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TECHNIQUE

"The South's Liveliest College Newspaper"

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F$U is overrated. Of course, we've known that since the third quarter!

SPORTS page 32

George P. Burdell... The man, the mystery, the legend of Tech.

CAMPUS LIFE page 13

Attorneys ask Tech to ban Napster access

Clough received notice Friday from the counsel of Dr. Dre and Metallica; a total of 11 letters were mailed to universities.

By Mary DeCamp
News Staff

The on-going, nation-wide debate over the Internet site Napster hit close to home Friday when President Clough received a letter asking that Tech no longer allow access to the Napster server.

"We believe that the Georgia Institute of Technology has a moral, ethical and legal obligation… to assure that it is not a willing participant in and an enabler of the theft of intellectual property," read the letter sent from attorneys representing Metallica and Dr. Dre.

Napster software provides a server interface for the sharing of MP3 files, which are digitally encoded music files. The crux of the Napster issue focuses on copyright infringement and theft of intellectual property. Metallica and Dr. Dre filed suit in April 2000 against Napster, as well as several universities.

Eleven universities received similar letters last week. Apart from Tech, the schools included Harvard, Columbia, Stanford, UVA, Boston University, MIT, Princeton, University of Michigan, University of California at Berkeley, and UCLA.

Administrators met with a group of student representatives to discuss the letter and the Institute's available options. Those present included Dean of Students Gail DiSabatino, OIT Associate Vice Provost Gordon Wishon, and Randy Nordin, Tech's chief legal counsel.

Nordin informed those present of the situation's legal aspects. If Tech does not com-

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By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Freshman Jason Turner accesses Napster to share files in his Glenn Hall dormitory room. If the administration makes concessions, access to Napster could be banned.

Cyberbuzz introduces Web-based e-mail

By Jody Shaw
Managing Editor

In an answer to student demand, Cyberbuzz recently launched a new Web-based e-mail service that allows students to access their prism accounts from any computer with Internet access.

"Web-based e-mail seemed like this thing that students wanted. One of Matt Mason's policies that he tried to run on [for SGA President] was Web-based e-mail. If someone is going to run their campaign on this, then this is something that needs to be done. We were working on Web-based e-mail already, so we just moved its priority up," said Cyberbuzz administrator Matt Kucic.

The process of creating Web-based e-mail started about nine months ago; Cyberbuzz kicked it into high gear after the spring elections.

"All summer long it's been in the continual refinement phase, and now we've got it up on-line. Two weeks ago we put the link on the main page, but it's been running throughout the summer with a few people testing it and working out the bugs," said Kucic.

The new service offers more than e-mail, such as contact lists, folders to sort incoming mail, and customized signature design.

"We'll look at other features to add in the future. Our biggest thing was just to be able to read mail and send mail. We'll look and see. Maybe students want something different," said Kucic.

Cyberbuzz also includes an alert that instantly notifies users when new mail has been received while they are logged into their account. The system checks for new mail every three hundred seconds, and when received it can be viewed by simply reloading the page.

Individuals wishing to manipulate e-mail from off campus locations are now only a few clicks away from doing so.

"If you're off campus, you do have to have a secured Web browser with 128-bit encryption. On campus it requires security, but not as high," said Kucic.

No prior setup is needed to

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Football Tech v. F$U

By Alisa Hawkins / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Wreck drives by and a cheerleader waves the white and gold GT flag during Saturday's face-off with Florida State.

U.S. News ranks Tech as 8th best public university

By Kim Holton
News Staff

Last week, *U.S. News and World Report* released the annual rankings of the nation's top universities and colleges. Once again, Georgia Tech ranked in the top 50.

In the category of best national universities, Tech rose from number 40 last year to number 35 in the new polls. In the area of best public colleges, Tech rose two places form tenth to eighth.

The Dupree College of Management placed 26th among the nation's best business departments.

Within the category of best undergraduate engineering departments with doctoral programs, Civil Engineering was fourth, Aerospace Engineering was second, Chemical Engineering was 14th, and Computer Engineering ranked ninth, in their respective categories.

In addition, Tech was the only non-comprehensive university scoring in the top rankings.

The overall ranking system used to determine the *U.S. News* rankings rests on two pillars. First, it relies on quantitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality. Second, the rankings are based on nonpartisan views of what is valuable in a college education.

The method used to rank colleges and universities consists of three basic steps.

Mission and region categorize the colleges, and data is gathered from each on up to 16 indicators of academic excellence. Factors include academic reputation, student retention, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, expected graduation rate, and alumni giving rate.

Each factor is assigned a weight that reflects judgment about how significant each measure is to education experts. Finally, the colleges in each category are ranked against their peers, based on their composite weighted score. The ranks of the top schools are published and the others are grouped onto tiers.

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Stricter enforcement by parking leads to more tickets, towing

By Tony Kluemper
News Staff

With the revelation that the number of parking tickets has increased this semester in comparison to years past, some students have begun to wonder how the policies on ticketing and towing will affect their parking habits.

"The policies really haven't changed much since last year, but instead this year we have increased the enforcement crew," said Parking and Transportation Assistant Director Allen Corry.

"Because of this increase in staff, the rules and regulations are being better enforced."

Since the first day of classes a little less than a month ago, Parking and Transportation has written over five thousand tickets and impounded or immobilized over 359 vehicles of students, faculty, and visitors. These statistics indicate a significant increase from last year's statistics a month into Fall Semester.

"Because the rules are better enforced, more tickets are being written," said Corry.

"Therefore, although there are more tickets being written, it is being done to benefit those who have paid for the parking permits and registered their vehicles."

Student opinion on parking varies. Some students support the policies and their enforcement, whereas other students feel that the system needs improvement.

"I feel that the system of ticketing at Georgia Tech is overall satisfactory because it is helping those of us who actually have permits," junior Bryan Fleet said.

"However, I think at times the system is unfair because it does not notify students of the changes in parking zones that take place."

Alternately, many students disagree with the policy system in place, saying that the department of Parking and Transportation is writing excessive amounts of tickets. Some students argue that many of the tickets being written at various times are un-

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Tickets

from page 1

needed, unwarranted, and written in error.

"I have been parking in the A27 lot behind the aquatic center for two years and I usually haven't had too many problems, but this year the enforcement crews have been under the impression that it is an R03 lot and have ticketed me two times in the past two weeks," said senior Chris McKinney.

McKinney is not alone in his disagreement with some of the policies of Parking. Sophomore Kip Drexler believes that many times the policies are not defined clearly enough by the department.

"I have a motorcycle on campus, and I called up here at the beginning of the year to see if I needed to register it, and I was told that I didn't need too," said Drexler.

"Then, this morning I come out of my dorm and find that I have been ticketed for not having it registered. I think that something needs to be done to better communicate the policies to the students."

In addition to unwarranted ticketing, Fleet feels that many times parking policies target visitors to campus.

"A couple of weekends ago, one of my friends had her car parked in a zone that she wasn't allowed to park in and was given a ticket which she deserved," said Fleet.

"But then, she was given a second ticket less than twelve hours later, at two in the morning, which I feel is a little unfair considering she the short time difference."

Although not all students agree with the current policy, Corry feels that students can avoid tickets simply by following the guidelines and policies set forth by the Parking and Transportation Department.

"It is those students who try to take chances and park illegally that get the tickets and the fines that come with them," Corry said.

"Upperclassmen must also realize that even though they got away with something in years past, it doesn't mean they are going to get away with it now that we have better enforcement of the policies and regulations."

As far as future plans for parking, Corry has at least one short-term goal for the ticketing process and parking enforcement around campus.

"I want to make sure that we, as a department, are consistent in following the policies and procedures we have set forth," said Corry.

Although stricter enforcement helps reduce illegally parked cars, Systems Support Manager Peter Lange believes that the problem with parking is not going to disappear overnight.

"The main problem with parking on this campus is that we have more people that want spaces than there are spaces available, and therefore not everyone will get what they want," said Lange. "We would love to give everyone a parking space right outside their dorm, but that isn't possible. Therefore, we must realize that this ticketing process is not there to punish the students, but instead it is used to help those students who have legally purchased a parking permit for on-campus parking."

By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

A car is towed outside of Bobby Dodd Stadium. Stricter enforcement of parking policy has led to a greater amount of ticketing, towing, and immobilization of vehicles than the campus saw in previous semesters.

Also in this issue...

That is not a mouse ball. Mice have much smaller balls.

News briefs

Student Government Association open house

The Student Government Association will host an open house for all students on September 19 from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Student Services Building, room 117.

Guests will learn about student government and opportunities to become involved in campus leadership. Complimentary refreshments will be offered to all attendees.

GA General Assembly announces internship program

Applications are now available for the Georgia Legislative Internship Program, an opportunity for students to intern at the Georgia General Assembly during Spring Semester 2001

Responsibilities include doing research on bills or issues before the General Assembly, working with a legislative committee, interacting with lobbyists and constituents, and monitoring the progress of legislation.

Students from all majors are eligible and invited to apply; about six Tech students have been selected each year.

A stipend is paid and course credit is earned through the School of Public Policy. Interns must have obtained at least junior status by the time of their internship, and they must be legal residents of Georgia.

Application materials can be obtained from Carmen Williams, undergraduate coordinator for the School of Public Policy, in 107 D M Smith (404-385-0513). The faculty coordinator for the internship program is Dr. Gordon Kingsley (894-0454).

The application deadline is October 13, 2000 for internships beginning January 2001.

Design competition seeks student participants

The Institute for Sustainable Technology and Development is holding a planning meeting on Wednesday, September 27, at 11:00 a.m. to explore participation in a design competition for the next generation of solar-powered and energy-efficient homes. Undergraduate and graduate students from all colleges and disciplines are encouraged to attend.

The Solar Decathlon is a joint project of the U.S. Department of Energy, private-sector sponsors and supporters, and teams composed of U.S. college students.

Each student team will be challenged to design a prototype home within a given set of size and cost constraints. In August 2001 each team will build its prototype on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., for a one-week display.

The team of students will be supported by a group of faculty advisors. The meeting will be held in the Student Center, room 319. Lunch will be provided for participants.

Got news? Announcements? E-mail news@technique

Council Clippings UHR

UHR passes bills on Physics quizzes, formal

By Shala Sundaram
News Staff

The highlight of the Council meeting on Tuesday, September 12, was a presentation by guest speakers from Student Planning. They spoke on SGA's involvement in plans for a successful community, presenting goals and action steps, and providing key concerns to the legislative body through a slide show.

Several bills raised representatives' concern at the meeting. One passing resolution regarded the Physics professors' enactment of an unscheduled Monday night quiz session.

Students in Physics 2211 must attend lectures four times a week and additionally be present at the evening quiz sessions. Many students were not aware that they could schedule an alternate testing time.

Several financial bills also passed on Tuesday, including bills for a campus-wide Homecoming formal sponsored by RHA and Team Buzz.

By Andrew Pae / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Chris Young addresses representatives at Tuesday's Undergraduate House meeting. UHR convenes weekly; meetings are open to students.

David Moeller, Executive Vice President, spoke on his work with the Joint Commission on the Enhancement of Undergraduate Learning (JCEUL). A core group of ambassadors and 24 faculty and administration members will meet three times within the next two months to address topics on a Teaching Assistant training program, midterm grade evaluations, and in-depth course and teaching evaluations. Moeller's goal is to gain a better awareness around campus of teaching and learning in progress.

President J.R. Spriggle spoke on the use of the new Web-based e-mail accessible through Cyberbuzz. (www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu)

"By using this e-mail, I have gotten rid of all my other outside e-mail accounts. It really does make things easier," said Spriggle.

The Undergraduate Student Council meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Room 117 of the Smithgall Student Services Building. All students are welcome to attend and are encouraged to contact their class and major representatives concerning issues before the Council.

Computer addiction can cause depression, isolation

Wendy Voget
News Staff

Excessive computer use, although a common component of Tech life, may be an indicator of deeper problems and an underlying computer addiction.

Psychologists differ in opinion about what causes computer addiction and how frequently it occurs in society, but they agree that the addiction bears common symptoms.

Like many disorders, computer addicts show both psychological and physical symptoms. Dr. Maressa Hecht Orzack, a psychologist who has treated addictive behaviors at McLean Hospital and who is a member of the Harvard Medical School faculty, has identified a list of common indicators for computer addiction. The following list was compiled from the *Harvard Gazette*, January 21, 1999.

Use of the computer for pleasure, gratification, and stress-relief, as well as feelings of depression and irritability when away from the computer may indicate a computer use addiction. Also, neglecting work, school, and social activities in favor of computer time or sacrificing sleep for computer use can be symptoms of excessive use.

While diagnosable cases of computer addiction are relatively rare and found in under ten percent of the college population, many students exhibit one or more symp-

*See **Addiction,** page 5*

Jody, where are my sliver boxes supposed to come from when you go home early?

Napster

from page 1

ply with the artists' requests to limit Napster access, a future lawsuit could result.

"At some schools that have been sued, individual students have also been named as defendants," said Nordin.

According to Wishon, "when a user connects to the Napster server and offers to make available music from his or her machine or searches for and subsequently downloads music on his or her machine, an entry is made recording the IP address."

The artists' attorneys claim that they have compiled an IP address list of approximately 350,000 individual user names across the country.

Infringement upon student First Amendment rights is one concern administrators encountered when discussing the possible ban. Legal counsel is conducting research to determine if the ban is unconstitutional. Moreover, OIT has not developed a viable method of blocking Napster access on the campus system.

Although OIT could regulate bandwidth to prevent access, such a limitation would affect areas of Internet usage other than MP3 sharing.

Grant Jenman, Graduate Student Body President, presented an opinion that Napster may have research potential; blocking access could limit research opportunities for graduate students.

> "The Graduate Student Body opposes blocking Napster."
>
> **Grant Jenman**
> Graduate President

"The Graduate Student Body opposes blocking Napster," said Jenman.

Amar Chanani, RHA President, pointed out that students living off-campus would continue to have access even if on-campus access were blocked. Students living on campus pay for unrestricted Internet access; limiting access to certain parts of the Internet could raise questions as to the value of purchasing this access.

"We need to remember that Georgia Tech is willing to put its name on the line for this issue," said J.R. Spriggle, Undergraduate Student Body President, referring to the initiative of the Tech community to investigate all possible means of resolving the matter.

At the time of publication, no final decision had been made as to whether or not OIT will work towards banning Napster. Tech is taking a passive stance as an Internet provider.

Regardless of the outcome of the case, Wishon clarified that an Institute policy exists prohibiting actions such as pirating software and other illegal practices involving Internet usage.

Submit opinions on the Napster issue and what course Tech should take to opinions@technique.gatech.edu

Campus Events Career Fair

By John Jewell / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

In the halls of the Coliseum, a recruiter from Deloitte Consulting speaks with student Soo Kim as Tech alum Eric Bostic looks on.

E-mail

from page 1

check e-mail via the Web. Once the Office of Information Technology (OIT) has activated a student's prism account, the account can be accessed through the Cyberbuzz server.

Though OIT is responsible the activation of accounts, the office is not responsible for any problems encountered by using the service; Cyberbuzz provides its own technical support. Other student accounts may be made available through the service in the future, but that decision is left to individual administrators.

To connect to Web based e-mail, access the Cyberbuzz homepage at www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu and click on the link titled "CB Web E-mail."

Users can then log in with their and select the server they wish to be connected to. Once the "Login" button is clicked, the student's e-mail becomes instantly available through the Web.

"It works just like any other Outlook or Netscape where it connects up to the mail server, gets your message, and displays it on the screen for you to read. It builds that e-mail into a Web page and displays it to your screen. We never hold the e-mail or any of that stuff," said Kucic.

The mail remains available on the server for later access from a personal computer.

Web-based e-mail is just one of the many services provided by Cyberbuzz. "Basically, the goal was to help provide computer services to students that OIT might not implement…it was three people in the beginning, and now we're changing all the time. It's all volunteer work," said Kucic.

The group is currently developing an interactive calendar for student organizations, and it will begin looking at name aliases for prism mail in the near future.

Rankings

from page 1

In recent years, the reliability of the *U.S. News and World Report* ranking methodology has been called into question.

Barbara Hall, the Associate Vice-President of Enrollment Services, believes that the rankings should be viewed through the lens of the individual components.

"While we like the 'bragging rights' that positive standing in the rankings give us, I would hope that prospective students do not make their decisions as to where they will attend college based upon rankings," said Hall.

"Rankings use the same evaluative measures for all institutions and do not take into consideration the unique characteristics of the institution and its students."

"Rankings simply select a set of characteristics which the designers of the rankings have determined are appropriate measures of the 'worth' of an institution; these characteristics are then quantified, making the rankings appear objective."

"The fact remains, however, that the choice of characteristics evaluated is subjective and, therefore, open to debate."

Jessica Walden, a freshman Mechanical Engineering major, spoke similarly on the role of university rankings.

"When I looked for colleges to attend, the *U.S. News and World Reports* ranking caught my attention. I was actually considering U[sic]GA," said Walden. "However, I went to Connect with Tech and my own judgments. Tech just felt right to me."

> "When I began my college search, my parents and I wanted the best of the best. Tech fit that mold."
>
> **Kristina Hamill**
> First-year Architecture student

Kristina Hamill, a freshman Architecture major, offered a contrasting perspective.

"When I began my college search, my parents and I wanted the best of the best. Tech fit that mold considering it is a tier one school," said Hamill.

With the debates over university rankings, a clear picture of Tech's performance may be difficult to discern. Sandi Bramblett, the head of Institutional Research & Planning (IRP) and the administrator responsible for submitting statistics for national rankings, offered the following statistics.

Tech improved in overall score by six points.

Reputation rose compared to last year, and predicted graduation rate improved by two percent. Selectivity ranks rose from 43 to 38, partly due to a smaller accepted freshman class.

In the category of percentage of freshmen in top 10% of high school class, Tech was able to report a number for this year's rankings. In previous years, that figure was unreported; the Institute does not track class rank because it does not factor in the admissions process.

Last year, IRP devoted time to examining individual student files and recording the class rank information where it was available. It was reported that 60% of last year's freshman class was in the top tenth of their high school class.

Concrete evidence of programs or processes that directly impacted ranking improvements remains elusive.

However, Vice Provost Robert McMath offered a tentative explanation.

"A few years ago, President Clough took notice of the way in which our relatively low rates of retaining and graduating undergraduates was hurting our rankings [relatively low against predicted rates]," said McMath.

"His reflections on that led directly to the initiative he has launched on improving the teaching and learning environment at Tech."

"While it's too early to say that this initiative explains this year's ratings, concern about our retention and graduation rates are a major factor in the initiatives he will be announcing at his State of the Institute address in October."

"Ratings like this are only one indicator of how well we are doing, but they certainly have the effect of focusing the attention of the administration and faculty on the quality of teaching and learning."

Addiction

from page 3

toms of the addiction, especially at universities where required computer use is high.

"Computers interfere with my sleep. I've lost hours of sleep when I've been on the computer," freshmen Andrew Hyder said.

Describing symptoms of the addiction is easier than pinpointing its causes, say psychologists. Contrary to popular belief, people who are dependent on computers are not all shy, socially inept, or "geeks." Dr. Michael Fenichel, a psychologist who has treated people claiming to have "Internet addiction," feels that a reliance on computers is caused by feedback from the net, the behavioral reinforcement which comes from e-mail and chat contacts, and the opportunity to repress or release aggressive or sexual impulses.

Many Tech students spend hours on the computer to do Internet research, take quizzes, or type reports. This level of usage, added to the amount of time spent playing computer games or talking to friends and relatives on-line, can monopolize a large portion of time.

Some students did not even own computers before coming to Tech, but were required to purchase one due to the Student Computer Ownership Initiative.

"I can understand how students coming to Tech can form computer addictions," said freshman Management major Kim Holton.

"Before I came to Tech, I used my computer once or twice a week. Now I use it four or five hours a day and can't seem to get away from it."

"Five of my six classes require the use of a computer, and after I've finished the required assignments, I always seem to find something that catches my attention and holds me to my computer."

Computers are a central part of most course work at Tech, but students in certain majors may be required to complete a larger amount of work involving computers.

"I'm a Computer Science major. I need a computer to do my homework," said Greg Slemons, who admits to using a computer for six hours a day.

People who feel that they cannot control their computer use can seek professional help, either through counseling services or support groups. The Georgia Tech Counseling Center offers help for students with a variety of problems, such as depression and lack of social involvement, both symptoms that can be related to excessive computer use.

If you jump, don't hit my car. That doesn't even rhyme!