

FOCUS

Technique • Friday, October 14, 2005

GREEKS 'COME OUT OF HAZE'

Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and Alpha Xi Delta sorority co-sponsored a hazing awareness seminar, open to the entire campus. Page 15

THERON ROCKS NORTH COUNTRY

Oscar winner Charlize Theron stars as Josey Aimes, who filed a landmark lawsuit that changed sexual harassment law. Page 18



RELATIONSHIPS ISSUE

Cultural differences complicate, enrich dating

By Ugo Ezeamuzie
Contributing Writer

You are at a party/club/social and you spot a cutie from far a way. He has a nice smile, she kind of looks like that model, and you can't keep your eyes off them.

So you work up the nerve to go talk to them. Tonight is your night, you are suave, she is sweet and laughing at all your jokes, he is smart and opens all the doors.

Everything seems to be going great, but wait—can he or she cook rice like you do back home?

Although most people in multicultural relationships don't explicitly think along those lines, they cannot completely ignore cultural differences when it comes to dating, and matters of the heart.

Cultural differences are likely to play a part in every phase of the relationship marathon, from choos-

ing whom to date to proclaiming "I do."

So what part does it really play in predicting the level success or failure in a dating relationship?

Does your significant other understanding your native language make all the difference in the world?

Diversity could be the driving force for a rich, dynamic and multifaceted experience or it can take an uncompromising detour to become a tedious addition to the complexities of dating.

"When it comes to dating, I don't see color or race or culture, but I see them for who they are and make my decision based on that," said Desola Kalejaiwe, a first-year Chemistry major from Nigeria.

"Sometimes when I think about dating a person of the same color or cultural background, I feel like I know what to expect," she said.

"But as a black person, when I think about dating a Hispanic or Caucasian, it will be a discovery

because I won't know what to expect and that is intriguing."

"As long as you can hang out with someone and get along, then everything else can be worked on," said Dev Chakraborty, a fourth-year Electrical Engineering major of Indian heritage who is currently dating a Caucasian girl.

"Personal values and the chemistry [between couples] can overcome most cultural differences," he said.

"When dating someone from a different cultures, you get to experience a different culture and relationship style from what you are used to," said Jing Su, a fourth-year Biomedical engineering major of a traditional Chinese heritage who has been dating a Caucasian.

"Usually the western cultures are more romantic in a way. The way they show their affection is more liberal. In eastern cultures you don't usually show your affection as much in a romantic way, especially in public," she said.

There is no denying that dating someone from a different cultural

background as you has its benefits; diverse experiences, education and the mystique associated with a foreign culture.

Nevertheless, there are times in the relationship when cultures clash and new perspectives are not easily welcome or appreciated.

"Some things you consider to be a norm or take for granted and expect others to understand. I sometimes find myself explaining to my girlfriend aspects of my culture and how my mind works," Chakraborty said.

"For example, I tried to explain to her the reason I do engineering even though I don't necessarily like it that much, but sometimes she doesn't understand the pressures of my culture and family for a strong educational (usu-

ally scientific or business) foundation over how much you like it," he said.

Despite statements to the contrary, families and their willingness to accept their members dating outside their culture play an important role in multicultural relationships.

"When it comes to dating, I don't see color, race or culture, but I see them for who they are and make my decision based on that."

Desola Kalejaiwe
First-year CHEM major

See Couples, page 15



By Matthew Bishop / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Marion Tinio and Chun Chu, both fourth-year EE students, eat lunch together. Being from different cultures adds new layers of complexity to the dating process.

Physical intimacy: important enough to make or break relationships?

By John Maddux
Contributing Writer

Physical intimacy is an important part of relationships. Or is it? Does emotional compatibility override the need for physicality?

The *Nique* sets out to find opinions ranging from maintaining your virginity to sexual experience.

"Sex is so much more than physical...it's an emotional attachment for girls," said Elise Humbert, a fourth-year Aerospace Engineering major who is currently dating.

Charles Curry, a third-year Aerospace Engineering major, has a different view.

He feels that people must have a "sexual compatibility" to work in the long run because "if there is no physical attraction then the relationship will

fall apart."

"I respect others' opinions, but imagine if your partner is really bad. How are you going to make that work?" he said.

In his experience, women "want more of an emotional attachment."

This can make it hard for men because "you can't see their personality first and then their body," he said.

Finding the right balance was key, he said.

Keri Sawyer and Bryan Fosse, both fifth-year Industrial Engineering majors, are a couple with a very different opinion on premarital sex.

"If you have already had sex then stop," Sawyer said.

"It has such a big impact on a relationship, and you can be physical without having sex."

She is opposed to the idea

"[Sex] has such a big impact on a relationship and you can be physical without having sex."

Keri Sawyer
Fifth-year ISYE major

See Physical, page 14

Resources help relationships

By Joshua Cuneo
Online Editor

College is a time when most students grapple with issues regarding sex and relationships.

Whether it's a conflict with a loved one, deciding whether to engage in consensual sex, or dealing with sexual harassment, Tech provides a wealth of resources to aid students in overcoming those obstacles.

These resources take on a variety of forms: contraceptives, pamphlets and brochures, books, programs, and people who are there to provide a shoulder to lean on in times of crisis.

Many students are not aware that these resources even exist, let alone that most of them are available free of charge.

In times of need, students have several places they can turn to for help and guidance.

The Health Center

The Health Center includes several departments that cater to students' sexual health needs.

The Department of Health Promotions, formerly called the Wellness Center, is Tech's primary resource for all sex-related information and materials.

The lobby hosts a collection of pamphlets and other literature regarding sexual orientation, behavior and diseases, and on a table near the

door sit bowls full of condoms and lubricant free for the taking.

The department also employs specialists to address any sex-related concerns that students may have.

Students can make an appointment to get confidential HIV testing for a small fee or to speak to a health

"Many students are not aware that these resources even exist, let alone that most of them are available free of charge."

educator on issues including sexual behavior and assault.

They also launched a campus-wide program called VOICE which stands for (Sexual) Violence Prevention and Advocacy Initiative.

The department's website is also very comprehensive.

The site has links to sexual assault resources, communication tips on sexuality and practicing safer sex, and even a dictionary of sexual vocabulary.

There are discussions about the variety of contraceptives available

to students on campus and where to get them, scientific studies on the effectiveness of condoms, and information regarding sex and alcohol.

The Health Center pharmacy also offers contraceptives for members of the Tech community.

"We carry birth control pills and oral contraceptives. We have the emergency contraceptive pill...Plan B," said Viola Brown, Pharmacy Supervisor.

"We council [students] on birth control pills as well," she said.

The Women's Clinic is also in the Health Center which provides a range of resources related to women's health needs.

Women can ask about birth control or make appointments for pregnancy or HIV testing.

The Clinic also provides the "morning after" emergency contraception on a walk-in basis.

Women's Resource Center

The Women's Resource Center (WRC) is a one-stop shop for Tech's women to address any female-related concerns they may have.

If the WRC cannot help them directly, then Yvette Upton, assistant dean and director of the WRC, can guide them to the right department.

Upton advises students with

See Safety, page 12

Students share varying viewpoints on single life



By Emily Tate
Contributing Writer

“Single”—a title that some people embrace with open arms and hopes of emotional freedom.

Others however, dread it, for they feel that without a significant other, people will see them as someone who is simply undesirable.

In the Tech community, there are students who exemplify both

(Clockwise from top) Kym Chang, Sean Hicks, Katie Buckler, Elizabeth Ward and Joseph York are all undergraduates who are single. For some single students, relationships take precious time away from school work; for others, the Tech ratio does not favor forming relationships.

Photos by Matthew Bishop / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS



cases. There are also those who fall somewhere in the middle.

As a result of the excessive demands of school, many students don't find the time to date, and in many cases, they would prefer to stay single so they can remain focused on academics.

“Here I honestly don't have the time [for a relationship]. That's just the truth about it. Maintaining relationships [here] is hard. If I had to maintain a relationship on top of class work, I would either fail out of school or fail in the relationship,” said Sean Hicks, a second-year Computer Engineering major.

“I think I just haven't met the right guy. I didn't want to waste my time and could be doing much more useful things. When the right guy comes along, it will just happen,” said Kym Chang, a fourth-year Industrial Engineering major.

Being single, in these cases, means that the extra time students do have could be spent doing activities that enhance their individuality.

Campus organizations are generally considered some of the best places to meet fellow students who share many of the same interests.

They are also some of the best places to make friendships that can eventually evolve into more.

For many students, including Grace Kim, a second-year Biology major, romantic relationships work well when two single students start out as simply friends.

“[You can meet people] at fraternity and sorority parties and also clubs and organizations. I've met a few girls at clubs,” said Travis

Macdonald, a fourth-year Management major.

However, there are disadvantages to being single.

One particular disadvantage is that single students miss the sense of companionship and stability that comes along with having a boyfriend or girlfriend.

“Being with somebody is always nice because you feel like, ‘Oh, at least someone thinks I'm cute,’” said Katrina Kumm, second-year Electrical and Computer Engineering major.

She also said that being in a relationship can give a person much more confidence due to the stability romantic relationships generally provide.

Because of this particular characteristic in relationships, when students

break up, they tend to find themselves lonely and at a loss for a sense of autonomy.

“I love caring for somebody, but it's nice to be out on your own and be able to do whatever you want without having consequences,” Kumm said.

After a break-up, the sense of self-reliance that follows can come as a bit of a shock, especially when the common schedule for people in relationships does not include taking time out for individual needs.

“You can discover a lot about yourself outside of relationships, too. You can look back and say, ‘Oh, I should have done this or that’ and that's something that makes me happy,” Kumm said.

“If I had to maintain a relationship on top of class, I would either fail out of school or fail in the relationship.”

Sean Hicks
Second-year CompE major

See Single, page 14



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See page 18 for more Slivers.

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Physical from page 11

that you need to have sex to ensure sexual compatibility between you and your partner.

"I think saying that is the biggest copout there is."

The effect that physical relations can have on a relationship can also vary because of differences between the two partners levels of experience.

"You have to be on the same page," said Ryan Stonecipher-Fisher, a fourth-year Mechanical Engineering major.

"You have to talk about it and you can't pressurize or the relationship won't work."

"Most guys just beat around the bush... you have to come out and talk about it," said his girlfriend Shulamite Wan, a fourth-year Polymer, Textile and Fiber Engineering major.

Discussion is always healthy for a relationship, but if the relationship is floundering then it may not be enough. Some people use sex in an attempt to bring passion to an otherwise lacking relationship—a concept that, according to Sawyer, is misguided.

"It makes me sad that those people crave closeness and intimacy with others and try to fill it with sex because they are robbing themselves of the better experience they could have if they waited," she said.

"Just because we don't have sex doesn't mean that we don't talk about sex," Fosse said.

"A spiritual connection is the foundation of a relationship."

"I think you have to talk about it," said Sawyer, "just don't do it."

Humbert feels that sex changes the whole dynamic of a relationship and that openness is important because "it is so much harder to go back once you have crossed that line."

"Even if you want to go back it is difficult because you have created expectations," she said.

The choice can be much harder when neither of the partners has any experience.

"When both people come into the relationship as virgins, then it makes the relationship a lot stronger than when only one or neither of them is a virgin," Curry said.

"You have a stronger bond for having been through that together."

"It just seems right to me. I think [sex] will be better after marriage," said Bradley Johnson, a third-year Polymer, Textile, and Fiber Engineering major.

He based his views "mostly on instinct" but that the way he was brought up influenced it, Johnson said.

"I date a woman who is like me and plans to wait until marriage," he said.

Shulamite and Stonecipher-Fischer agreed that couples should remain virgins until marriage, but according to them that does not mean marriage should be rushed into, either.

"Everyone is getting married. What is up with that?" said Shulamite.

They feel that the point of waiting until marriage for sex is lost if the process of getting into a marriage itself is rushed.

Single from page 14

"Being single you don't have to worry about getting into fights with that other person," Macdonald said.

This is one of many reasons students choose to remain single.

Often, when students rely upon themselves to find socially engaging activities, they develop a sense of self-reliance, which can be hard to find while in a committed relationship.

"That is one of the personality traits I would like in a partner: independence," said Aaron Bozorg, a fourth-year Psychology major and vice president of the Pride Alliance at Tech.

Being a gay member of the Tech community has its differences, but overall, the emotional phases that people go through while in a relationship are very similar.

"I often recommend being single for a while to many friends, especially in the gay community where new people are constantly coming out and seeking relationships," Bozorg said.

The stereotypes surrounding Tech students, "The odds are good, but the goods are odd," as well as the notion that "there are no pretty girls at Tech," may also discourage students from paying attention to the dating scene.

"Between the lack of women and the work and competitiveness at this school, I am single," said Joseph York, a fourth-year Electrical Engineering major.

According to some men and women around campus, however, these

stereotypes are simply myths.

"There are plenty of cute girls at Tech," Macdonald said.

The ratio is indeed an issue for men looking for women around campus, but it is even harder for Kumm, who not only has to work with the 30 percent of female population but also with the even smaller percentage of gay women on campus.

"Every girl I have ever met, I have met off campus," Kumm said.

She admits that there are not that many places on campus to meet single gay women.

"Between the lack of women and the work and competitiveness at this school, I am single."

Kevin Matovu
Fourth-year CmpE major

However, sometimes the issue of the ratio is solved in how students choose to look at it.

"The ratio is just not in a guy's favor. [But] it's really about whom you know and who you decide to build relationships with. So I guess you can't always blame the ratio," said Kevin Matovu, a fourth-year Computer Engineering major.

While single, many students will begin developing different types of relationships and also strengthening existing bonds with their friends and family.

"Your friends are going to stay around longer than your boyfriend," Kim said.

While other students might think of this as a rather superficial rule of thumb, some argue that it is a good way to tell whether the boyfriend or girlfriend in question is someone who really shares similar interests.

When choosing friends, there's no romance involved, and friends can see things in a romantic partner that might not be visible otherwise.

Kumm shares Kim's belief that partners should interact with each others' friends.

"[Someone I might date] has to be willing to accept my friends," Kumm said.

"Even though I have been single throughout my entire college career, I have been able to make countless admirable and dependable friends," Bozorg said.

"If your friends say he is bad, then, honey, he is really bad," Bozorg said.

Some people such as Bozorg are even willing to give up on the prospect of a romantic relationship because they fear that if they enter a relationship, their friendships would suffer.

One way that single students use their relationship status to their advantage is to learn from it.

Tech has a student population with quite analytical minds.

Therefore, some students treat each relationship like an emotional experiment in which making mistakes is a must.

"Being single, you have a lot of room for improvements and you can make improvements," Kumm said.

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Couples from page 11

Especially when it comes to thinking about marriage, family consent can play a paramount role.

"For my mom, as long as [my boyfriend] is responsible and I am responsible and smart then she is cool with [it]," Su said.

"The communication barrier between my boyfriend and my parents is definitely a concern for them," she said.

"My parents speak Chinese, and their English is not very good and so it's difficult for them to communicate with him."

In spite of all the communication barriers and cultural misunderstandings, there is a lot that can be learned from opening up to someone else from a different culture.

"It helps to keep an open mind. Being adaptive and ready for change will help you experience, appreciate and educate yourself about different situations," Chakraborty said.



By Matthew Bishop / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Ali Daftarian, third-year CE and Farzaneh Shahheidari, third-year EE, study thermodynamics together in the Student Center.

Hazing seminar educates Greeks, others

By Dlorah Jenkins
Contributing Writer

Hazing on college campuses was the subject of a recent awareness seminar titled "Come Out of the Haze."

It was sponsored by Alpha Xi Delta (AXD) and Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) on Oct. 10.

While hazing is not a big issue at Tech, the seminar was necessary "to heighten awareness of hazing," said Glynnis Conlin, member of AXD and coordinator of the event.

Although the seminar was geared primarily towards sorority and fraternity members, members of other organized groups on campus such as the band, FASET and Ramblin' Reck Club, were encouraged to attend in order to, "make all organizations aware of hazing," she said.

Mari Ann Callais was chosen to be the guest speaker at the seminar. She holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Research from Louisiana State University and is also the National President of Theta Phi Alpha.

The seminar began with an acoustic medley performance, which served as an icebreaker and set the precedent for the crowd participation and enthusiasm that supplemented her lecture.

The seminar "would not talk about hazing" specifically, Callais said and instead would "talk more about how it should be."

Volunteers were asked to come to the stage and hold up Greek



By Scott Medway / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Mari Callais speaks at a hazing awareness seminar sponsored by Tau Kappa Epsilon and Alpha Xi Delta on Oct. 10 in the Van Leer

organization banners.

Callais listed some behaviors and asked the volunteers to drop one of their hands if any of the volunteers had done any of these things.

Some of the behaviors included missing a chapter event and skipping class.

When she asked if they had ever spoken negatively of a (fraternity) brother or (sorority) sister, the banners fell to the ground.

The banner fell once again with questions such as, "Have you ever talked negatively of another group?" and "Have you ever drunk underage?"

The volunteers were asked how they felt about it and one participant said that it was "embarrassing."

The fallen banner "reflects how individual actions affect whole chapters and national organizations," she said.

She then went on to ask the audience why they chose to join their fraternity or sorority.

Answers included making friends, partying, networking, fake IDs, brotherhood and leadership opportunities.

However, Callais pointed out that an organization's rituals and values should be one of the top reasons why a person chooses to join.

"When people understand what their organization is about, and the values that were most important to their founders, suddenly these members have clear-cut value-based

guidelines. The path then opens to improve your daily choices, and ultimately, the way you live your life."

This was "living your rituals," she said.

"[Fraternities and sororities] would not have issues with hazing or mismanagement if [they] evaluated [their] behavior by rituals set before [them]."

Callais recounted anecdotes that included a sorority that was hosting a party, the banner for which said, "\$5 All You Can Drink. All Proceeds Go To AA. We Drink For Those Who Can't," and a fraternity that had hosted a party with "Stomp Out Virginity" as the theme.

She then posed the question of whether or not the audience thought the founders of these organizations would be proud of their members, or "would they ask 'Who pledged that idiot?'"

"I think there's so much negativity about how sororities and fraternities are represented, so I think it's good to look at them in a more positive way," said Jeff Burns, member of TKE.

"I think people will re-evaluate their actions after listening to Dr. Callais...All Greek organizations have rituals based on honor and sisterhood or brotherhood," said Mary Frances McKenna, a member of AXD.

"If everyone in the Greek community takes their own rituals as seriously as they can, they will definitely be able to make good decisions and practice good behavior," she said.



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fri. 10.14

12:00	The Longest Yard
2:00	Classic GT Football: 2001 UNC at GT
5:00	TECHtalk
6:00	Somethin' Fresh
6:50	GT Sweat
7:00	Coach Carter
9:30	GTCN Post Game Report
10:00	The Chan Gailey Show
10:30	Classic GT Football: 2001 UNC at GT

sat. 10.15

12:00	Miss Congeniality 2
2:00	The Longest Yard
4:00	Alexander
7:00	Miss Congeniality 2
9:00	Coach Carter
11:30	The Longest Yard

sun. 10.16

12:00	The Longest Yard
2:00	Miss Congeniality 2
4:00	Alexander
7:00	Coach Carter
9:30	The Longest Yard
11:30	Alexander

mon. 10.17

12:00	Coach Carter
2:30	WTF Wrestling
3:00	The Persuaders
5:00	Outlook Video
6:00	Somethin' Fresh
6:50	GT Sweat
7:00	Coach Carter
9:30	GTCN Post Game Report
10:00	Simply Stupid
10:30	Film in Italy

tues. 10.18

12:00	Alexander
3:00	1940's House
6:00	Somethin' Fresh
6:50	GT Sweat
7:00	Coach Carter
9:30	GTCN Post Game Report
10:00	Insert Title Here
10:30	Clips and Quips
11:00	X Corps TV
11:30	Sierra Shorts
12:00	The Damn Show

wed. 10.19

12:00	Miss Congeniality 2
2:00	Get Used To It
3:00	1940's House
6:00	Somethin' Fresh
6:50	GT Sweat
7:00	Coach Carter
9:30	GTCN Post Game Report
10:00	Buzz Videos
11:00	Zilo Network

thurs. 10.20

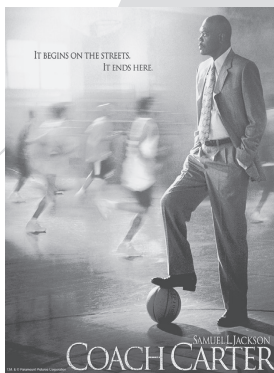
12:00	Coach Carter
3:00	1940's House
6:00	Somethin' Fresh
6:50	GT Sweat
7:00	Coach Carter
9:30	GTCN Post Game Report
10:00	Insert Title Here
10:30	Clips and Quips
11:00	X Corps TV
11:30	Sierra Shorts
12:00	The Damn Show

This Week on GTCN:



CLIPS AND QUIPS: Must See Comedy! This half-hour comedy entertainment program takes a hilarious stab at Hollywood, as well as interviews the hottest stars about their upcoming projects. Tuesday & Thursday 9:30pm

1940's HOUSE: Must See TV on GTCN in October. Ever wonder what it was like to live in the 40's? Find out as a 21st Century family turns back the clock to live in 1940's World War II England. See what life was like then and how it compares to now! Tuesday and Thursday 3:00pm



OCTOBER MOVIES: True-life controversial high school basketball coach Ken Carter (played by Samuel L. Jackson) benched his entire undefeated team because of poor academic performance. What happened next?

GTCN Cinema @ 7 movie: Coach Carter

Coach Carter plays every night at 7PM (Friday 10/7-Thursday 10/13). Watch other GTCN movies this month: Miss Congeniality 2, Alexander, and The Longest Yard.

Get Your School On

GTCN

20

mon, tue. & thurs.

12:00	ECE 4320
1:00	Math 4581
2:00	ME 6222
3:00	ME 6304
4:00	ECE 6250
5:00	MP 6756
6:00	Math 6701
7:00	ECE 6612
9:00	Tutor-Vision
11:00	RHA Weekly (Thursday Only)

wed. & fri.

12:00	ISYE 6202
1:30	ECE 6271
3:00	Math 6514
4:30	ME 6406
6:00	AE 6412
7:30	ISYE 6201
9:00	Tutor-Vision
11:00	SGA Weekly (Wednesday Only)

What do you think about GTCN?

The Georgia Tech Cable Network is conducting a survey to get your feedback. The results of this survey will help us make future programming decisions.

To complete this survey, go to: www.gtcn.gatech.edu

GTCN is your on-campus cable network, so be sure to complete this survey. Your answers could directly effect GTCN programming in the future.

