Volume 93, Issue 23 32 pages **ONLINE** www.nique.net

# "The South's Liveliest College Newspaper" Serving Georgia Tech since 1911



# SGA seeks to reconnect with students

By Sijia Cai

Contributing Writer

Members of the Student Government Association (SGA), are seeking to remedy the problem of the lack of student involvement in SGA activities.

This past week was SGA Week, an initiative organized by the Committee of Public Relations, headed by Brian Howell, a fourth-year Management major. Throughout the week, the SGA planned a variety of activities to raise student awareness of the SGA and what it does for the student community at Tech.

On Monday and Tuesday, SGA members displayed a comment board on Skiles Walkway and asked for input from passing students, who wrote down their ideas about a wide range of issues.

'So far we've received a lot of positive

See SGA, page 7





# Commuters endure road clo

**Projected** Schedule: 2008

Feb. 2008 Techwood between 10th-16th Sept. 2009 Techwood

Summer 2010 14th St. Bridge opens to traffic

2010

By Wade Cotton Contributing Writer

Being situated in downtown Atlanta, Tech sees some of its students, faculty and staff commute regularly to campus. However, commuters who come to campus from I-75/85 and exit via Techwood Drive are having to find a different way of coming to school.

Starting Feb. 9, The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) began shutting down roads near 14th Street bridge.

These closures are the first indications of the Fourteenth Street Bridge Improvement Project, also known as "First Aid for the 14th." The project will add two new exit ramps to the bridge, as well as place sidewalks on the bridge and streets connecting to it.

ground this spring, the transition to the construction phase has already

On the project's website, www.14thstreetbridge.com, interested parties can look up "the what, the why and how" of the construction project. The website states that the alterations will help the surrounding Midtown area see a 30 percent reduction in travel congestion.

It is projected that there will be less gridlock on I-85, although Techwood Drive will still see a fairly heavy volume of traffic during rush hour.

This construction will cause temporary changes and alterations to the current traffic conditions. Traffic on the downtown connector will be greatly impacted.

"Delays are to be expected. At Originally planned to break times, traffic will be paced and

lanes shifted," said the GDOT website. "Northbound traffic will be detoured to the 10th Street Bridge, and southbound traffic to the 17th Street Bridge once the 14th Street Bridge closes.'

The enforced delays will be lifted during higher risk travel times, such as holiday weekends and in periods of inclement weather.

The total group of road closures will include one lane of Williams Street, the section of Techwood Drive between 10th Street and 16th Street and the I-85 and I-75 southbound ramps to 10th and 14th. Signs on the southbound side of I-75 will be placed to encourage traffic to exit the highway at Northside Drive.

In order to deal with the road closures, commuters coming to campus will need to use 5th Street

See Bridge, page 6

# Laptops, cameras stolen from College of Computing

By N. Denisse Gonzalez Senior Staff Writer

Occasional laptop thefts are an unfortunate fact of life at Tech, but when several faculty and staff at the College of Computing (CoC) showed up one morning to find expensive electronic items missing, they along with police decided this was likely no coincidence.

On the morning of Feb. 7, faculty and staff in the CoC found that a number of offices had been searched and entered, resulting in over \$10,000 in stolen property. No suspects have been named as of yet.

As the day progressed, the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) received five different

incident reports varying from stolen computers and cameras to evidence of forced entry.

"All the [thefts] were the same. Either they used a key or it was a magician."

**Bill Leahy CS Lecturer** 

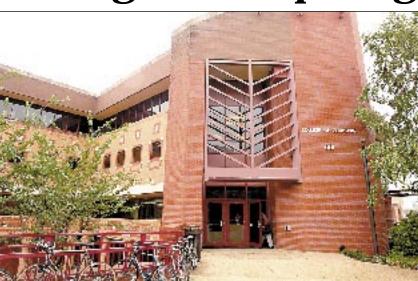
Officer Grant Hawkins of the GTPD explained that when police asked to review the tapes from the building's video surveillance system, they found nothing had been recorded.

"The camera system was damaged during a lightning storm and was not working at the time of the incident. The tapes that were pulled showed nothing, Hawkins said.

Bill Leahy, a lecturer at the CoC, noticed at approximately 10 a.m. that a tablet PC and other computer equipment had been taken from his office. The equipment, which is valued at \$2,765, belonged to the Institute.

"All the incidents were the same. Either they used a key or it was a magician. There was no forced entry and the door was locked," Leahy said.

See Theft, page 2



By Jamie Howell /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Over \$10,000 worth of property was found to be stolen from the College of Computing when employees returned to work on Feb. 7.

## Tedhnique Online Voice your opinion!

Last issue's question received 127 responses.

Are the increases in the mandatory fees justified?



By Robert Combier / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

This week's question:

Is SGA doing an adequate job of serving students?
Tell us at www.nique.net

#### Larceny-Theft

2/11/2008

14:15:00 hrs.

**Location:** Ford ES&T building **Incident:** Report of a stolen laptop

2/9/2008 22:05:00 hrs.

**Location:** Wingnuts

Incident: Report that a Honda Civic was entered and items were taken 2/7/2008 18:00:00 hrs.

**Location:** Alexander Memorial Coliseum

Incident: Report of stolen clothing
2/7/2008 14:00:00 hrs.

**Location:** Smith Residence Hall **Incident:** Report of a stolen purse and contents

## From the files of the GTPD...

# Campus Crime

#### Criminal Trespass Forgery-Fra

2/10/2008 00:13:00 hrs.

**Location:** Woodruff Dining Hall loading dock

**Incident:** Offender arrested for criminal trespass, was transported and released to Fulton County jail

### 2/11/2008 20:15:00 hrs.

Location: Cloudman Residence Hall Incident: Offender arrested for indecent exposure, was transported

## and released to Fulton County jail Traffic Accident

2/8/2008 2:15:00 hrs.

**Location:** Hemphill Ave. / Ninth St. / Eighth St.

Incident: Report of a four vehicle accident, injured transported by ambulance to Atlanta Medical

#### Forgery-Fraudulent

2/8/2008 5:12:00 hrs.

**Location:** Student Center **Incident:** Report of fraud - illegal use of credit/financial transaction

#### Burglary

2/11/2008 19:45:00 hrs.

**Location:** Women's Softball Field **Incident:** Report of stolen assorted packages of cookies

2/9/2008 10:00:00 hrs.
Location: Baptist Student Union
Incident: Report of a stolen laptop

#### Harassment

2/10/2008 12:00:00 hrs.

**Location:** Eighth St. Apartments **Incident:** Report of harassing communication

### **Theft** from page 1

Monica Sweat, also a lecturer at the CoC, found that \$4,950 worth of laptop computers and digital cameras belonging to the Institute were taken from her office. According to the incident report she filed, the only people with access to her office were facilities employees, a teaching assistant, and herself.

Thomas Pilsch, assistant dean of students at the CoC, reported that a Scribble robot used for CS 1301 had been moved in his office.

"I noticed the carrying case was moved from its normal spot to a lower position [on the book shelf] when I arrived that morning. The Scribble was still there. I didn't think too much of it until I learned of the other losses. Nothing else was disturbed," Pilsch said.

All five people who filed a report with the police stated that they had locked their doors the night before. Only one report indicated that there were signs of forced entry.

"The timeframe of when the incidents were reported overlaps so

we think it was one isolated incident. We are checking other buildings more frequently now...and so far this hasn't been a trend. It seems like an isolated event but we are treating it as something that could happen again," Hawkins said.

According to Hawkins, the GTPD is following up on leads they have received as the case continues to be under investigation. The GTPD is increasing patrol of the building and the surrounding area to help prevent future incidents. They have also increased the number of building

checks performed in the evenings of the CoC.

"As one of our primary focuses we will now look at that building more closely for anything suspicious," Hawkins said.

The College has also taken additional steps to ensure the building is secure. It has contracted a private security company to offer additional surveillance. A security guard will monitor the building each day from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

"They are also re-keying a lot of the locks and upgrading their camera system to make sure it's fully operable for the future," Hawkins said.

GTPD is working with faculty and staff who have offices in the CoC on preventive measures they can follow to secure the valuable equipment stored throughout the building.

"It seems like common sense, but sometimes you forget. We want to make sure we reiterate the importance of locking doors, securing valuables, such as computers and projectors, and locking drawers," Hawkins said.





ach Tuesday, elected members of the two houses of the Student Government Association, the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) and the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), convene to consider allocation bills and discuss issues facing campus. Here is a summary of those two meetings.

By Corbin Pon, Assistant News Editor, & James Hite and William Brawley, Contributing Writers

This edition of Council Clippings covers the UHR and GSS meetings from Feb.12, 2008.

#### Bill of the Week: S.O.S.

PASSED: Joint allocation to Students Organizing for Sustainability, requesting \$201.22 to cover transportation and registration costs to attend the Southeast Student Renewable Energy Conference in Valdosta, Ga. (passed GSS 23-0-1; passed UHR 27-8-1)

The funding that was being requested in the Joint Allocation for Students Organizing Sustainability bill would pay for the already-incurred travel and registration expenses for students travelling to the 5th Annual Southeast Student Renewable Energy Conference in Valdosta, GA. The conference was a place for students from various schools to discuss climate change, sustainability efforts and provides for them an opportunity to network with other

Eight students travelled to and attended the conference. When the bill came up for discussion, there was initially an issue with the fact that funding would be provided for an event that had already taken place. This was an unusual circumstance because funding is usually not provided for after the fact. The JFC recommended not funding the bill because the bill was submitted less than two weeks before the actual event took place.

"This bill is allowed to be considered as a post-event payment because it was out of the organization's control," said Nick Wellkamp, the bill's sponsor in the UHR. Wellkamp took the blame for the bill not being brought to the attention of the SGA in time to be considered at the appropriate time.

"I see no problem considering this bill," said MATH senator Mitch Keller, the GSS sponsor of the bill. It was also argued that the organization was a new one and should be provided some leniency. It was the organization's first bill, and it was argued they should be allowed a manner of leeway on the rules, whereas other organizations such as the Black Graduate Student Association have faced sharp criticism recently for last-minute tivism, Muslim Students Association, Trailblazers funding requests.

#### **UHR Impeaches Representatives**

In response to a loss of quorum two weeks ago, the UHR brought impeachment proceedings against several representatives who have been chronically absent. ARCH representative John Tankard, ME Representative Abishkek Kumar and Senior Representative Ronak Kamdar resigned from the UHR in light of the Articles of Impeachment that were filed against each of them.

BME representative Michael Chervonski and ML Representative Corey Myers had their Articles of Impeachment approved by unanimous acclamation at the UHR meeting. Both Chervonski and Myers were not present at the meeting and were unable to address the UHR.

The vote on ECON representative John Akins' Articles of Impeachment failed to garner the three-fifth vote that are required for impeachment charges to be brought upon him. The Articles of Impeachment were nullified. Akin was present at the UHR meeting and addressed the house, offering as an excuse his taking of the LSAT and the preparatory classes that went along with it.

#### Condolences

Both houses passed a resolution expressing their condolences to the family and friends of William Sayle, a professor in the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering who passed away at the age of 66 from pancreatic cancer.

#### **Next Week**

Next week the GSS will consider two joint allocation bills which the UHR has already passed, to the Taiwanese American Student Association and the Student Center Programs Council Concert

Additionally both houses will consider funding bills to the African American Student Union, Campus Christian Fellowship, Students of Objecand Phi Psi Textile Fraternity.

## Summary of SGA Voting

Result

**UHR** GSS

Joint allocation to Sailing Club:

The organization requested funds to pay

Bill and description

Passed

**Passed** 21-3-2

for two new recreational-use sailboats

Passed

35-2-0

Passed

26-0-0

**Passed** 

27-8-1

**Postponed** 1 week

Passed

33-3-0

Joint allocation to Taiwanese American Student Association:

The bill asked for travel costs for members to attend the Intercollegiate Taiwanese American Student Association Confer-

Joint allocation to GT Engineering Students Without Borders:

The bill funds a trip to Seattle, WA for members to attend the Engineers Without Borders National Conference.

Joint allocation to Students Organizing for Sustainability:

The bill funds a trip made by members to attend the 5th Annual Southeast Student Renewable Energy Conference.

> **Passed** 34-2-0

23-0-1

On agenda

next week

**Passed** 

**Joint allocation to Student Center Pro**grams Council Concert Committee:

The bill asks for \$40,000 for the funding of the Sting Break concert that is free for all Tech students and faculty.

Joint resolution expressing condo-

The SGA expresses its condolences to family and friends of Dr. William Sayle. The Associate Chair of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Sayle passed away at the age of 66 from pancreatic cancer.

**Passed** 

unani-

mously

**Passed** unanimously

# youtube.com gtsmart

#### sliver

www.nique.net/sliver

i never trusted chris. SLAYton (getting bff slayer) where does it say clicke

even after dominating the primaries in georgia, obama has lost (almost) all of the georgian superdelegates to clinton... obama kicked butt in georgia.. 67% of the votes!!

why is it sooo loud in the library today? and why is everybody staring at me??

Waqas

omg i love hannah montana too!

yes, it is bad that you cuddle with a guy who likes you but u don't like dont be a skank

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# Weekly Activities

Student Center Programs Council

#### JOINTHE STUDENT CENTER PROGRAMS COUNCIL

WANTED: GT students to make new friends, plan events, get involved! Don't miss this opportunity to join the Student Center Programs Council. Apply on-line: www.fun.gatech.edu



LIVELUNCH: "CURBOF LEONA"

Thursday, February 21 11:00 a.m. - Noon Student Center Commons Stage

#### LIVE AND IN PERSON! The Jerry Springer Goes Back to School Tour is coming to Georgia Tech!



Friday, February 29 Doors open (a) 7:30 p.m. Show starts (a) 8:00 p.m. Ferst Center for the Arts

Free tickets at the Student Center Programs Office starting February 18th, Must show Buzzeard, limit three per Buzzeard.

For more information on this speaker/performer please visit www.apbspcakers.com

Submit your questions to Jerry at www.jerryspringerty.com/jerry backtoschool.html

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL THESE EVENTS AND MORE VISIT OUR. WEBSITE: www.fun.gatech.edu

# CoC announces nation's second robotics Ph.D program



By Eric Turner /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Robots compete in last summer's RoboCup competition. Tech's new robotics Ph.D. program is now accepting applications for fall admission.

By Corbin Pon Assistant News Editor

In cooperation between the College of Engineering and the College of Computing (CoC), Tech has announced a new Ph.D. program that is focusing exclusively on the field of robotics. Created by Tech's Center for Robotics and Intelligent Machines, the doctoral degree is intended to become a place for those who will want to delve solely into the realm of robotics.

The multidisciplinary program will draw on the curricula from the fields of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering and Biomedical Engineering. With students being able to work with all of these fields in their study of robotics, the hope is that they will develop a broad, multidisciplinary knowledge base. This base will make

them prepared to tackle the challenges that the highly interwoven field of robotics, which requires the expertise from a diverse list

"We are... excited about getting this program going.... Personal robotics... will be very important... in the future."

**Henrik Christensen** KUKA Chair of Robotics

of subjects like Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering, will develop in the future.

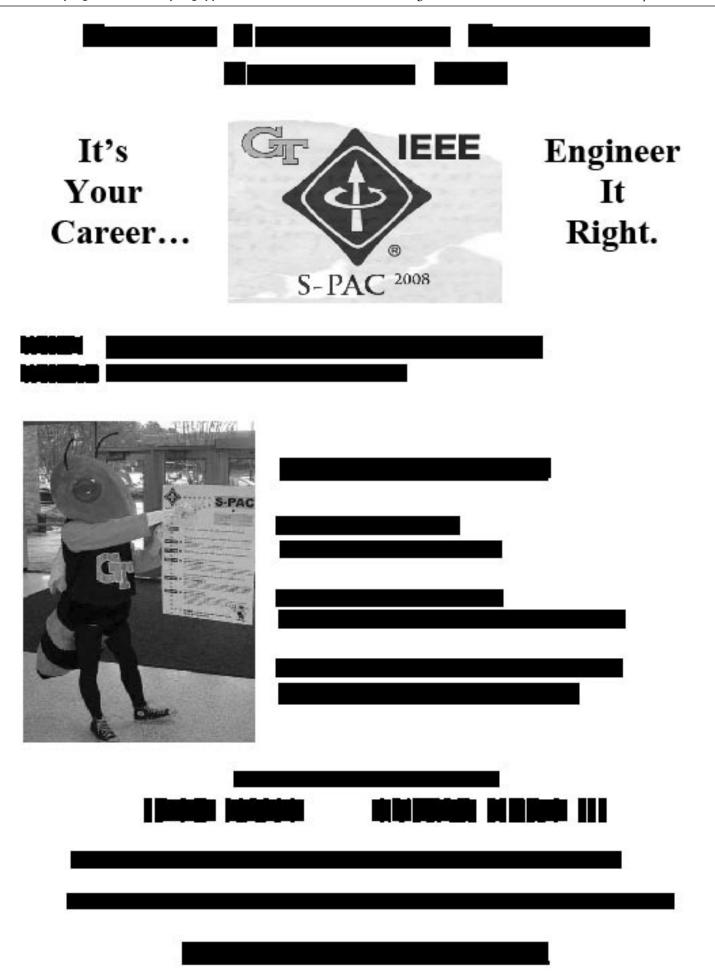
"We are very excited about get-

ting this program going, because... there is the possibility to give Tech a unique profile. Personal robotics... is something that will be very important to people in the future," said Henrik Christensen, KUKA Chair of Robotics for the CoC.

The program will begin next fall, and the admissions process is currently open. It is expected that about 10 current students will move into the new doctorate program. The goal is to bring in about 15 students every year and to eventually build the program up to a size of around 60 to 80 students.

The program will have five different areas of focus, with students picking three of the areas to become their core competence. The five areas are mechanism, control, perception, artificial intelligence and autonomy. As an example, if a student is inter-

See **Robotics**, page 5



Come to the p.m. in Roor

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

# Women's self-defense class offered at Tech

The Georgia Tech Police Department will offer an hour-long self defense class for women on Feb. 23, 2008 at 4 p.m. The Rape Awareness Defense system focuses on awareness, prevention and risk reduction/avoidance and moves on to basic hands-on defense training. Those who are interested should RSVP by sending an e-mail to grant. hawkins@police.gatech.edu.

# USA Today editor to speak on campus

Ken Paulson, editor and senior vice president of news at USA Today, will speak at the Ferst Center for the Arts on Feb. 20, 2008. His speech will be titled "Rebooting America: News for a New Generation". Free tickets are available for students, faculty, and staff with Buzzcard at the Student Center Box Office.

# Tech gets community service honor

On Feb. 11, Tech was named to the 2007 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. Launched in 2006, the list recognizes schools that "support innovative, effective, and exemplary community service programs."

## **Robotics** from page 4

ested in understanding how a robot understands and moves through its environment, then they could study artificial intelligence, perception and autonomy.

"We are looking for students that are really interested in doing robotics...Some come in and say 'I really want to build these awesome robots.

"[People] come

[Those] are the

people we are

looking for."

in and say 'I really

want to build these

awesome robots.....'

**Henrik Christensen** 

**KUKA Chair of Robotics** 

This is what I really want to do.' [Those] are the people we are looking for," Christensen said.

In the current robotics industry, the people who are building robots for companies like General Motors or Lockheed Martin have been trained in the traditional

engineering subjects and then moved into the field of robotics, according to Christensen. There is a lot of interest in getting people who are educated in the variety of disciplines that encompass robotics.

"I think it will be something that we will see. Where we go away from having people that are deep in a particular area... to having people that have a broad profile so they understand overall context but still have deep knowledge. I hope this is an evolution that we see at Tech. That we will [address] more interdisciplinary

topics," Christensen said.

There has only been one other Ph.D. degree in robotics, and it is located at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) in Pittsburgh, Pa.. Christensen sees Tech's program as complementary CMU's program. CMU works on robots that are deployed in the field. For example, robots that are used by the military or by those conducting a search and rescue mission. Tech's focus is on ro-

bots that will assist or empower people.
"What can

we do to build robots to help people in their daily lives? [It] could be in an industrial setting where robots do heavy lifting.... It could be in health care, where there is a significant aging of society.... It would be really

nice if we could help people with [basic functions], so [they] don't have to go to a managed care facility and [instead] stay in [their] home," Christensen said.

By complementing the work at CMU, Christensen believes that the United States on the whole will be come more competitive with the work being done in Europe and in Asia. He sees that there are growth opportunities for robotics in the future, and the Ph.D. degree is a really good opportunity for Tech to expand into the growing field.

# Breaking **Bubble**

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

#### Danish newspapers reprint controversial Muhammed cartoons

This week newspapers in Denmark reprinted the controversial cartoons of Muhammed whosefirst printing led to massive outrage and deadly riots in the Muslim world.

According to the **Associated Press**, the newspapers made the decision to reprint the cartoons as a show of solidarity after a plot was revealed to kill one of the cartoonists, who had depicted the Muslim prophet with a turban resembling a bomb with a lit fuse.

In 2006, when the cartoons were first printed, the Danish flag was burned in violent protests in Muslim countries, which also saw widespread boycotts of Danish products.

While many Danish Muslim organizations have said that they are not intending to take retaliatory action, the fact that a right-wing lawmaker is planning to air a film condemning Islam as fascist has many worrying that a new wave of religious tension and violence will erupt.



## Hezbollah commander dies in bomb blast

A bomb attack in Syria on Tuesdaykilled Imad Moughniyah, a senior commander in Hezbollah.

According to **Reuters**, Moughinyah, 45, was at the top of a list of foreigners that Israel sought to capture or kill. In the U.S. he was at the top of their list until the emergence of Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda. Israel has denied involvement in the bombing; Hezbollah is claiming that Israel placed the bomb in Moughinyah's vehicle.

In 1983, Moughinyah was implicated in bombings of the U.S. embassyin Beirutas wellas U.S. Marine and French peacekeeping baracks; the attacks killed over 350 people. The U.S. also has indicted him for several other terrorist incidents as well. Israel holds him responsible for bombings in Argentina that killed over a hundred people.

The United States has unsuccessfully tried to detain himseveral times in the past.

"The world is a better place without this man in it. He was a cold-blooded killer, a mass-murderer and a terrorist responsible for countless innocent lives lost," said Sean McCormack, State Department spokesman.

## **MATH TA POSITIONS AVAILABLE!**

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- Will you be a junior or senior in Fall 2008?
- Do you have a strong mathematics background and good GPΛ?

## Apply for a math recitation TA position!

Math is now accepting applications for undergraduate teaching assistants for the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 semesters. No teaching experience is required. TAs needed for Math 1113, 1501, 1502, 1512, 1711, 1712, 2401, 2403, 2602, 2605. Applicants should be capable of teaching above the Math 1501 level.

## Information sessions will be held:

- Tuesday, February 19, 11:05-11:55 am in Skiles 240
- Thursday, February 21, 5:00-6:00 pm in Skiles 240

## For more information and an application, please visit:

www.math.gatech.edu/academic/undergraduate/jobFellowship/ugradTA.php
Application deadline is March 3.



V Ion Haeffele /STUDENT PURI ICATION

Construction is underway on the new 14th Street bridge. The road closures are forcing commuters who pass through the area to adopt alternate routes and deal with increased congestion.

## **Bridge** from page 1

or 10th St. by way of Spring Street in order to avoid the construction. Some see the construction as an obstacle to their

"In the short term,

it will affect traffic

that it will be taking

patterns greatly...

the good thing is

**GDOT Communication** 

less time."

**Katina Lear** 

Specialist

regular campus commute.

"It's purely a great inconvenience for getting off campus that way," said Jeff Baldino, an Aerospace Engineering major. However, other students don't necessarily share the same level of concern with the

construction on the bridge.

Outside of the people who are driving to and from campus, local Tech traffic will also be affected. A new Stinger Green Route will be implemented to bypass the construction on the bridge.

GDOT officials are optimistic about the effect the construction will have on the downtown commute. "In the short term, it will affect traffic patterns greatly. Basically, the good thing is that it will be taking less

time. Weworked with Midtown Alliance and will only have to shortly inconvenience the public," said Katina Lear, GDOT's District Seven Communication Specialist.

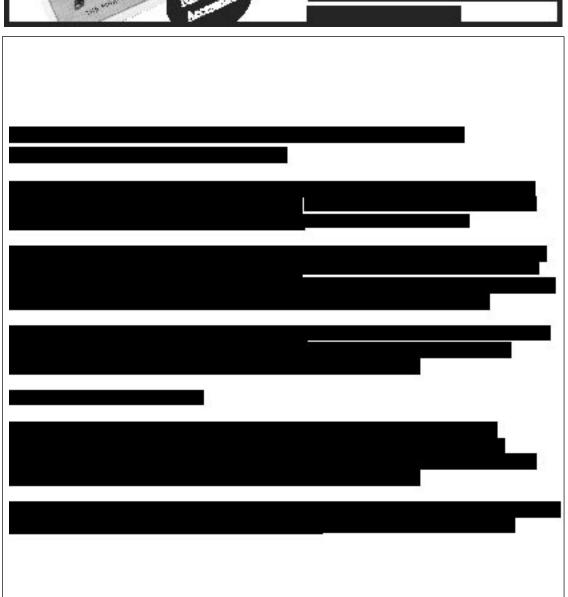
Lear also believes that with the help of businesses giving employees

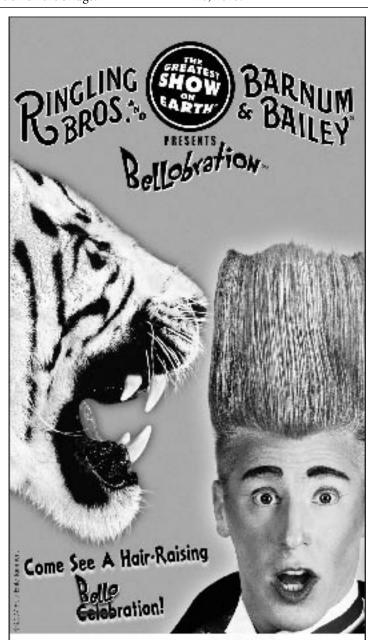
incentives to use mass transit, the project will come close to fulfilling its projected goals of congestion relief.

Officials say that the roads should be completed and functional by May 10, 2010.

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FEB. 15-24

ARENA

Student tickets available for \$10 to the following performances:

Fri., Feb. 15th at 7:30pm Sun., Feb. 17th at 7:00pm

Mon., Feb. 18th at 11:00am and 3:00pm Thurs., Feb. 21st at 7:30pm

Fri., Feb. 22nd at 7:30pm

To redeem discount please present your College ID at the Philips Arena Box Office. Limit 2 tickets per ID. Offer valid on \$28, \$22 and \$14 price levels only.

Come one hour early to meet our animals and performers at the **All Access Pre-show** – **FREE** with your ticket!



By Jon Drews /STUDENT PUBLICATION:

VP of Administrative Affairs Nick Wellkamp talks to a fellow student during the SGA's "Meet Your Representative" event before their meeting.

"We want students

to know that we're

here for them and

we value their

**Nick Wellkamp** 

**Undergraduate VP of** 

**Administrative Affairs** 

feedback."

## **SGA**

from page 1

feedback from the student body. A lot of students this week have realized the accessibility of SGA," Howell said.

"We're receiving many suggestions," said Anu Parvatiyar, undergraduate student body president. "After we take the board down, I'll be compiling these comments and forwarding them to the appropriate committees for consideration."

The categories on the board ranged from "What can we do to raise cultural awareness on campus?" to "What kind of new things should our BuzzCards be used for?" There was also a section for general comments and concerns.

The highlight of SGA Week was Tuesday evening's "Meet Your Representative" event, which was held in Room 117 of the Student Services (Flag) Building and began at

7:00 p.m., halfan hour before the regular Undergraduate House of Representatives meeting. Students who attended the event mingled with their representatives and talked about specific concerns.

The weekly UHR meetings are always open

to all students, but light refreshments were provided at Tuesday's event as an added incentive.

There is a very simple reason for putting together all of the events that made up SGA week: student government members have been noticing an increasingly marked sense of indifference towards the organization among the majority of students.

"I believe that there is a variety of factors for this apathy—for example, many students on campus think the SGA is mostly political, and they aren't very interested in policy," said Nick Wellkamp, SGA vice president of administrative affairs. "We want students to know that we're here for them and that we value their feedback."

"I think that since students pay the student activity fee at the beginning of the year, they forget about it afterwards and don't realize that we're making decisions about their money," said Carola Conces, MATH representative in the UHR.

However, the SGA's influence in shaping campus life extends far beyond simply distributing funds

to student groups.

"Currently, most students believe SGA is an extension of Georgia Tech, whose main purpose is to allocate funds, when in reality it is a representation of the student body," Howell said.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the SGA office was open for all students to visit. Representatives were constantly in the office, greeting students and addressing any issues raised.

Informational posters were set up inside the office and students were able to write their suggestions on comment boards outside.

"Right now, we've mostly been receiving ideas on improvements for student services, like BuzzCards and the Stinger and Trolley systems," Parvatiyar said.

A look at how students reacted to SGA week and their general opinion of what the SGA does for Tech reveals that while some simply do not keep

up to date with the SGA's proceedings, others are disillusioned with what they see as a boggeddown political process.

"I don't believe the SGA has real substantive power," said Kalin Richardson, a third-year Management major. "It is still

subject to the administration and is therefore not fully autonomous in its actions."

On the other hand, some are more optimistic about the SGA's role in campus life

"Ît's a very influential organization, but it needs to become more 'public,'" said Lindsay Anglin, a firstyear International Affairs major.

Some of the popular past initiatives that the SGA has planned include GT Night at Six Flags, One Night Stand, and Ruckus.

Currently, the SGA is working on a partnership with Uloop, an online trading site that would allow for better and more efficient exchange of books and other items among Tech students, faculty, and staff. But student enthusiasm and input are the factors that push the SGA to achieve its goal of giving students a say in how the university is run.

"We've had less student initiative this year than we did last year, but we're confident that that's going to change through programs that will raise awareness about what the SGA does on a day-to-day basis," Parvatiyar said.

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- Junior or Senior standing by the end of the Spring 2008 semester
- Full-time student or Co-op not graduating from Georgia Teel, before Spring 2009.
- Minimum GPA 5.0





	Monday	Tuenday	Wednesday	Duraday	Fishey	Saturday	Sunday
12:00	Atmospherics Codes and State					WREKage 2,00	Hour of Sinch
1:00	Overnight Alternatives						Bottle Stackfirme Furthweek
9300 23							SCORE
6:00	Classics					g,00	Verescend Correcopes
9:00	Just Jazz						Public Affairs
12:00	AND THE PERSON	Live @ Skiles		Live @ Skiles	was trained	Cornecion	
1:00	Rock Rhythm And Roll						Oomucopia
				5:00	Country Classics	Decadesy	
6:00	Hemispherious	Undeground	Sports Report	Tech Telk	Friday Night	1	Charene.
7:00	Kosher Noise	Geld Souncz	5204	Carwhacks	Fish Fry	Desate Hour	Sunday Special
8:00	Indian Messle	RadioBomb	Mobile	54-46	Storwhorge	The Solunday Night Cocktall Lounge	
9:00	Sub-Sehever Wees	Longhown and Longhorns	Destroy All M, sic	Wrelescen Renaissance			Back, Alley Park, Root:
			44.00			EDM Sound	Personality
10:00	Carbbean	Live or Wrek	Fiscion			EDM Sound	Description

Atlanta's Best Radio Station Your Radio Station

91.1