

technique

2013 HOUSING GUIDE



Photo by Will Folsom Student Publications

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Basic Housing

FRESHMAN EXPERIENCE

As a basis of comparison for rising sophomores, the Department of Housing's Freshman Experience Program is designed to make the transition to a college life-style as smooth as possible. Residents are encouraged to become part of a community, providing opportunities to take on leadership roles and become involved in weekly events.

All Freshman Experience rooms are traditional two- or four-person rooms with community restrooms. Two- person rooms and four-person rooms are \$2787 and \$2675 per semester, respectively.

Instead of having a Resident Advisor (RA), students are assigned to a Peer Leader (PL)—an upperclassman who can guide residents through many aspects of life at Tech. PLs are encouraged to take their residents on various outings throughout the semester.

Meeting other students is a big part of entering college and the Freshman Experience provides many opportunities to do so. Emerging Leaders and Freshman Activities Board are a few programs which enable students to improve their leadership skills while building new relationships with their fellow students.

Freshman Experience halls are also community-oriented. With their "open door" policy, academic and social support, residents are encouraged to engage in events with other students and become acclimated to the campus environment.

Students living in the Freshman Experience participate in the Freshman Experience Meal Plan which gives them access to the three dining halls on campus and a set number of Ramblin' funds to use in on-campus dining locations.

SUITE STYLE

A suite is an acceptable compromise between apartment life and dormitory life for many students. Suites are made up of a set of two-person rooms similar to those in a dormitory. There are two different suite-style buildings on campus: Woodruff Hall on West Campus and Harris on East Campus.

These two-person rooms are connected to a full bathroom. Therefore, people who live in suites experience a room environment similar to that of a dorm, though the lack of a community bathroom is more akin to apartment accommodations. The Residence Life staff provide activities as they do in dormitories.

Also similar to dorm life, furnishings include standard desks, desk chairs, wardrobes and dressers. There is also a community kitchen and laundry, similar to the facilities in most dormitories.

Some students prefer suites to dormitories. Roshan Garg, a first-year student living at Woodruff, explained that the suite-style building had social advantages and was conveniently located.

"I think I like the dynamic of a four-person rooming arrangement better than I would just being with one roommate. It's more fun getting to know more people. You don't miss out on dorm life. Plus, my suite is right above a dining hall, so getting food is never a problem," Garg said.

The rental amount for a suite is \$2,909 a semester. This is slightly more costly than living in a dormitory, but for those looking for a cheaper option than an apartment, a suite is a viable choice.

APARTMENTS

Tech offers several options for on-campus apartments on East, West and North Campus. There are three standard apartment styles that students can choose from.

The first has private bedrooms with a shared kitchen and bathroom. Popular apartments in this category include North Avenue Apartments, Maulding, Crecine and Eighth Street on West Campus, as well as 10th Street Apartments on North Campus.

These rooms each include two bathrooms, a kitchen and a living room. However, furniture provided by each apartment varies by room. Each bedroom usually provides a bed frame, a mattress, a desk, a chair, and a dresser. Here, each individual room has an approximate area of 95 square feet. The kitchens in these apartments are equipped with a refrigerator, stove, oven, dishwasher and microwave. These rooms most commonly accommodate two to six residents, although rooms with more bedrooms exist in the Undergraduate Living Center.

The second type of apartment is limited to graduate students. The only apartments of this type are at 10th and Home East. These apartments have individual bedrooms with a shared living room, kitchen, and washer and dryer. These individual rooms are furnished with a bed frame, a mattress, a desk with chair and a dresser. These rooms are larger than the common four-bedroom apartments, at an average area of 120 square feet. The living rooms are each furnished with a couch, a coffee table and two arm chairs. The kitchen includes a dishwasher, microwave, a stove, an oven and a refrigerator, with a dining area furnished with a table and chairs.

Apartment are popular choices for upperclassmen. Each of these apartments cost about \$4,000 a semester.

GT Housing Dates to Remember

february
28

Fall 2013 housing
application closes

march
21

Summer 2013
application opens

april
10

Summer 2013
application closes

**We'd like to hear from you.
Write us a letter.**

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technique

all we're missing is **U**!

pizza meetings on tuesdays
7 p.m., flag building, room 137

**Join the
Technique.**

You will eat pizza.
You will interview people.
You will watch movies.
You will listen to cds.
You will attend sporting events.
You will write stories.
You will photograph stuff.

You will join.

Specialty Housing

WOMEN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The WST Learning Community offers a program for female students which includes activities and events for its 48 residents living in the Stein and Goldin Houses, located in Fourth Street Apartments. The residents participate in

events include monthly dinners and “informal lunch discussions” with presentations from guest speakers for educating WST students on a variety of campus resources and professional opportunities, from career strategies and resume building to interview skills and graduate school.

Students also join in a humanities elective course and a coffee hour that takes place prior to the class, both which are led by Co-Director for the Center for the Study of Women, Science

and Technology Dr. Carol Colatrella.

Residents are expected to engage in specialized Student Committees to plan programs in different areas. Some of these committees include Communications and Recruitment for student outreach, the Working Women Committee for career planning and the Study and Service Committee that works with local middle school students on hands-on activities in Girls Excelling in Math and Science (GEMS) clubs.

GREEK HOUSING

With 39 fraternity and sorority facilities on campus lodging approximately 1300 students, Greek housing is a viable option for many. The majority of Greek houses are privately owned and function outside of the Department of Housing.

According to the GT Guide to Greek Life on the Greek Affairs website, fraternity and sorority accommodations are competitive with other options, with housing per semester gen-

erally costing less than the average on- and off-campus rates.

According to Tanner Marcantel, Assistant Dean and Director of Greek Affairs, the fraternity or sorority experience can enhance a student's college career by providing a community of support that living in a Greek house can enhance.

“For those chapters with a facility, they are able to provide a living environment and a learning environment that supports social interactions and emotional well-being,” Marcantel said.

Megumi Takeda, a fourth-year BME major, lived in her Alpha Phi sorority house for a summer. She emphasized that bonds between sorority and fra-

ternity members can grow stronger during the experience.

“Living with those girls was a lot of fun...we hung out and had movie nights, and I really grew into a strong relationship of trust with them. Having that support around me was great,” Takeda said.

Choosing to live in a Greek house can also be an opportunity to gain easy access to academic support.

“One of the girls I lived with in the house was a group member in one of my classes. It was really convenient to work with her. We had a lot of fun in the house, but school work is a priority too and it can be easier to study with people you know and are around when you need them,” Takeda said.

IHOUSE

The International House, or iHouse as it's commonly known, is a diverse on-campus community that accommodates 24 international and 24 American students each year, half of each group male and the other half female.

Located in Fourth Street East and Hayes House residence halls, students have a suite-style living arrangement with individual rooms connected by a shared full bathroom. Encouraging cultural interactions and exposure, iHouse residents

participate in programs such as i-Film (which screens international films) and i-Outreach volunteer projects.

Nikita Rao, a fourth-year STaC and ALIS major from India who was raised in the UK and is a permanent Georgia resident, has lived in the iHouse for three years.

“You get a really close-knit community here, and it's easy to make good friends with similar interests. We eat together, go to the gym together and have a lot of cultural events like iIndia and iKorea where we get to experience different foods, dances and presentations,” Rao said.

Japanese exchange student Daisuke Namba, who has lived in the iHouse since the fall 2012 semester, also enjoys the organized events and outings that bring the residents closer together, as well as the outlet for new global opportunities that the community provides its residents.

“It's a family environment, and since we're making connections with people from all over the world, if you want to travel you can meet people who know the culture and can help you when you get there,” Namba said.

The deadline to apply for a space in the iHouse is Fri. Feb. 8 at 5:00pm.

THINK BIG

For students who desire real-world educational experiences in a topic of interest to them, ThinkBig at Tech provides an opportunity to interact closely with like-minded peers and faculty mentors. Projects and activities take

place both on campus in a variety of subjects, from environmental sustainability to explorations in Atlanta. The program is sponsored by the Center for Academic Enrichment and the Department of Housing-Resident Life.

Each ThinkBig community has approximately 30 members and all of them—with the exceptions of the International House (iHouse) and the Women, Science and Technology Community—are located in apartment-style housing in North Avenue and WESTech housing.

There are eight Think-

Big communities to choose from for the 2013-2014 academic year. These include Applied Humor, which focuses on the use of comedy in technical innovation and communication, and Center Stage for the performing arts at Tech. Kids@Nature combines day trips to outdoor reserves with volunteer opportunities, while Thought for Food offers culinary experiences.

Participating in ThinkBig is a two-semester commitment. Applications for potential ThinkBig residents and non-ThinkBig roommates are due by the Feb. 28 housing deadline.



Photo by Sho Kitamura Student Publications



Photo by Brenda Lin Student Publications



Photo by Sho Kitamura Student Publications

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technique

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CAMPUS SAFETY DAY

Tech Walkway • Thursday, Feb. 14



On February 14, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Campus Safety Day activities will include:

- K-9 officer demonstrations every hour
- DUI/Texting Simulator
- SkyCop Mobile Video Monitoring and Georgia Tech/Atlanta police car
- Atlanta Police Mounted Patrol with their horses and Georgia Tech Equestrian Club
- Information tables featuring Georgia Tech Police, Emergency Preparedness, McGruff the Crime Dog, Bicycle Infrastructure Improvement Committee, Environmental Health and Safety, MARTA Police, and more

For Campus Safety Week, check out these presentations in Rm. 152 Clough Commons:

K-9 Officers, Feb. 11, 5-6 p.m. • Alcohol/Drugs, Feb. 12, 5-6 p.m. • Physical Security, Feb. 13, 6-7 p.m.

For more details, please visit www.police.gatech.edu/newsandevents.

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GaTechPD >   



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// NEWS

InVenture Prize finalists announced

BY LINDSAY PURCELL
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Tuesday, Jan. 19, semi-finalists for the InVenture Prize competed for one of six finalist spots in the final, televised rounds on March 13.

"It's like American Idol for nerds," said Dr. Craig Forrest, one of the competition's founders and a member of the Prize's Faculty Organizing Committee.

Winners of the InVenture prize are given a free US Patent for their invention and guaranteed a spot in Georgia Tech's prestigious start up accelerator program, Flashpoint. 1st place wins \$20,000 and 2nd place wins \$10,000. There is also a People's Choice Award, with winnings of \$5,000, where

fans vote for their favorite invention from the final round.

"The best part of the competition has been the feedback we have received from judges and other contestants. We have used them to enhance our product in many ways," said Steven Wojcio, one of the semi-finalists.

Wojcio's invention is a software patch for PIN readers on mobile phones.

"It collects biometric information and uses it to produce a profile for the owner of the PIN. Then, it compares later entries to the profile to determine if the person attempting to verify his/her identity is the actual owner of the PIN," Wojcio said.

In the preliminary rounds, over 150 teams competed for

one of the 20 semi-finalist spots. From these inventions, 6 were chosen for the final round. Inventions are judged on their "Innovation, Marketability, Market Size, Inventor

Passion and Probability of Becoming a Successful Business."

"[The most challenging part is] having the courage to

See **INVENT**, page 4



Photo by Sho Kitamura Student Publications

A semifinalist team at the InVenture Prize Competition presents their invention. Only six moved on to the finals.

// ENTERTAINMENT

Tech goes to the Grammys

BY JOE MURPHY
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

With the Grammy Awards coming up on Sunday, Feb. 10th, the musical world has been abuzz with speculation over who will take home each prize; old talent and new faces alike will be broadcast for the world to see at this biggest musical event of the year. And this time around, all Georgia Tech members have an incentive to tune in, because one of our own has been nominated for not one, but two Grammy Awards. Dr. Laura Inman is an Assistant Professor of Music here at Tech, and in collaboration with the group Kansas City Chorale, she has been nominated for the awards of Best Engineered Classical and Best Choral Performance. The Technique recently had a chance to talk with Dr. Inman about the journey that led her to this great accomplishment, as well as her experience in recording the Grammy-nominated album in question, *Life and Breath*.

What is your background in music, and how did you come to be an Assistant Professor of Music at Tech?

I've been involved in music as long as I can remember. My family was very musical, played various instruments, sang in choirs and we always had a variety of music blaring from the speakers (from Béla Fleck to Bach). At an early age, I just knew I'd eventually be a Swingle Singer. I began studying voice seriously at the University of Louisville, where I earned a degree in music education, as I've always loved to teach. I had an incredible conductor/mentor at UofL who inspired me to further study conducting. At UofL I sang in every choral ensemble, from Cardinal Singers to vocal jazz - looking back, I'm certain that I was obsessed. I continued studies at Arizona State University and earned a Masters and Doctorate in Conducting. Phoenix was a fantastic place for me as a singer, as well. Shortly after moving to Arizona, I auditioned and sang for eleven years in a profession choir, the Phoenix Chorale, directed by the extraordinary Charles Bruffy. Charles also conducted the Kansas City Chorale, which is how I became connected with the group. Last fall I begin applying for university positions, and happily accepted the choral position at Georgia Tech. I conduct two choruses, Chorale and Women's Chorus, and feel like I have the best students possible.

How did you first come to participate in the *Life and Breath* album?

Kansas City Chorale was recording a great disc of choral works by composer René Clausen. Bruffy invited a few singers from the Phoenix Chorale to join the project and I was fortunate to be one of those singers. Both choirs have a very close relationship and have performed many concerts together. We have also recorded two discs (as a joint choir) that have won six nominations as well as a Grammy in 2007, for Gretchaninov's *Passion Week*. Both choirs are considered among the best in the world.

see **INMAN**, page 15

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The South's Liveliest College Newspaper

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MSFAC approves health fee increase



Photo by Sho Kitamura Student Publications

The Joseph Brown Whitehead Building is the home of Stamps Health Services. The health fee seeks to better this service.

BY SULAIMAN SOMANI
NEWS EDITOR

A six dollar increase to the mandatory student health fee may be underway for next year.

The Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee (MSFAC) recently recommended this increase, pending approval from the Institute President G.P. “Bud” Peterson soon and by the Board of Regents in April before its final implementation.

“We approved the health fee unanimously because it is a much-needed one, given the strain the operations are under at Stamps,” said Undergraduate SGA President Eran Mordel in an e-mail. “Staying healthy (physically and mentally) is a top priority for us as students, and to maintain the high quality of service at Stamps with competi-

tive salaries, prices, etc., this fee is necessary.”

The student health fee, which currently requires the majority of the student body taking more than four credit hours to pay \$154 each semester, helps pay for most costs incurred by students when they visit Stamps Health Services. Compared to peer institutions, the fee is lower than Stanford’s health fee of \$251 and UGA’s health fee of \$191.

In addition, the health fee has increased 4.3 percent over the last 10 years, a smaller increase than any of the other mandatory student fees.

“We have been getting complaints from students that it is increasingly hard to get an appointment at Stamps,” said Senior Director of Health Services Dr. Gregory Moore, in an email. “Obviously this concerns us and

is understandable since we have seen an increase in patient visit volume of almost 20 percent since this academic year started and we are at capacity.”

According to Moore’s presentation to MSFAC, the projected total number of appointments for FY2013 is 32,922, which is an increase of over 3,000 appointments made in FY2012.

“We...propose to increase appointment availability by building out and staffing a third primary care clinic on the second floor. Doing so will add an additional 100 available appointments per week,” Moore said.

The cost of adding another primary care clinic amounts to \$500,000. Half of the funds for this investment, according to Moore, will come from this fee increase. The other half will be used from the reserve fund.

“Any increase in costs from electricity to medical equipment to salaries has to come out of funds generated primarily through the health fee,” Moore said. “Therefore we need reserves to be available when high cost items such as x-ray machines or laboratory equipment need to be replaced. As a result, we are very careful how we spend these re-

serves, but feel that this need for increased appointments justifies the expenditure.”

The Athletic Association also requested a fee increase of six dollars, but was refused in a unanimous vote.

“The AA didn’t provide a good enough case for what students’ benefits would increase from the fee increase,” said MSFAC chair Daniel Farmer. “[Also because of] some recent financial mismanagement, the committee felt that there wasn’t a great feeling of confidence in the way that the AA represented their finances.”

In order to gather feedback about student fees from the student body, MSFAC engaged with the Undergraduate House of Representatives and the Graduate Student Senate to gauge student reception to this fee increase. MSFAC also used Reddit to solicit student input.

“There was...really positive feedback about the health fee increase,” Farmer said. “Most students thought ‘I really like health services [and] they do a good job with their money.’ There was only one negative response and that was ‘I don’t like any fees at all.’”

In Memoriam

On Monday, Feb. 4, Tyler Henderson, a second-year CS major, regretfully passed away en route from the North Avenue Apartments to Grady Hospital. The *Technique* extends its heartfelt condolences to Henderson’s family, friends, brothers and fellow Yellow Jackets. Students in need of support can contact the Counseling Center 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at 404-894-2575.

sliver

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sliverin sliverin YEAH
sliverin sliverin YEAH
FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN
lookin’ forward to the sliiiiiverin
potato
I’M A HUFFLEPUFF
HEY GUUUUURL, WANNA GAB?!
find us some baby Gs
i said a hip hop the hippie the hippie to the hip hip hop you don’t
stop a rock it to the bang bang boogie say up jumped the boogie
to rhythm of the boogie the beat
Don’t let them tell you that you are anything less than amazing.
DJ SLIVER IS BACK BABY!
Ok couple things.....GT Tennis cool, GT Basketball not so much,
guys work harder, women.... just actually put in some work
For those of you worried about the Wal-Mart... don’t go to it and
it will fail ok?
Got an internship without even going to the Career Fair... #sucks-
tosuck
Ravens got the Superbowl... calling it now
People cheat all the time, but I don’t care if I don’t see it... but
when you’re stupid I mean c’mom man
Forget Atlanta weather... shit be crazy broski
If you’re single, booze and hot random sex If you’re taken, we’ll
good luck to ya
Technique... actually write better articles than what we already
see... give me something interesting for once eh? I know there has
to be a scandal somewhere...ATO can stay away
Half the students are already alcoholics...
For those of you who know who I am, Captain oh Captain.... he’s
my best friend #secretid
Ok my Policy Prof has the beard of Chewy... I mean that shit is
nasty... ain’t he ever heard of a barber?
My MSE prof literally disses every IE in his class... fine we aren’t
ME but we are still engineers damn it... NO ONE CARES
ABOUT MATERIALS LIKE YOU DO....
For the love of God, we use to have decent reliable fast internet...
now I feel like I am using Comcast
Woody’s 4th Floor -Shoutout to the ladies.... love J
So GT Crush... yeahhhhhhhh gl with that
So GT Secrets.... well shit ya’ll got some Jerry Springer shit going
down...
A.S. in nae... you’re a bitch. Stop being a pain in our ass.

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BREAKING THE BUBBLE

BY HOLDEN LEE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After more than two years since the death of Osama Bin-Laden in the Pakistan city of Abbottabad, the area has decided to create an amusement park that features a restaurants, boating lake, heritage center, a snake house, and ski ramps. The park is anticipated to finish construction in approximately eight years.

While criticism has been raised about the new construction, Pakistani officials hope the new attractions will bring tourism back to the city of Abbottabad, which has lost much of its tourism due to the country's most recent economic crisis.

Although American spectators believe the project takes advantage of Osama Bin-Laden's death, Syed Aqil Shah, the regional minister of tourism and sports, stated that the project had nothing to do with bin Laden or his death, and that the purpose of this project is to promote tourism and amusement facilities in the region.

The expected cost of the theme park is currently three-billion rupees, approximately \$150 million and the town of Abbottabad expects substantial revenue from the investment.

CAMPUS CRIME

BY LAUREN BRETT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

BAILING OUT DADDY

On Feb. 1, around 3 p.m., an officer observed a vehicle fail to stop at a stop sign on Fourth Street and Fowler Street. After pulling the vehicle over, the driver explained that he was not from the area and driving his son around to look at the school. Dispatch informed the officer that the license of the driver was under limited suspension, and that he was only allowed to drive for the purpose of business and school. The officer issued a citation and an official notice of personal service, which the driver signed. After dealing with the paperwork, the officer turned the vehicle over to the drivers' son, who was the passenger. His father was then released on copy of charges and given a copy of his citation.

BAD BIRTHDAY BOY

At 10:10 p.m. on Feb. 1, an officer was dispatched to the intersection of Ferst Drive and State Street on a report that there was an intoxicated person stumbling into traffic. While en route to Ferst Drive, the officer stopped a student matching the description staggering down the sidewalk and

barely able to stand. The officer looked at his driver's license, and noticed that he was underage. When asked his birthday the student replied 1990, which the officer knew was false. When asked where he had been drinking, the student would only say "west campus" and was hesitant to tell the officer where he lived. After being threatened with jail time for underage possession and obstruction of justice, the student told the officer that he lived at the Sigma Chi fraternity house.

The student's girlfriend then arrived on the scene and told the officer that the student in question had been drinking at Rocky Mountain Pizza and had used a fake ID to buy alcoholic drinks. The officer asked the student to open his wallet and saw that he had a Kentucky driver's license. A Student Conduct Code report was issued and the student was taken back to Sigma Chi by his girlfriend.

ONLY REAL MEN PULL HAIR

On Jan. 3, at 1 p.m. an officer responded to a call for a robbery of a Tech student from Harrison Residence Hall. The student explained that as she was walking toward Hanson Residence Hall, she noticed a white male standing near the entrance of Harrison. She was on the phone when she felt someone pull her hair and trying to take her cell phone. The suspect and student both fell to the ground during the struggle. A Tech employee gave the officer a description of the subject and description of his car, allowing Atlanta PD to locate the suspect and hold him in custody. The suspect was arrested and eventually taken to the Fulton county jail.

Options classes undergo huge cuts



Photo courtesy of Rob Felt Georgia Tech

A student demonstrates wheel thrown pottery, one of the 60+ options classes previously offered by the SCPC before cuts.

BY KENNETH MARINO
STAFF WRITER

Faced with waning student registration and organizational problems, the Student Center Programs Council (SCPC) has greatly scaled back the number of classes offered as part of its Options Program.

Started in the 1970s with a graduate student wanting to share his hobbies with others, the options classes have offered Tech

students activities ranging from salsa dancing to photography. As early as last year, the program offered over 50 courses per semester. With the new changes taking effect this year, however, only about seven to ten classes will be offered.

"The popularity of the program just wasn't there anymore," said Sourjya Rudra, President of the Student Center Programs Council. "Some of the classes weren't even able to get started be

See **OPTIONS PAGE 5**

THE GUTS OF BUSINESS

WED | **Chris Curtis**
FEB 13 | CEO North America
4³⁰ CoB | Schneider Electric

IMPACT SPEAKER SERIES
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Seriously missing summer weather
I for one am NOT looking forward to the next Star Wars movie, but am looking forward to the next Star Trek movie...Trekky for lifeeee
Lazy EE needs to get their shit together
I know wayyy to many brown people... I just nod now...
The Walking Dead... enough said
I miss my RA, he was awesome.... :(
I miss T-Dog...R.I.P The Sweet Prince
Heads up 3/31/13....GoT baby!
Love being a junior/senior in freshy classes
Commuting sucks but forget GT Housing...do they think they are fooling anyone with their ads?
Single+Bitter+Drunk = Angry DRUNK sex (fixed)
Forget how many people have sex in the library... guess it's time for a study session
The blonde girl in my group project is cute but she seems kinda lost at the same time... this is gonna end badly... oh well that's what booze is for
Not every girl who is cute has a bf, they are just TBSing and you are not timing the cycle right
Yes bro... LoL for life! #Teemo Shrooms
If you smoke, be smart... no one cares, but your roommates do... #treesproblems
Carer fair isn't for the suits... it's for the heels and skirts boys
MORE CALVIN N HOBBS!
Found a new show...The Americans... Still like Russian vodka and women more than America's ... c'mon you know what i'm saying
If we are drunk and loud... tell us...DON'T JUST CALL THE COPS OR THE RA
Then again... fuck you for calling the cops
That's that shit I don't like...shout out to my boy Cain
Met a fellow Tech student at Ikea... cool we're all over :)
I want more GT Secrets... c'mon spill it out
got more lube?
hey she likes it...like I'm gonna say no >.>
To the cute brunette in my 3300 class, you single?
Sad I'm working through the Superbowl... sad day
Seriously... everytime campus floods I hate CE and ME more
White people... why cargo shorts during the winter? Like... seriously...why? EXPLAIN THE RATIONALE TO ME!
PENNISSSSSS
Austin Powers... I see you gingerman

Library faces budget constraints



Photo by Ben Keyserling Student Publications

Above is an example of the collections in the library. Budget issues are preventing the library from obtaining new material.

BY JOSHUA GARRICK
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Despite increases in research awards and need for resources,

the library has faced difficulty in addressing these demands across campus due to a relatively stagnant budget.

“From the collections standpoint, what we’re not doing is

providing a lot of the materials that faculty, graduate students and undergraduate students use... the research agenda for Georgia Tech is over 600 million dollars, and we’re not in the position to buy the materials that the faculty needs,” said Dean Catherine Murray-Rust, the Vice Provost of Learning Excellence and Dean of Libraries.

These library collections are essentially all of the academic material that the library purchases per request from faculty, staff, and students, as well as subscriptions to various journals that must be renewed annually.

According to Murray-Rust, most of these collections, which require annual renewals, increase between five to six percent, double the rate of inflation, every year in subscription costs. Higher annual library funding then goes to fund the maintenance of these collections rather than their expansion.

“We have over one million dollars in requests from faculty. And the hard part of this is that it’s not one time money; it’s continuous and that’s money that increases with pricing escalation,” Murray-Rust said.

For example, in the past four years, the collection budget has failed to keep pace with the needs it supports in the research community. From fiscal year 2009 to fiscal year 2012, research awards have increased by 14.6 percent.

This effectively translates into a 32.5 percent increase in research funds coming into the institution. Tech, for its general fund, receives approximately 40 percent of this amount, according to Murray-Rust, and one and a half percent of that is given to the library.

The library’s budget, however, has only increased by 12.7 percent.

Because of this, the library’s purchasing power, which is the incremental budget needed to meet the publishers’ annual price increase, has remained stagnant for the past few years.

“If we don’t have much leverage, we can get together with other big research libraries in the state and elsewhere and we can buy this stuff together because you can get a better deal with the more money you have on the table,” Murray-Rust said. “If our budget stays flat, it’s a de facto cut and, every once-in-a-while, we have to go back and cancel various journal titles to stay within our budget.”

According to documents released by the Institute Budget Planning & Administration, Tech, in order to meet its three percent reduction plan mandated by the Board of Regents, reduced \$150,000 for library funding for covering these annual increases in subscriptions. The document acknowledged that the library would face a “reduction in information sources provided to students and faculty” and how this would have an “impact on faculty and students for research and instruction.”

Library administration is confident that, with more funding, they would be able to stop cutting subscriptions from the collections while also providing more requests to match more of the demand for research materials.

“Our view is that we serve the entire campus...so what we’re trying to do is provide the broadest service that we can,” Murray-Rust said. “We think that Georgia Tech has made this wonderful transition from a regional university to a global university into a major research institution and we’re just not quite able to provide what people need.”

INVENT FROM PAGE 1

stand there with your idea and show people in the real world. Putting yourself out there is really humbling,” Forest said.

Another semi-finalist, Basheer Tome spent over 600 hours inventing a new toaster, Hue, that toasts by color.

“Hue harnesses the power of an array of color sensors via a simple interface in order to intuitively and smartly toast bread to that perfect shade of golden brown. Hue’s sensors see both sides of the pieces of bread so that when the user selects the shade of brown he/she wants the toaster then keeps the heating element on until the toast reaches that color,” Tome said.

“The project started as a quest to make toasters easier to use. After a bit of brainstorming and ideation, I ran into the idea of using color since that’s normally how people gage how ‘done’ toast is,” Tome said.

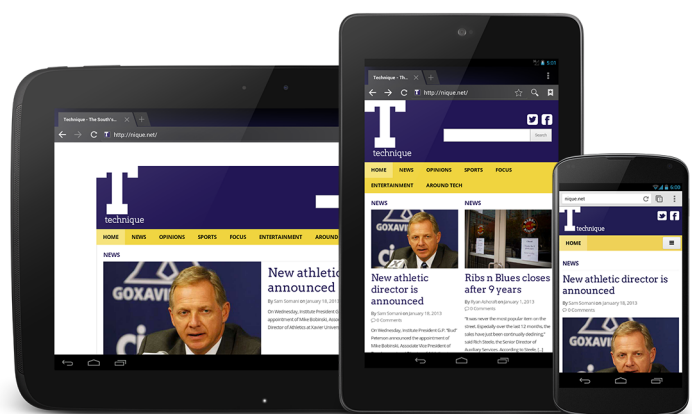
Chris Taylor, another semi-finalist, created a line of fully autonomous mechanized dog toys.

“For most dog toys currently on the market, the owner needs to be playing with the dog, for example throwing the ball, tugging the rope, squeaking the toy, etc. With my line of dog toys the owner will flip a switch and the toys will move around and generate excitement and interactivity for the dog with little to no human input required,” Taylor said.

In conclusion, Forest recognized how impactful the InVenture prize has the potential to one day be.

“In the future, the InVenture Prize will be the biggest academic invention competition in the world. Any student who has a bright idea and wants to put it out there will be able to. I hope that Tech will be perceived as a place where students who are interested in starting their own thing can do that,” Forest said.

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technique

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nique.net

Students present research at Capitol

BY KENNETH MARINO
STAFF WRITER

For the last four years, the Student Government Association has organized the Georgia Tech Day at the Capitol as an opportunity for students to experience the workings of the state government and meet with legislators.

This year, however, seven of the approximately 40 students at the Capitol spent the day presenting their research or senior design as part of the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program's (UROP) effort to increase the presence of student research at the Capitol.

"Graham Goldberg had reached out to me about [having students present research] and I thought it was a great idea, being able to get some of the student work in front of the legislatures and some of the visitors," said Dr. Christopher Reaves, Director of Undergraduate Research and Student Innovation. "It's good to let the state know that we appreciate their support, and given their support, this is the outcome of some of their efforts."

The day started with Chick-fil-a sandwiches and presentations by notable Tech alumni and representatives including State Representative Buzz Brockway,

Captain Rhett Jaehn, President G. P. "Bud" Peterson and many others. During his presentation, Captain Jaehn, commanding officer of the U.S.S. Georgia, spoke of the importance of his time at Tech as an Aerospace Engineering student, not only for the technical knowledge he gained but for the endurance and critical thinking he developed.

After the presentations, students mingled with legislators and other visitors and presenters stood in front of posters and prototypes to present their work.

One group demonstrated a new design for forceps that use suction rather than compression.

Another showed the results of using special vibration feedback gloves on learning to play the piano.

The presentation seemed to be well received by lawmakers and visitors alike. One senator was so impressed that he met with one of the groups individually to talk about their project.

At the end of the event, the students had the opportunity to watch the session of the Georgia House of Representatives from the balcony.

Speaker of the House David Ralston, a University of Georgia Law School graduate, began by "indulg[ing] the rodent," i.e. Buzz,

Tech's mascot, allowing him to stay as long as he stayed seated during the session. Nonetheless, Speaker Ralston praised Tech for its importance in research and innovation and expressed his fondness of the Institution "except for one Saturday in the Fall."

After several presentations in-

cluding one by an FDR impersonator and a few other votes, the House voted to pass a resolution, House Bill 40, welcoming Tech to the capitol. It praised Tech as "is a world-class university providing unmatched higher learning to over 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students."



Photo courtesy of Rob Felt Georgia Tech

Buzz traveled with students and participated in GT Day at the Capitol. Students showcased highlights of Tech to legislators.

OPTIONS FROM PAGE 3

cause there weren't enough people signed up for [them]."

The dramatic shift comes after a report released by the Student Center Programs Office assessing the Options Program. Among other things, the report cites falling student interest in leading the programs, declining registration and organizational problems with the program. As a result of the report, the classes will now be marketed individually just like any other SCPC event.

"Although online registration is now offered to students, faculty and staff, community members are not able to take advantage of the platform," the report said. "In addition, student interest in leading the program has steadily waned and registration continues to decline."

One proposed reason behind the decrease in registration is the rise in extracurricular clubs and organizations.

"We realized that for a lot of our classes, there were student organizations that did the exact same thing," Rudra said.

Another issue has been the marketing of the program. The report asserts that "the Options Committee has yet to be able to build the momentum needed to establish an extensive marketing strategy to increase awareness of the Program among the campus and community."

The economy sucks.
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OUR VIEWS | Consensus Opinion

Research Resources

Library funding must not fall short

Tech is a top-tier research university that consistently receives an increasing amount of funding for research from year to year. This is due, in large part, to the superior-quality resources that our university provides to students and faculty. Yet, for all of our achievements and advancements, we are facing a major obstacle in keeping this trend alive.

Due to budget limitations, the library is struggling to provide professors and graduate students, the bulk of the university's researchers, with new research materials and journals. Currently, the budget only allots enough funds to cover the already-established collection, leaving no room for growth nor advancement. This problem can be alleviated in two major ways.

First, all students, faculty and alumni must be aware of the issue. The library has been struggling to maintain its current supply of research material since 2009, the brunt of which has been carried by

graduate students and their professors, and which has gone largely unnoticed by undergraduates. The Institute must come together to advocate for more and not let this issue fall by the wayside.

Second, the library must make itself more relevant to all students. The library should be the central nervous system of our university, a resource that we cannot go without. This can be achieved through a modernization of its facilities. The library is taking the right steps with its 2020 renovation plan, but it should better market its efforts to the student body to avoid becoming an extension of the Clough Commons.

In the end, the health of research on campus is directly correlated with the health of our library and the resources that it provides, and so we must guarantee that our university is provided with the research material that it needs in order to keep our university at the pinnacle of science and technology.

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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UGA VISITS THE FOOD COURT BY CASEY TISDEL

BURGER BYTES feedback form

Sort by: RECENT ▾



you misspelled the name

love the burges and everything but you guys misspelled the name

jordan biersch



is it supposed to be spelled like that??

I'm kinda confused by the "y" in "Burger Bites"... its like "Burger BYTES" for some reason on your sign. Just thought yall should know!

ko99



one tiny problem lol

It's soooo funny to me that you can spend so much money on starting up a new resturant on the Student center and misspell the name haha Burger BYTES?? come on people !

TheAlmightyWrangler

YOUR VIEWS

Slivers of the week

“New Honor Code signature for tests: your tears.”

“Dear housing, I’m GRADUATING. Don’t send me pamphlets about Fall 2013 housing options...”

“A moth flew by me during an exam and I was like GANDALFFFFF HELP MEEEE”

“I’ve literally been slivering all week-end. Some of my slivers better make it in this week’s issue”

“Tech’s most remarkable engineering achievement is their patented process to turn human beings into caffeine fueled calculators.”

“I wish more people slivered in Spanish... #hola”

“You know you are at Tech when you see a girl wearing Star Wars leggings as pants. Dang girl, you got swag.”

“I’m an engineer. My major is my girlfriend.”

“ME 2202 - more than then splinters.”

“I was judging all these people studying at the CULC Saturday night but then I realized I’m also studying at the CULC on a Saturday night...”

“Anyone else entirely lose their concept of time during the semester?”

Write to us: letters@nique.net

Got something to say? Then let your voice be heard with the *Technique*. Sliver at Nique.net, tweet us @the_nique or check us out on Facebook at facebook.com/thenique. We want to hear your opinion and want to make it known to all of campus.

We also 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.

Each week we look for letters that

are responses to or commentaries on content found within the pages of the *Technique*. Along with these letters, we are open to receiving letters that focus on relevant issues that currently affect Georgia Tech as a university, including its campus and student body.

When submitting letters we ask that you include your full name, year (1st, 2nd, etc.) and major. We ask that letters be thought provoking, well written and in good taste. We reserve the right to both reject or edit letters for length and style.

For questions, comments or concern, contact the Opinions Editor at opinions@nique.net.

Tech life may not come easy, yet it's worth it

It was during my senior year of high school when I first realized that I had to work in order to pass classes. It was a traumatic realization, one that forced me to open books, use pencil and paper for the first time, and, well, start trying. I began to form a conception of what, in my mind, was hard work. The essays became longer, the chemistry became more complex and college applications had no end in sight. This, I decided, was the worst I had ever felt.

I had no idea what I was talking about. And I'm almost positive I still don't.

I'm six months into my life at Tech, and the pressure I see on students is incredible. Obviously, my first work-caused all-nighter is long past me. I no longer call my sleep habits "habits." My eyes have been replaced with caves holding a distant, yellowish glow. And here's the best part: I have better luck than most students.

Tech has a notorious reputation for being a difficult school. Classes like CS 1371 and Calc III have terrified students for years. I remember speaking to a



"All of those insane homework problems and mind-numbing exams, as strange as it sounds, become a part of who we are."

ARVIND NARAYAN
ASSISTANT FOCUS EDITOR

recruiter at the Career Fair who was a Tech grad. We got to talking about some infamously hard classes currently at Tech. "Oh," he said with a laugh. "They still have that?"

Clearly, concerns about the difficulty of Tech academics aren't new. It is essential to realize, however, that these complaints shouldn't be chalked up to laziness or cynicism. We're a smart school because we have smart students. Our ideas have never been, nor should they ever be, marginalized.

It's true, dealing with academic rigor runs with the gold and white in our veins; incoming, existing and past Tech students are well aware of the school's high expectations. And

in a way, it's part of the pride that we feel for being Yellow Jackets. All of those insane homework problems and mind-numbing exams, as strange as it sounds, become a part of who we are.

I know we've all heard the common advice. "It's part of the experience. It'll prepare you for the real world." Sure, Tech alumni have become some of the most successful people in their fields, but at what cost to an everyday student?

I, Arvind Narayan, am planning on spending my Yellow Jacket career from 2012 – 2016. In the eyes of any sensible employer, those two numbers define a vital part of my life, a part that either has qualified me for excellence or has condemned me

to failure. But what Jane Street Capital will never care for, what Bain will never even think of, what Google doesn't even know about, is the dash between those two numbers.

We all share the dash. The dash represents every sentence of every textbook we will ever read for our classes. It represents the countless hours we spend staring at a computer screen, hoping for the words "compiler error" to magically disappear. It represents every football game we skipped, every birthday we missed and every number we wrote. But in the end, we are the only ones that remember the dash, because we are the ones that created it. We sign our names to the dash, hoping it would connect the two numbers. And at the end of this brutal experiment, all we can do is pray that it stays whole.

Who knows? Maybe I'm wrong, and my Tech experience won't be as grueling as I fear it will be. At least I can honestly say that I tried my best and threw all the punches I could, even if I am eventually left a Ramblin' Wreck.

It's dangerous to go alone, take this!

Men and women in tights are becoming an integral aspect of our pop culture. It's true that I'm regularly asked, "They still make comics?" But thanks to cinema and television the comic

book industry, which yes is alive, has recently seen a boost.

But why are superheroes becoming popular again, and why do they never go away? Why do we love stories about men and women in ridiculous outfits beating up bad guys?

Because they show what we can be. In the DC Universe, there are heroes and villains with supernatural abilities which can level entire planets. And yet Batman, who has zero superpowers, is considered to be one of the people you just don't mess with if you like your face unpulverized. Bruce Wayne has no special powers. And that is what makes him special.

He is the epitome of a person's potential, both physically and mentally. Technically, with enough training and a fortune, anyone could be Batman. And while it isn't salubrious to dress in black and go out into the night to punch bad guys, there are certainly worse men to model yourself after than Batman.

Because they humanize the divine. In case you were unaware, Superman is basically a god. His strength has never been given an upper limit. Some have tried to define it to an extent, but then he simply breaks that barrier by flexing a bicep.

There are other hyper-powered heroes, but Superman is the first and best fits the celestial symbolism. And it is a common

metaphor to compare the Man of Steel to sun gods and Jesus, even going so far as to have him die to save humanity and be resurrected.

The point of this is that Superman is a tangible divinity, and he is a kind and caring god whose job is to protect his citizens, punish evil and save us. Especially from ourselves.

As All-Star Superman #10 shows, it's one thing for a therapist to help you, and it's another when Superman hugs you at the precipice and tells you everything isn't as bad as it seems and that your life has meaning. Superman is everything we want God or a god to be.

Think of any superhero. Thirty or 40 years ago, that character was either completely different or had yet to be created. Superhero comics have a unique literary quality in that they can change. Superheroes are entirely reliant upon the person writing them; the next writer who takes over a title can theoretically retcon everything that came before him. So superheroes are culturally relevant no matter what decade it is.

Because they evoke a spirit of adventure. Superhero comics are fun. From the deepest reaches of the ocean to the fathomless depths of space, superheroes explore the farthest corners of our imaginations and are kind enough to bring us along.

Superhero stories are for everyone who ever wrapped a cape, or towel, around their shoulders, closed their eyes and jumped so that for one second, they believed they could fly.

"Why do we love stories about men and women in ridiculous outfits beating up bad guys?"

KEITH FRADY
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

The end of a chapter, the beginning of another

The yellow tinted dog-eared pages, the unruly scribble that dances between the margins, the scent of a thousand years worth of knowledge; these are the reasons why I love books.

I love the small mountain ranges of them stacked alongside my bed, I love the forgotten stragglers I've tucked away in various backpacks just so I'll always have something to read and I love the hope

that their knowledge will gradually become mine just by keeping them around, even when I've never opened them. The thought of owning a personal library with towering shelves only accessible by ladder, coupled with a warm leather chair for reading is all I need in life.

Books make up the very core of who I am, and I can't imagine a life without them.

But, things change. The future is always just one day away, and the next day is never the same as the last. Books had a good run, but their time has come. It only took a few thousand, but they've finally been dethroned. Because we're living in the slow decline of the age of print.

It's nothing new. We read about a new struggling book retailer every few months. The headlines read as if they're endangered animals one fiscal year away from being lost to time; this week's dodo bird being Barnes & Nobles. One-third of their stores will be closing up shop within the next few years, and who knows how many more after that. Sad story.

It reminds me that the digital age is upon and it's only a matter

of time before it is in full swing. I say this because books aren't dead yet, well they won't be as long as I'm alive. I can sleep pretty soundly at night knowing that I'm not the only one who

feels this way. It's not us I'm worried about. We're one or two generations away from possibly losing that mentality.

While I own an eReader, I don't wholeheartedly enjoy reading on it. Of

the many excuses that book lovers have, mine are the old clichés that it hurts my eyes and that I prefer the feel of a book. Yet I know this is only because I, along with most everyone else, was raised on physical copies of books. It's not human nature; it's habit. Two generations down the line, our decedents will just as easily mature while reading from the screens of eReaders. These generations will treat books just as we have CDs. I could go on for quite some time on why this is true, but we all know the reasons: availability, accessibility, ease, space and the list goes on.

Physical copies of books will always be here. I'm not saying they'll all disappear. Books will always be here, just not on the same level. I want to be upset that future generations won't enjoy the same love for books that I know, but I can't. The fact that eReaders will allow for the widespread availability of literature unlike anything before warms my soul. In the end, I fully embrace a world that allows us to carry the wealth of human history, knowledge and thought in our pockets wherever life may take us.

"Books had a good run, but their time has come. It only took a few thousand years..."

GAINES HALSTEAD
OPINIONS EDITOR

BUZZ AROUND CAMPUS

Where is the best spot to live, on campus or off?



TIM MATTHEWS
FOURTH-YEAR EE

"Off campus. It's easier for me to make money outside campus and see family."



ALEX THIM
SECOND-YEAR ME

"On campus. It's easier to walk around and you're close to everything."



DAISY YU
THIRD-YEAR BME

"Off campus. It's cheaper than dorms and I have more freedom to decorate."



ALEX ALT
FIRST-YEAR EE

"Off campus. There's more freedom."

OUR VIEWS

HOT- or -NOT



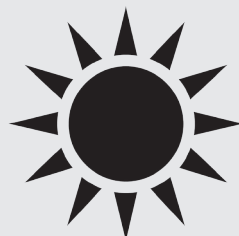
Campus Safety Week

While Atlanta can seem like a pretty sketchy place to live, it's always good to know there's someone watching your back. This couldn't be more obvious than Feb. 14, which has been designated as Campus Safety Day by GTPD.



Over Enrollment

A number of rising fifth and sixth year students are having to scramble to find a place to live after an over enrollment of incoming freshman has displaced them from guaranteed on-campus housing. There's always the library basement.



GCPA Awards

It was a good weekend for us at the Technique. We brought home a few awards from the Georgia College Press Association's annual conference and award ceremony. This achievement was only made possible through the continued support of readers like you. Thanks!



Recruiting Class

After having four players de-commit in the past two weeks, Rivals.com ranked Tech's football recruiting class 84th in the nation. This is the worst recruiting ranking since Paul Johnson has been at head coach here at Tech. There's always next year.

GTPD, promoting safety every day

Once a year, around Valentine's Day, we try to bring safety to the forefront of students' minds. We've held our annual Campus Safety Day for the past four years at this time because we want you to know we care about you and are looking out for your well-being.

As we approach our annual Campus Safety Day this Feb. 14, we look forward to continuing to strengthen relationships within the campus community, and we also want to acknowledge the progress we've made in combating campus crime. We're happy to report that, compared to this time last year, campus crime is down 24 percent. Of the four robberies we've had so far this year, we've already made three arrests.

Though arrests and a decrease in crime indicate that we are moving in the right direction, our department has no plans to let up on day-to-day tactics. We've added staff to our force, bringing our number of sworn officers to 82. The plain-clothes unit we introduced a year ago has made more than 15 significant arrests since its inception. We've also invested in five new vehicles and are equipping cars with license plate readers that can alert police to stolen or unregistered vehicles.

New to our social networking efforts is our activity on Reddit, where you can find us at www.reddit.com/user/gatechpd and contributing to the Tech Subreddit forum (www.reddit.com/r/gatech). We've also been purposeful about increasing opportunities



"Though arrests and a decrease in crime indicate we are moving in the right direction, [we] have no plans to let up..."

TERESA CROCKER
CHIEF OF POLICE

for face-to-face interaction with our officers, who recently began lunching in the Student Center Commons where you can meet them and talk frankly about your concerns.

On Thursday, we'll be on Tech Walkway with colleagues from around the city: You'll be able to talk with officers, see our K-9 unit and Atlanta Police mounted patrols, test a DUI simulator, meet McGruff the Crime Dog and learn more about what we do.

Leading up to Thursday's Tech Walk event, we'll have demonstrations every afternoon in Room 152 of the Clough Commons: On Monday, we'll showcase our K-9 unit at 5 p.m.; Tuesday, the focus will be on alcohol and drugs at 5 p.m.; on Wednesday at 6 p.m., the topic will be physical security. And as always, we're happy to hold a dedicated crime prevention class for your organization.

In August, the Student Government Association (SGA) helped organize a meet-and-greet for Home Park residents. With so many students residing in this

off-campus neighborhood, we applaud students' initiative to look out for each other and build a true sense of community.

That initiative was followed by the Student Safety Campaign in September. Students took to Tech Walkway to talk with peers about how to handle themselves in the areas of personal safety, alcohol and drugs, transportation and theft. This campaign generated a map where students marked campus areas needing improved security measures; this helped guide SGA's annual Safety Walk—an event held in November that afforded students the opportunity to voice their safety concerns and share their perspectives of campus security with officers and administrators.

Although it's just once a year we designate for official campus safety observance, you can count on us to look after you 365 days a year. Call us any time at 404.894.2500. And, regardless of how you choose to spend Campus Safety Day, continue taking care of yourselves and each other.

technique

Promote your next event in the Spring "Coupon" issue to hit stands Friday, Feb. 15

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WHAT: TO EXPLORE THE WORLD OF SERVICE AT TECH
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Ni No Kuni challenges, has stunning visuals

GAMES
<i>Ni No Kuni: Wrath of the White Witch</i>
CONSOLE: PS3
GENRE: JRPG
DEVELOPER: Level 5 and Studio Ghibli
RATING: E
RELEASED: Jan. 22
OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

BY KEITH FRADY
ASSISTANT ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Oliver does not want to save the world. Not at first, anyway. Thus *Ni No Kuni* stands out as being a different kind of JRPG. When Oliver is informed he can save another world, he initially refuses. It is not until he discovers he can personally benefit from it that he agrees to travel to a parallel world. What follows is forty odd hours of a gorgeous game with fluctuating levels of difficulty and a memorable story.

The graphics are, of course, stunning. Level 5 is no stranger to great looking games (see *Dragon Quest VIII*), but *Ni No Kuni* is breathtaking thanks to the co-development with Studio Ghibli. With rare exceptions, the game always, whether in a cut-scene or strolling in-game along a desert, looks like an anime. And not just any anime; it looks like Studio

Ghibli drew every angle of every environment and character model. And when it seems the artistic direction cannot be better, a new area opens and it turns out that yes, it can. For example, the castle of Nevermore is fantastic in every way.

It is difficult to be spoiler-free and discuss the plot for this game, because the initial hour throws in a fair share of emotional turns. In short, the story does not dis-

appoint. It can be childish at times and some of the dialogue is cringe-worthy, but these are the exceptions rather than the norm. In fact, the localization is very well done. Puns abound like sunlight in *Ni No Kuni*. Some are a bit on the nose, but generally the monster names and dialogue are enjoyable because of the constant bombardment of laughable moments. As with most Ghibli films, the story ostentatiously appears

to be this side of childish, but in fact delves into heavy themes and character development.

The voice acting on all the main characters is great as well. Oliver can be a little wooden at times, but the supporting characters are all spot on, especially Mr. Drippy. All characters have some form of an English accent, and it adds to their charm. All the major villains are appropriately sinister in their fashion and it is disturb-

ing how fun it is to listen to Shadar growl in his low bass.

The combat in *Ni No Kuni* is an interesting mix of *Pokémon* and arena RPG matches like that found in the *Star Ocean* or *Tales* series. The *Pokémon* comparison is apt because the main characters can tame the beasts in the wild and use them as familiars to fight in their place. Using familiars is actually the principal means of combat, and substituting Oliver or one of the other characters into the fight is not advised unless they are being used for their special abilities. The flow of combat takes a while to get used to and adheres to one of the tenets of gameplay: be easy to learn and difficult to master. The latter half is especially true. The difficulty in *Ni No Kuni* wavers. Every little fight in an area near the end of the game is a life-or-death struggle, but the boss fight at its very end is ridiculously easy. And some grinding is required, so be warned. It's nowhere near as bad as *Persona 3* or even some of the earlier *Final Fantasy* games, but expect to wander around to get past a boss that is particularly challenging.

Ni No Kuni is not perfect. The combat can be frustrating and some line demarcating the boundary of fights would have been a welcome addition. But it is a great, beautiful game and even though it is still early, *Ni No Kuni* is undoubtedly a contender for one of the best games of the year.

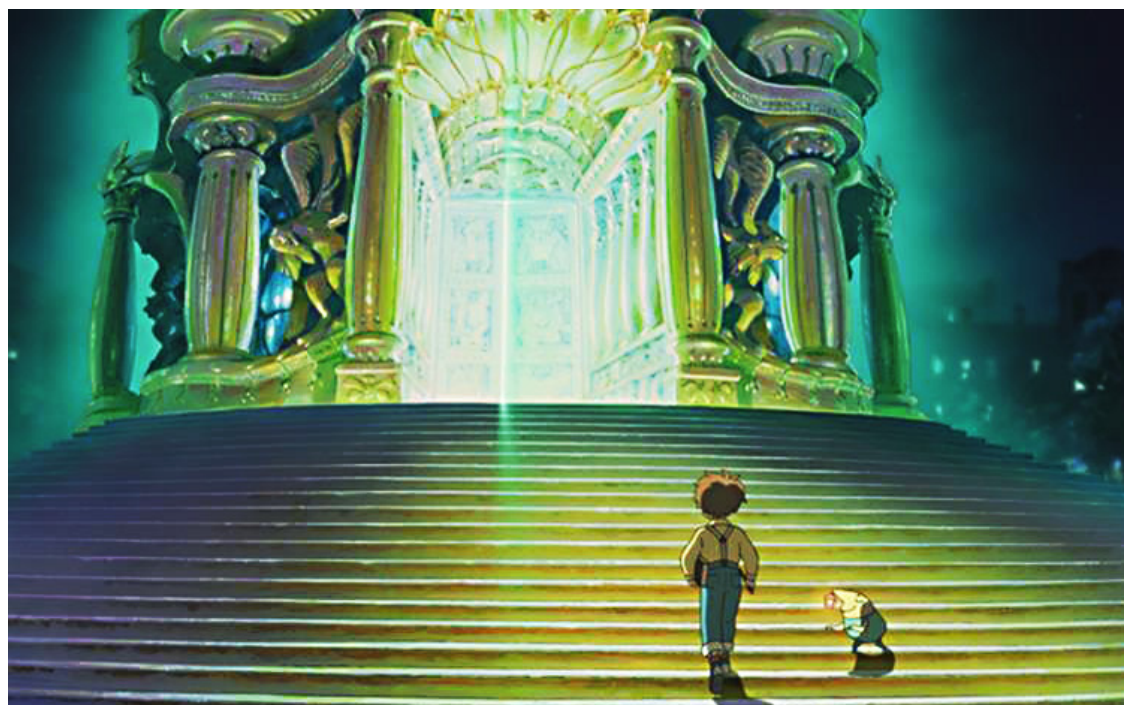


Photo courtesy of Namco Bandai Games

Oliver and Mr. Drippy are about to step into another world for the first time. Co-developed by Level 5 and Studio Ghibli, the latter's pretty art style is clearly demonstrated throughout the game.

Flashdance plot uninspired, finds strength in songs

SHOWS
<i>Flashdance - The Musical</i>
DIRECTOR: Sergio Trujillo
PERFORMERS: Emily Padgett, Matt Hydzik
LOCATION: Fox Theatre
DATE: Feb. 5-10
OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

BY BRENDA LIN
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The tagline of *Flashdance - the Musical* is "What a Feeling!" Yet, the audience did not "feel" it. With a title containing both the words flash and dance, this performance should have been a flashy spectacle with impressive dancing. While there is a lot of flash, the dancing and various other aspects beg improvement.

Flashdance, based off the 1983 musical film of the same name, follows the story of Alexandra Owens in the city of Pittsburgh as a hardworking welder by day, moonlighting as a "flashdancer" at night, with secret dreams of attending the prestigious Shipley Dance Academy. She finally pursues her dream after some encouragement from her best friend Gloria. The same day she decides to go for her dream, Alex is pursued

and enamored by her new attractive boss Nick Hurley, who she originally spurned because of his their work relationship and his social standing.

The plot and characters are all predictable and stereotypical. Alexandra is an very independent woman who works hard and deserves her chance, but just she does not have confidence in herself. Nick is a rich boy who wants to rebel against his family to be morally right, but occasionally to help his rich-boy tendencies. Alex and Gloria's two fellow flashdancers are a sassy African-American woman and a cynical older dancer who has seen it all. The rest of the characters fall into their respective stereotypes in society, which is slightly forgivable because of the time period the plot was originally scripted toward. But ultimately the outcome of each character's situation is too obvious to encourage audience enjoyment.

However, the uninspired plot is saved by the hilarious dialogue and sharp, witty remarks of the characters. The sense of nostalgia for the music, even for a generation that did not watch or live through the era that the original film was first released

See **FLASH**, page 13

Austra and xx like Yin and Yang

CONCERT
<i>Night + Day</i>
PERFORMERS: Austra, The xx
LOCATION: The Tabernacle
DATE: Feb. 2
OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

BY KATIE FLINT
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Tabernacle has never been one to let concert-goers leave unsatisfied and un-rocked. By all accounts, the venue has been one of the most consistent in the city in terms of providing exceptional musical entertainment. But this past week, the indie-superstar combination of The xx and Austra set the bar high, with both bands bringing in a captivating show with their laid-back beats and hypnotizing vocals.

The opening act, Austra, originally hails from Toronto. Their 2011 debut album, *Feel It Break*, was met with a vast array of approval from both Canadian and American critics, no doubt paving the way for bigger things to come in the band's future.

Led by singer Katie Stelmanis, along with drummer Maya Postepski, bassist Dorian Wolf and keyboardist Ryan Wonsiak, the band has gradually become one of the major players in elec-



Photo courtesy of Ally Stone Student Publications

Austra's Katie Stelmanis produces a vibrant soprano voice onstage, a quality that has been a large part of the band's identity.

tronic music. Originally, Stelmanis was a solo artist and asked the others to tour with her under the name Katie Stelmanis, but eventually the group became known as Austra. While this band name may seem rather unique, it actually holds a double meaning, being both the title of the Latvian goddess of light, as well as Stelmanis's middle name.

The band's performance at

the Tabernacle was a forty-five minute set that showcased their synth-pop talent along with some more atmospheric tracks to inspire the mood of the audience. Although Austra only has one album to date, their performance was not lacking in content. They ended their set with one of their most well-known songs, "Lose It,"

See **AUSTRA**, page 15

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Fierce Bollywood dance competition wows audience

BY ZAIN SHARIF
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Saturday, Feb. 2, marked the second annual A-Town Showdown at the Georgia World Congress Center, a high stakes competition for Raas and Bollywood Fusion dance teams from all over the nation. The competition, held by Tech's dance teams Qurbani and Ramblin' Raas and attended by nearly 1300 people, hosted teams from Cornell, Stanford, Berkeley, Purdue, Northwestern, Penn State and other universities after a highly selective application process.

Each team at the competition fell under one of two dance categories, Raas or Fusion. For those who do not know, Raas is a folk dance form that originated in India and is often performed at Hindu religious services. Fusion is a hybrid dance form that combines contemporary, Bollywood, hip-hop and bhangra. Seven Raas teams and seven Fusion teams competed at the event Saturday to clench the crown of A-Town Showdown and earn a spot to compete at three of the largest national competitions: Bollywood America (BA), RAS and Best of the Best (BoB). The first place winners of each category received bids to attend Bollywood America and RAS respectively, and the top three teams in each category received Best of the Best points. At the end of the season, teams with the most points or bids compete



Photo courtesy of the University of Cincinnati

14 teams were divided into Raas and Fusion, and they competed for a chance at first place in their respective categories; the competition itself was held by Tech and saw an impressive turnout.

at BA, RAS or BoB. Both the national competitions and the regional ones that lead up to them are part of a national network of dancers and organizers called Desi Dance Teams, or DDT.

The format of the competition includes a first round in which all 14 teams perform for five minutes each. After the first round, the top three teams in either category are announced, and each team performs for another two minutes before the judges crown the champions. The Georgia World Congress

Center was packed to capacity on Saturday, with supporters from all over the nation traveling to Atlanta to watch their teams perform. Each team demonstrated incredible versatility and passion, and the judges ultimately awarded University of Cincinnati's Dhadak with first place in Fusion. Emory Saraas with awarded first place in the Raas category. Both teams exhibited incredible energy and preparation, with astounding choreography that left the audience with no choice but to dance,

sing and cheer. Emory Saraas performed the folk dance to perfection and incorporated music from popular ATL hip-hop songs. UC Dhadak received two standing ovations, one for each round of their performance. Dhadak's performance included multiple gravity-defying stunts, complex and synchronized choreography and a crowd-pumping gimmick with a 7-year-old break-dancer. At the end of the competition, the Executive Board of A-Town Showdown, comprised of Tech

students, announced the winners.

After hearing the results, Raj Dilwa, dancer for Emory Saraas, remarked, "I'm in complete disbelief. Round 2 made all the difference. This was our best shot to go to nationals and we're very excited to compete at RAS."

UC Dhadak's performance was met with roaring applause, standing ovations and top scores by judges. After the team's victory, the captain of UC Dhadak stated that, "[i]t was unreal and it felt like a dream come true. We won this same competition last year, but it only hit me this time."

The massive success of the event came from the year-long preparation by the executive board and liaisons that managed the team throughout the weekend.

Finance Chair Tejas Oza, when asked to comment on the success of the event, remarked, "When it came down to the wire, the audience and sponsor support made this event possible. The turnout was an exponential growth from last year, and we expect even better in 2014." A-Town Showdown Directors Gowtham Govind and Kishan Bhula expressed gratitude and thanks at the conclusion of the event. Gowtham Govind remarked, "We tried to create an unforgettable experience while these teams stayed in Atlanta for the weekend. A-Town Showdown is the most rewarding experience I can think of." The A-Town Showdown was truly an event to remember.

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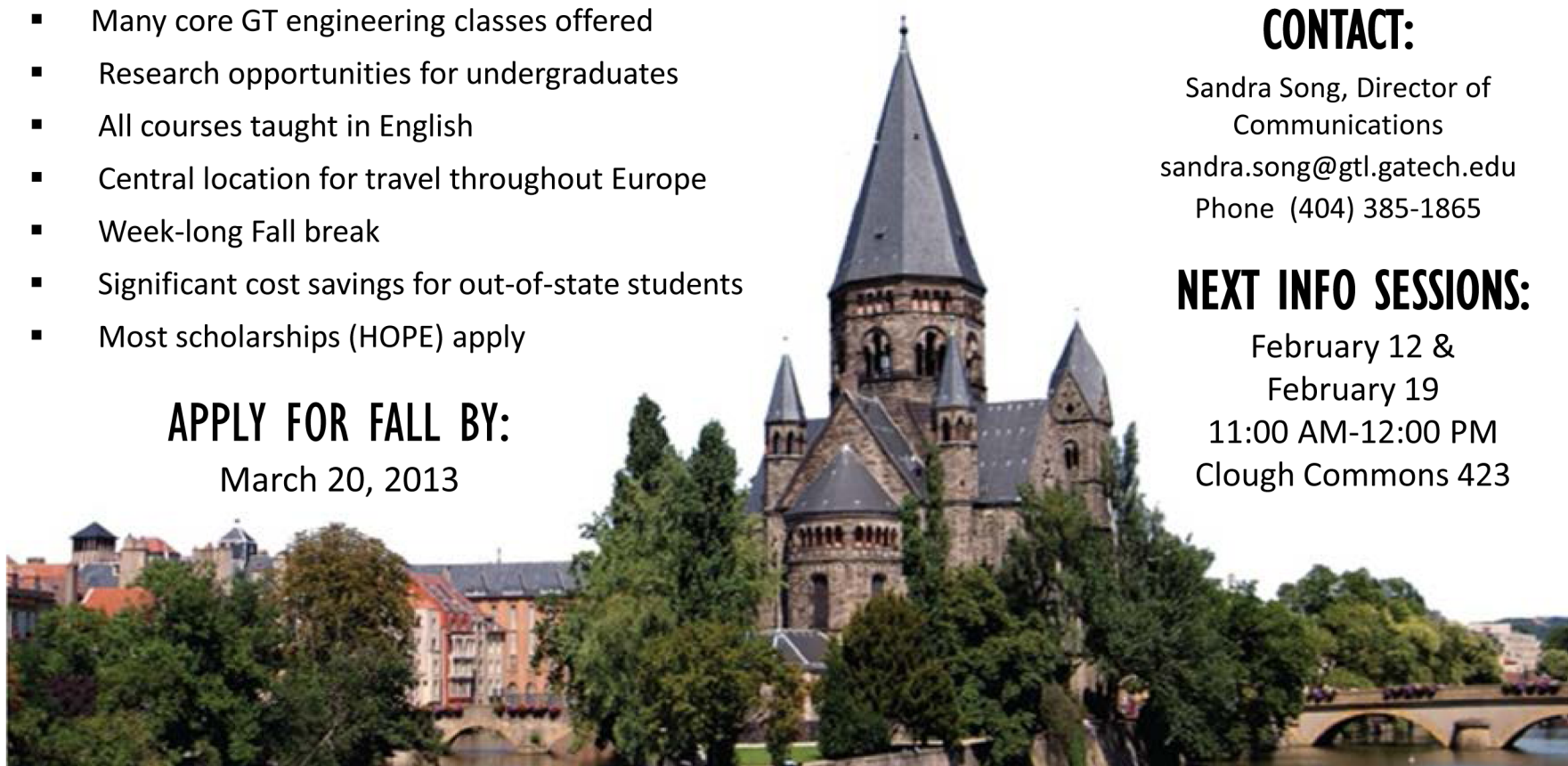
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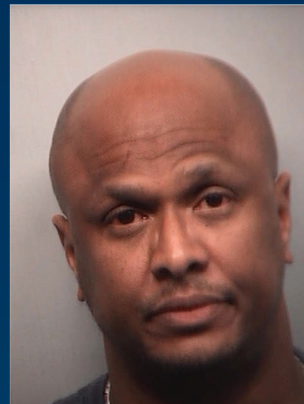
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Big G performs fusion of genres

CONCERT

Winter Tour 2013

PERFORMER: Big Gigantic

LOCATION: The Tabernacle

DATE: Feb. 1

OUR TAKE: ★★★★★

BY JENEVIEVE KIM
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A group that combines electronic beats with live saxophone and drums, Big Gigantic is a rare act in today's music industry. Formed in Boulder, Colorado, the duo consists of saxophonist/producer Dominic Lalli and drummer Jeremy Salken. After graduating with a Masters degree in jazz at the Manhattan School of Music, Lalli relocated to Boulder and began performing with Salken, creating the phenomenon that is Big G. The masterful duo began receiving positive feedback in the late 2000s with small, local shows before releasing their debut album, *Fire It Up*, in 2009 and embarking on a full US tour.

After performing at numerous music festivals, Big Gigantic has evolved into a must-see performance. Big G's live shows are the epitome of ingenious improvisation and tight-knit chemistry between Salken and Lalli. With their sold out show at the Tabernacle on Feb. 1, they lived up to their reputation and more. The set began with a crowd favorite, "It's Going Down." Throughout the performance, Big G kept the crowd on its feet, swaying to



Photo by Ansley Thomas Student Publications

On saxophone, Lalli provides a more fluid compliment to the beat-based vibes of Slaken, creating a firm yet dynamic sound.

the melodic sounds that pierced through the venue. A wonderful mix of songs were performed, including a variety of selections from both albums *A Place Behind the Moon* and *Nocturnal*.

Besides the music, the most incredible aspect of the show was without a doubt the stage set up. It consisted of several LCD screens that displayed lights and images correlating to the beats and music. At one point in the show a giant game of Pac-Man was projected onto the screen; this gained a huge crowd response.

The combination of Lalli and Salken's talents are genuinely bril-

liant, with their mix of thoughtful melodic tunes with pulsating dance beats. Big Gigantic is a one-of-a-kind in the electronic music scene, with beautiful sax solos and soulful synth lines as well as the incorporation of feisty beats.

For those that missed Big Gigantic's show last Friday, do not worry. The duo is sure to be around for a long time with their unique performances. They already have many music festivals and concerts lined up for the year, such as Buku, Ultra, etc. Be sure to check them out because Big G it is an unforgettable musical experience.

FLASH

FROM PAGE 9

in, is strong. This is supported by the outstanding voices of Emily Padgett (Alex) and Matt Hydzik (Nick). However, the latter needs some time to warm his voice up before it reaches its full potential. The majority of the rest of the cast also has outstanding singing voices, particularly Kelly Felthous and Dequinna Moore, with the exception of David R. Gordon, whose voice is not bad, but seems to crack a lot and was overpowered by the orchestra, although this may have been a directing choice to match his character.

In spite of the wonderful singing, the dancing is not the best. There are several members of the ensemble who are fantastic dancers, but their skills at times overshadow some of the main cast who are not as skilled, notably during Kiki's solo dance. Many of the dancers are supposedly part of an esteemed dance academy, but several of them literally stumble during the more classical and technical dance styles. The dancers never seem to be synchronized, which is not necessary for modern

and interpretive dance styles, but it is definitely needed for the more traditional dance forms seen in this show.

On a more positive note, some things that impressed were the exceptionally smooth transitions between scenes, the lighting and the clever use of props. The set is cleverly designed to be easily shifted to make the transitions clean and almost immediate. This is complimented by the lightning and bright LED screens that clearly draw the audience's eyes where they need to be, on each of the characters even when their dancing or voice is unable to live up to the attention. The props also help enhance several of the scenes, like when the flashdancers line up to each of the nude bodies on the folding screens to reference the topic they were discussing in their song.

Flashdance at the Fox Theater is a very entertaining musical that is exciting to watch, but it is in need of some polishing. Regardless, it will fill any void Generation Y students have from missing the loud, bright and flashy times of the 1980s.



Photo courtesy of the Flashdance - The Musical

The quintessential image of Flashdance seems to draw its inspiration from the fit-to-burst spirit of the entire leading cast.

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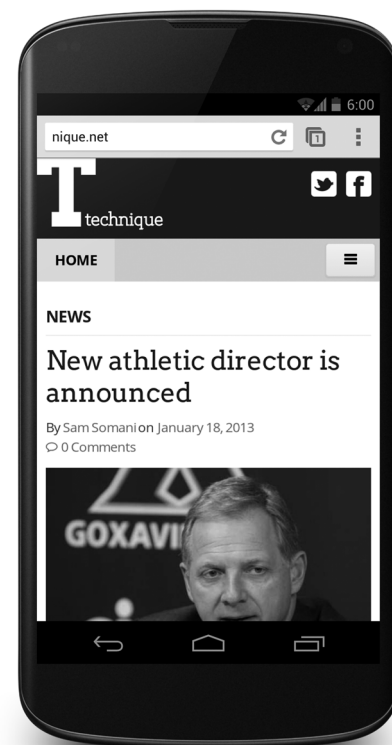
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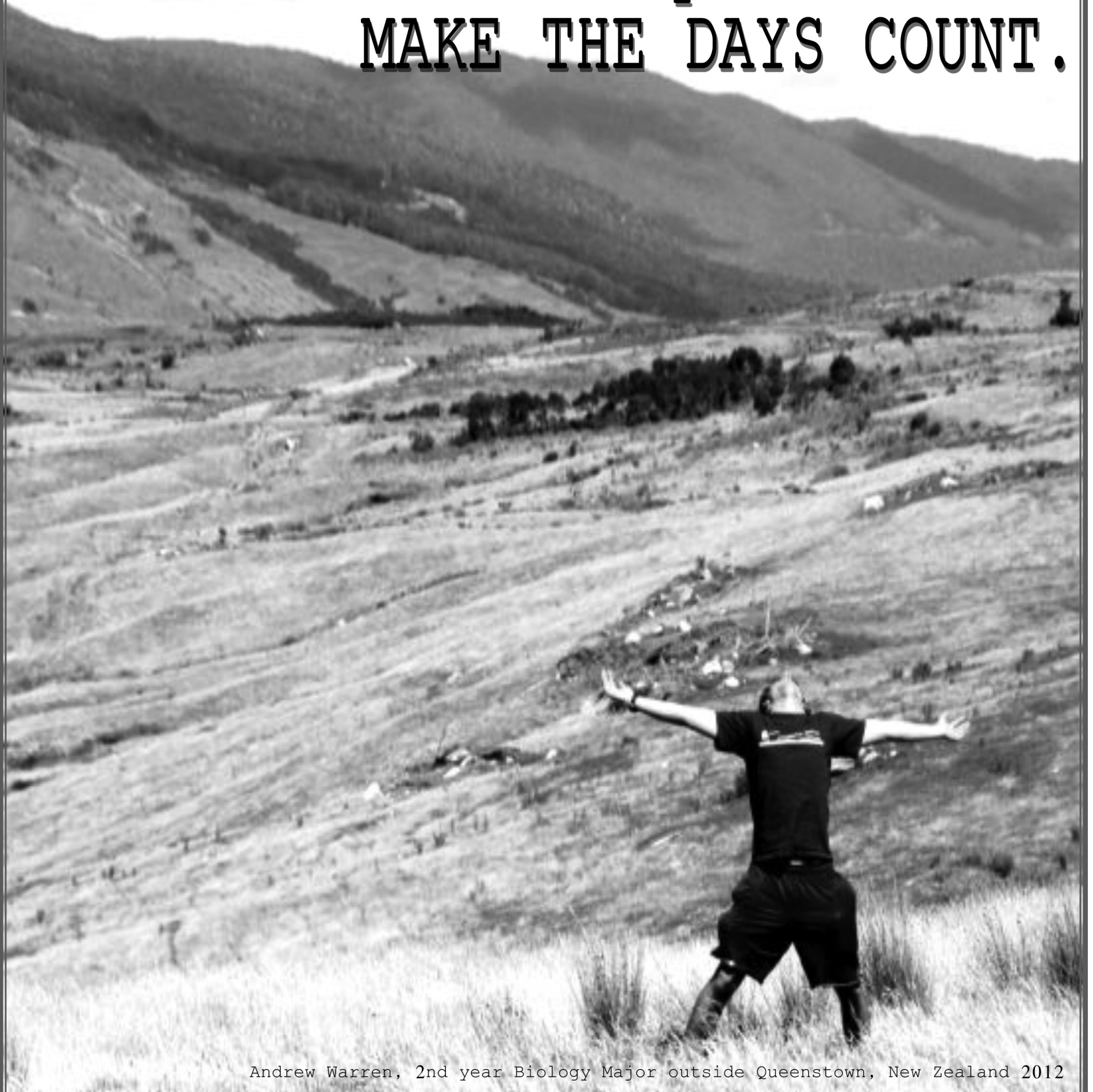
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Andrew Warren, 2nd year Biology Major outside Queenstown, New Zealand 2012

PACIFIC PROGRAM

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Info Session: Tuesday, February 19th at 11:00 in Howey (Physics) Room S104

IT IS NEVER TOO EARLY TO START PLANNING FOR THE BEST SEMESTER OF YOUR LIFE...

INMAN FROM PAGE 1

How would you describe your experience performing with the Kansas City Chorale on the album?

Recording is an intense experience, and is one of my favorite things to do. Sometimes the sessions can be grueling - hours and hours on just a few pages of music. This particular recording was grueling, but equally very passionate and gratifying. Singers are in "the zone" just like athletes. Every session felt like a runner's high... recording is an expensive project, as we hire the highest quality engineer and producer team. They are only booked for 3 days, so everything has to be done in a small amount of time. Not only does the music have to be in excellent shape, but the amount of physi-

cal stamina and sheer concentration the singers must execute for success is astounding. Sometimes we're in the middle of recording the most perfect passage and the wind blows, the microphones pick it up, and we have to re-take. There is much finger crossing! Bottom line is- Clausen's music is beautiful, and Bruffy conducting is magical, and the singers are superb. So, it was a great and unforgettable experience.

How would you classify the style and theme of the music on this album, and what was your part in bringing that music to life?

The style of the music is a cappella choral with great texts and exquisite, smart writing. Each piece is distinct - some of it sounds a bit cinematic, some ethereal and several pieces very spiritual and

virtuosic. I am a soprano 1, which means I (and usually two others) am responsible for the high notes. Of course, ours is the most important (at least we think so [laughter]). All voices in a section must support and compliment each other, and always express artistically. Sopranos walk the high tight-rope much of the time, as our notes can be in the stratosphere, where there is no room for human error. There is a warmth and glow to the voices that can only come from everyone being in the moment and singing 100% with all musicality, talent, etc.

Life and Breath has been nominated for two Grammy awards. What was your first reaction when you heard the news?

The nominees were announced December 5th. I had actually just landed in Dublin, where I was singing a 3-week tour with the Irish group Anúna. Consequently I didn't have internet access for nearly a day after the news broke. I was thrilled when I heard and so happy for Kansas City. It's always an honor to be nominated among so many amazing musicians and to participate in the festivities.

As both a teacher and a musician who has achieved success in both fields, what do you have to say to students, especially those here at Tech, who aspire to a career in music?

I was told many times along the way to choose one focus: either conducting or singing. This never made sense to me. Don't be afraid to do what makes sense to you, and create your own path from it.

AUSTRA FROM PAGE 9

leaving their audience with a lasting impression that this band is one to look out for in the future. Overall, Austra's chemistry made it clear that these people were friends to begin with, and they do not let stage presence tear that bond apart.

Though Austra's act eventually did have to wrap up, that atmosphere that they created with their soulful notes was the perfect lead-in to the headliner of the night, The xx.

Forming in 2005, The xx has seen their fair share of ups and downs in their experience with the music industry. Band members have come and gone, and the band itself has been featured on many "Best Of" lists due to several of their more popular songs from their well-known album, *Basic Space*. This act has been around the block a few times in terms of musical experience and success, resulting in the far-reaching musical footprint and impressive fan base they hold today. In 2012, however, The xx came out with the album *Coexist*, which showed the world a different side to the band. Indeed, the album received reviews that mentioned the band "peeling back layers" of their introverted selves.

As a performing act, The xx is well known for their minimal stage presence and reserved beats, which create an atmospheric vibe that comes across as an interesting comparison to house music when heard live. Regardless of the sounds that the band members produce, their calm and collected

stature was engulfed with screams and cheers the moment they stepped on stage. Such a combination of the fiery aura of the audience with the serenity of the band on stage resulted in an energy throughout the venue that could almost be described as surreal. It was a contradiction that would have seemed completely unenjoyable to the outside viewer, but for those attending the concert, the wide range of sounds flowed together like magic. While it may not be considered the standard style for more mainstream acts, contradiction after contradiction made the entire xx experience completely in equilibrium, combining both performer and audience output to form a unified and excitingly dynamic whole.

On the whole, pairing Austra and The xx together was probably one of the better choices made in the music industry lately. Although their rhythms are similar, each band brought different atmospheres that ultimately formed an entire atmospheric experience, engulfing the audience in a wave of smooth yet electric melodies. Katie Stelmanis brought with her a flute-like soprano voice, which later in the night was countered by the dark, chesty bass and alto voices of Madley Croft and Oliver Sim of The xx.

The whole experience was nothing less than mentally captivating and something that could not be accurately described in words, except perhaps to say that the combination of Austra and The xx was one of the strongest shows to have graced the Tabernacle in the last few years.



Photo courtesy of the Laura Inman

Inman's Grammy recognition will no doubt give a face to and strengthen the relatively small music program here at Tech.



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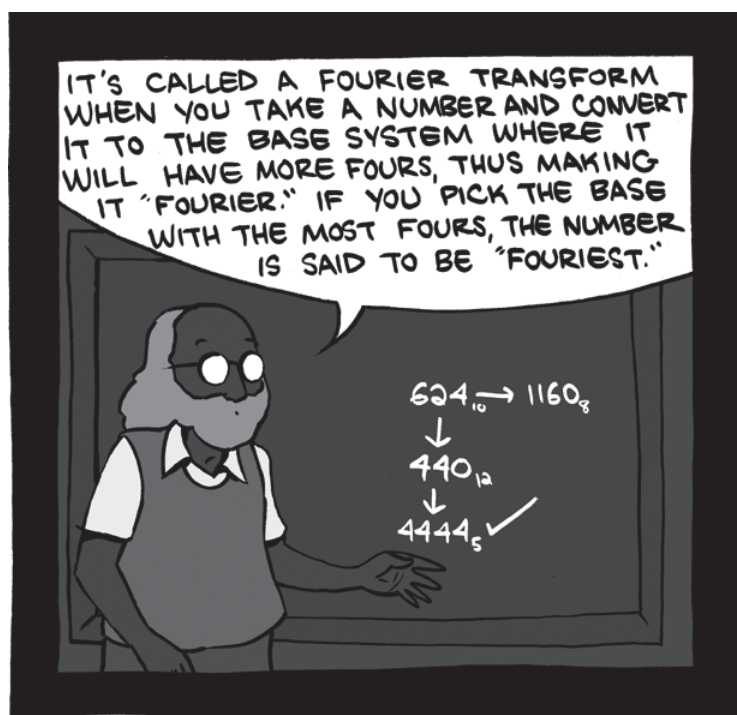
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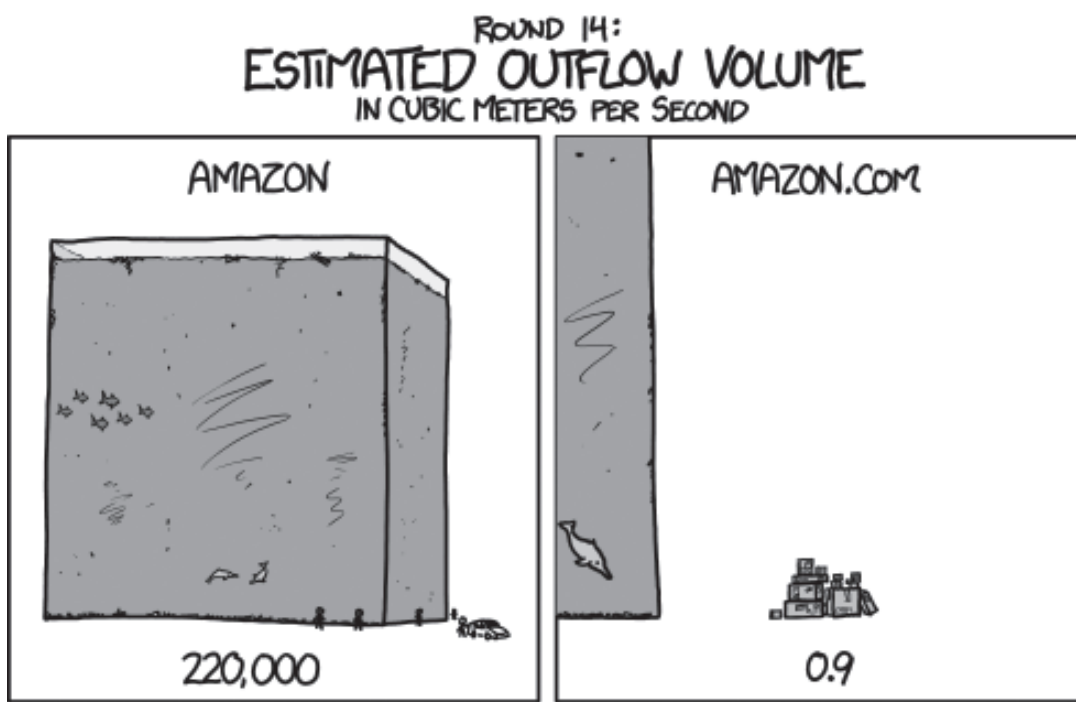


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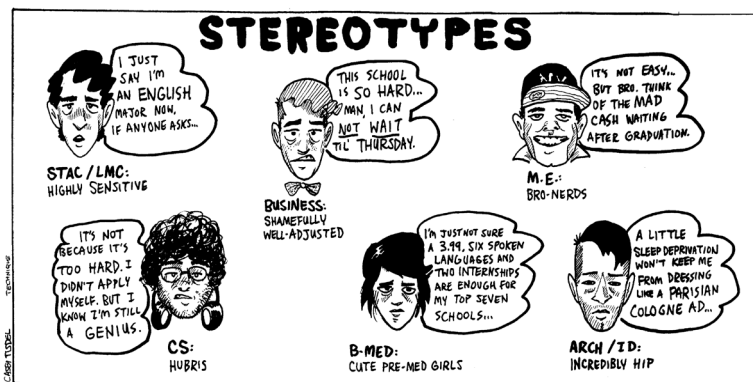
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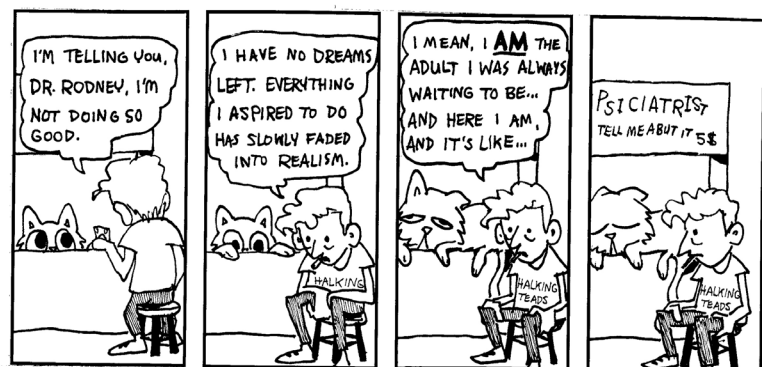
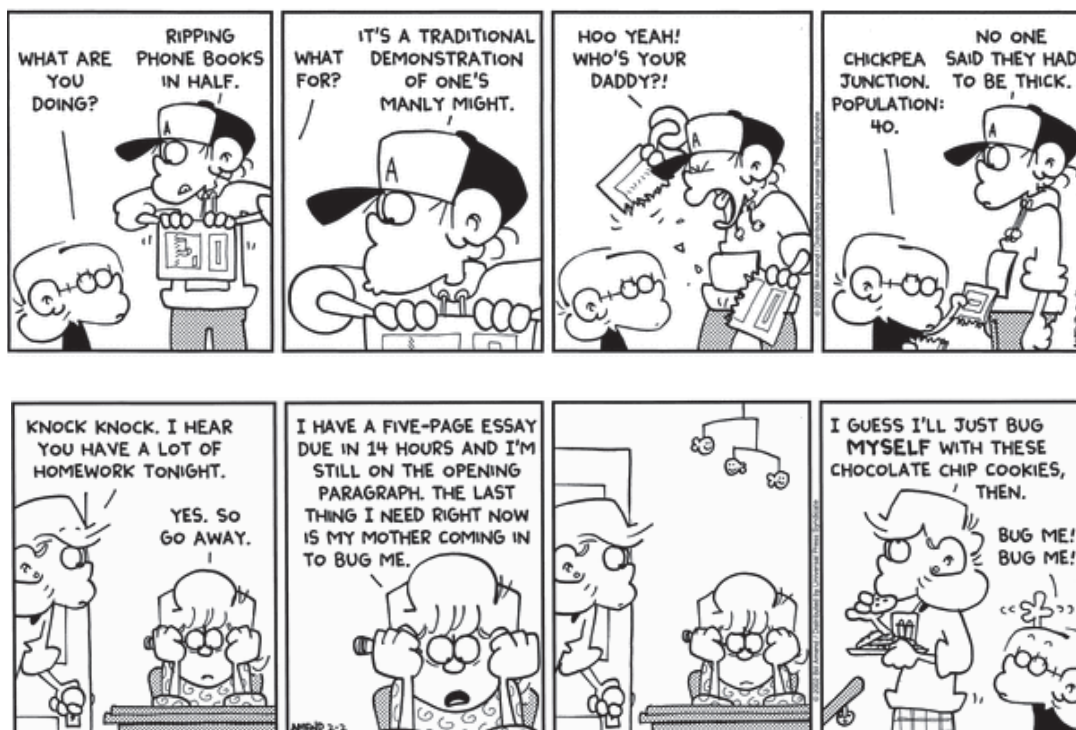
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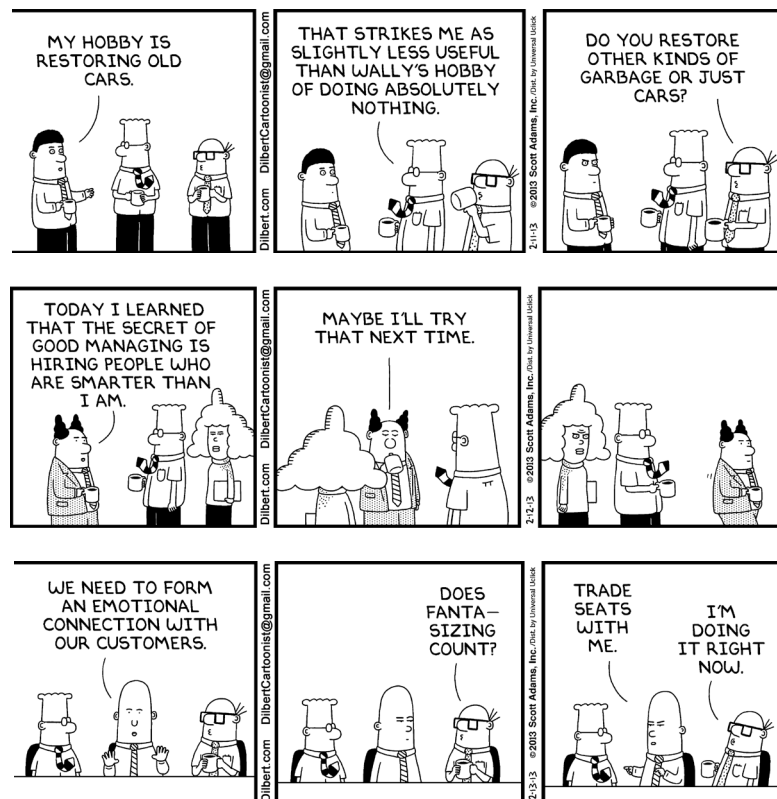
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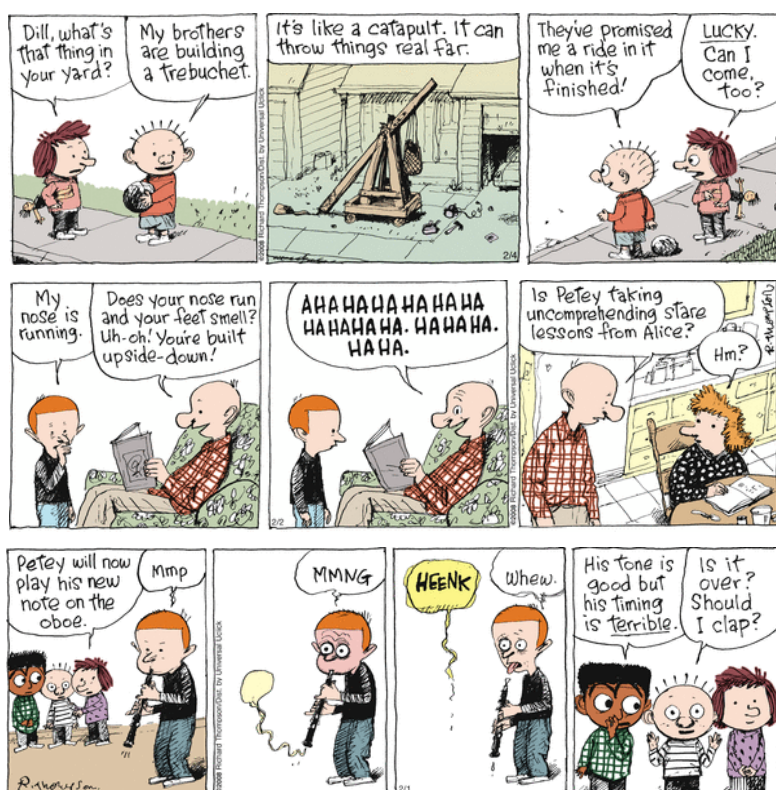
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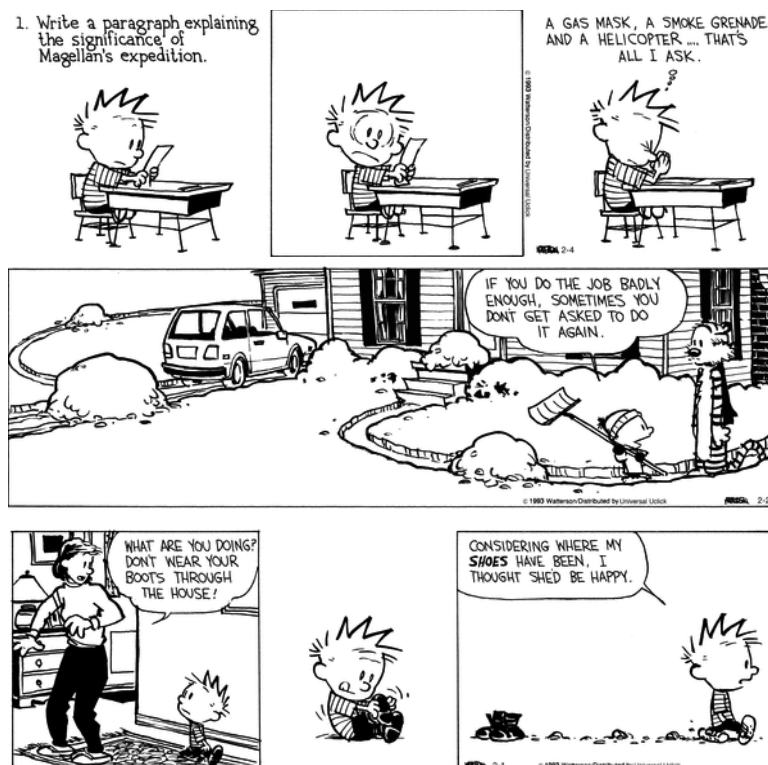
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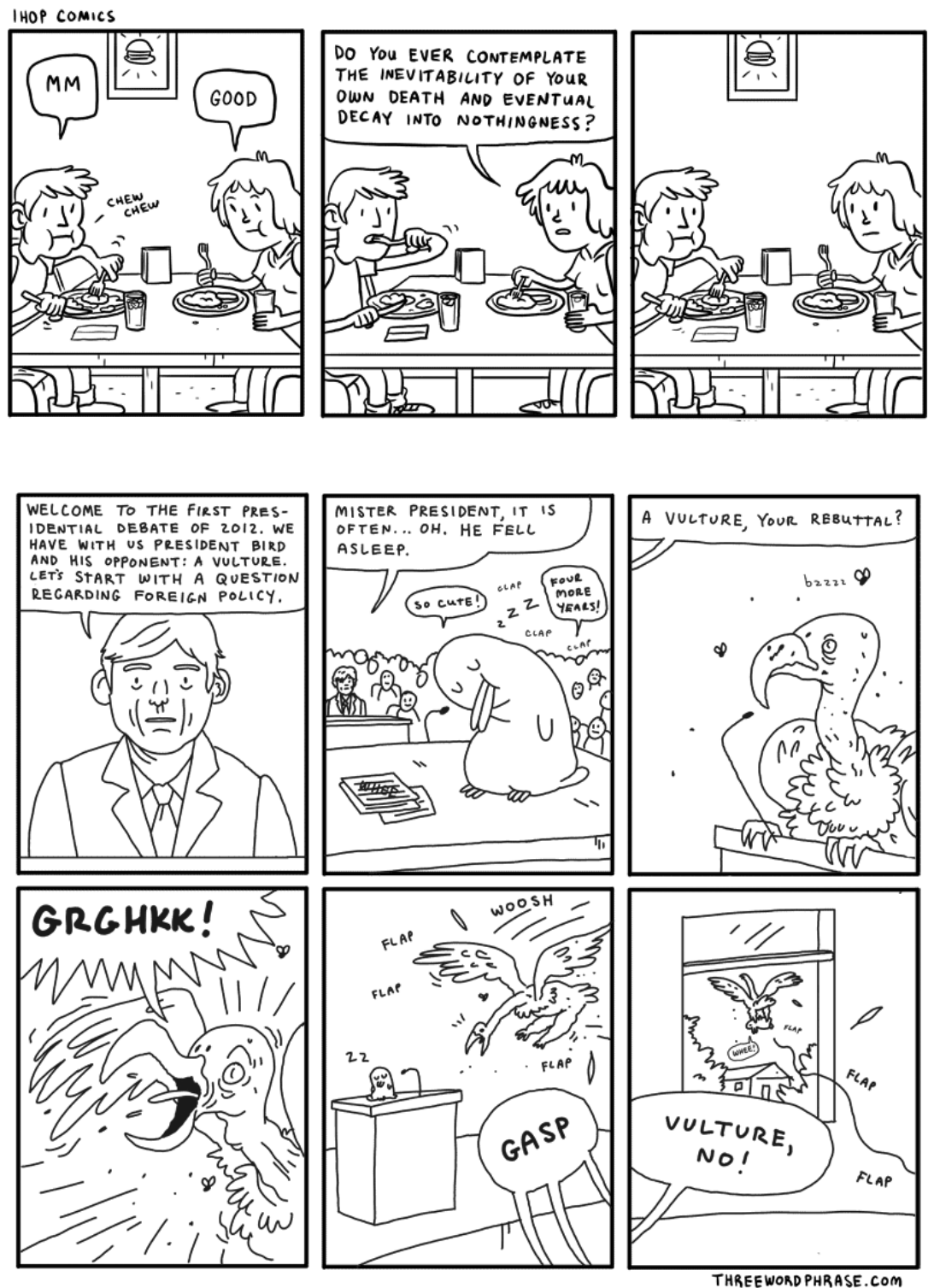
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HOOPS FROM PAGE 20

Wallace had 22 points off of six three-pointers. Wallace is now one three pointer away from being in the all-time top 10 at Tech for most three pointers made.

The Jackets started off slow, as Virginia started the game off on a dominating 15-2 run. However, solid defense by Tech's women held the Cavaliers to just two field goals in the final eight minutes of the first half to keep the Jackets in contention.

Tech cut the Cavalier's lead to single digits, but that deficit was extended to double digits with 12:37 to play. A 12-3 run in under three minutes pulled the Jackets to within one, and later tied the game for the first time at 51 with 8:32 to play.

Wallace hit a three pointer with 6:04 left to make the score 56-51 and to give Tech its largest lead of the day. A field goal by Virginia with 3:56 left drew the Cavaliers closer, but that would prove to be their final field goal of the day.

Another Wallace three pointer tied the game with 52 seconds left, and a layup following a steal would give Tech a 63-62 lead with 15.3 seconds to play. Two final free throws by Wallace would seal the game as a 65-62 win.

The women's basketball team will play their next two games at McCamish Pavilion as they look to continue their winning streak. The Jackets will play Virginia Tech on Friday, Feb. 8, at 8:30 p.m., followed by a game against North Carolina on Sunday, Feb. 10 at 11:30 a.m.

14 players sign with Tech on NSD

BY NEWT CLARK
SPORTS EDITOR

Tech signed 14 players on National Signing Day this year, seven on offense, six on defense and one kicker. After having four players decommit over the past two weeks leading up to signing day, head coach Paul Johnson seemed relieved to be able to go ahead and have the other 14 sign.

"A lot of the guys have got pounded pretty good, the ones who have been committed for a while. I've got a lot of respect for the guys that kind of withstood and got to the finish line. They were as excited to get it over with as we were," Johnson said.

Eight of the 14 commits in this year's class are from Georgia. Coach Johnson noted, "We want to do our very best to recruit the state of Georgia as hard as we can. And I think if you look, each year we've probably taken more Georgia kids than we have here in the past."

At the head of the class is four-star running back Travis Custis and four-star offensive guard Shamire DeVine. Other high profile signings include three-star offensive tackle Chris Griffin, three-star kicker Harrison Butker, three-star wide receiver Ricky Jeune and two-star quarterback Ty Griffin.

Travis Custis comes from Lovejoy High School, which is the same school as former Tech star

tailback Tashard Choice, and is projected to play B-back at Tech. His offers included Clemson, Miami and Michigan State among many others. Custis was Tech's first commit for this recruiting class, and he also was the first to fax in his letter of intent.

Custis ran for 2118 yards his senior year of high school, averaging 7.9 yards per carry, to go along with a total of 35 touchdowns. Custis also led his team to their second consecutive state championship appearance.

"We're really excited about the running back we got. We think he's one of the best in the state," Johnson said.

Shamire DeVine is a 6-6, 350-pound offensive guard out of Tri-Cities High School. His offers included Florida, Florida State, Tennessee and Georgia.

"We had Shamire in camp and to me, ability wise, he's as good as any high school junior I've ever seen. Not only is he a big guy, he also has feet," Johnson said.

Chris Griffin is an offensive tackle from Panacea, Fl. Griffin is 6-6 and weighs 272 pounds. Griffin recorded over 100 pancake blocks during his senior year of high school. Griffin also wrestled

in high school.

Harrison Butker is a local coming from The Westminster School in Atlanta, Ga. Scout.com ranked Butker the third best high school kicker in the nation. Listed at 6-4, Butker possesses height that you

"We're really excited about the running back we got. We think he's one of the best in the state."

PAUL JOHNSON
HEAD FOOTBALL COACH

usually don't see in kickers. Butker was 12-20 on field goal attempts his senior year, including an all time school record 53-yarder. Butker handled kickoffs, place kicking and punting in high school, but it is unclear whether he will also be responsible for punting at Tech. Butker also plays basketball and soccer for Westminster. He will be looking to lead his soccer team to their third consecutive state championship this spring. Butler also had offers from Auburn, Boston College and East Carolina. "The kicker was unquestionably an area we needed help and he's one of the best on the country," Johnson said.

Ricky Jeune is a big receiver out of Montvale, NJ and could be the deep threat that Tech has been missing. Jeune is 6-3 and weighs 205 pounds, similar to former Tech star Demaryius Thomas who came to Tech standing at 6-4 and weighing 215 pounds.

Jeune put up big numbers his

senior year with 882 receiving yards averaging 24.5 yards per catch, and he caught ten touchdowns.

Ty Griffin is from McEachern High School in Powder Spring, Ga. Griffin will start off as a quarterback, but also has the skill set to be moved to either A-back or safety.

Numbers wise this class is smaller than Tech's classes have been the past few years, last year's class had 22 players, but it was how Coach Johnson planned it. With very few graduating players of this year's team, there weren't many scholarships available to hand out. He said, "I told you last fall we were going to try to take 15, we were willing to take a little more, but it just didn't unfold that way. We still may pick up a guy or two, we'll see, but I'm okay where we are numbers wise." Coach Johnson was asked who the other one or two guys were that may be added to the class later, but was unable to comment on specific prospects due to NCAA rules.

Although this class was only ranked 84th in the country by Rivals.com, Johnson didn't appear to be bothered saying, "If you've got a class with 14 people, you're not going to be ranked as high as a class with 21. If you're a fan of the star system and you take the average of those, we probably fit where we usually do. Nothing against Rivals or Scout, but I'd prefer to go with my own rankings."

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Men's basketball beats UVA, loses to FSU



Photo by Alan Tahler Student Publications

Brandon Reed drives hard to the basket in Tech's 66-60 victory over the University of Virginia. Reed only played seven minutes against Virginia, but scored nine points against Florida State.

BY GRANT HEFFLEY
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Arguably the most exciting game of the season was won by Tech on Sunday, after overcoming a nine point halftime deficit against the Virginia Cavaliers.

The Jackets, led by senior guard Mfon Udofia with 15 points, arguably put forth their best effort of the season and played a com-

plete 40 minutes, much to the delight of head coach Brian Gregory.

"For us to tough out the win, it was a good sign," said Gregory.

Gregory later cited Virginia as one of the top performing teams in the ACC at the moment, next to Miami.

Virginia was 5-2 in conference play entering Sunday's game and on a four-game conference win-streak, including recent wins over

Florida State and 19th-ranked North Carolina State.

Needless to say, the Cavaliers were the road favorite to win the game and looked to be heading to their fifth consecutive win at the half, when they led the Jackets by a score of 37-28.

In the locker room at halftime, Gregory's message was simple: he still had faith in the team to win the game.

"I told them, we're going to get this game into the last two minutes... we're going to win this game in the last two minutes," Gregory said.

Tech responded to their coach's confidence and came out swinging in the second half, setting the tone for the next twenty minutes with a quick 9-3 run featuring the freshman trio of forward Robert Carter Jr. and guards Marcus Georges-Hunt and Chris Bolden, to cut the Cavalier's lead down to 40-37.

The Jackets continued to hang with Virginia for a majority of the half, never letting the Cavaliers get any further away than nine points yet never getting any closer than two.

With 3:45 remaining, Bolden hit a jumper to knot the game at 57, and put the Jackets in position to close the game out.

From there on, it was all white and gold. The Jackets ended the game on an 18-3 run, in which they shot seven for 10 from the free throw line. The Jackets strong finish allowed them to earn their second ACC home win with a final score of 66-60.

Just two days later, the Jackets hosted the Florida State Seminoles at Hank McCamish Pavilion. Tech went scoreless through the first six and a half minutes of play and trailed 13-0. The crowd, while stunned, was not taken out of the game by this lapse in offense, and the crowd's confidence allowed the team to get back into

the game.

After a Georges-Hunt jam for Tech's first points of the game at the 13:37 mark, the crowd was in a frenzy. Tech showed its characteristic grit as it grinded out the first half, kicking things off with an 11-2 run.

Redshirt junior guard Brandon Reed was automatic from long range, sinking three three's in the first half alone. The Jackets, despite their slow start, went into the locker room with a 27-26 lead. Tech's defense took over late in the half, prompting a 27-13 run to close the half. A dunk in traffic by redshirt junior center Daniel Miller gave Tech the lead in the final seconds.

The Jackets built their lead in the second half, but ultimately wound up at a 47-47 tie with five minutes to go.

Tech soon found itself in a five-point deficit a minute later, but was not intimidated. Udofia made a banked three-pointer at the one minute mark to tie the game at 54, and had a chance at a game-winner with 33 seconds remaining. However, Udofia could not capitalize. Florida State ran down the clock and converted a layup with one second left to seal the victory with a final score of 56-54.

The Jackets will head to Blacksburg for a rematch against the Virginia Tech Hokies this Saturday, Feb. 9 at 1:00 p.m. and will return home on Thursday, Feb. 14 for a matchup with the rival Clemson Tigers.

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Photo by Josh Sandler Student Publications

Hope Rush winds up just before delivering the pitch to home plate. Rush started two thirds of team's games last year and finished the season with a record of 26-12. Rush will be a will have to pitch well for Tech to repeat as ACC Champions.

2013 Softball Preview

BY JOE SOBCHUK
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Tech softball team will begin its defense of its ACC championship title with their season opener on Friday, Feb. 8. Last season, the Jackets won their third ACC tournament in the past four years and advanced to the NCAA tournament for the eleventh straight year. With six starters and two of three pitchers returning from last season, the team hopes to achieve even greater success this season.

Pitching

The two returning pitchers from last year are senior All-American Hope Rush

and sophomore Kylie Kleinschmidt, joining freshman newcomer Ashley Clifton on the pitching staff.

Rush was the team's main pitcher last season, starting two-thirds of the team's games while compiling a 2.58 earned run average (ERA). She went 26-12 as a starter, compared to the team's 11-11 record when she wasn't in the starting lineup. She pitched 31 complete games and recorded ten shutouts, and opponents hit for an average of just .220 against her, striking out a total of 146 times.

"We'll definitely go to her right out of the gate. Hope changes speeds really well, she's good at spotting pitches, she keeps the ball in the ball park and keeps people off balance in changing speeds and locations," said head coach Sharon Perkins, **courtesy**

of ramblinwreck.com

Rush will also be a threat in the batting lineup. She hit for .309 last season, which was good for third on the team. Her 43 runs batted in (RBI) led the team, and her eleven home runs were second-best.

Kleinschmidt was the team's second starter and will fill the same role this season. She appeared in 24 games last year, amassing a 6-9 record and a 6.80 ERA. Clifton will also get the nod to start occasionally, as she had a productive offseason according to Perkins.

Infield

The Jackets will return four out of their five starters in the infield this year, while the third base slot is still open for competition.

Sophomore Karly Fullem will play first base after assuming that position for 43 games last year. She hit for .228 last year, amassing 28 total hits and 21 RBI. She may also pitch if necessary, leaving the spot open for a freshman to see some action.

Next to her at second base will be sophomore Chelsie Thomas. She started all sixty games as a freshman, hitting for .276 and

earning a .968 fielding percentage. Junior Ashley Thomas will return at shortstop after starting every game and stealing a team-high 31 bases.

While the third base position is still up for grabs, it looks like freshman Courtney Ziese will fill that role. She will also split time at catcher if necessary.

Another freshman, Maddie Lionberger, could also see time in the lineup, as she has the potential to play any infield position, according to Perkins. Sophomore utility player Caitlyn Coffey may see action there as well.

Junior Alysha Rudnik will handle most of the catching duties, as she started behind the plate for 57 games last year. She totaled fifty hits last season along with 35 RBI and nine home runs. She will occasionally trade positions with Ziese in order to not tire out their legs.

Outfield

Junior Hayley Downs will start in center field once again after doing so in every game last year. She received high praise for her work ethic from her head coach.

"She runs the outfield. She just covers so much ground. She'll run through the wall literally. She's day in and day out giving 110 percent. She gives it all in. She's the heart and soul of the team with her work ethic, which is what we need. We need somebody to do that. People lead in different ways and she's a vocal leader, but she's also out there every day doing it. She's a great representation," Perkins said, **courtesy of ramblinwreck.com**.

Sophomore Katie Johnsky will return to right field, leaving left field open for senior Kelley Delashmit, junior Kaitlyn Kates, or freshman Morgan Taylor. Expect to see each player sharing time in that position over the course of the season.

Schedule

The Jackets will play their first eleven games of the year at home, opening the season against Eastern Michigan in the Georgia Tech Invitational, before travelling to tournaments in California and Florida. After that they will begin ACC play at Virginia, followed by a home game versus the Georgia Bulldogs on March 13. In the conference, the Jackets will play North Carolina State, Maryland, and Florida State at home, and Virginia, Virginia Tech, North Carolina and Boston College on the road. The regular season will conclude May 5, and the ACC tournament will begin on the ninth in Tallahassee, Fl.

Women's basketball wins overtime thriller

BY NIKHIL RAGDE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

After losing seven in a row, the Tech women's basketball team (10-12, 3-8 ACC) has a new streak going. The Tech women have a two-game winning streak after an 89-82 win in overtime against Wake Forest (10-11, 3-7 ACC) on Jan. 31, and a 65-62 win against Virginia (14-7, 6-4 ACC) on Feb. 3.

Against Wake Forest, The Jackets were led by junior Tyaunna Marshall's double-double. Marshall tied a career high of 28 points and set new career bests with seven assists and 17 rebounds, 10 of which were on the offensive end. Freshman Roddrecka Rogers also had a double-double, the first of her career, with 13 points and 10 rebounds. Tech also got 23 points from sophomore guard Sydney Wallace.

It was a tightly contested game, with 11

ties and 17 lead changes. The Deacons took a one point lead into the half, but Tech took a lead early in the second half.

The Jackets held the lead until the 11:47 mark of the half, and the score remained close until the end. Wake Forest hit two free throws with just 6.1 seconds left on the clock to tie the game and send the game to overtime.

The Jackets would burst out of the gate in overtime, scoring 12 straight points to build up an 81-69 lead. The Deacons dug into Tech's lead but it was not enough, and the Jackets won for the first time after losing seven straight.

Tech followed up that win with another against Virginia, once again thanks to the strong outings of Marshall and Wallace. Marshall had 25 points and 10 rebounds for her third straight double-double, while



Photo by John Nakano Student Publications

Sophomore guard Sydney Wallace drives to the basket. Wallace had 23 points against Wake Forest and 22 points against Virginia. Tech has won two in a row.