# First Lady

When President G.P. "Bud" Peterson came to Tech he brought his oneof-a-kind wife, Val. ▶ 15



# SGA passes 11th hour budget changes

### Student stipends slashed across Tier 2 orgs. but SGA spares its own

News Editor

A stipend committee formed last week by the Student Government Association's (SGA) Joint Finance Committee (JFC) introduced to Tuesday's legislative sessions a last-minute student stipend policy affecting many Tier 2 organizations. The policy, which included significant cuts to paid student positions in Student Publications and Interfraternity Council (IFC), made its way into the 2009-10 fiscal year budgets approved in the Tuesday meetings of the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) and Graduate Student Senate (GSS). Since each branch passed different versions of the budget, they will be reconciled by a conference committee today.

The temporary stipend committee, formed last week after the initial release in March of the JFC budget recommendations, established new payment levels for Tier 2 student organization stipends being funded by SGA. Tier 2 ech, graduate and undergraduate SGA, IFC, Intramurals, MOVE, Musician's Network, ORGT, President's Council Governing Board, Student Center Programs Council, Student Publications and WREK radio. Unlike Tier 3 organizations, Tier 2 organizations may fund student positions and are not required to collect membership fees.

The JFC's Student Stipend Committee outlined six different spending tiers for student stipend funding. The maximum pay for each tier is calculated from instate student tuition and fees. For next year, this amount has been set at \$6,480. Positions in the first stipend tier will receive a stipend equaling 100 percent of tuition and fees, second-tier positions will receive 75 percent, all the way to sixth-tier positions at five percent.

The SGA student body presidents are the only two Tier 1 positions. Some of the Tier 2 positions include the SGA executive vice presidents, the Editor-in-Chief of the Technique and the Interfra-

organizations include DramaT- ternity Council (IFC) president. At the bottom, Tier 6 positions include assistant editors, staff writers and photographers for the Technique and Blueprint.

The impact of these new rules was that both the UHR and GSS recommended that most positions in Tier 2 would receive less than the amount their student organizations requested.

All SGA stipend positions saw no reduction in payment, and in the GSS, the senators recommended that the SGA president and executive vice president positions receive raises of \$621 and \$1,804, respectively.

This is the second week that SGA discussed next year's budget. Last week the budget for Tier 3 organizations was up for debate, and this week, Tier 2 and Tier 1 organizations were debated.

In a move that prompted an appearance by former, current and newly-selected future editorin-chief of the Blueprint, the Blueprint's printing budget had

See **Budget**, page 4

### **MAJOR FUNDING REVISIONS**

**Increases** 

Cuts

+10%

GSS recommendation for raise in SGA president stipend.

+61%

GSS recommendation for raise in grad. exec. vice president stipend.

UHR approved restoration to  $\widehat{Blueprint}$  printing. GSS held it at \$0.

GSS recommended reduction of IFC budget compared to UHR.

UHR, GSS approved reductions in Student Publications stipends.

+\$40k -\$224k

**UHR** recommendation for reduction in Student Center and CRC budget.

**SGA ELECTION RESULTS** 

# Undergrad presidents to run off; Harley wins graduate presidency





**Kristie Champlin Alina Staskevicius By Craig Tabita** Editor-in-Chief

For the third straight year the race for the undergraduate student body president position is going to a runoff. On the other hand, election results released Wednesday produced a new undergraduate executive vice president as well as a new graduate student body president and executive vice president.

The undergraduate presidency runoff will pit Alina Staskevicius, undergraduate vice president of Administrative Affairs, against Public Policy Representative Kristy Champlin. Staskevicius collected 1,428 of the 3,397 votes cast (42.0%), while Champlin Chapman won the graduate exreceived 1,016 votes (29.9%). Robert McEntyre, undergraduate vice president of Campus Affairs, finished third with 953 votes

"The race definitely isn't over," Staskevicius said. "[The campaign has been] exhausting, but [the runoff] is something we were anticipating this year with three really qualified candidates run-

The graduate student body presidential race was narrowly won by Linda Harley, graduate executive vice president, who edged out Public Policy Senator Rick McKeon by a tally of 277-274. City Planning Senator Justin



ecutive vice presidential race un-

'I've been working really hard this past year learning the ins and outs of student government and getting to know all of the administrators on campus," Harley said. "It's an amazing feeling to be able to know that students have confidence in me and I can really stand up for what is right for graduate

In the race for undergraduate executive vice president, Parker Hancock, chair of the Internal Development Committee, came out as the winner with 1,878

### for wireless security By Sijia Cai Senior Staff Writer Over 15,000 people on Tech's

OIT moves to WPA

campus use the Local Area Walkup and Wireless Network (LAWN) to access the Internet every day. Now, the Office of Information Technology (OIT) is planning to transfer this wireless network from the Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) system to the Wi-Fi Protected Access (WPA) system.

Wired Equivalent Privacy (WEP) is an algorithm designed in 1997 to provide the confidentiality and privacy of a traditional wired network. However, cryptologists quickly found numerous weaknesses in the system that could easily lead to security breaches.

In 2003, WPA officially superseded WEP as the wireless security protocol standard. Despite this action, many systems still utilize the WEP protocol for wireless communication.

Currently, in order to use the wireless network at Tech, a person has to first connect their laptop, PDA or phone to GTWireless with a web key. Then the person is redirected to a captive portal for LAWN, where they have to login to the network with their GT account username and password.

The main issue with this system is inconvenience experienced by the user. For security reasons, the user is logged out

of LAWN every time the device is shut off. This means that during the course of a normal day, a typical student or faculty member will have to log into the network several times.

"There were many complaints about this aspect of the network. [That is] why the GTLogin application for iPhone was created," said Ron Hutchins, associate vice provost for Research and Technology and chief technology officer at OIT. "The problem with this application and [others like it] is that it necessarily makes your private information less secure.'

According to Hutchins, another purpose of the LAWN captive portal is to ensure that the state of Georgia's resources for the wireless network are not being used by persons not affiliated with Tech.

Since its first introduction in 1999, LAWN has been constantly updated and improved, but even though it has worked so far and is continuing to work for the campus community, OIT is planning on turning over to the WPA system because it is both more convenient and more se-

In the new WPA system, the username and password of the student or faculty member is stored in the device itself, and each time he or she accesses the wireless network, the WPA-

See **Elections**, page 7

The *Technique* congratulates **Emily Chambers**, who was selected last Friday by the Georgia Tech Board of Student Publications as the *Technique* Editor-in-Chief for the 2009-10 academic year.

### **TECHNIQUE**

The South's Liveliest College Newspaper

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

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**COVERAGE REQUESTS:** Requests for coverage and tips should be submitted to the Editor-in-Chief and/or the relevant section editor.

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From the files of the GTPD...

## emirD augmaD

By William Brawley Assistant News Editor

#### That's my oil!

On April 5, at around 2:40 a.m., police responded to the Perry and Matheson residence halls and observed a male student threatening other students by attempting to start a fight. The student appeared to be intoxicated.

When the police approached, the male student called back to the police officer that he didn't deserve to live and wanted to be shot. The student also pleaded with the police to take him to jail. The police quickly notified dispatch and called for an ambulance.

Once the female EMT responder arrived, she attempted to

take the student's vitals, but was unable to do so because of the student's rage toward her. The student, of Arabic descent, called the EMT worker a "white bitch" and kicked his feet at her. The student was then put into restraints.

The student continued to spout other statements, including comments like "the whites in America just wanted to steal my country's oil" and "Bush was a bitch." He also called his mother a whore. "[My] mother was a terrorist that helped blow up 9/11," said the student.

He was transported to Grady

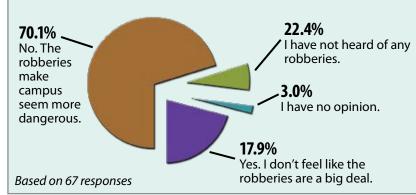
#### 420 throw away

On the morning of April 4, a police officer responded to the intersection of Tenth Street and Hemphill Avenue regarding a suspect who was seen wearing a white shirt and blue jeans, waving around a handgun. The police officer observed and subsequently approached a black male suspect. He saw the suspect throw a small clear plastic bag into the bushes. The suspect was ordered to stop, who then cooperated and laid down on the ground.

The police identified the suspect, who stated that he was just trying to get back to a party, and said that the drugs in the bushes were not his and that he did not throw them. Upon further investigation, the bag was found to contain marijuana. The suspect was placed under arrest and was transported to Fulton Country Jail without incident.

### POLL OF THE WEEK

Do you feel safe on campus after the recent robberies?



### Next issue's question:

How do you feel about GTwireless moving to WPA?

Tell us at nique.net

# When the Whistle Blows

GEORGIA TECH'S REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

Blow on, stern Monarch of Tech's mighty crew, Be always firm and staid: To your compelling call we'll e're be true Till each his part has played. ~ A.D.A.

> Taken from "A Tribute to the Whistle," as printed in the 1914 Blueprint, Georgia Tech's yearbook.

Date: Busday, April 14, 2009 • 5:00 p.m.

Location: Green space west of Tech Tower adjacent to

Cherry Street

Welcome: President G. P. Peterson

Speaker: Provont and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Gary B. Schuster

Honored Guests: Family and Friends of the Deceased

Rain Location: Alumni House Ballroom,

190 North Avenue

There is nothing that can replace the joy that a loved one or cherished friend brings to our lives. Each year the Georgia Tech community is deeply saddened by the loss of members of our own community. This spring we will henor the memory of each student, faculty, and staff member who has died in the last year. Join us as we pay tribute to these individuals who have touched our lives and contributed to our community.

Olen R. Ashe III Undergraduate Student, Industrial Engineering

Sheila Eahraghi Undergrahute Student, History, Technology, & Society

Sergio Gonzale Navarro Undergraduate Student

John C. Handley
Principal Research
Engineer,
Georgia Tech Research
Institute

Michael T. Hutts Undergraduate Student, Management Sheita R. Jackson Arbitechard Designer, Facilities

Paul J. Liedberg Ameride, Accounts Payable

Pamela P.
McAllister
Technical Manager,
Parking &
Transportation

Christopher Russell Graduate Student, Chemical Engineering Quadir Siddaeq Undergrahute Student, Ambi schwe

Jason L. Vellinge Undergrahute Student, Aenspace Engineering

Zachary E. Wansley Lindergrafuate Student, Civil Engineering

Joyce A. White Custedies, Facilities

### **Council Clippings** This week in Student Government

lacktriangle 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 Ben Keyserling, Assistant Photo Editor

This edition of Council Clippings covers the UHR and GSS meetings from April 7, 2009.

#### **New UHR Positions**

UHR discussed a bylaws amendment to restructure the organization. The bylaws change created a new position, director of communications, to enhance transparency and communication with students at Tech. The newly created position will preside over Public Relations and Student Lobby committees. In addition, the information technology chair position has been eliminated and will be replaced by two positions, a webmaster and a graphic designer. The amendment also removed the position of the vice president of Administrative Affairs.

The house bill passed UHR 43-2-0 and did not require a GSS

#### **Emergency Funding**

Rowing Club approached SGA this week seeking emergency funding for one rowing shell. In October, the club's boat trailer was involved in an accident after the trailer brake failed, destroying nine boats as well as the trailer.

The club used insurance money, fundraised and negotiated to replace the majority of the damaged equipment.

Under current financial policy, SGA finances two-thirds of all capital expenditures, unless the expenditure qualifies as an emergency.

After reviewing the situation, SGA officers determined the Rowing Club request to be reasonable under an emergency and commended the club for its efforts to raise replacement funds from external sources.

In GSS, the bill passed 22-1-1. In UHR, the bill passed 44-1-0.

## SGA shoring up Dead Week policy

By William Brawley Assistant News Editor

Ever since Tech switched over to the semester system, there has been a Dead Week policy that stipulates professors should not assign work or give tests the week before finals. However, especially since last semester, there have been a large number of complaints about professors ignoring the Dead Week policy.

According to Corey Boone, committee chair for Academic Affairs in SGA, the idea behind the formation of a Dead Week policy was to give adequate time to students to prepare for their final exams the following week. Dead Week was meant to be a time in which there were no meetings, no sports activities and no official business in classes, such as tests and quizzes.

The current policy in place

states, "No tests or quizzes may be given during the week proceeding final exams week." While this has been beneficial to students, with many professors adhering to the rule, the policy is not encompassing enough to ensure students' rights as stated in the Student Bill of Rights if violations occur.

The Student Bill of Rights states that students are granted

See Dead Week, page 7

# Breaking

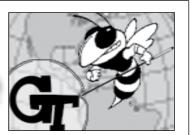
A lot of things went on outside the bubble of Tech in the past week. Here are a few important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

### U.S. admits power grid was infiltrated by spies

According to the BBC, the U.S. government has admitted that the nation's power grid is vulnerable to possible attacks after being infiltrated by foreign spies. The Wall Street Journal first reported on this story, stating that Russian and Chinese spies were behind this breach of security. The report said that software had been implanted that could shut down the power grid.

The U.S. Homeland Security admitted that they had been years. However, she refused to comment on the Wall Street Journal story.

penetration testing for IOActive, technology used to monitor and platforms.



manage critical infrastructure, called SCADA, has not kept pace with the rest of the industry.

This breach is very influential from a geo-political standpoint. The Wall Street Journal reported that the intruders had not sought to damage anything. However, this could change in the event of war.

#### "Sims" creator leaves EA

The USA Today reported that game developer Will Wright, who worked with Electronic Arts (EA) to create such games as The Sims and Spore, has left the company to form a new start-up company. The company, called Stupid Fun Club, a start-up think tank, aims to develop intellectual property for a variety of different games and Secretary, Janet Napolitano, entertainment including movies, TV and Internet programming. EA aware of this vulnerability for is making an equity investment in the company.

Wright stated that the idea behind the Stupid Fun Club is to Dan Kaminsky, a cyber explore the new possibilities that security analyst and director of are emerging from the changes happening in the entertainment stated that there is a pretty industry. The new start-up will strong consensus in the security focus on creating new forms of community that the class of the entertainment for a variety of

## **SPRING 2009 COMMENCEMENT**

### PhD and **Master's Ceremony**

Date: Friday, May 1

Time: 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Georgia Dome

Speaker: Chancellor Erroll Davis

### **Undergraduate Ceremony**

Date: Friday, May 2

Time: 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Location: Georgia Dome

Speaker: John F. Brock. Chairman

and CEO of Coca-Cola

Enterprises, Inc.

Official Georgia Tech Balfour class rings and announcements may be purchased at the Georgia Tech Bookstore.



Graduates must RSVP to attend Spring 2009 Commencement.

**RSVP by April 17:** www.gatech.edu/commencement

#### **Budget** from page 1

been cut in the original JFC recommendations to \$0, down from \$60,000 requested. According to a member of the JFC at the UHR meeting, the \$0 recommendation was meant to prompt the organization to develop a plan to reduce their printing costs. The organization was encouraged to submit a finance bill in the fall. There was some debate in the UHR on restoring some of the funding for printing. In the end, UHR granted the Blueprint reduced printing costs while GSS maintained that the Blueprint would receive no money in the budget and should submit a funding request in the fall.

In another high-dollar move, the GSS cut most of the recommended funding for IFC. UHR recommended that IFC get \$29,078, but the graduates cut the amount to \$1,974.

### **WPA** from page 1

enabled device will send a "signature" to an access point. The access point checks the "signature" and confirms the identity against the Georgia Tech Active Directory.

This system is more secure, because unlike WEP, the username and password of the person does not leave the device and thus cannot be intercepted by someone watching the communication between wireless devices.

It also means that the device itself will automatically connect to the wireless network whenever the user accesses the Internet. This makes the act of entering in usernames and passwords no longer necessary.

"It has been very successful so far in a controlled environment," Hutchins said. "We're working hard to be able to roll out the system as soon as we can, but of course we can't expect it to be perfect on day one."

WPA at Tech is still in the testing stage and is available only in certain spots on campus. There is also the issue of some devices not yet supporting the WPA security

A group of "friendly users" is providing feedback to OIT, which is in the process of maturing the product for future mass implementation. These "friendly users" are working with the WPA to ensure that all safety measures are being handled in the correct fashion.

"Oftentimes, when a new system with tangible benefits comes out, everyone immediately wants to use it and become angry when they run into problems. What we're going to ask from students with WPA is that they be patient and allow us time to improve the system for them first," Hutchins



Photo by Ben Keyserling / Student Publications

Students work on laptops in the Flag Building. Tech will soon use WPA on GTWireless so these networks will be more secure.

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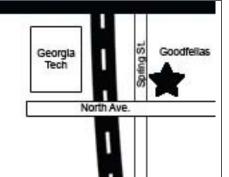




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# Budget cuts reduce Tech workforce by dozens

**By William Brawley**Assistant News Editor

Given the current economic crisis, many state agencies are decreasing their workforce, and the University System of Georgia (USG) is no exception. While the USG has cut 55 more positions across the university system, Tech is taking the brunt of the layoffs with 51 positions in a variety of offices and colleges being eliminated.

The majority of the positions eliminated at Tech were from the administration or finance departments, but employees were laid off from other areas of Tech as well. These other areas included some of the academic colleges and the offices of the president and pro-

vost. The majority of the people laid off were under the age of 49, and about evenly split between male and female.

"Administration and Finance have the most [eliminated positions] because most of the positions were staff," said Chuck Donbaugh, associate vice president of the Office of Human Resources.

Donbaugh described that there was a selective method used to consolidate the workforce in the various departments.

"If, for example, they needed to eliminate one administrative support position, and there were five [positions], they would first look at seniority," Donbaugh said. "[The process for eliminations is following] a last-in, first-out approach."

For other positions, this method could not work. This would be the case if, for instance, there was a particularly unique position. In these cases, there was analysis done of the individual departments' budget requirements to find if there was a duplicate position or people that might be doing the same work. An effort was then made to try to consolidate the job responsibilities.

All the employees that are being laid off from Tech are eligible for a federal benefits package program, called COBRA, which provides laid-off workers with nine months of coverage. Also, there were some employees who were eligible for retirement and chose to retire and take their standard retirement benefits package.

Donbaugh further explained that all of the positions that were eliminated were due to the budget cuts, and not due to other personnel issues.

"These positions were the result of the budget issues," Donbaugh said. "The consequence of having a budget shortfall ... forces units to look at their broader organizations. When they realized they were facing these challenges, [they] looked at their work structure, tried to consolidate ... and the consequence was that some positions were then eliminated."

Despite the large number of job vacancies in the USG, there is in fact a moratorium on hiring, at least at Tech.

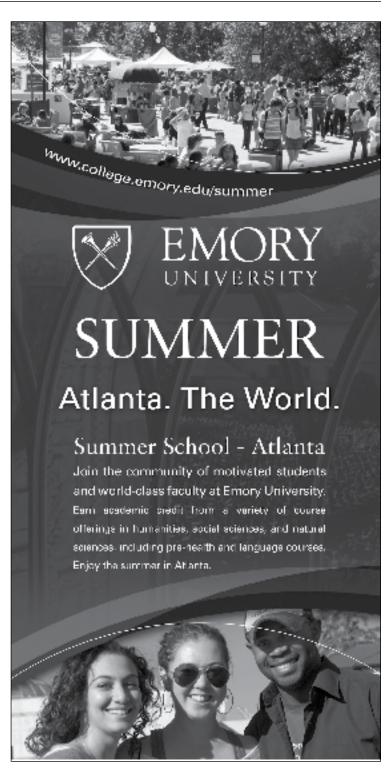
"Any position for which there is a request to fill needs to be re-

viewed by the appropriate office," Donbaugh said. "It may be on the academic or the administrative side, but someone in the office of the President [needs to review it]."

There is also the issue of student positions at Tech. Donbaugh explained that the Office of Human Resources (OHR) deals with student positions from an employment perspective, since these positions are not handled by the OHR, especially those that are hired by academic departments.

"To my knowledge, [the layoffs] had very little effect on student positions," Donbaugh said. "...[Departments] have tried not to [impact] their student employment base. They realize it's a form of aid, so they try to keep their student workforce intact."





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# earthday 2009

georgia tech

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### www.earthday.gatech.edu

### Recycling Opportunities

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Come recycle your old computers, cell phones and electronics.

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Get your old shoes back in the game by recycling them at the Shoot the Shoes booth.

### **Toner & Print Cartridges**

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### Free giveaways

### Office Supply Exchange (OSE)

Stop by the OSE booth with your Buzzcard to shop for free office supplies reused by other departments.

#### Organic Cotton T-shirts

Go through the maze to receive a free organic cotton t-shirt featuring this year's design winner.

#### Prize Giveaways

Sign up to win prizes like a bicycle.





### **Educational Opportunities**

### Booths

Visit all of the booths to learn more about what Georgia Tech departments and outside organizations are doing to be environmental leaders.

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Visit the maze to learn more about what you can do to follow this year's theme of "Lead the Way, Tomorrow is Today". Everyone that goes through the maze will receive a free T-shirt.

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Music and announcements on the stage for the whole event.

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### Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs

Learn about energy conservation and receive efficient light bulbs.















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### **Dead Week** from page 3

"the right to have reasonable time to learn course material prior to the administration of an examination."

Given the large number of complaints that SGA received last semester, they are trying to restructure the Dead Week policy to make it more comprehensive and more fitting with the eighth amendment in the Student Bill of Rights.

In defense of the faculty, Boone mentioned that once faculty members are made aware of the policy, they tend to apologize. However, Boone added, by the time that happens, it's too late.

"I think it's an important policy that is often ignored by professors," said Scott Sherman, fourthyear ME. "Having a test or quiz, in some cases less than a week before a final exam, is distracting and only adds to the stress I'm already under during exam week."

"If we are mired in papers, lab reports and other laborious assignments, we have no time to review the course material," Boone said. "Nevertheless, if all of our faculty followed the current policy, that would be a step in the right direction."

SGA is working with upper level administration to better communicate the importance of this policy. "We've been doing this for two semesters," Boone said. "Violations are down but not eliminated.'

### **Elections** from page 1

votes. His opponent Brian-Paul Gude, sophomore class president, garnered 1,356 votes.

The election ended Wednesday at 4 p.m. An hour and a half later, after the SGA Elections Committee certified the results, the winners were announced in the Student Center Commons by Carlos D'Almeida, SGA elections chair, and Drew Weigl, graduate elections director, who also published these results.

Turnout was up from last year in both races. For those voting for undergraduate positions, 3,662 students voted out of the 12,069 possible undergraduates (30.3%). This figure is up from the 2,606 votes cast last year but down from 4,105 votes in 2007. In the graduate presidential race, 551 votes were cast out of the 5,937 possible graduate students (9.2%). This figure was up just one from last year's total of 550.

SGA election bylaws require a winning candidate in any student government race to receive a majority of the votes cast. When three or more candidates split the vote so that none receives more than half of the votes, a runoff is held during the following week between the two leading votegetters.

The runoff between Staskevicius and Champlin will open today at 1 p.m. at www.elections. gatech.edu and will remain open until Wednesday at 4 p.m.

### **2009-2010 Undergraduate Representatives**

These individuals have been elected to serve as representatives in the Undergraduate House of Representatives.

Sophomore Representative (4)

Laurel L. Derby Dee Dee Kim Melissa Parham Alex Walker

Junior Representative (4)

Daniel Nussenbaum John Rosenweig Benjamin Smith Jimmy Williams

Senior Representative (4)

Kaitlyn Frazier Andy Jones La-Trice Lambert Priya Taparia

Athletic Association, Fall (1) Dalton Hedberg

Athletic Association, Spring (1)

Co-Op, Spring (1) Russell Ralston

Will Woodworth

Co-Op, Fall (1)

Margaret S. Anderson

Aerospace Engineering (2) Elliot Mork

Architecture (2) Colleen Jordan

Joseph Razavian

Biology (1) Paige Cruver **Biomedical Engineering (2)** Ted Chen

Phillip Trusty

ChBE (2)

Jonathan Denis

Christopher Martin Chemistry (1) Brenda Morales-Pico

Civil Engineering (2) De'Von Dixon

College of Computing (2)

Victoria Lee Michael Slaughter

**EAS** (1) James Hite

Ian Frame

Economics (1) Nupur Patel

Electrical Engineering (3)

Malini Jagannadhan Anurag R. Kadasne Marcus Walker

HTS (1)

Kaitlyn Whiteside

International Affairs (1)

Maria Cleveland

**ISyE** (3) Yash Ghogre Raphael Rose Jakeisha Smith LCC (1)

Lindsey Hollenbeck

Management (3)

Nancy Bota Meredith Roth LeGaren Toomer

Mathematics (1)

David Lowry

Mechanical Engineering (4)

Pranav Gandhi Tyler Jackson Charles Shoemaker Parker Hewitt

MSE (1)

Shawn Zhang

Modern Languages (1) T.J. Kaplan

Physics (1)

(none)

Psychology (1) Brooke McDaniel

**PTFE** (1) (none)

**Public Policy (1)** 

Travis Horsley





Save a tree! Read us online! miquemet

**Opinions Editor:** Naihobe Gonzalez

It's hard to argue against cynics—they always sound smarter than optimists because they have so much evidence on their

<sup>le.</sup> —Molly Ivins

Friday,
April 10, 2009

**OUR VIEWS CONSENSUS OPINION** 

## Power plays

### SGA's treatment of budget, stipends lacks sensibility

As the difficulties of crafting next year's budget weigh on the Student Government Association, this week's unexpected news that SGA has cut many Tier 2 student stipends, while maintaining its own pay rates and even, in the case of the graduates, approving raises, is inexplicable.

Following last week's budget recommendations by the Joint Finance Committee, which the Undergraduate House of Representatives and Graduate Student Senate were to vote on this week, a Student Stipend Committee was formed at the last minute to review student positions paid for by the Student Activity Fee. This committee met with Tier 2 organization leaders on Sunday, and in the case of the *Technique*, there was no indication that the JFC's recommendations (which set almost all staff salaries at the same rate as last year) would be changed before voting.

Instead, and without any notification or insight into the deliberation process, this ad hoc committee decided to arbitrarily classify student positions into six categories that cap the maximum salary students can receive from SGA funds. Come Tuesday, student leaders had received no warning that their budgets could be drastically cut or any recourse.

Although the existence of this Stipend Committee has been characterized by the rushed, opaque way in which it has operated, the reason for forming the committee is certainly fair. Comparable work across disparate student organizations should receive comparable pay, and we know this is not currently the case. But to form this committee only days before a final vote, for the committee to interview leaders but fail to obtain enough specific information on the responsibilities of student workers in order to make an educated classification, and for the committee to remain silent and fail to provide any documentation that would shed some much-needed light on its role in the last-minute budget amendments is a blatant abuse of power.

If these decisions—and the murky manner in which they were undertaken—were necessary due to budget constraints, then SGA officials would have applied the same type of unsupported scrutiny to their own salaries. Using budget constraints as an excuse seems like the easy way out when the global economy is hurting, but the number of students (and thus SGA revenue) continues to increase.

Not only are JFC guidelines being ignored without any explanation, but there is no body to provide oversight and ensure that SGA does not abuse students' trust by refusing transparency, effective and timely communication, and fair and informed decision making to speed and secrecy. Having already passed these budget cuts, there are no avenues left for organizations who feel wronged to air their grievances.

SGA has exercised its will with little thought as to whether the Student Stipend Committee's 11th-hour deliberations made sense, were necessary or actually worked to the benefit of the students that these representatives were elected to serve. Rather than taking the time to look further into the unexpected recommendations, the UHR and GSS seem to have passed budgets in haste so they could leave their marathon budget meetings.

The way in which SGA has crafted this year's budget is filled with instances of abuse of power. Using threats of zero funding that apparently they didn't intend to carry out (as in the case of the *Blueprint*) as a means to exert influence and make a statement based on personal viewpoints is a poor governance tactic that has no place in SGA, as is GSS cutting IFC funding to make a political statement to UHR.

The actions of student government during this process leave much to be desired and suggest a dire need for increased communication, accountability and transparency. Student organizations, and the students they serve, deserve better.

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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# SGA budget behavior a disgrace to themselves, student body

**By Craig Tabita** *Editor-in-Chief* 

Normally I have admired the individuals in SGA for the often thankless hard work they put in around their busy school schedules. Recent activity, however, has made me embarrassed that these people carry the flag of student leadership and control millions of dollars of Student Activity Fees. I can't ignore their deficiencies when they result in massive cuts to crucial positions in Tier 2 organizations such as my staff, our sister publications' staffs and Interfraternity Council officers. Meanwhile, SGA chooses to keep its own myriad of vice presidents and other executives at the same high pay rates, even leaving the door open for raises for some.

SGA's Joint Finance Committee (JFC) has diverged from any semblance of proper organization and transparency in the recommendations they return to the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) and Graduate Student Senate (GSS). These legislative bodies have foolishly continued to assume that the JFC is reviewing funding requests with a consistent and well thought out set of criteria, when in fact they are making up policy as they go.

are making up policy as they go.

The JFC released their recommendations for the fiscal year 2010 budget in March, leading organizations in the budget to believe those would be the exact recommendations presented to SGA. JFC members proceeded to make two new sets of last-minute recommendations that remained internal until they were put up for yore this Tuesday.

vote this Tuesday. The latter of these recommendations, which the UHR and GSS approved with little deviation, came from a temporary Stipend Committee formed last week for the purpose of readjusting all the paid student positions listed in the Tier 2 budget. JFC Chair Austin Rahn later told me that the purpose of the Stipend Committee was not to reduce overall student stipends but to enforce fairness in pay across organizations. This is a noble pursuit but a demanding one as well. Even a well-managed committee could not possibly have arrived at accurate outcomes in less than a week, let alone sufficiently in advance of Tuesday's votes to allow a response from affected organizations. For an example of the importance of advance notice, the *Blueprint* was able to convince UHR to provide a \$40,000 printing budget after the JFC recommended zero dollars because they had several weeks to make a case.

The product of this Stipend Committee is a list of six categories with maximum pay amounts into which each Tier 2 paid student position was inserted. The first thing I noticed in the table is that the two SGA presidents are the sole occupants of the highest

tier, while my position falls on the second. While SGA has traditionally budgeted each of these the same, next year the presidents will outpace the editor at least \$1,000. Although this doesn't affect any paychecks I'll ever receive, I'm still biased so I'll let you decide whether this is something that deserved even one second of public discussion before SGA convened to vote.

Much more egregious to me is the slashing in half of most of the rest of our editorial board positions and the 75 percent cut in assistant editor positions. I can sincerely state that next year's News Editor will put in over 15 hours of work per week keeping tabs on what's going on around campus with administration, campus crime, student groups and academics; managing his or her staff of writers and developing new writers; editing their work; investigating leads and reporting on typically one or more stories per week; and designing layouts that will require them to stay awake Wednesday nights often until the sun rises on Thursday. The JFC, and by accord the members of UHR and GSS, think this service is worth less than \$4 per hour to the students of our Institute.

The Stipend Committee's knowledge of how to pay our positions is presumably based on a hastily organized, superficial interview they performed with me on Sunday. Never once did they ask me about the responsibilities of assistant editors, who are crucial to our paper and put in 5-10 hours per issue every week. Yet somehow, SGA decided this work merits less than \$2 per hour.

Not only did the tone of our interview indicate that we would receive the full amount of funding requested (which JFC had already recommended), Stipend Committee Chair Kimberly LeBlanc specifically told me that the Editor-in-Chief would receive a recommended raise which I did not request. Furthermore, another committee member acknowledged that given the fluid nature of our staffing, we (like some other larger groups on campus) can distribute payroll more efficiently from a lump sum than is possible through an evaluation of individual positions (which ended up being beyond their capability). Evidently they either radically changed their minds within two days or lied to me.

If we were given even a simple explanation of why SGA thought we were overpaid and our stipends should be so cut, I might understand. However, neither Rahn nor anyone else in SGA will provide useful answers, nor is any documentation of their process public.

It certainly would be much easier to accept these cuts if SGA had exhibited leadership and started with themselves. Unfortunately such a show of character might be too much to ask of the current crop.

# Complaints are means for change at Tech

Tomorrow (April 11) is my birthday. For my birthday, this is what I want: for just one day out of the week next week, I want everyone at Tech to stop complaining aloud about Ma Tech, "The Shaft," professors making random changes to their syllabi, Stinger and Trolley drivers, not stopping or walking off the buses randomly, seemingly reasonless SGA Joint Finance Committee decision or any of the hundreds of things Tech students whine about (sometimes rightfully so) on a daily basis.

Instead I would like for everyone to take that complaint, write it down on a list and at the end of the day send emails to the relevant parties for each issue you had. If we as students simply sit back and take these perceived maladministrations lying down, then posterity will forever have the same grievances against Tech as we.

This is the reasoning I supply my fellow Tech students with when confronted with the question: why do all your editorials just whine and complain about things at Tech? Can't you ever just be happy about something that Tech does? Anyone who knows me knows that I love Tech. I'm a second generation-Tech alumnus (following my father, EE '74 and '77). I haven't missed a home football game since I was a freshman. I have Tech stickers on my car, Tech floor mats,



"...Stop and appreciate the good things at Tech, then write down the bad things and do something about it."

Blake Israel
Online Editor

a Tech doormat at my house and more yellow and gold Tshirts than I can handle,

I have helped friends at other schools register, work through financial aid processes and done a multitude of other seemingly mundane activities. My experience has been that no other college or university in the southeast provides as much assistance and support to their student body as Tech.

Our financial aid department is beyond equal, they have provided timely and accurate aid every time I have been there (which is a lot). The advisors in every college at Tech I have visited provided me with the answers to my questions with unparalleled speed and efficiency. Overall, the critical infrastructure of Tech (Registrar, Bursar, Advising and Financial aid) is truly leaps and bounds ahead of the rest of Georgia and beyond.

The point of all this is not for you to think Tech is perfect. Far from it; nothing is perfect. The more we as students push both the administration and our fellow students to achieve better results in every aspect of life at Tech, not only will our own experiences be enhanced, but so will those of future generations of RATs and alumni, not even counting the value it will add to your diploma post-graduation.

There are many things to still gripe about: Transportation, Dining, Housing and Student Government are just a few. Several of these have come a long way, but most could still use some work. The Stingers are improving, but I still have drivers leaving me stranded, seemingly randomly, for five minutes or more at a time while they exit the bus. I haven't been to a dining hall in about three years, and while Woodie's was overhauled while I was still eating there, I hear the food still oozes grease quite frequently. Lord knows we've all heard a ton about SGA's JFC cutting everyone's budgets this past fortnight.

I do not suggest that during

your day of non-complaining that you be forced to think Tech is awesome. But stop and appreciate the good things at Tech, then write down the bad things and do something about it. Complacency will not make things any better.

The heads of every department—Transportation, Dining, Housing, Auxiliary Services—can all be found on their websites. You might be surprised when they actually respond to you. I personally have had some good discussions with some of these people and they seem to truly value student input (a recurring theme in the 'Nique's consensus pieces).

The same goes for your SGA representatives. I recently called up several representatives, some within my department and some without, to express my discontent with the JFC's recommendations on certain publications' budgets and was delighted to receive positive responses that were actually fulfilled during voting. All of the SGA representatives' emails can be found with one or two clicks at www.sga. gatech.edu/people

gatech.edu/people
So please, if for nothing else than as a birthday present to me, write, call, email, fax or do something to express your opinions, good, bad or neutral to those who can listen. If all else fails, the *Technique* is always looking for good writers.

# Around the Campus

Did you benefit from the expanded summer schedule?



Fenging Yu Second-year INTA

"I'm taking MGT and INTA classes, but my options are still very limited."



Rahul Bhatia Fourth-year ME

"I'm taking Heat Transfer and Systems Lab, [but] no.



Brian-Paul Gude Third-year IE

"Yes, it encourages me to stay and offers more for me to take during the summer."



**Daniel Wang** Third-year CE

"They added more classes?"

Photos by Sarah Chang and Weili Huang

## Affirmative action can lead to catch-22

I was at a minority recruiting event the other day for graduate school, when a student (a "diversity applicant," as she was likely labeled by the admissions committee) asked what I thought was an unnecessary question: "What efforts are there at the university to recruit African-American and Latino professors?"

In response to the question, a dean tried to reassure the audience that the university attracted top minority scholars who almost always received tenure. He was quick to add that this was due to the quality of their work and not their race or ethnicity. While I appreciated the clarification, I was beginning to tire of the event. Session after session, it began to reek of an affirmative action love fest.

I tried to think ahead to the time when, if all goes well, I'll be a professor. Would I want to be known as a "top female Hispanic economist" or just a "top economist?" I think the answer is clear. What's unclear is to what extent these factors come into play in academia and other fields. Based on bits and pieces I've gathered from students and professors at various universities, I have come to believe that belonging to an under-represented group does serve as an advantage. It's just hard to tell how big and how unfair of one.

The problem with affirmative action (whether acknowl-



"...the last thing I want is for someone to look at me and think, 'She must have been a minority admit."

Naihobe Gonzalez
Opinions Editor

edged or not) is that it is far from simple. I would not realistically denounce efforts to even out the playing field or make certain professions more diverse. After all, these are legitimate ends that serve a greater social purpose. But I can't always make up my mind as to when this obsession with diversity can become counterproductive.

Take the field of academia. The National Science Foundation gives millions of dollars each year for various minority research and support programs. I have taken advantage of some of these opportunities, and feel I have them to thank for my graduate school outcomes. As a minority, I do not always have access to the same opportunities as, say, a white male at an Ivy, and I am glad that these programs exist.

But as someone who wants to think of herself as "capable" before "minority," I have begun to engage in some self-doubt as to whether my admission into competitive schools had more to do with my ethnicity than

my ability. The easiest thing to do is to shrug it off—who cares *why* I got in somewhere or *why* I was given funding? Now that I'm in, I can prove myself, minority or not.

Still, would I feel the same way if I was of a different race or nationality? In addition to labeling U.S. students who are "diversity applicants," I have also learned that schools make the distinction between Asians and non-Asians. Again, this strategy makes sense in order to increase diversity, not just out of what conservative pundits may call "liberal guilt," but also to create a more balanced learning environment.

I've heard more than once that if admissions in economics were solely based on proven technical ability, some entering classes would be shockingly homogenous. But if I was a qualified Chinese applicant who had to jump through more hoops than an American one to gain admission or funding into a program, I may be a bit more upset. In this case, justice trumps fairness.

What's more is that some of these distinctions are fairly arbitrary. Two otherwise identical Hispanic students could be treated completely differently depending on whether one is a U.S. permanent resident or citizen. By the same token, an affluent African-American born to college-educated parents could receive advantages that a low-income, white student born in a rural area would not have access to.

When I recently learned of a program for graduate students in under-represented groups, I was torn as to whether I would want to participate. Instinctively, I want to milk any "advantage" I can get. But, perhaps out of personal pride, I don't want to take any shortcuts that may undermine my achievements. I hope the quality of my work one day speaks for itself, and the last thing I want is for someone to look at me and think, "She must have been a minority admit."

The process of undoing centuries of injustice is obviously a daunting one, and I do believe that the government should continue to play a major role in increasing equality across groups (call me crazy, but I don't think the incentive exists for any private firm or individual to provide public goods like equality and justice).

However, I'm really looking forward to the distant day when race and ethnicity are irrelevant factors.

### **OUR VIEWS** Hot or Not

# HOT-or-NOT



### Election outcomes

SGA elections are one step closer to wrapping up, with two candidates—Kristie Champlin and Alina Staskevicius—moving on to the runoff next week. While total turnout remained low, about 700 more students performed their civic duty this year as compared to last. Greater certainty about next year's leadership—and not being bombarded with fliers—is always good.



### Drought drags on

The good news is that the drought is technically over in Georgia thanks to a really wet month of March. The bad news is that the Lake Lanier Basin, on which most of metro Atlanta depends for water, is not. Climatologists say we should all continue to practice water conservation into the hot summer months coming up. So long green lawns and sparkling pools?



### Tennis love

Women's tennis has carried an impressive winning streak, with seven straight wins to celebrate this season. The streak began March 21 with a win over number 20 ranked Virginia and continued through Sunday's Senior Day against Maryland. The team is now ranked sixth in the nation and tied for second place in the ACC. Just one more reason to be proud to be a Yellow Jacket.



### Never-ending story

Construction at the North Avenue Apartments has persisted months past the projected end date at the end of 2008. Offering residents ear plugs is, unfortunately, not enough to help the loud, early-morning hammering that continues to wake sleepy students. We know construction will never end at Tech, but at least this one project should have reached its end by now.

### YOUR VIEWS LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## SGA executives explain budget

Over the past few weeks, the Student Government Association has been diligently finishing next year's budget. As the budgeting process can be somewhat complex, there have been several questions and concerns raised by organizations concerning their funding.

We hope to clear up some of the common misunderstandings and offer some history and background to this year's budgeting process.

Every year the Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee, a group of appointed student leaders and administrators, meet in the fall to decide upon the following year's Activity Fee request. Because of the Board of Regents' forced Tuition Fee this semester and the increasing cost of education that we foresaw for Fall 2010, we opted not to raise the Student Activity Fee.

With that said, because we held the Activity Fee at its current level, we have had to tighten our belts and truly evaluate every line item in the budget. Unfortunately, in prior years a true evaluation of the budget has not always taken place and we applaud this year's House, Senate and Joint Finance Committee for taking up that task.

Because we are currently still in deliberations over the budget, it is premature to address individual organizations' budgets and their budget cuts. Albeit, there will always be some organizations that will see a budget reduction below what they believe they needed or deserved.

These organizations may come back next year and submit a bill requesting further funding. In total, SGA received requests for over \$5.3 million in spending, whereas our maximum allocation can only be \$4.3 million. Why make these organizations come back before SGA and request funds?

We are required to balance next year's budget with our projected revenues for next year, but because we often have funds that are rolled over at the end of each year, additional funding is available for these organizations through the bill process. It is important for organizations to realize that the funding process is a multifaceted process and yearly budget allocations are not the only means of funding.

If your organization has any questions about SGA or the budgeting process, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Aaron Fowler Graduate Student Body President

Nick Wellkamp Undergraduate Student Body President

> Austin Rahn SGA Vice President of Finance

### Internet news obscures reading priorities

I greatly enjoyed Ben Keyserling's opinion article [Real news doesn't belong on the internet," April 3] on the disadvantages of moving the news to primarily online formatting.

His point about the competition between what's important and what's recent in online news reporting is excellent. I find that as a result, the diversity of my

## Write to us: letters@nique.net

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

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

reading suffers as well.

When reading a newspaper, I am able to glance through the pages to find new and interesting articles about topics I had previously known nothing about.

Online, I read only those things that I'm already interested in or knowledgeable about or those whose titles are so intriguing that I am inclined to click through to the article.

Though quicker and more efficient in terms of information transfer, conversion to electronic media leaves the consumer with more choices but diminished ability to discriminate between them.

That said, how anyone did research before keyword searches came along is beyond me.

> Joel Boerckel ME graduate student



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the guy in chbe who plays hockey is super hot and the bald guy whos his friend just not as much

how 'bout it, big trendy?

It really sucks that I keep getting all these bruises from Emily kicking and hitting me. I don't mean to make her mad.

Emily probably officially hates me now! :-) It can be a whale or an airfoil....definitely whale!!!

Want a date?? Then maybe you should have come to the date auction.

I think Zhang is hot

guggenheim is fun to say

I bought a girl at the date auction, and she was hot. =P

My roommate is weird.

i sat next to you on the couch and you said we "cuddled" wtf?!? you wish.

to the dude who is super pissed about girl's sunglasses: guess sometimes girls wear clothing that WE like... not to attract boys and esp not to attract boys who get mad over sunglasses.. who cares..

i have a cat in my dorm room for the weekend... shhh dont tell anyone

**Organization Spotlight: Cycling Club** 

Tech's cycling club is a student-run club that rides socially and also travels to races together to compete against other colleges.

Contact: cycling@gatech.edu

TECHNIQUE

1 1

Friday,
April 10, 2009

# MEET 則FIRST LADY

### VAL PETERSON, WIFE OF TECH PRESIDENT G.P. "BUD" PETERSON



By Aaron Parkman Staff Writer

n energetic Val Peterson welcomed me into the presidential residence this Monday, smiling exuberantly as we both enjoyed the well-decorated walls of the foyer. New to Tech, but an experienced hostess, the first lady quickly made me feel at home by offering me the most comfortable chair in her living room. Soon after we sat down, she was ready to answer my questions.

I learned that a typical week for Mrs. Peterson includes being out of the house five nights a week, usually at a campus event or somewhere else promoting the interests of Tech. "I adore fundraising," said Mrs. Peterson, who has not only served as first lady at Tech but also at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Along with the president, she is responsible for representing Tech at numerous events, including advisory board meetings, fundraisers and banquets. For their anniversary, they will be attending three Tech events. "The most challenging thing has been learning everyone's names," Mrs. Peterson said.

Dr. and Mrs. Peterson were married 35 years ago, May 19th, after meeting at Kansas State University. Mrs. Peterson was pursuing a degree in Spanish and home economics, and Dr. Peterson was pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering.

gree in mechanical engineering.

In addition to being first lady, Mrs. Peterson has taught 12 years of Spanish and 24 years of aerobics.

"I like sports that I can participate in," Mrs. Peterson said.

Dr. and Mrs. Peterson lived in College Station, Texas for 19 years, during which time they attended graduate school and worked at Texas A&M, had their fourth child, and were foster parents to nine.

According to a profile of Mrs. Peterson from the Boulder Daily Camera, most of their foster children came to them from abuse or neglect. Despite these circumstances, and despite having four biological chil-

dren, Dr. and Mrs. Peterson took the children in with welcoming arms. Mrs. Peterson treated all her children the same, whether they were biological or foster.

Dr. and Mrs. Peterson's experience with foster care led to a partnership between the Boulder County Department of Social Services and the Boulder campus.

While at CU, she helped to establish a scholarship called the Guardian Program, which is for foster children who have aged out of the foster care system. "They are like a family to one another," Mrs. Peterson

Mrs. Peterson is also a skilled seamstress, and she makes a lot of what she wears, including the quilted jacket that she wore for our interview. Sewing is just one of her many hobbies, which include hiking, yoga and taking walks around the city.

She is an expert at forming relationships with people, and it is also something she loves. "I've found that my strength is being Bud's eyes and ears around campus. I love making connections! If people will educate me about what they're doing at Tech, I can get the word out about it," Mrs. Peterson said.

Looking toward the future, she has high hopes for Tech but is approaching the job humbly. "For the first few months, we're going to have to learn and listen to what truly is Tech .... [In the future] I see Tech being broadened, but without losing our focus on what we are," Mrs. Peterson said.

Mrs. Peterson would like to see Tech grow in a variety of ways. She pointed out that Tech was formerly a member of the Association of American Universities (AAU) but does not currently hold that membership. The AAU is a 62-member association of research universities, which accounts for 58 percent of American universities' research grants and 74 percent of American Nobel Prize winners, according to the AAU web site.

I see Tech being broadened, but without losing our focus on what we are. ??

#### Fun Facts about Val Peterson .....

Dr. and Mrs. Peterson were married 35 years ago, May 19th, after meeting at Kansas State University. The two have four children and nine foster children. Prior to coming to Tech Mrs. Peterson, a fluent Spanish speaker, was a teacher and taught Spanish for 12 years and aerobics for 24 years. As an avid seamstress Mrs. Peterson makes some of her own clothes, including the dress she wore to campus after Dr. Peterson was confirmed as Tech's president.

# Sting Break planning unveiled

**By Tamara Johnson** *Contributing Writer* 

For many years the Student Center Programs Council has worked to boost the morale of the student population during the school year, helping coordinate big events such as Homecoming and Fall Festival. One of the Council's most notable events is the annual Sting Break concert held at the end of the spring semester. Artists that have headlined this huge Tech occasion within the past few years include big names Ludacris, T.I. and OK GO.

On Friday, April 17, the Council will be showcasing the talents of rock band Of A Revolution (O.A.R) with opening acts by Augustana and Parachute.

How well known are these bands around campus? To take a couple of random students for an example, Jane Hua, third-year MGT, said she had no idea who O.A.R. was but that she was "pretty excited" about Augustana; Chris Cantrell, third-year BCHM, said he knows O.A.R. and was excited about having them on campus.

According to Courtney Telfare, second-year IE and the concerts chair for this year's Sting Break, with the cost of the bands this year, funds would come up short without ticket sales. "If we want a big name artist we need the funds for that," Telfare said.

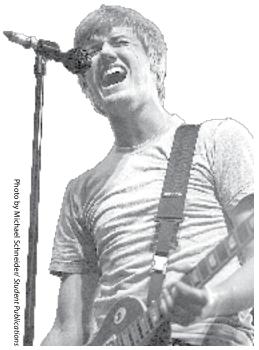
"This is not the first time that we have ticketed Sting Break, and some of our most successful shows have been those that were ticketed. We are still getting a good deal. O.A.R. will be performing at Clemson the day after our concert without Augustana, and the ticket cost there will be \$25," Telfare said.

Telfare stated that the band selection process all begins with the student survey. "We send out a survey of several popular artists to all students. We do this ... so that we receive a wide variety of opinions. All of our actions are based on the initial votes of the students," Telfare said.

Telfare went on to explain that they rank artists based on the number of votes they get as well as based on the number of first-choice votes that they receive. For this year the top picks by students included Weezer, the Goo Goo Dolls and Third Eye Blind, and it was in this order that the concert committee contacted the artists

The task to choose a band is never as simple as a number of votes, and from reasons such as lack of money or scheduling conflicts the com-

See **Unveiled**, page 15



# Lecture Crashers legacy continues with mayhem

**By Sarah Boling**Contributing Writer

If you go to class during the Campus MovieFest filming period, there's a good chance that you've seen the Lecture Crashers. They "crash" lectures by running into classrooms and performing various silly acts to surprise and entertain the professors and students. The Lecture Crashers are indeed becoming a tradition on Tech's campus.

The crashes began with Evan Wimpey ME '08 and Ed Bolian PUBP '08 three years ago. They created "Lecture Crashers" as a short film for Tech's Campus MovieFest and enjoyed it so much that they used the idea again for the next two years.

When Wimpey and Bolian graduated last year, they didn't want the lecture crashes to leave with them. That's where Zach Luna, second-year PHYS, Zack Taylor, first-year PHYS, and Bert Nash, first-year MGT, come in.

"Evan Wimpey and Ed Bolian went to North Gwinett High School with Bert and I. I ran cross country with Evan and swam with Ed. I was actually in the "Lecture Crashers 3" video as an extra, so when they graduated, they knew that I was here and that I had the same type of spirit in me, so they asked if I would like to continue the legacy," Luna said.

Luna teamed up with co-crasher Taylor and cameraman/video editor Nash to create the new lecture crashers. Wimpey and Bolian contributed to the video as well, even participating in some of the crashes.

All of the filming took place on Thursday, Jan. 15th, and after a late night of editing for Nash, the entire movie was completed in a 24-hour time period. Unfor-



Photo by Jarrett Skov/ Student Publication

From left to right: Lecture crashers Bert Nash, Zach Luna and Zack Taylor pose for a picture in a Howey classroom. They recieved disciplinary action for going against Tech's Code of Conduct.

tunately for the crashers, though, the ordeal was far from over.

"About two weeks after we made the video, we each got emails about it. We all had to go in and start the OSI [Office of Student Integrity] process, meeting with Sarah Graham [Tech's Judicial Coordinator] individually. A month after that, she contacted us and gave us our punishments," Luna said.

Although they said that they had been assured by Wimpey and Bolian that there would be no disciplinary repercussions, Luna, Taylor and Nash had been prepared to deal with a minor reprimand. They had all read the Student Code of Conduct and re-

alized that interrupting classes on tape could mean trouble.

"Obviously there was the potential for us to get in trouble. We had read the Code of Conduct, and it just didn't seem likely that this would result in disciplinary probation. After our first meeting with Sarah Graham, we were under the impression that we were going to get a slap on the wrist," Taylor said.

Dean of Students John Stein emphasized that in taking disciplinary action against the lecture crashers, the school is in no way condemning Campus MovieFest or even trying to eliminate lecture crashing for good.

"There is a way to still poten-

tially do this. In advance, ask permission of the faculty member. Those who don't agree, you have to abide by that. Otherwise you're in violation, but some may [agree]. The interesting thing about this is that the reaction of faculty varies with this," Stein said.

Lecture crashers, by their very definition, go against Tech's Code of Conduct. The Code holds any student accused of committing "disorderly conduct including, but not limited to ... obstruction or disruption of teaching, research, administration or other Institute activities, including its public service functions or other authorized activities" subject to conduct procedures.

Clearly, the OSI has the right to put current students who "crash" a faculty member's class through the Student Code of Conduct procedures.

"We hold them responsible for the violation of the Code of Conduct, and then we appropriately offer a sanction for it. It may be a warning for some students, or it may be probation. It really would depend on if there's any previous history that the student has been involved in," Stein said.

Luna, Taylor and Nash were surprised when they found out what kind of disciplinary action OSI chose to take against them.

"The punishment that OSI gave us was to write an apology letter [to one of the professors whose lecture was crashed], 35 hours of community service to do before the end of school, and one year of disciplinary probation," Luna said.

"All of us have clean records. It's something that's very out of character for us. We were all told that more than likely it would be a disciplinary warning, and then we found out that we were given disciplinary probation for an entire year," Luna said.

"It felt very 'guilty until proven innocent' rather than 'innocent until proven guilty'," Nash said.

All three students were upset with being given probation rather than just a warning, but they chose not to appeal because OSI reserves the right to increase the punishment in such a case, and none of them wanted to risk suspension.

"It's pretty rough because I'm hoping to be applying to grad school during the beginning of the spring semester next year, and so the year of disciplinary proba-

See Crashers, page 15



### sliver

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housing can suck it I feel like a BA everytime I use cardio equipment for more than the "30 minute limit."

Oh, and I wish ppl would stop walking around the locker rooms half naked.

I'm not gonna lie, Star Wars and Lord of the Rings movie marathons get me pretty exctied.

to the ece6500 complainer, whats to regret about a class called fourier technology and signal analysis...

oh rearry? dumb fobs...

I'm taking my finals in a Snuggie. You can't stop me.

p.s. go make me a sandwich

to the girl sitting alone in the middle of CS1371, you have the loveliest smile that I have ever seen.

The Nique got my hopes up, I really was looking forward to a monorail...

Is Nader running for student body president?

I've been parking illegally on campus for 3 months without getting a ticket. HA!

I've got an InVenture invention: It's a program that allows student to write random crap that goes into the school paper, pretty good huh?

A drunk driver is very dangerous. Everyone knows that. But so is a drunk backseat driver if he's persuasive

I don't like pinatas because the pinata promotes violence against flamboyant animals

A power nap is when you sleep on someone who's weaker than

Game, set, match : Tennis :: Set, match, run : arson.

duarte...your sea shells crack me up

Dicks...you rock my socks off!

When your phone gets rained on, ran over, and then thrown away at the CRC...that's karma

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# Festival of Colors brings ethnic flavor

By Chris Russell
Staff Writer

Students walking by the Burger Bowl this past Sunday were greeted by a surprising sight: a crowd of almost 100 people covered from head to toe in every color imaginable, running and laughing underneath clouds of shockingly bright colors. The cause for this optical explosion was the India Club at Tech, which was celebrating the Indian holiday of Holi.

Holi is an annual festival celebrated in India and countries with a large Indian population at the beginning of the spring. Participants take part in a war of colors, throwing colored powder and water at everyone around them. At this particular event, friends and members of Tech's Indian community—as well as a few curious passers-by—flung handfuls of brightly colored powders and water at each other and into the air to the beat of modern Indian pop music.

"It's something people look forward to every year, almost like Christmas," said Tarun Aurora, third-year BME and vice president of marketing for the India Club. According to Aurora, however, festivities in America don't hold a candle to those in India.

"What we did was nothing compared to what they do in India .... People over there will literally just line the streets and on your way to work or to the barber, you'll just get splashed with color," Aurora said.

That's not to say, however, that American celebrations involve any less of a colorful mess. Aurora recalls last year's festival, for example, when the colored powder was so concentrated it soaked into participants' skin and stubbornly resisted being washed away.

The tradition of Holi originates from the Hindu story of Holika, a demoness who was burnt to death on top of a pyre through the efforts of the god Brahma and the hero Prahlada, a follower of the god Vishnu.

Also, in order to commemorate Holi, the India Club will be putting on its annual Holi Show on Saturday, April 18th at the Georgia World Congress Center. The Holi Show is India Club's main event of the year. "It's our largest event; every year we see anywhere from 1,700 to 2,000 people. It's a cultural showcase: we have all these dance teams and different kinds of special acts," Aurora said. The show will feature 13 different dance teams from universities and schools in the Atlanta area, and will be hosted by comedian Dan Nainan. This year, the show's title is "Rang Barse," which means "Color Rain," a continuation of the tradition of giving the annual show a color-based name.

The Holi show is by no means only open to college students, however. "India Club has been around since 1979, but the Holi Show started around 15 years ago [and is] something the Atlanta Indian community expects .... It's a family and college oriented show that caters to the entire Indian community," said Vijay Palvia, fourth-year BIO and one of the India Club's current co-presidents.

Aurora also stresses that the show is open to everyone who is interested. "What we're trying to do is branch it out to anybody and everybody. The entire student

See Colors, page 15



Photo by Blake Israel/ Student Publication

Members of the Tech community participate in the annual Festival of Colors by throwing colored powder and water at each other.

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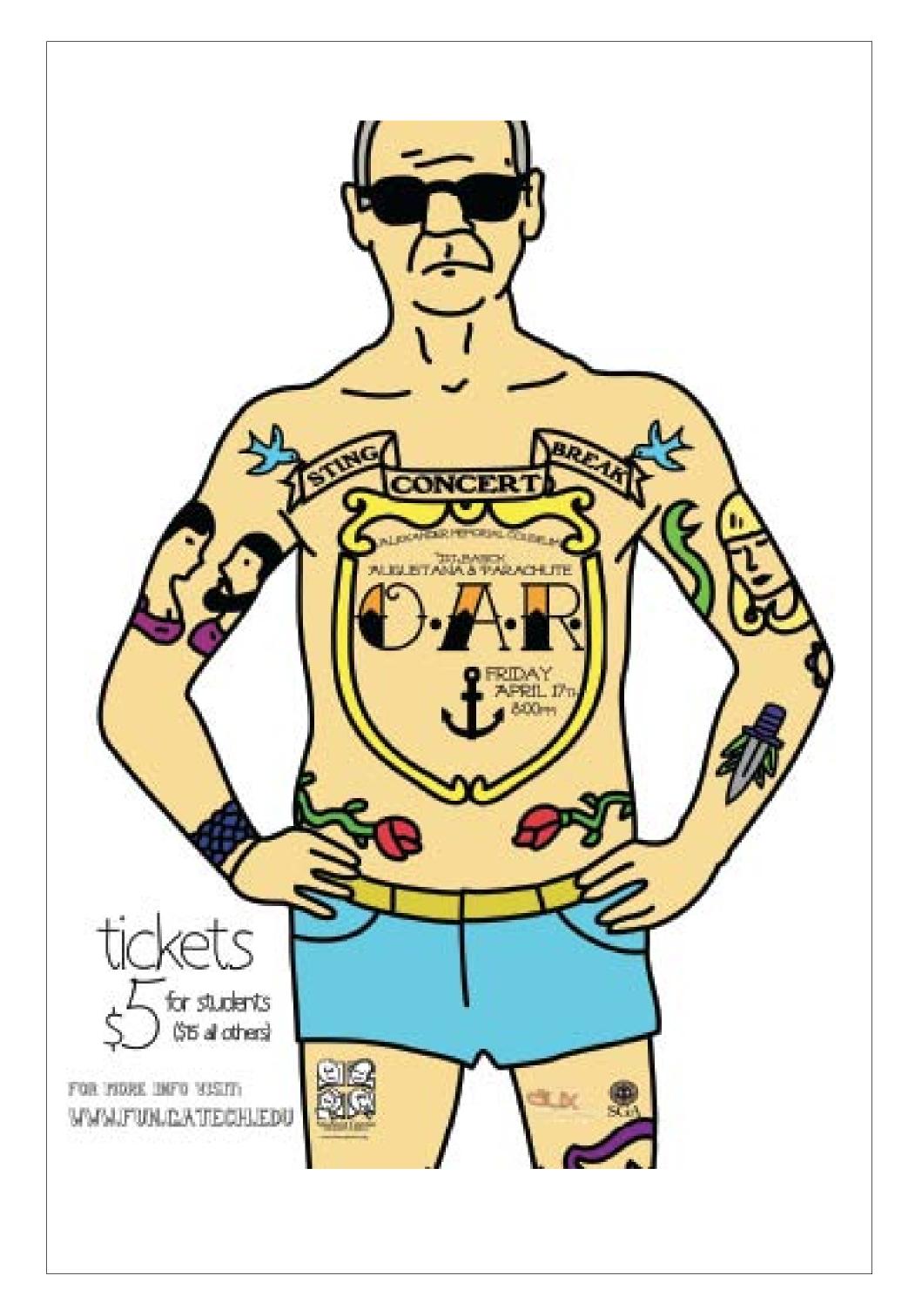




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#### Crashers from page 12

tion will not yet be up," Luna said. He is afraid that being under disciplinary probation will reflect poorly on him and cast him in an

unfair light. In fact, the probation will stay on each student's record for five years after they graduate from Tech. That means that Taylor and Nash, both freshmen, will be dealing with this for another eight years (assuming they graduate on time).

The students hope that, in spite of their negative experience in dealing with the consequences, the lecture crashers will find an appropriate way to establish themselves as a long-standing part of Tech's traditions.

"It's something that's starting to be associated with Tech, and I'd love to see it continue throughout the years," Nash said.

"I think that lecture crashers do well to embody the spirit of Tech," Luna said.

#### Colors from page 13

community is invited, as well as everyone else in Atlanta who hears about it," Aurora said.

Holi activities are not, however, the only events the India Club hosts during the year. According to Palvia, India Club also hosts a mixer for Indian students at the start of every year, in addition to several other religious festivals and non-religious events held throughout the year. Recent examples include the annual fall festival of Navratri, which the India Club celebrates with a traditional Gurba dance in the Student Center ballroom, and a seminar for students interested in doing consulting after college given by a handful of consulting firms.

The India Club also acts as a, in Aurora's words, "home away from home" for Tech's Indian population. "Because the majority of them are international students, they don't go home but maybe once or twice a year. What



A Tech student smears colored powder across another student's cheeck. The festival is known as Holi and is open to all students.

we try to do is cater to every need of theirs and make it as close to home as we can," Aurora said.

In addition to helping international students get by on campus, the India Club also helps get students to campus. "[The India Club's] year starts at the beginning of the summer. Since we have so many Indian international students coming here, we had this transportation service called ICAT—India Club Airport Transportation. This summer, we picked up over 250 international students from the airport and dropped them off at Tech locations," Aurora said.

Unveiled from page 11

mittee had to move down the list to find both the top-ranked and most available artists for this year's concert.

"We got in contact with O.A.R... and as they were under the same label as O.A.R. we were able to get both Parachute and Augustana in the deal," Telfare

The time between receiving the survey and the beginning of advertisements for the bands is upwards of one month, which can seem like a long time for students. Telfare explained that the long selection process of the bands is primarily because "you can't announce a band without forming a contract with them, and even with the contract there are contract negotiations. [After the choosing of the band] the contract process can be from one week to one month, and only when that is done can we make fliers with the bands' name on them."

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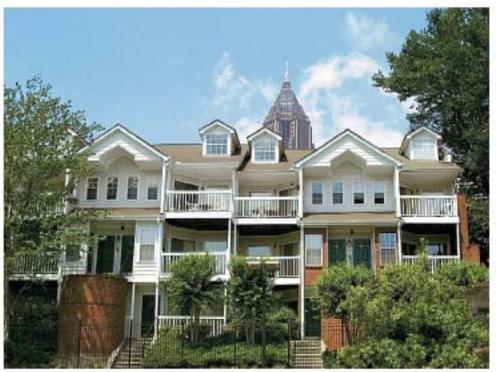
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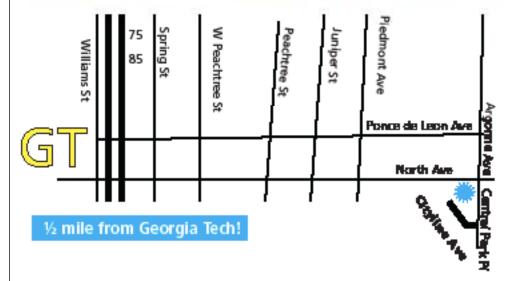


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# Jekyll concocts catchy tunes

#### **THEATRE**

Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical

**VENUE:** DramaTech Theater

TRACK PICKS: "Facade" and "Murder, Murder"

**DATES:** April 10-11, 15-18 at

OUR TAKE: ★★★☆

**By Richard Otis** Senior Staff Writer

The house was packed with an all-ages crowd of about 100 anxious and excited theatre patrons. The small, cozy campus theater venue known as the "black box" was filled near capacity with people experiencing the good kind of stress—the tension of waiting for the beginning of an extravagant DramaTech stage show almost a year in the making.

Of course, this was opening night at DramaTech Theater, and the tension might have partially been due to the fact that many in the crowd were friends and family of the actors and actresses that would soon be littering the stage.

Nevertheless, this sense was palpable while in wait for the beginning of the performance, the musical epic Jekyll & Hyde. The two-act musical tragedy is an adaptation of the 1886 novel The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, a story depicting Victorian Era ideas of the internal struggle between good and evil.

Dr. Henry Jekyll (Bryan Lewis) is a talented and respected scientist of his day, yet he remains highly controversial due to his experiments on the human mind. Jekyll seeks to understand the nature of good and evil in the hope of separating out the "evil" that imprisons his mentally ill father's

Unfortunately, in one of the perennial cultural archetypes of zealous human audacity leading to unintended consequences, something goes horribly wrong.



Frustrated with the establishment and unable to secure a test subject for his latest concoction, Jekyll chooses instead to test it on himself. Once he makes the soon-uncontrollable transformation into the horrific Edward Hyde (also played by Lewis) by night, Jekyll is tasked each morning with picking up the broken pieces of his own and others' shattered lives left

behind by his hideous alter ego.

Besides the excellent marathon performance put on by lead actor, Lewis, the supporting cast was spot on. Brian Hughes as Jekyll's confidant and lawyer John Utterson was particularly charismatic and compelling in his role (and

See Jekyll, page 18

# Tiny new Shuffle speaks up

### **TECHNOLOGY**

**PRICE:** \$79 **CAPACITY:** 4 GB **COLORS:** Silver, black

**SIZE:** 1.8 x 0.3 inches

OUR TAKE: ★★★★☆

By Hamza Hasan Staff Writer

The new iPod Shuffle is Apple's third iteration of the ultracompact music player. Though the player still does not include a screen, the newest Shuffle is the most advanced version. With a at the second generation player. tiny form and a stunning 4 GB The third generation Shuffle is memory space, as well as its new VoiceOver feature, it is sure to catch the attention of many music

The most obvious difference is the form. The new shuffle is almost completely aluminum, save the clip that is made of stainless steel. The silver and black options are simple yet beautiful, much like Apple's design dogma. The new Shuffle feels like more of a fashion accessory than a piece of technol-

Much like the jump from the first to the second generation, the Shuffle has gotten even smaller, which is impressive when looking

half the size of the previous version. With such little surface area, Apple needed to change the new Shuffle's control scheme to stick with the compact, intuitive de-

The new Shuffle's controls are used via the new headphones. Though the power buttons are still located on the Shuffle, the volume, play, pause and other buttons are integrated on the headphone cord. The new earbuds are the same as previous iPod and iPhone editions, except that they have a small attachment above the

## Audiences observe: Report full of laughs

#### **FILM**

**Observe and Report** 

**GENRE:** Comedy

STARRING: Seth Rogen, Ray Liotta, Michael Peña and Anna Faris

**DIRECTOR:** Jody Hill

RATING: R

RELEASED: April 10, 2009 OUR TAKE: ★★★★☆

By Zheng Zheng Contributing Writer

The end of the semester is near, and once again it is time for all of your professors to unleash upon you the thousand stings of projects and tests (all at the same time). You probably have not caught a break ever since coming back from spring break. And on top of it all, you have to walk around Skiles. You want to just sit back, relax and kick some butt, but where are you going to go to get this fantasy of satisfaction? Hannah Montana: The Movie? I don't

Enter Jody Hill's Observe and *Report*, the perfect choice for the season. With this gun-slinging, blood-spewing, genital-flapping, unconventional comedic marvel, all of your stress will surely be washed away.

Head of security Ronnie Barnhardt (Seth Rogen) protects the Forest Ridge Mall with stern jurisdiction, all the while fantasizing one day of making it

to the big leagues with a badge and a gun. The opportunity finally presents itself the day that the peaceful establishment is struck by a flasher, and Barnhardt's skills are put to the test. The chain of events that follows leads to profound revelations in Barnhardt's life, including work, family, romance and friendships. However, Barnhardt eventually overcomes all odds with the hot trigger of justice and the blood-pumped fists of persistency.

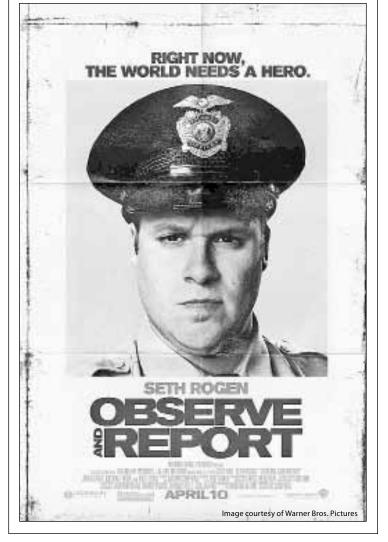
The movie was, just as expected, superbly hilarious. The story is very predictable and straightforward, though not meaningless. The linear plot will be very unnoticeable, as you will be too busy laughing the entire time.

If you enjoy complicated story progressions that turn at every corner and throw you off the rollercoaster of plot twists, this would not be the movie or the genre for you.

Part of what made the movie a huge success is the amazing cast and the vast range of characters. Rogen's character, Barnhardt, suffers bipolar disorder and overdramatizes every situation through his delusion of grandeur.

This provides the basis for the majority of the jokes in the film. Barnhardt, while laughable, is a modern-day hero and gains the audience's respect. He is a man who is not afraid

See Observe, page 18





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### **Observe** from page 17

to pursue his dreams despite the limitations presented to him.

Barnhardt's sidekicks, Dennis (Michael Peña) and the Yuen twins (the Yuan twins), provide a lot of laughs despite the blunt racial stereotypes that they represent. The twins are an especially hilarious addition to the team with their constant grins and wise nods.

Anna Faris (Brandi) is the perfect comedy version of the self-absorbed hot girl, no doubt due to her experience playing that type of role. She is the stereotypical shallow but attractive girl that we all hate ourselves deeply for loving. On the other hand, Collete Wolfe (Nell) portrayed the sweet loving girl that is the foil to Faris's character.

However, neither could beat Celia Weston's performance as Barnhardt's alcoholic and inappropriate, but still honest and loving mother. The female cast brings a strong comedic presence not far behind their male counterparts.

The music choices for the film were quite enjoyable as well. A collection of The Animals, Pixies and other classic oldies brings the movie to another level of enjoyment while carrying the story's progression and mood.

Overall, the film's style is very

similar to *Pineapple Express*, a comedy hit also starring Rogen. Fans of *Pineapple Express* will definitely enjoy *Observe and Report* as it includes many familiar faces. Both movies include a gratuitous amount of unnecessary explosions, cursing and fist fights, but it is exactly this over-exaggeration that makes both films so entertaining.

However, *Observe and Report* is not a stoner flick in any sense and achieves more character and general meaning.

Like mentioned above on several occasions, *Observe and Report* is not for the faint of heart or those who are sensitive to social stereotypes or strong language. Many of the jokes in the film revolve around these controversial topics. Open-minded audiences who take these situations lightly will find a gold mine, while others might not enjoy them as much.

So whether it is to see Rogen breaking skateboards on teenage skaters' backs or single-handedly taking on a dozen policemen with a flashlight in Neo-*Matrix* style, this movie cannot be missed. The 90 minutes of adventure takes you on a journey of ecstasy away from school and all thoughts related.

If you've been down, this movie is the perfect way for you to regain that kick-butt feeling. If not, it's still an amazing experience.



Photo by Anne Campeau/Student Publication

Bryan Lewis puts on a marathon of a performance as both the respected scientist, Jekyll, and his horrific alter ego, Hyde.

#### **Jekyll** from page 17

also wins the award for the least grating imitation of a British accent).

The first act contained what was probably the most memorable song, "Façade." It is a catchy anthem reflecting a key thematic element of the musical: appearance versus reality. There was also the hilarious "Bring On The Men," led by boisterous lady of the evening and love interest Lucy Harris (Katie Mashni). The second act started off strong with another ensemble musical number, "Murder, Murder," and though the second act was overall a bit weaker musically, it was more than made up for in the energy and intensity of the plot, as Jekyll's world collapses around him while Hyde's body count increases.

The ensemble was incredibly well-organized, and timing was impeccable on the part of every cast member. This is not surprising, considering that the cast has been rehearsing and breaking the show down into "moment-to-moment" segments since late

January. The polish that director and choreographer Jeff McKerley put into the show was definitely noticeable.

On the technical side, special effects were used with occasional mixed results. Those sensitive to strobe lights should probably skip this show. The "confrontation" scene in the second act was a particularly impressive—if perhaps strobe-excessive—use of special effects. There were also some small issues with the sound, but all of this was pretty minor in comparison to everything that DramaTech was able to get right, both technically and theatrically, with this performance.

Overall, Jekyll & Hyde was essentially perfect, apart from some small technical issues with the audio that were left unresolved during the show. It comes highly recommended to anyone that loves musical theatre or anyone new to the genre

DramaTech will be performing *Jekyll & Hyde* tonight, tomorrow, and Wednesday through Saturday of next week, at 8 p.m. at DramaTech Theater.

### Shuffle from page 17

cable zip on the right earbud cord. When wearing the headphones, this control capsule falls to about shoulder height, which is both intuitive and convenient. It includes three buttons: volume up, volume down and the center button.

Clicking the center button once pauses play or plays while paused, while clicking it twice changes to the next song. Clicking three times goes back to the previous song. Apple advertises that this new control scheme can be used "without taking your eyes off whatever you're doing."

The Shuffle has a unique on/ off switch. Aside from the off position, there is a standard play switch that will go through all the songs of a playlist in order, and a shuffle switch, which will of course shuffle all the songs in the playlist. Overall, the new Shuffle only includes six buttons, but one feature makes it stand out from the rest.

Apple has created a new feature for all Shuffles called VoiceOver. With a simple free download from iTunes, the Shuffle can now "speak" to the user. By holding down the center button on the headphone attachment, the player will tell the listener the title and the artist of the track they are listening to. Holding it down even longer, the player will tell the user the name of the playlist. Holding it down for that long will cycle through the playlists and the user can then click again to select that specific playlist.

The controls may sound a little strange in print, but in person they are magnificent. The buttons yearn for exploration because of VoiceOver, and much of the time a person might cycle through songs just to hear the name and artist of every new song. VoiceOver understands 14 different languages, as well. VoiceOver's technology is impressive. Much like Microsoft's

standard Text-to-Speech utility, the technology reads words and projects them into normal speech. It knows Coldplay and Kanye West as much local artists like Autovine and This Piano Plays Itself. Though the technology is not perfect, and the voice sounds slightly muffled when the button is pressed, the technology is representative of Apple as simply cool.

The Shuffle also has a new device connected, which uses a standard 3.5 mm headphone jack. Of course, this input for the computer is also the output for the headphones, which increases the minimalist value of this device.

The new Shuffle's only issue is how small it is. Though it is difficult to notice and is not cheesy and "bling" like other players, especially because of its color options, it is extremely easy to lose. The fact that there is a specific set of headphones also means that users do not have the option of purchasing other unlicensed headphones because of a proprietary circuit in the control capsule. The earbuds are also slightly large for many users, which forces them to purchase third-party headphones.

Regardless of these shortcomings, the new Shuffle is a wonderful device. Some might be skeptical due to the fact that it does not have a screen, but this only increases its simple intuitiveness.

It is a wonderful flash player for those who already have a large hard-disk based mp3 player, like the iPod Classic or a Zune 120, but it is slightly difficult to recommend to those who have a new Nano. It is perfect for running, studying, cooking or whatever the listener might be doing because of how unobtrusive it is.

For only \$79, it is a great higher-caliber gift option for a friend or family member. It's easy to fall in love with the new iPod shuffle, and even easier to listen to music in an intuitive, fun and compact way.

### Mottola's latest lacks adventure



#### **FILM**

### Adventureland

**GENRE:** Comedy **STARRING:** Jessie Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart

**DIRECTOR:** Greg Motolla **RATING:** R

RELEASED: April 3, 2009

OUR TAKE: ★★☆☆☆

**By Patrick Hodges**Contributing Writer

Adventureland, starring Jessie Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart (better known as that girl from *Twilight*), strays away from the pure comedy represented in its trailer and takes on a more romantic tone than expected.

The film opens with the slow-moving development of James Brennan's character, a college graduate who is forced to live at home for the summer because his parents can no longer afford to send him abroad or to graduate school the next year.

After realizing his degree qualifies him for nothing, he begins

working at a local theme park, *Adventureland*, and the laughs begin to trickle in... slowly.

The film's main downfall lies in its misleading marketing. Anyone anticipating a true comedy will have to accept more serious plot elements, most of which were not even alluded to in any trailers.

However, one thing that was made quite clear in the trailer was the fact that Greg Mottola previously directed *Superbad*. *Adventureland* is nothing like *Superbad*. Despite the solid comedic performance from the likes of Bill Hader, anyone expecting non-stop laughs will quickly be disappointed. Even after firmly establishing Brennan's character, the romance that develops lacks substantial humor.

Overall, romance wins out and leaves you wishing that a cast with such comedic potential had done more. It is comparable to *Nick & Norah's Infinite Playlist* in terms of its careful balance of love and laughs. The similarities between these two films even extend to the acting styles of the main characters. Eisenberg's part as Brennan definitely seemed tailored to Michael Cera's style, but, without the

awkward yet lovable Cera delivering the lines, many scenes communicated a more serious tone than was probably intended.

The other star of *Adventureland*, Stewart, never really stands out, but delivers a respectable performance as Lewin. As a character, Em is the rebellious daughter spending her summer home from college and the one who James quickly finds himself falling for. Despite the feel-good nature of this movie, their relationship is not without its challenges.

The biggest disappointment in this movie was Ryan Reynolds' part as Mike Connel, the womanizing maintenance man of *Adventureland*. Anyone who has seen Reynolds' previous roles will immediately see similarities in *Adventureland*, but the glaring difference here is that he is given almost no dialogue, making it difficult for him to develop his signature witty sarcasm.

It is possible that this was Mottola's intention for Reynolds, but I think he missed a few opportunities for laughs. Despite Reynolds' lack of performance, there were a few lesser-known actors who made up for it.

Matt Bush's performance as Tommy Frigo, for instance, was one of the few genuinely funny performances, and Martin Starr's performance as Joel was endearing and enhanced the film's romantic elements.

As a whole, *Adventureland* is a decent romantic comedy that just missed the mark on the comedy side.

Despite Eisenberg's shortcomings, he was still able to pull off the romantic parts quite well. His interactions with Stewart seemed genuine, taking the film from a lackluster comedy to a solid date





# Lin's Fast & Furious drives plot into the ground

#### **FILM**

**Fast & Furious** 

**GENRE:** Action

**STARRING:** Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Jordana Brewster and Michelle Rodriguez

**DIRECTOR:** Justin Lin RATING: PG-13

RELEASED: April 3, 2009

OUR TAKE: ★★★☆☆

By Robert Solomon **Contributing Writer** 

It is probably best not to enter an existential crisis when watching the "true sequel" to 2001's The Fast and the Furious. One could ponder the internal motivations for the actors involved or the vari-

ous reasons that it may have been made, but this is all completely moot: Fast & Furious was engineered to make money, which it gleefully did in its opening weekend to the tune of \$71 million. The pundits who believed that the public's appetite for fast cars and Vin Diesel had been satiated by the original were sadly mistaken.

It would be much better to simply allow the movie to unfold as the fast-cars-and-fast-women fantasy as the first one did, only it seemed that Justin Lin, the director of Tokyo Drift (the third Fast and the Furious movie, if you are keeping track) and the excellent high school drama Better Luck Tomorrow, had other plans on his mind. Much of Fast & Furious seems more inspired by The Bourne Identity rather than the original film.

This is not a terrible thing. Featured in the theatrical advertising was a Bourne-like chase sequence between Brian O'Connor (Paul Walker) and a tattooed criminal which was a minor miracle, succeeding in doing something that I had never believed possible in this or any lifetime: It turned Walker into a credible action hero.

Unfortunately, this action hero lasts only for the briefest of moments, and it is quickly shattered as soon as Walker opens his mouth to speak.

The flat delivery of Walker's dialogue again reminds us all that Walker is the Keanu Reeves of his generation, who even at his best is never believable. This comparison is easy to make. Just look at the original The Fast and the Furious, which is itself a complete rip-off of Point Break. This calls for an

important question: Is Diesel the Patrick Swayze of his generation?

Sadly, the answer to this is no. For what promises to be such an aggressive film, there is a veritable gold mine of sadness and despair. Dominic Toretto (Diesel) starts off with that familiar authority, but is quickly worn down by a tragedy that I shall omit for those who hold the F&F canon in high regard.

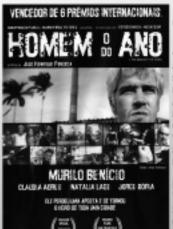
One can imagine the hilarious depths to which Swayze would have milked this dialogue. Diesel has no such instinct, preferring to remain stoic through monosyllabic utterances.

Of course, none of this should matter as long as the action sequences are good, and they are: The opening sequence where Toretto and the gang hold up a gasoline truck while it is still in motion, the inevitable street race through downtown LA traffic and the chases through an underground tunnel underneath the Mexico/U.S. border. All of this is good and nearly great. Unfortunately, there is way too much plot getting in the way, and not nearly enough action.

In a movie series propelled by car porn, there is remarkably little. The short sequences of modified cars and modified women in short skirts are hardly integrated into the whole of the movie at all.

If the main characters aren't enjoying this stuff, how is the audience supposed to? Rather than being fun, Fast & Furious seems more intent on being relentless in pouring on the drama about family, friendship and loyalties. John Woo can do this stuff, but Fast & Furious can't.





### O HOMEM DO ANO APRIL 10TH

AFTER LOSING A BET, JOBLESS CAR SALESMAN MAIQUEL BLEACHES HIS RAVEN HAIR PLATINUM, WHICH TRIGGERS A LETHAL CONFRONTATION WITH A MOCKING STREET PUNK. BUT INSTEAD OF GOING TO JAIL FOR SNUFFING THE SCUMBAG, MAIQUEL GOES FROM ZERO TO HERO IN THE EYES OF HIS NEIGHBORS AND THE COPS.

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### THEME CROSSWORD: LET IT ALL HANG OUT

### **By Robert Zimmerman**

United Features Syndicate

#### ACROSS

- 1. Wettish
- 5. Birds' crops
- 10. Get going!
- 15. Hinged catch
- 19. Moneychanging fee
- 20. Dulce de -
- 21. Quality of wine
- 22. Omnium-gatherum
- 23. at sea
- 24. Kind of committee: 2
- wds.
- 25. Start of a quip by
- Burt Reynolds
- 27. Shaky
- 29. Bone: prefix
- 31. Representations
- 32. Schnozzola
- 33. Within: prefix
- 34. Support for wallboard
- 35. Part 2 of quip: 4 wds. 41. Acoustic phenomenon
- 45. Pilasters
- 46. Oil source
- 47. Corpuscle

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Far-out artist
- 2. Contest in ancient Athens
- 3. Overlook
- 4. Ruler
- 5. Contract part
- 6. Outlined again 7. Yearn
- 8. U.N. agency: abbr.
- 9. Curved bone: 2 wds.
- 11. Western Indian
- 10. Tailor
- 12. Printing process, for short
- 36. Act in concert 13. French friend

- 48. Know- -
- 49. Go on a rampage 50. Option for type
- 52. Actress Blanchett
- 53. Mountain lake
- 54. Pressures
- 56. Concern of
- genealogists
- 58. Bag
- 59. Attention-getter
- 60. Seraglio
- 62. Costello or Gehrig
- 63. Trade
- 64. Part 3 of quip: 2
- wds.
- 66. Part 4 of quip: 2
- wds. 69. Composite picture
- 72. Pro sports org.
- 74. Moolah 75. Reply: abbr.
- 78. Old cry of regret
- 79. Native of Chile or
- Peru
- 82. Lute cousin
- 84. Elanet
- 85. Cipher
- 14. Of seagoing vessels
- 15. Relative of
- brilliantine
- 16. Shake -
- 17. Jug's contents 18. Heaps
- 26. Down Under bird
- 28. Male swans 30. Device for
- sign-making
- 33. Organic compound
- 34. One-armed bandits 35. Fen

- 86. Bed quilts

- 91. Like - not
- 93. Some wines

- 102. A double reed
- 103. Heartburn remedy
- 106. Roman goddess
- 108. Composition for voice: hyph.
- 112. End of the quip: 3
- 114. Lariat
- 116. Card with three pips
- 119. Lugged
- 120. Raise
- 121. Attentiveness
- 123. Glove material
- 124. Palo -
- 37. Lie

- 40. Bryce Canyon's state
- 42. Eye or pie
- 43. Bangtail
- 51. The noddy, a bird
- 53. Ottoman
- 55. Valentino role
- 58. Walked
- 61. Hunter's cap

- 88. Memorization
- 89. The first lady
- 90. Frost
- 92. Movie's music
- 95. Part 5 of quip: 4 wds
- 99. Lilliputian
- 101. Approximately

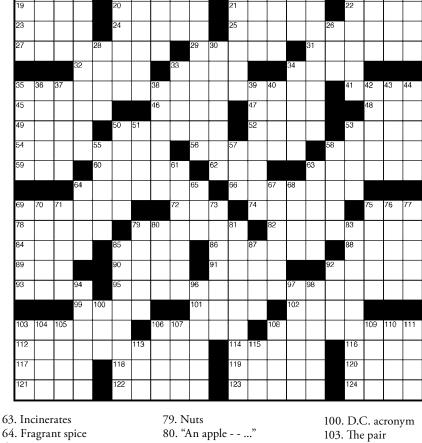
- wds.
- 117. Faithful
- 118. Family member
- 122. Pound and Cornell

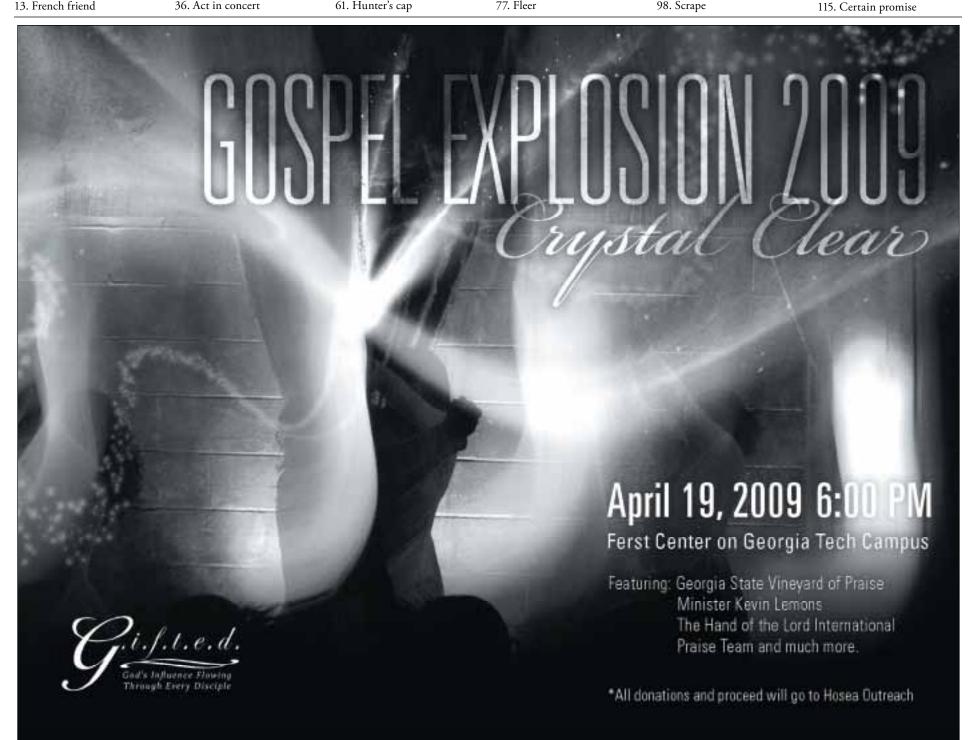
- 38. Irish playwright
- 39. Accurate, as a report
- 44. Landlord
- 50. Designer Mizrahi

- 57. Fantastic creature
- 63. Incinerates
- 65. supra 67. - uno
- 68. Out with you! 69. Producer
- 70. Pickled fruit
- 71. Overstuffed 73. Fireplace accessory
- 75. Detached 76. Explosive stuff

77. Fleer

- 81. Bests, in a way
- 83. Seat location
- 85. Mandible
- 87. Something
- sometimes written in
- 92. Highlander 94. Dwelled
- 96. Applications
- 97. Like a fortified place 98. Scrape
- 104. Concerning: 2 wds.
- 105. Inkling 106. Occupied one
- 107. Quechua
- 108. de foie gras 109. City on the Oka
- 110. Unmixed, as whisky
- 111. Greek sandwich 113. Fashion's - Claiborne





### PILED HIGHER & DEEPER BY JORGE CHAM



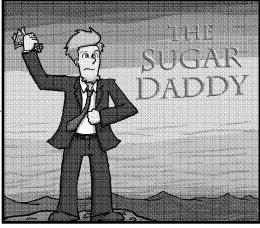






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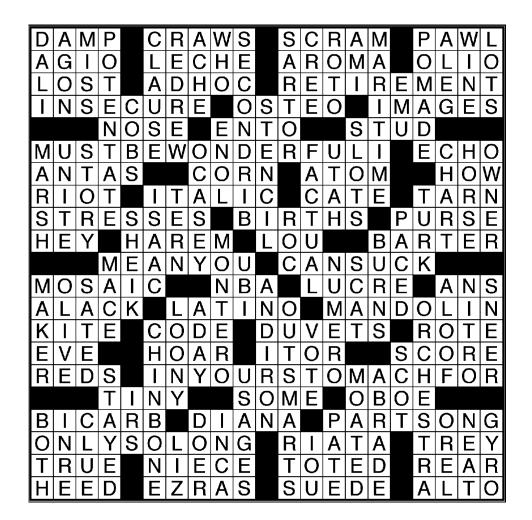








**Crossword Solution from Page 21** 



### Non Sequitur by Wiley







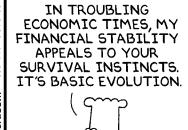
### Non Sequitur by WILEY

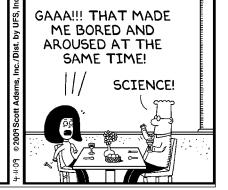


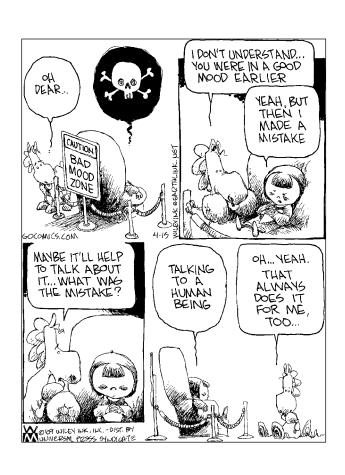
### **DILBERT** ® BY **SCOTT ADAMS**







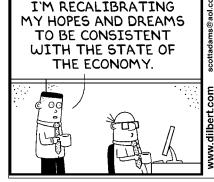












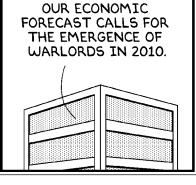






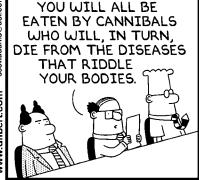
















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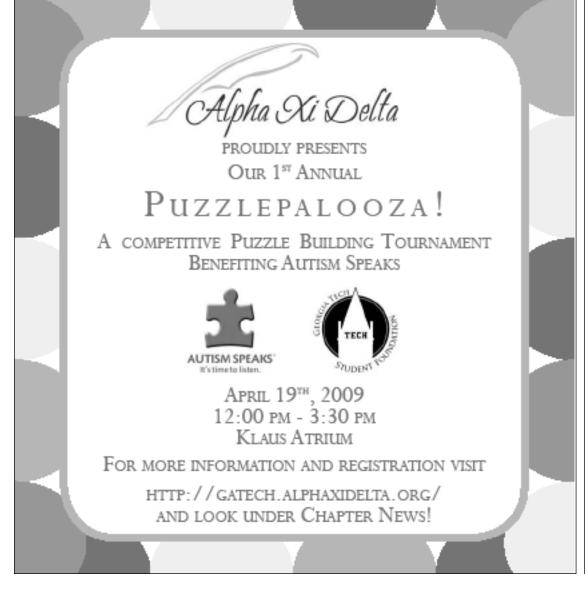
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### **Baseball** from page 28

to load the bases for Haniger. The senior sealed Tech's victory with a walk-off grand slam to right-center, tying the series at 1-1 in dramatic fashion.

"We found a way to win in the end," said Tech head coach Danny Hall in an interview with ramblinwreck.com. "You have to give our guys a lot of credit for hanging in there."

For the final game of the series on Sunday, the pitching matchup pitted sophomore right-hander Kevin Jacob against UNC's Matt Harvey in what would ultimately end in the Jackets' first series loss of the season. Tech took an early lead, driving in two runs and adding a third on a walk with the bases loaded. This lead disappeared in the top of the second, though, as the Tar Heels rallied to score eight runs (six earned) on six hits against Jacob. The Jackets committed three errors, prolonging the inning and allowing Carolina to increase their lead. Nichols replaced Jacob and got the final out of the inning.

The third and fourth innings saw the Heels increase their lead

to seven, pushing the score to 11-4. Tech started the bottom of the fifth with singles from Murton and freshman third baseman Matt Skole, followed by an RBI single by junior second baseman Jason Garofalo. A sacrifice fly and a double gave Tech two more runs, cutting the lead to 11-7.

Each team added a run in the sixth, with the Heels' run coming on Dustin Ackley's second homer of the game and the Jackets answering with an RBI double by Murton. UNC drove in one more in the top of the eighth to put the score at 13-8 in their favor. That was the score as the bottom of the ninth began; Tech closed to within three on a Haniger tworun homer, but pitcher Bryant Gaines closed out the inning with two groundouts, sealing UNC's victory and giving them the series.

"I feel like today was opportunity wasted," Hall said. "Our bullpen gave us a chance to stay in the game. It's just a case where we gave up a big inning, and those will usually haunt you."

The Jackets take the field again today at 7 p.m. to open a three-game home series against Virginia.



Photo by Michael James/ Student Publication

Chris House watches a game from the Tech dugout at Russ Chandler Stadium. House scored two runs in Saturday's win over UNC.

### **W-Tennis** from page 28

Maryland in its final regular season home match 7-0. As the only senior on the team, Striplin was recognized in a small ceremony prior to the match for her accomplishments. Going into the match, Striplin was second all-time for singles wins at Tech with 111. She also recorded 66 career doubles wins, which places her at eighth all-time.

Due to the forecast of rain, it was agreed that the women play the singles matches before doubles. All six singles matches were able to finish outdoors before rain began to fall. Blau opened the day with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Jordan Hansbrough on court six. Wins from McDowell and Hick-

ey pushed Tech's lead to 3-0 before Striplin sealed the win with a straight set, 6-3, 6-0 victory over Karin Lundmark. Ngo and Krupina then finished off singles with wins which brought Tech to a score of 6-0.

The two teams then moved indoors because of rain and finished with doubles. Tech swept all three matches and easily clinched the doubles point. The doubles teams of McDowell/Blau and Falconi/Krupina were each able to win their respective matches with a score of 8-1 that resulted in the final match score of 7-0.

The women's tennis team will close out the regular season as it plays North Carolina today and Duke tomorrow in an effort to win the ACC regular-season title.

# Baseball splits two with Ga. Southern

By John Anderson **Contributing Writer** 

The cold temperatures on Tuesday night could not keep senior Luke Murton and the baseball team from getting red hot, as Murton knocked two home runs and the No. 8 Jackets (20-7) beat the Georgia Southern Eagles 8-4 at Russ Chandler Stadium. Tech was unable to continue the good hitting the following day, though, giving up 19 runs over the final three innings and losing to Georgia Southern 23-3.

Georgia Southern (22-8) was able to strike quickly on Tuesday night. RBI singles by Griffin Benedict and Eric Phillips gave the Eagles a 2-0 lead after two innings. Meanwhile, Tech's bats were cold through the first three innings. Southern's starting pitcher, Michael Hester, consistently mixed in good off-speed pitches to keep the Jackets off balance and cause many ground balls.

"[Hester] wasn't throwing that hard, and he kind of had us all out in front  $\dots$  We had to see the guy maybe one time through the order just to see how he was going to pitch us. But I felt like we did make better adjustments as the game went on," Head Coach Danny Hall said.

Hall's impression was right: after one time through the order, things did begin to get a little easier for Tech. Murton hit the first of his two home runs, a deep solo shot that cut Southern's lead in half and got the Tech bats rolling.

The rest of the Jackets followed Murton's example in the fifth inning when, with two outs and nobody on, sophomore shortstop Derek Dietrich clocked a high shot that got caught up in the strong wind current blowing down the right field line. The ball carried over the right fielder's head, and Dietrich made it all the way to third base. Senior Jason Haniger then hit a sharp single to left field that brought in Dietrich.

The next batter, senior first baseman Tony Plagman, drew a walk to put Haniger in scoring position. Murton then came to the plate and connected on his second home run; unlike Dietrich's hit earlier, though, this one was against the wind but still carried over the left field fence to bring Murton's RBI total to four on the night.

"[Murton's] been on fire of late. [He's] been hitting a lot of home runs. I hope he continues for the rest of the year. But he's given us a big lift," Hall said of Murton, who has seven homers over the past seven games.

Tech sophomore starter Brandon Cumpton had a solid outing, limiting Southern to two runs on eight hits over five and one third innings while striking out six. The bullpen also looked sharp, as junior Andrew Robinson relieved Cumpton in the sixth and pitched 2.2 scoreless innings, allowing just two hits.

"Cumpton gave up a couple runs early, but I thought he really settled down and pitched [well], and then I thought Robinson was outstanding," Hall said.

Georgia Southern was able to rebound on Wednesday afternoon as the Jackets never found their offensive groove. Southern got an early 2-0 lead after Tech starter Jed Bradley's wild pitch in the top of the first inning, but Tech came right back to score a run on Dietrich's RBI single a half inning later. However, Tech would plate only two more runs, as Southern's starter Andy Moye allowed two runs over four innings and four relief pitchers limited Tech to three hits and one run over the rest of the game.

Tech's relievers struggled mightily toward the end of the game. With the score 4-2 in the Eagles' favor after six innings, a grand slam by Southern's Ty Wright powered a massive rally for the visitors over the final three innings. Tech gave up seven runs in the seventh inning, one in the eighth, and eleven in the ninth, and the Jackets fell 23-3 to split the season series with the Eagles.

The Jackets look to rebound when they return to action tonight, hosting the No. 14 Virginia Commodores in the first game of a three-game weekend series. On Tuesday, Tech will travel to Athens to battle Georgia in the teams' first meeting of the season.



Kevin Jacob pitches from the mound at Russ Chandler Stadium. Jacob pitched in relief in Wednesday's loss to Georgia Southern.

#### **Pitching** from page 28

The midweek starters were more in flux early in the season, but Hall seems to have settled on sophomore right-hander Brandon Cumpton and freshman lefthander Jed Bradley. Cumpton has had a rough season after a strong performance on opening weekend, surrendering 12 runs in 12 innings in his past three starts while allowing opposing batters to hit .356 against him. Bradley pitched five no-hit innings in relief against Kennesaw State on March 17; with only three starts under his belt, he is still adjusting to starting duties, but he provides Tech with a left-handed arm in the rotation.

Until Wednesday's game, the bullpen had been consistently effective, with each of Tech's four main relievers maintaining an ERA below four. Freshman Jake Davies and sophomore Zach Brewster have been reliable southpaw options, junior right-hander Andrew Robinson has been solid after converting from midweek starter to the bullpen, and freshman Mark Pope has thrived in the closer role. In addition to those four, infielders Patrick Long and Thomas Nichols occasionally appear in relief, and Hall has also worked sophomore Taylor Wood and freshman Jacob Esch into the

Tech has one of the most productive offenses in the nation, but in order to maintain its level of success this season, the team will need its pitching staff to rebound from a difficult four-day stretch in which the Jackets surrendered 13 runs to UNC on Sunday and 23 to Georgia Southern on Wednesday. The team may drop out of the national top 10 after this week, but if the rotation and bullpen can remain effective through the rest of the season, the Jackets could power their way back to the top of the national rankings.

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there better be some sweet flowers in May after all of this rain! watch it cowboy

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Hey, you with the iphone, stop bragging about it. Some of us made a decision not to buy it, so quit nagging about how it's the best device in the world. It is not. How much you paying? 80

There has been enough rain to end this 'drought' now. mo' beef.

(:3) <--- manatee

i hope that guy doesn't win CHBE representative b/c he's a cheating liar! go other guy, whoever you are

Ruckus closed, Spiralfrog gone. Where will I go for music? fo'

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# THINK GREEN WEEK

### Monday, April 13 – Friday, April 17, 2009

A weeklong schedule of environmentally friendly events organized by Georgia Tech's Earth Day Planning Committee

Green Rally

11:30 AM — 1:00 PM, at the Campanile. (Rain location: Student Commons Stage) Featuring President and Mrs. Peterson at noon speaking from a solar powered podium

Monday, April 13 Everyone on campus is encouraged to wear green.

The first 1,000 people will receive FREE reusable water bottles,

recycled wristbands, compact fluorescent light bulbs, recycled tote bags, and organic popcom!

Sustainable Fashion Show

11:00 AM — 12:30 PM, at the Campanile (Rain location: Student Center)

Recycled materials, organic cotton, hemp and vintage clothing. See designs from local stores

and designers as well as Georgia Tech students!

Free Public Screening of the Disneynature film "earth"

7:00 PM, at the Atlantic Station Regal Cinema

Wednesday, April 15 A limited number of FREE tickets are available at www.buzzcard.gatech.edu.

(Click on 'Manage your account', log in, and reserve your ticket at the eMarketplace.)

Environmental Justice Panel Discussion, presented by Students Organizing for Sustainability

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM, in the Student Center Ballroom Blue

Nia Robinson - director, Environmental Justice and Climate Change Initiative for Redefining Progress Barbara Deutsch Lynch - associate professor in International Affairs and City & Regional Planning

Tony C. Anderson - Co-Founder of Let's Raise a Million

Rick La Torra - Georgia Coal Organizer for the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy (SACE)

Thursday, April 16 Battle of the Bands, presented by Emerging Leaders

> 5:00 PM — 11:00 PM, at the Campanile (Rain location: Tech Rec in the Student Center) Featuring a solar powered stage provided by Tree Power and Sound

Free Screening of "Flow: For the Love of Water" presented by Environmental Alliance at GT 7:30 PM — 9:00 PM, in the Student Center Theater (Rain location: Student Commons Stage)

Georgia Tech's 12th Annual Earth Day Celebration

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, on the Skiles walkway

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Friday, April 17

Dinamonim

Tuesday, April 14



















# Strong season for Rugby leads to conference title



Photo by Ben Keyserling/ Student Publications

The rugby team battles for control of the ball during a scrum. This season, the team overcame a number of injuries and defeated Auburn, Kennesaw State, and Emory.

By Christian Bockhop Contributing Writer

The Tech rugby team continued its tradition of tackling, hitting and winning, concluding another strong season as it beat out Emory 28-7 last Thursday to win the conference championship for the third year in a row. With the three conference titles, along with berths in the South Region Championship each of the past two seasons, Tech has emerged as a power in Division II rugby.

This season's success came despite a rash of serious injuries as the spring began. Co-captain Rob DeBernard and talented freshman Luke Leonard both suffered severe knee injuries that kept them from playing, veteran Mike Garcia broke his hand, and freshman Kyle Zeman separated his shoulder, thinning out a roster

that seemingly lacked depth already. After three losses in the annual ACC tournament, many of the players felt like they would be lucky to win even one conference game this year.

The outlook was bleak, but thanks in part to the leadership of returning captain Max Groves as well as a dedicated team that overcame its inexperience, Tech's season was anything but dismal. The team came out strong in its first conference game, earning a resounding 38-7 victory at the Burger Bowl over one of its biggest rivals, the Auburn. The big win made it clear that this mix of veterans and rookies could definitely function as a cohesive unit.

"[Rugby] is a mixture of football, soccer and a no-rules bar fight," said team president Daniel Cooper, summarizing the team's approach to each game. A week later at the Burger Bowl, the Jackets faced one of their toughest opponents, Kennesaw State. The Owls were the early favorite to win the Conference after winning last fall's Georgia Rugby Tournament. Though the Jackets were expected to lose by a large margin, they scored another upset, pulling out a 19-10 victory to improve to 2-0 in conference play.

Tech traveled to Statesboro two weeks later and found themselves in a highly physical battle with Georgia Southern. The game ended with a 17-6 loss, marking the first time Tech had lost a conference game in three years. The Jackets did not allow the loss to faze them, however, as they went on to clinch the conference title with the 21-point win over Emory the following Thursday.

The rugby program is growing

at Tech, and because it is a club sport, the environment is more relaxed than that of a varsity sport.

"We're a very jovial team. We practice hard and we train hard, but we have fun. [For] guys that come on if they want to just blow off some steam or just hit somebody, this is a very good place to do it," Cooper said.

Despite the somewhat relaxed environment, rugby is a dangerous sport that involves a considerable injury risk, and a certain level of recklessness is definitely required to be successful. Over the past few years, players have broken their ankles, separated their shoulders, suffered torn ACLs, and worse. In one legendary instance, during the 2007 Tech-Emory game a player fell head-first into the ground, requiring surgery that night by CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta.

Although their high tolerance for pain and love for aggression may indicate otherwise, the players exude a level of friendliness and class that some might find surprising.

"Whereas football is a gentleman's sport played by ruffians, rugby is a ruffian's sport played by gentleman," Cooper said.

The rugby team is an inclusive group that welcomes new players.

"[Anyone who shows up] with cleats and a mouthguard, we'll take him. Anyone can walk on. There are no tryouts to play," Cooper said. "As we go into the fall season, we'll be losing several long-time players to graduation ... however, if this season is any indication of what we can expect, we have a great recruiting year to look forward to as well as the further development of many young key players"

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**Sports Editor:** Matt Hoffman

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### Keep on "try"-ing

The Rugby team ended their season on a high note to win the conference championship > 27

TECHNIQUE

28

Friday,
April 10, 2009

### Women's tennis ends home matches with two wins

By Steven Cappetta Staff Writer

The No. 6 ranked women's tennis team hosted its last two matches of the regular season against Boston College and Maryland last weekend. The Jackets have seen success against both these opponents in the past as Boston College has not beaten Tech since joining the ACC and Maryland has lost nine straight times while

not winning in Atlanta since April 19, 1998

On Saturday, the Jackets defeated Boston College 6-1 and improved their record to 14-5 overall and 7-1 in the ACC. Tech opened up the day with a sweep of all three doubles matches to take an early 1-0 lead. Freshman Irina Falconi and sophomore Sasha Krupina were the first tandem to finish as they overtook the Eagles' Alina Sullivan and Jac-

queline Mabatah by the score of 8-1. The No. 20 ranked team of senior Christy Striplin and freshman Noelle Hickey clinched the doubles point for the Jackets with an 8-3 win over Lauren Cash and Dasha Cherasov on court one, and to finish off doubles for the day, junior Amanda McDowell and freshman Lynn Blau defeated Lana Krasnopolsky and Katarina Gajic with a final score of 8-2.

No. 7 ranked Falconi, who was

the previous week's ACC women's tennis co-player of the week for her perfect 3-0 in singles and doubles, opened up singles play with a 6-2, 6-0 win over Krasnopolsky at the top spot. Freshman Viet Ha Ngo then upped Tech's lead to 3-0 following a victory over Brittany Delaney, 6-2, 6-2 on court six. Krupina then sealed the victory on the day for the Jackets after beating Sullivan 6-3, 6-3. Striplin then won her match 6-1,

6-4 over Katharine Attwell at the fourth spot in the lineup. No. 19 ranked McDowell gave Tech its final win on the day after defeating Gajic 6-1, 7-6 (10-8) at the second position. Hickey's close loss to Cash, 7-6 (9-7), 7-6 (7-3), gave Boston College its only point on the day and ended the match with the final score of 6-1.

On Sunday, the Jackets swept

See **W-Tennis**, page 24

# North Carolina slides around Tech

IN DEPTH | PITCHING

# Pitching staff looks to build on solid start

**By Nishant Prasadh** Assistant Sports Editor

The pitching staff was a question mark for the Jackets in the preseason after the team lost two key starters and both closers from the 2008 squad. So far, though, the 2009 staff has been solid on all fronts, posting strong numbers to date and putting the team in position to win games.

At the forefront of the starting rotation has been sophomore right-hander Deck McGuire, who leads Tech starters with a 2.36 ERA, a 1.23 WHIP and 59 strikeouts; he remains undefeated at 5-0 through seven starts. McGuire was at his best in last weekend's series against North Carolina, giving up just one run in six innings while striking out 11, though he did not factor into the decision as Tech fell 4-2.

"More than anything, I'm in better shape than I've ever been ... and it helps when you know that your team's going to score runs," McGuire said.

The other two weekend starters, junior Zach Von Tersch and sophomore Kevin Jacob, have hit some bumps in the road. Von Tersch has struggled to replicate his solid 2008 season so far, with a 5.45 ERA in seven games as the Saturday starter. The junior righty has pitched into the sixth inning in only one start this season, as he has often fallen victim to high pitch counts. This Saturday's game was no exception, as Von Tersch threw 89 pitches while giving up four runs—two earned—over five innings. Still, he left the game with Tech down by only a run, and the Jackets mounted a late-inning comeback to win the game and preserve his 5-1 record.

Jacob—Tech's only starter who averages under one strikeout per inning—took over Sunday duties early in the season after opening the year as a midweek starter, and until this weekend he had been excellent, going 4-1 with a 2.97 ERA. However, against UNC he seemed rattled after a series of defensive mishaps in the second inning, and the Tar Heels rallied for an eight-run inning to force him from the game.

"Guys are going to make errors, so you need to expect that when you're pitching, and then you've got to be able to make pitches after that. He wasn't able to do that [on Sunday]," Head Coach Danny Hall said.



# No. 5 Jackets lose series to No. 3 Tar Heels

**By Kyle Conarro** Contributing Writer

The No. 5 baseball team took the field at Russ Chandler Stadium this past weekend to host North Carolina in a three game series. Despite a solid effort, the Jackets struggled against their ACC rival, losing two of three to the No. 3 Tar Heels.

In the series opener on Friday, Tech sophomore starter Deck McGuire faced off against UNC's Alex White. McGuire's outing started with an early run on a sacrifice fly, but he shut down any further offensive attacks, giving up only two hits and registering 11 strikeouts through six innings. However, the Jackets' only offense during that span was a single run on a sacrifice fly by sophomore designated hitter Thomas Nichols in the fourth.

After three scoreless innings on both sides, the Tar Heels scored two runs in the top of the eighth to go up 3-1. Tech responded in the bottom half when senior catcher Jason Haniger drove in junior center fielder Jeff Rowland on a two-out double, bringing the Jackets within one. The Tar Heels scored again on a solo home run

by Levi Michael in the top of the ninth, though, increasing their lead to two once again. The Jackets were unable to score in the bottom of the ninth, and UNC took the series opener 4-2.

Tech's offense fared better in Saturday's extra-inning battle. The Tar Heels climbed ahead quickly when Garret Gore hit a two-run first-inning homer off junior starter Zach Von Tersch, but Tech cut the lead to one in the bottom half on a Rowland leadoff homer and added two more an inning later on a two-run shot by senior right fielder Luke Murton.

The Tar Heels responded in the top of the fourth with two runs to take a 4-3 lead. That score lasted into the top of the ninth, when UNC added two more runs against Tech junior pitcher Andrew Robinson. Facing a three-run deficit in the bottom of the ninth, the Jackets rallied to tie the game. Murton starting the inning with a solo homer, and a single and a walk setup an RBI single for Rowland to cut the gap to one run. Shortstop Derek Dietrich drove in the tying run with a single, but UNC pitcher Colin Bates struck out Haniger to close out the ninth, stranding



Photo by Kelvin Kuo/ Student Publication:

Tech celebrates Jason Haniger's grand slam which ended Saturday's game.

two and forcing the game into extra innings.

Tech brought in freshman closer Mark Pope for the start of the tenth, and Pope gave up just two hits in two scoreless innings to preserve the tie. With one out in the bottom of the eleventh, back-to-back singles put runners on for Dietrich, who reached first on a hard hit infield single