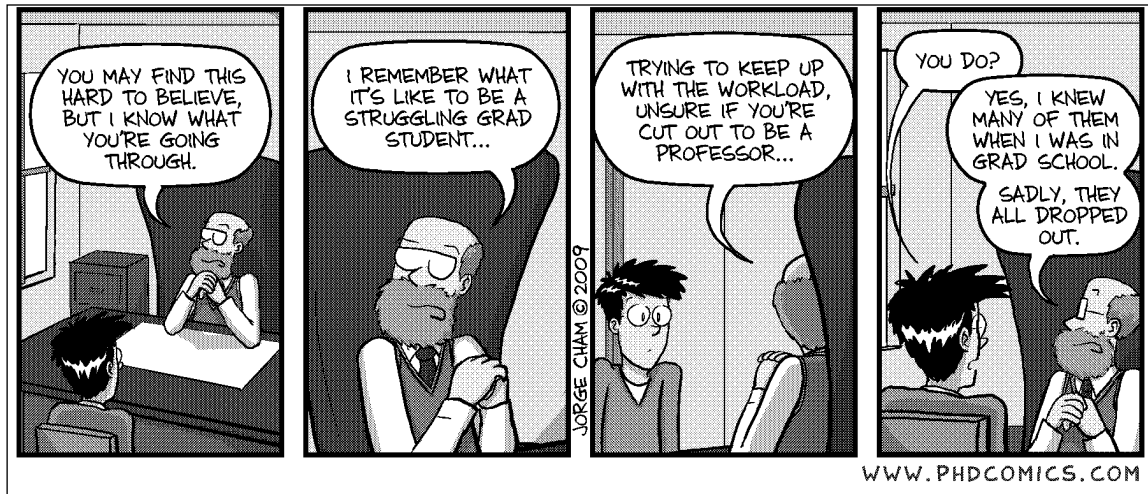
Most of these songs are hit-or-miss, and when they miss it can be quite painful. "I Wanna Be Your Boyfriend," featuring Angel Deradoorian of Dirty Projectors, is especially bad. Loop Deradoorian's polished vocal scales with glitchy drum ticks and stalkerish lyrics and you have yourself the worst song on the record.

As a whole, *LP* is a mixed bag of summery, synth-drenched pop songs that draws less from Vampire Weekend and Ra Ra Riot than expected. A few tracks bring down the overall quality and replayability.

The problem here is what's under the surface. At times it seems like the hooks are the mainstay, which is aggravating for Vampire Weekend and Ra Ra Riot fans because while irony is one thing in music, using it to create an overall experience is another, and lyrically it definitely lacks in comparison to the duo's other outfits.

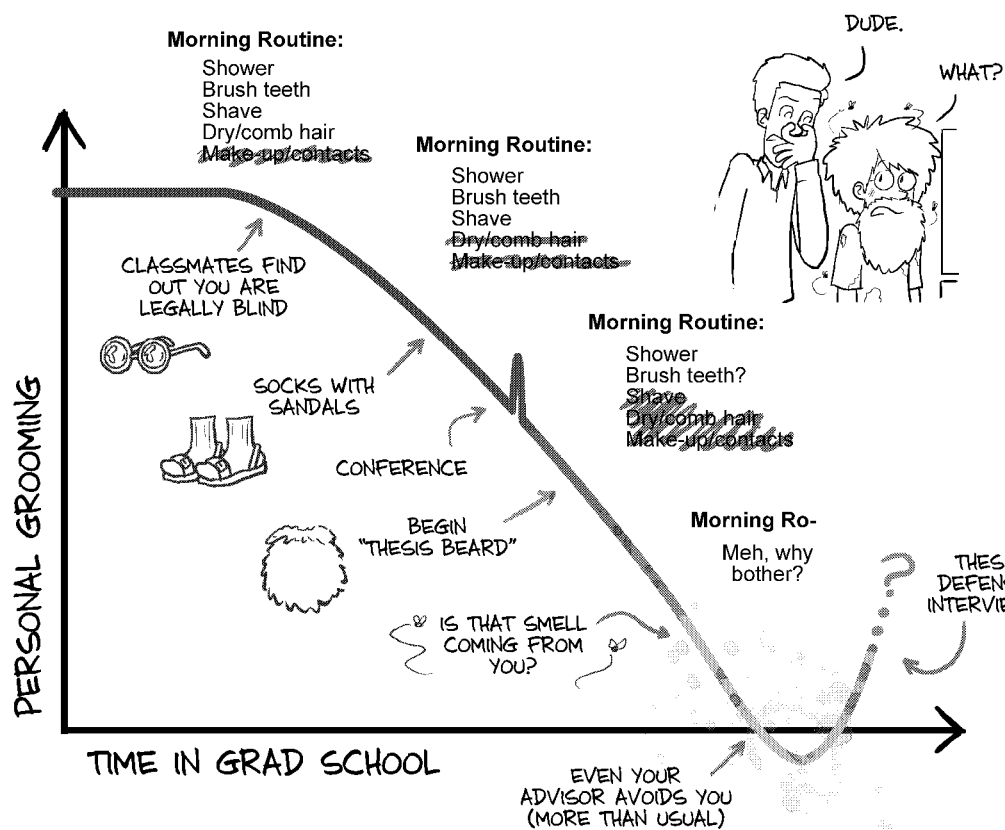


## PILED HIGHER &amp; DEEPER BY JORGE CHAM

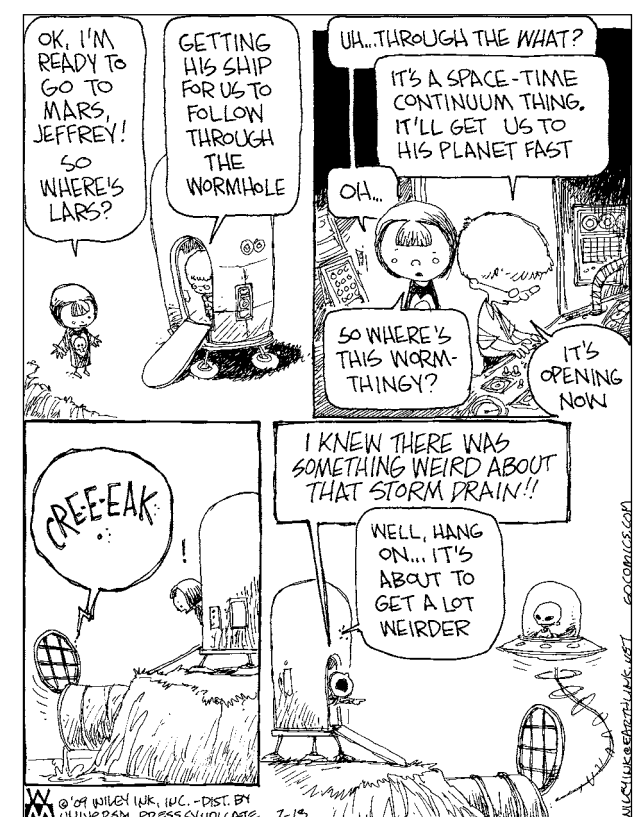


## GROOMING VS. TIME IN GRAD SCHOOL

What happens when you realize nobody's paying attention.

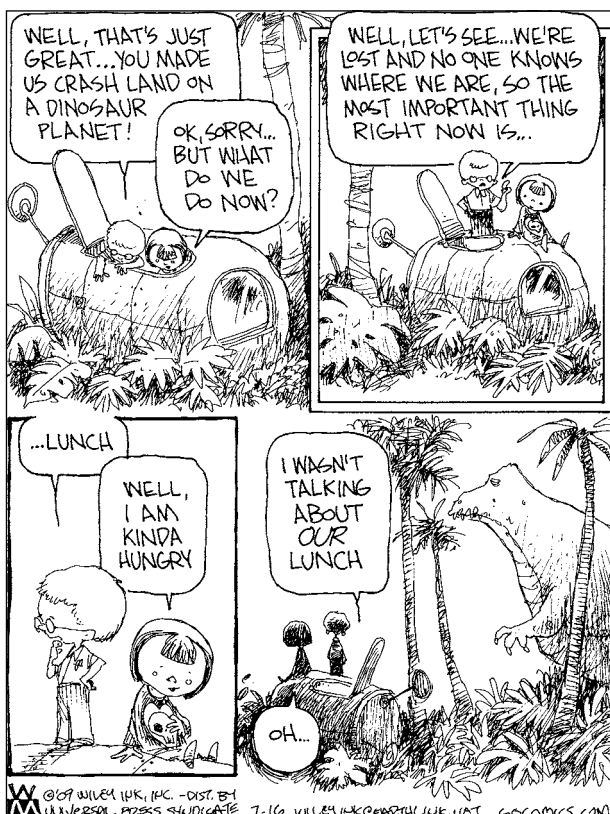


## NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY

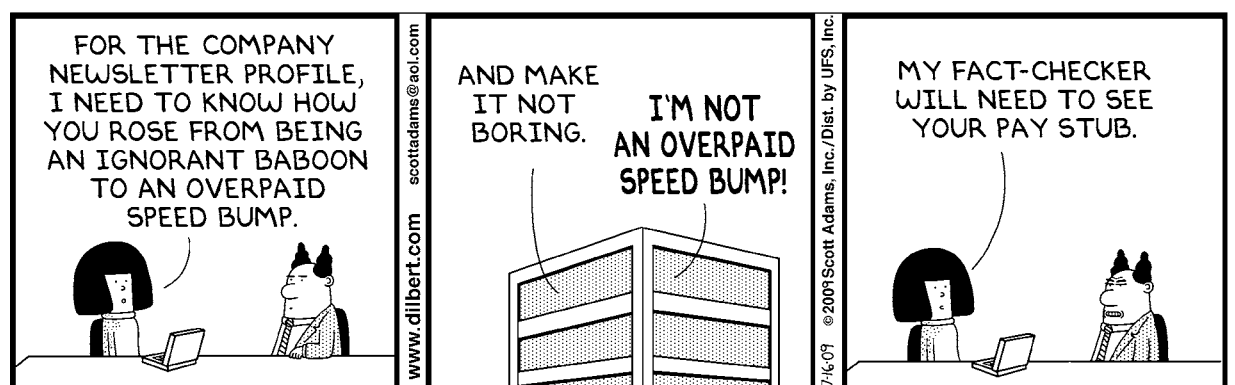
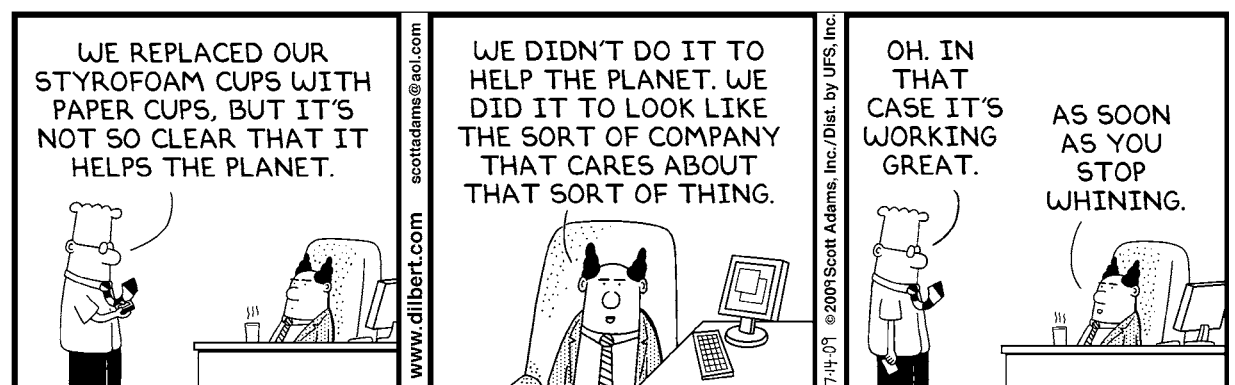
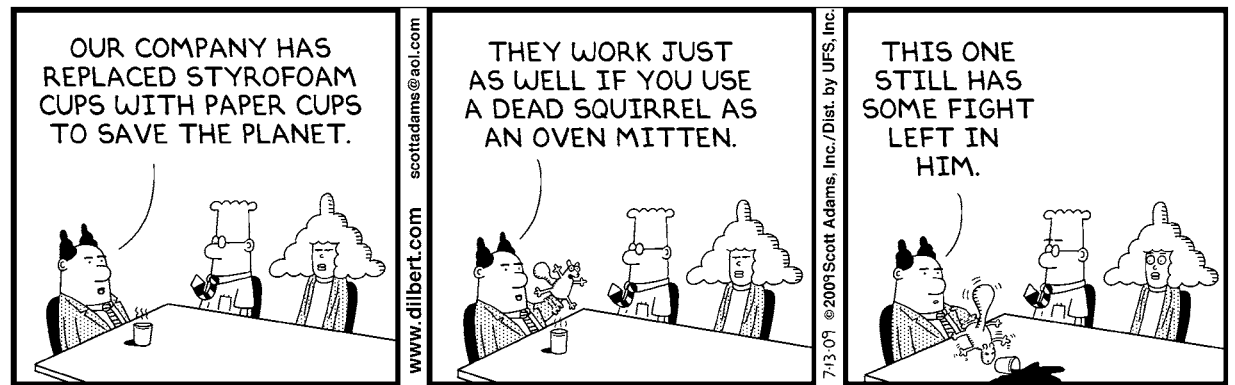
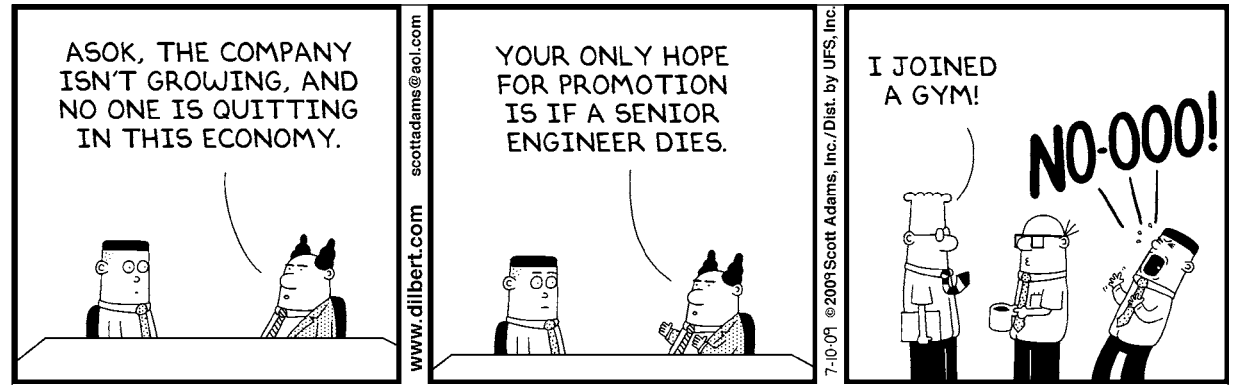




## Non Sequitur BY WILEY



## DILBERT® BY SCOTT ADAMS





## Jackets earn preseason WNIT bid

By Steven Cappetta  
Sports Editor

On June 30, it was announced that the women's basketball team will play in the 2009 Preseason Women's National Invitation Tournament. This will be the Jackets' second appearance in this tournament; the first came before the 2002-03 season, when the team reached the second round.

Tech is one of the 16 teams in the field and will host Winthrop in the opening round. The Jackets and Lady Eagles will face off for the fourth time in school history. In the last matchup, which occurred last season, Tech was able to defeat Winthrop 65-27 in the first round of the Bahamas Sunsplash Shootout. The winner of this year's game, scheduled for Nov. 13, will play either Oklahoma State or Arkansas-Little Rock in the second round.

This year's WNIT will include 11 teams that reached the postseason last year. This year's field will include Arkansas-Little Rock, Bowling Green, Florida Gulf Coast, Marist, New Mexico, North Carolina A&T, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, West Virginia, Winthrop, Chicago State, Eastern Illinois, Northern Colorado, Towson and the University of Texas-El Paso.

The event will run from Nov. 13-22. The second-round games will be played Nov. 15-16, the semifinals on Nov. 18-19 and the championship game on Sunday, Nov. 22. All games will be hosted by the participating schools.

Last year, No. 4 North Carolina defeated No. 2 Oklahoma 80-79 in the preseason WNIT championship game. The game featured a pair of top-five teams in a close game that had six ties and seven lead changes.

Tech's berth in this year's preseason WNIT is a mark of the team's rise to prominence in collegiate women's basketball. Last year, the Jackets had a single preseason exhibition game against Troy. But after a third straight 20-win campaign, the Jackets, who were ranked as highly as No. 22 in the country last season, have begun to garner attention on the national stage.



Photo by Robert Comber / Student Publications

Isasia Hemingway goes for a layup during last year's home game against Virginia.

## Lawal returns for another season

*Rising junior withdraws name from '09 NBA draft*



Photo by Joey Cerone / Student Publications

Gani Lawal takes the court before last season's game at North Carolina. Lawal, who led all Tech players in rebounding last season, entered his name for the 2009 NBA draft before withdrawing to return for his junior year of college basketball.

By Nishant Prasad  
Senior Staff Writer

Around the same time that Tech's men's basketball team secured the last of its six freshman recruits in late April, the team learned that forward Gani Lawal, a rising junior, had submitted his name for the NBA draft.

Lawal did not immediately hire an agent, meaning that he was leaving open the option of returning to Tech for his junior year.

On June 15—the deadline for players to decide whether or not to declare for the draft—Lawal announced that he was withdrawing his name from the draft pool, meaning he would be returning to Tech for his junior year.

Although the men's basketball team struggled last year and finished 12-19 on the season, Lawal had a strong year as the focal point of the Jackets' offensive scheme.

The 6-foot-9 power forward from Norcross High School followed up a solid freshman year by averaging nearly a double-double in points and rebounds as a sophomore.

He led the team with 9.5 rebounds per game, and was

second in scoring on the Jackets' roster with 15.1 points per game after leading Tech in that category for most of the season.

Additionally, two of his best statistical games came in Tech's two biggest wins of the season.

He had 25 points and 10 rebounds in the 76-74 upset of No. 6 Wake Forest on Jan. 31, and his 20 points and 14 rebounds helped Tech earn an 86-81 victory over Clemson in the first round of the ACC tournament.

After declaring for the draft, Lawal participated in a number of pre-draft camps and workouts with several NBA teams, all the while gathering information on where he was projected to be drafted and what he could do to improve his stock.

He performed well in these postseason activities, and NBA scouts had plenty of positive things to say about Lawal's intelligence, footwork, motor skills, and his potential for success in the pro circuit.

As mock NBA drafts began to emerge, many projected Lawal to be drafted late in the first round, where strong teams such as the Portland

Trail Blazers and Cleveland Cavaliers would be making their picks. However, many believed that Lawal would be better served returning for his junior year of college basketball.

The general consensus among many scouts was that he was still somewhat raw as a pro prospect, and he would likely have to spend his first couple of years in the NBA on the bench continuing to learn the game if he entered the draft right away.

ESPN's Jay Bilas believed that Lawal was talented enough to be drafted, but that he would benefit from returning to Tech and working on his post play against ACC opponents.

By spending another year refining his game, Lawal would put himself in position to be drafted earlier by a team looking to take someone ready to play right away, and thus avoid the risk of riding the bench during some of his best potential years of professional play.

Also, even though Lawal posted very strong numbers against conference foes as a sophomore, Lawal's numbers began to decline late in the

conference schedule.

In Tech's first five ACC games, he averaged 11.2 rebounds and two fouls per game, but in the last five ACC games he had just six rebounds per game while committing 3.8 fouls per game.

Both of those trends, a decrease in rebounds and an increase in fouls, can be attributed to fatigue for a post player, and Lawal often had to work hard to get open while facing double- or triple-teams throughout the ACC schedule.

His declining numbers towards the end of the season became a concern among NBA teams, and proving that he could maintain a high level of play for an entire season would go a long way toward improving his draft stock.

In the end, Lawal chose to return for his junior year. "I learned a lot about my game and what I need to work on, and coming back to school will be very beneficial toward that end," he said in an interview with [ramblinwreck.com](http://ramblinwreck.com).

Lawal's return means that he will team with incoming freshman Derrick Favors of South Atlanta High School to give the Jackets two strong post players for next season.