FOCUS

Technique • Friday, September 14, 2007

NOTHING BUT NET

Tech will face three non-conference teams at the Nike Michigan Invitational this weekend in Ann Arbor, Michigan. **Page 34**

SHOOT 'EM UP!

Clive Owen (alongside Paul Giamatti and Monica Belluci) finds himself protecting a newborn child in this new action-packed film. **Page 22**

Students attend 28th annual Career Fair

By Hanjie Song / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

By Kristina Self
Contributing Writer

Trading the traditional classroom attire of t-shirts, jeans and flip-flops for suits and business attire, students across campus prepared for the career fair. Between 2,400 and 2,600 of Tech's industrious students fell in line each day at Tech's twenty-eighth annual Career Fair, waiting for a shot to create a lasting impression with one or more of 1,000 recruiters representing over 400 companies.

Hosted by the Career Services Department, the Career Fair took place on Monday, September 10 and Tuesday, September 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Alexander Memorial Coliseum, providing students a glimpse into the recruitment process of the career world and a chance to establish connections with potential employers. The Career Fair's purpose is to provide students and alumni the opportunity to learn about available jobs in the work force, explore career options and begin a career network.

"The Career Fair is the kickoff to the job recruitment season, which starts around late September or early October. It provides momentum for both students seeking jobs and the companies eager to employ some of the nation's finest," said Charlie Warendh, Career Fair Team Chairman.

"It gives students a chance to learn about the

See **Career**, page 17

Active Minds educates students

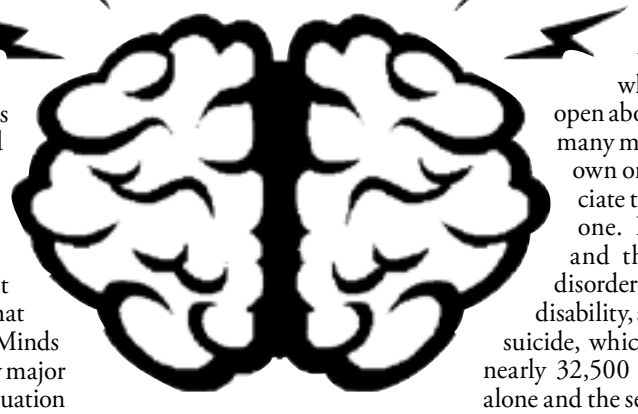
By Hamza Hasan
Contributing Writer

A new organization called Active Minds was brought to Tech campus over the summer. Active Minds is a national, non-profit organization made for the distribution of resources and awareness for mental health in the college environment. The Tech chapter is among over seventy different locations across America.

While some people may wonder why Tech, a school known for its intellectual prestige, would need a group that provides tools to deal with mental health issues, many would also be surprised to know that six percent of the population (1 in 17), has a serious mental disorder and that one in four people is at least diagnosable for all types of mental illnesses, according to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). It is to no one's astonishment that the president of Tech's Active Minds chapter, second-year Biology major Christina Graves, finds the situation to be detrimental, and is concerned about how few people have any real knowledge about mental health.

"One of the biggest things is that there's such a stigma around mental health," Graves said, when asked about the purpose for the group. According to the national Active Minds website (www.activemindsoncampus.org), this occurs because people 18 to 24 years of age, the typical age for university-level students, show the most prevalence for being diagnosed with the disease. "People just haven't been exposed [to mental health data]…people don't know," Graves said.

Active Minds was started in 2001 by a University of Pennsylvania freshman named Allison Malmon. She began the organization with the name "Open Minds" following the death of her brother and the realization of how little people know about mental disorders. Soon after, Kate Hood started a group called "Active Minds," and both eventually came together to form Active Minds, Inc. in 2003.



Ever since then, the organization has spread to various parts of the country to inform people of the reality of the situation. "Society has a lot of misconceptions," Graves said. Indeed—according to Active Minds, Inc., "University counseling centers are overwhelmed by the combination of high demand and constrained budgets, and many have had to cut their outreach programs."

In a college environment, students find themselves constantly burdened by the strenuous amount of work, and these students can quickly become disaffected by that. This fact may be more prevalent around women, according to Graves.

"Judging by an evaluation of my peers, there seems to be a push to be well-rounded among women," Graves said. This circumstance is particularly dangerous since NIMH has found that women are more likely to develop major depressive disorders than men.

Another issue that exacerbates the condition is that while some people feel open about mental illnesses, many more either hide their own or do not fully appreciate the gravity of having one. Bottling emotions and thoughts of serious disorders can lead to chronic disability, and in extreme cases suicide, which is responsible for nearly 32,500 deaths in the U.S. alone and the second leading cause of death among college students.

In terms that Tech students can grasp, the Institute, standing at about 10,000 undergraduates, will lose one student among them to suicide this year, according to NIMH. Active Minds has promoted the counseling and treatment of such illnesses, especially because the organizations

See **Minds**, page 20

Tech students participate in '07 Engineering Expo

By Jonathan Saethang
Focus Editor

Last Friday, Sept.7, the first annual Engineering Expo was held on Skiles Walkway. The Expo was not a typical career or job fair like the name may imply. Rather, the Engineering Expo is a showcase of the engineering honor and professional societies on campus.

Although Tech is best known for its engineering programs, many engineering students are unaware of the organizational opportunities that exist for them. Kyle Schwing, the Executive Vice President of Tau Beta Pi (an engineering honor society) was one of the planners involved with the Engineering Expo.

"The Engineering Expo was established to exhibit engineering honor and professional societies on campus and to raise morale by celebrating engineers and the work that they do," Schwing said.

> "The Engineering Expo was established to exhibit engineering honor... and to raise morale by celebrating engineers and the work that they do.
>
> **Kyle Schwing**
> Executive VP, Tau Beta Pi

According to Tau Beta Pi, at least 800 Tech students were able to participate in the day's festivities.

The Expo was organized by the Engineering Council, a body founded last spring to encourage collaboration and communication among the many engineering honor and professional societies on campus. The Engineering Council itself arranged to have the space and resources available. For this event, the ROTC branches of all three services joined the Engineering Council to promote opportunities for engineers within the military.

Tau Beta Pi, the Engineering Honor Society, sponsored free snow cones and cotton candy. Thirteen student organizations participated in the Expo; about 25 organizations sits on the Engineering Council.

Each organization was respon-

See **Expo**, page 16

Honors Program embarks on first annual retreat

By Ben Keyserling / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Students climb trees near the campsite using harnesses and special equipment supplied by the Southeast Tree Climbers Association.

By Supriya Ghorpade
Contributing Writer

The Honors Program, which was once little to be heard of outside of a select group of students residing in the Howell dormitory, is now breaking its barriers and coming out into the public. More and more popularity is growing from this program because, unlike most universities, it is run completely by the students.

One Honors committee recently hosted the first annual weekend retreat as a way to welcome incoming freshmen. These students represent a new class that will be led by mainly sophomore students. Everyone new to the Honors Program was encouraged to attend.

"About three-quarters of Honors students attended the retreat," said Will Boyd, second year Physics major.

"We ended up taking a total of 90 students, and we spent an entire day at the retreat center in 32 cabins next to a lake," Boyd said.

Freshmen were taken to Roosevelt Park outside Pine Mountain in Warm Springs, Georgia for a weekend full of bonding activities. The events took place from Saturday morning to Sunday afternoon. It was a chance to get off campus away from all distractions.

"It has shown that if you get to know the student very well outside campus, students are more likely to study together and bond better," said Dr. Monica Halka, assistant director of the Honors Program.

Afternoon activities involved all students and faculty members. Each individual had a choice to participate in one of four adventure tracks. There was a four mile hike around the Franklin Delano Roosevelt state park, tree climbing with the Southeast Tree Climbers association, an outdoor service project with the Pine Mountain Trail association and a leadership-related team building activity.

"All of the sophomores organized a welcome skit," said Sydney Shaffer, said Sydney Shaffer, a second-year Chemical Engineering major. The retreat did not go shy of excitement and screaming. Students were re-energized with many activities to build self-esteem and leadership skills.

> "It has shown that if you get to know the student very well outside of campus, students are more likely to...bond better,"
>
> **Dr. Monica Halka**
> Assistant Director, Honors Program

"It ran a lot smoother than I was expecting...we had great help from the fourteen other sophomores that pumped the students," Shaffer said.

Boyd also stressed that the Honors Program is still in its early stages, and that faculty members want it to be run by and for the students.

"We wanted to provide a common experience for all of the students...a foundation of experience that would enhance the learning community," Boyd said.

"The costs were renting the camp, dining hall, transportation, food and any costs accountable for the adventure track, but every student was able to attend with free admission," Boyd said. All other expenses were taken out of the Student Challenge fund and everything was successfully spent under budget.

Sophomore leaders Will Boyd, Sydney Shaffer, Matha Lesniewski and Ben Johnson came up with idea last Spring. Initially, the idea started last April. These students had to submit a proposal to the Honors office and then implement the plan during the summer.

"We had some speakers, faculty, and staff members involved," Boyd said.

Guest speakers included Dr. Ingrid Hayes, director of Admissions, Dr. Joseph Hughes, professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering department and Dr. Phil Thompson, director of the LEAD program.

After carefully laying out the schedule and determining logistics for the retreat weekend, the committee began to seek other sophomores who might be interested in acting as retreat leaders. Fourteen other sophomore Honors Program students volunteered to attend the retreat as well to facilitate activities during the weekend.

Perhaps the most difficult challenge facing the retreat committee

See **Honors**, page 20

Student named honorary chair for Hands on Atlanta

By Aileen Li
Staff Writer

Tech's motto says "progress and service." Consequently, Tech students constantly try to find ways to give back to their community. For example, last spring, many student organizations traveled to the corners of the world to make a difference in developing countries.

Also, each week, students participate in volunteering services such as Hands on Atlanta, tutoring and other community service events across Atlanta.

Recently, Lauren Miller, a fourth-year Management major, was selected as the Honorary Chair of Hands on Atlanta.

Hands on Atlanta (HOA) is one of the largest community service initiatives in the country.

Founded in 1989, HOA now offers more than 1,000 service opportunities to volunteers each month.

Some of the ongoing service projects include AIDS Support Services, Animal Support, Family and Women's Services and Homelessness and Meal Service.

While countless students at Tech have volunteered with one program or another, not many share Miller's continuous desire to give back to the community through volunteering.

"I have always believed that volunteering is a responsibility that each of us has to our community. We all have been blessed beyond what we deserve, and it's important to share some of those blessings with others," Miller said.

Miller says she has been a volunteer all her life. From mentoring children, building houses to cleaning parks, she has done it all.

> "I have always believed that volunteering is a responsibility that each of us has to our community..."
>
> **Lauren Miller**
> **Honorary Chair, Hands on Atlanta**

"When I was younger, my family would volunteer with various shelters, so I guess that's where my volunteering began," Miller said.

With this passion, Miller, like many Tech faculty and students, makes time in her busy schedule to volunteer with HOA as often as possible.

"I enjoy volunteering because I have fun doing the service activities that I participate in. I walk away with a sense that I have fulfilled a need, and I get an opportunity to step away from my daily activities, making me appreciate them more when I return to my routine," Miller said.

However, to Miller, volunteering becomes difficult when she comes face to face with the sadness of the projects.

"It's one thing to see or experience something that bothers you and be driven to action by it, but it is difficult when the sadness of a situation affects your peace," Miller said.

However, the rewards of volunteering overcomes the difficulties when Miller finds herself side by side with other volunteers, making a difference in people's lives.

"I've been an avid volunteer with HOA for more years than I can count, and I truly believe that service is an obligation we all have. Seeing hundreds of people volunteering on a Saturday morning and all working for one cause—to better Atlanta in whatever way they can—is one of the most rewarding experiences [I have had with HOA]."


By Michael Skinner /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Billiee Pendleton-Parker, the associate director of Tech's President's Scholarship Program as well as the Chair of HOA's Volunteer Leadership Council, who has served with HOA for many years, feels the same way.

"Some of my most rewarding experiences have ranged from serving for years as a project coordinator for an ongoing project with rousing games of bingo at a senior facility, to coordinating the videotaping by GT students of folks who knew/worked with Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King as a Martin Luther King Summit Day service project, to learning to clean hard-drives and install software," Pendleton-Parker said.

According to Pendleton-Parker, there is something at HOA for everyone.

"The folks at HOA like for all their volunteers to attend a one-hour orientation, which can be provided on campus, if that better suits the needs of students. You can serve as volunteers and/or as project coordinators for many

See **Hands**, page 18

Have an interesting story idea? Let us know.

focus@technique.gatech.edu

sliver

www.nique.net/sliver

I want to suck twin cantilevered beams
wow.. I actually liked emily today. She repeated "like...such as" completely oblivious of her sweet carolina kin
i wish I could grow a vagina in the side of my hand
Wake me up when September ends...
I really need to stop walking around naked with the blinds open....
Who would have thought that after 2 years I would figure out East is actually so much better than West campus...
HEVYHED on the web
i wikipedia-ed wikipedia...how perverse
apparently, i'm the resident running ben on campus
why do I always forget to submit slivers until Thursday??
why didn't the college republicans have a table at FASET? I had to sign up with the Democrats
Freshman Girls: I get older; they stay the same age
manatees have a low pain tolerance, but at least they're the only mammals not frightened by threats of terrorism
dear kid that wears hiking shirts all the time: when you're not on the trail but sitting next to me in the Mason building, take a friggin shower
I'm ready for the Halloween parties on the Hamptons
ROCKETSAUCE!!!!
my roommate is half jewish and half mormon...what do I make fun of him for first?
do the males on the elliptical machines at the CRC realize they look retarded?
i have a vague suspiscion that 95% of sliver entries are posted by 3-6 people...and I'm one of them
Bopsuck - I'm SICK of chalk advertisements!!!!
You knew this message was for you because of your midget legs and your hobo hats.
To my grad student... you're amazing <3
I think the students in my lab section have no idea what's going on...
its been so long since ive had sex ive forgotten who ties up who
can someone teach my TA engrish

See **Stress**, page 21

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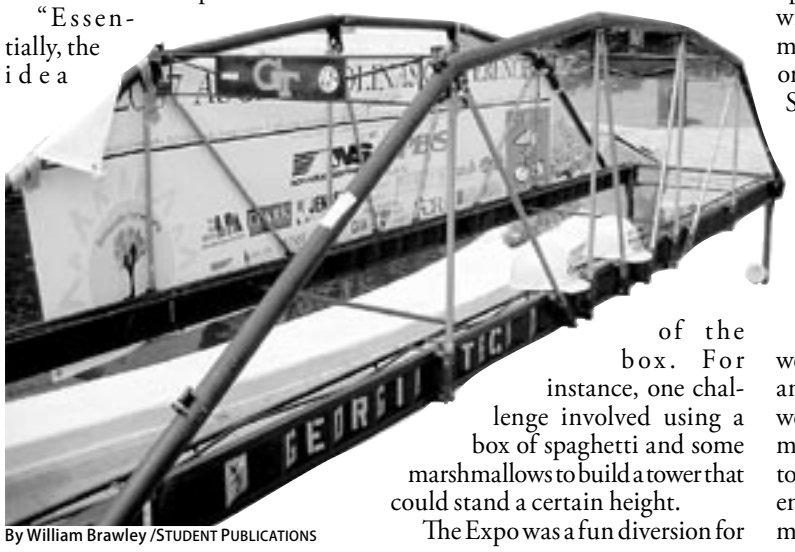
Expo

from page 13

sible for hosting a booth, both to represent itself and to provide a fun activity where students could play a quick engineering-related game to win freebies like a t-shirt, gift certificate or other prizes.

"Essentially, the idea was to put a little bit of that 'wow' factor back in your approach to science and engineering that you felt while watching something like The Magic School Bus as a kid," Schwing said.

Activities included problem-solving methods that required students to think out of the box. For instance, one challenge involved using a box of spaghetti and some marshmallows to build a tower that could stand a certain height.



By William Brawley /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Expo was a fun diversion for Tech students, but the activities did indeed serve another purpose.

"The Expo increases awareness of the many support organizations that exist for engineering students. This promotion encourages students to join their respective honor and professional societies, whether it for job opportunities, a chance to network within their discipline and department, fellowship and camaraderie, or just to be a Hell of an Engineer," Schwing said.

This year marked the inaugural year of the Engineering Expo. However, the hope is to expand the Expo over the next few years, as well as to allow other categories of students and people to attend.

"This was the first Expo, and we would like to make the event an annual occurrence. In the future we will have local high school and middle school students visit in order to promote a career or education in engineering, science, technology or mathematics," Schwing said.

By William Brawley /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Students use their problem solving skills to make a spaghetti and marshmallow tower during the Engineering Expo on Skiles.

Congratulations to Alpha Gamma Delta's 2007 New Member Class!

Susan Ali
Stephanie Berger
Katherine Boone
Lindsey Bray
Claire Campbell
Michelle Deem
Mary Courtney Delvin
Rebecca Donovan
Jennifer Drinkard
Staci Feigenberg
Sonia Golemme
Carrie Handell
Jessica Harpe
Megan Harris
Caitlin Henegar
Bekah Hogue
Jessie Houston
Cyndi Jackson
Rachel Jacob
Julie Kent
Lauren Kim
Katherine King
Ryann Kopacka
Ashley Kunkle
Jordan Leary
Christina Lee
Hannah Lee
Samantha Lee
Jenifer Lewis
Sarah Marie Maddox
Molly McCarthy
Marie Miller
April Nash
Kayla Novembre
Laura Ramirez
Courtney Robinson
Jennifer Sessoms
Julia Sibert
Lina Skandalakis
Melanie Stam
Sarabeth Steve
Kelly Stiegel
Lindsey Sweetnich
Bianca Whitten
Brittany Zimmerly

Come to the Photo staff meetings .. Thursday at 6 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building

Career

from page 13

companies and companies the chance to learn about the students. Most importantly, students actively pursuing a job can present themselves and increase their chances of name recognition among those hiring," Warendh said.

The ten-member Career Fair Team shoulders the responsibility for organizing this momentous event. This student-led organization begins planning all aspects of the fair in late May, organizing all details throughout the summer until the culmination of the event in September.

Mainly responsible for scouting companies, the Career Fair Team contacts numerous companies during the early planning stages and adds contacts to its database for future reference as the company recruitment process continues.

An explosion in the demand for jobs combined with Tech's unwavering reputation and consistent climb in rankings accounts for the large growth of companies desiring to recruit at the Career Fair. The number of participating companies nearly doubled in the last four years.

In 2003, approximately 250 companies participated in the Career Fair. This year, however, 440 came to seek Tech students. Typically, meeting the participant quota for the Career Fair takes close to three and a half months, but the spots for this year's fair filled within three weeks of the registration date.

Highly publicized and well-recognized companies such as Google and Microsoft debuted at the fair this year, and lesser known local and regional companies had the chance to introduce themselves to potential employees.

Each company that registered was assigned a booth located in the atrium of the coliseum or in the center of the arena. To allow as many companies as possible to participate in the career fair, potential employers were allowed a booth on only one of the days.

Traditionally, booths only lined the upper floor. Because of the surge in corporate participants, the Career Fair expanded down to the coliseum floor for the first time. To accommodate the vast number of companies, Institute President G. Wayne Clough worked with the Career Fair Team and Career Services to accommodate the number of participants and to utilize the Coliseum. To the benefit of all job-seeking students, not a single company that applied for a slot was refused entry.

"Tech hosts the largest student Career Fair in the nation. This year's fair is the largest that Tech has ever had, surpassing its own and all those at other schools," Warendh said.

> "This year's [Career Fair] is the largest that Tech has ever had, surpassing its own and all those at other schools..."
>
> **Charlie Warendh**
> Career Fair Team Chairman

Although upperclassmen and graduate students typically make the most of these opportune days, Career Services encouraged and welcomed every Tech student—undergraduate and graduate—as well as alumni. Seniority did not factor into entrance at the Career Fair. All who came were admitted upon presenting their BuzzCards.

Employment opportunities encompassed all majors, from International Affairs and Modern Languages to the currently most demanded majors of Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Industrial Engineering. Companies presented positions of all types, including cooperative jobs, internships and entry-level jobs. The number of available positions per employer ranged from one to "unlimited."

"The Tech Career Fair is a very important testing ground. This is Wachovia's first year participating in the Tech Career Fair. The need for college graduates has increased 400 percent. We recognize that they are the future of our organization, so we attack the best colleges," said Tom Lamendola, Wachovia College Recruiting Manager.

Although Wachovia is one of the few companies that did not accept resumes at the Career Fair, its recruiters consider those that show interest seriously. For Wachovia like for any other company, a student who creates a positive memorable impression within the first ten to fifteen seconds has a greater chance of being contacted by the company for an interview after completing the online job application.

"We want to increase [co-op students'] breadth of experience. We rotate them among different departments. By the time of graduation, co-ops are experienced in three or four different areas," said Therese A. Dean, recruiter for Crowder Construction Company.

"Our ultimate goal is for co-op students to continue jobs with the company after graduation. We bring them in young, and cultivate them. We want to see their growth from the beginning of their work to graduation," Dean said.

Multiple lines for notables such as NASA, 3M, Intel, Google and Microsoft stretched along a lengthy portion of the coliseum's atrium, but smaller, less recognized companies often had comparable job offers. Atlanta-based technological company Stradis hires many Tech graduates and seeks to hire more in the future.

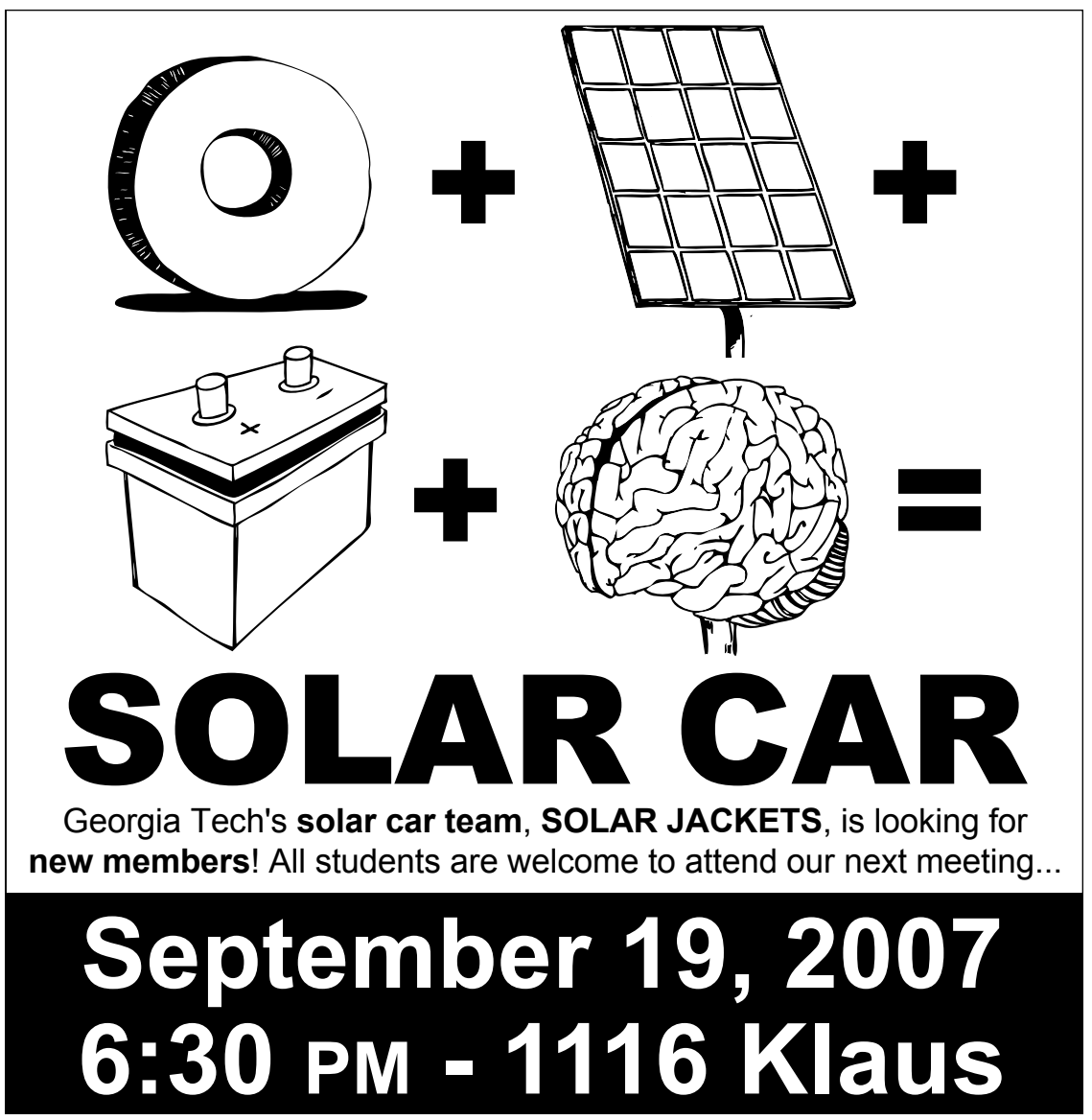
"As a smaller company, we definitely notice that students seem more interested in larger companies. In our case, the benefit of approaching a smaller company is crucial—you deal directly with the people making the decisions and whom you will be working with. If the students recognize the smaller companies, they'd realize that they offer generous, competitive offers compared to larger companies," said Adam Preble, a Stradis recruiter.

Creating a good impression with a recruiter indubitably increases one's chances of getting a position, especially since companies collected resumes by the hundreds both days. However, not all hope is lost for those who did not attend. Most companies require online job applications and resubmissions of resumes, and many will return to Tech for on-campus interviews within a few months.

The sheer breadth of companies in attendance and the chance for face-to-face interaction makes the Career Fair a unique way to search for a potential job offer. A co-op or internship can be a great way to get a foot in the door of reputable companies, and a full-time job is typically the next step in the transition from college to the corporate world.

By Blake Israel /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech students file ahead in a line snaking around Alexander Memorial Coliseum waiting for the opportunity to meet with job recruiters.



Hands

from page 15

events, including National Youth Service Day in the spring, which is the planet's largest day of service," Pendleton-Parker said.

Moreover, there is even a Technology Service Day in the spring for the typical technological students. One of the most exciting upcoming events is the Hands on Atlanta Day, which is on Oct. 6. Over 17,000 volunteers will be engaged in service projects throughout the metro-Atlanta area.

"There are countless volunteer opportunities in Atlanta...the beauty of HOA is that they serve as a clearing house for non-profit agencies. There is literally something for everyone. I've been an avid volunteer with HOA for more years than I can count, so I truly believe that service is an obligation we all have," said Pendleton-Parker.

This year, HOA day is having a Collegiate Competition to see which college or university in the Atlanta area will have the most students participate in service events.

"So many GT students, faculty and staff are already involved in service, so there is no reason for Georgia Tech not to win this competition. As an honorary chair who is a proud Yellow Jacket, I would be especially excited if we had the largest turnout on Oct. 6th," Miller said.

"HOA has had an almost incalculable impact on the greater Atlanta community. They have community service projects every single day of the year," said Pendleton-Parker.

GET INVOLVED!

For more information on Hands on Atlanta, check out the HOA website at **www.handsonatlanta.org** or e-mail Billiee Pendleton-Parker at **billiee.pendletonparker@psp.gatech.edu.**

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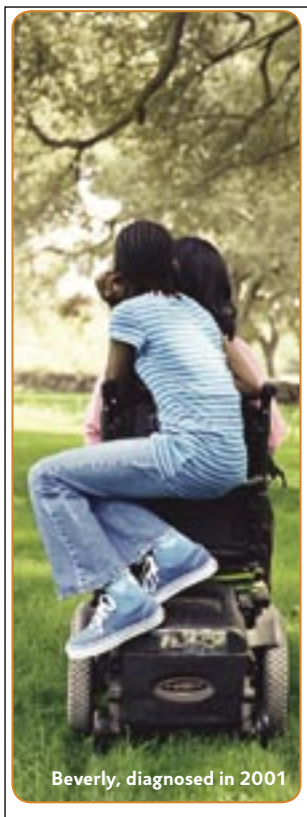

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FLOs provide freshman leadership opportunities

By Kristen Murphy
Contributing Writer

With so many organizations on campus, it is easy to get lost in all the acronyms. One that is particularly being thrown around at this time of year is "FLO." The FLOs include EL, FAB, FC, FF and freShGA.

What is a FLO anyway? It is not some sort of chart, nor the way a river moves. In the midst of all the enigmatic acronyms, people might wonder what kind of fresh fruit freShGA is selling, or maybe that FAB is an organization for interior decorators.

Amidst all of the stereotypes and confusion around campus, there is no better time than now to set the record straight. FLO stands for Freshman Leadership Organizations, which are typically competitive, application-based student organizations run by freshmen, for freshmen.

Each FLO serves a different purpose for the freshman class. For members and nonmembers alike, FLOs provide a wide variety of experiences, including fun and free events that the freshmen on campus can enjoy. For more information on each FLO, check out the descriptions to the right.

By Ben Lipford /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Advisors from the different freshman leadership organizations on campus interview potential new members for this school year.

Emerging Leaders (EL)

Emerging Leaders is a unique organization that strives for a balanced approach to leadership. Each year 25 guys and 25 girls are chosen through the application process. Members are educated on leadership and spend time attending seminars and learning about leadership from mentors. Emerging Leaders emphasizes the application of leadership and focuses on projects and service.

The best part? Funded by Auxiliary Services, Emerging Leaders controls a big budget. "Emerging Leaders is a fun and well-rounded...organization," said Chris Olson, a second-year Industrial Engineering major. "It gave me a lot of great opportunities for networking, leadership and community service."

Freshman Activities Board (FAB)

FAB focuses on planning events for freshmen while developing the leadership of its members. Made up of 15 guys and 15 girls, FAB chooses applicants based on an application and interview process. FAB controls a $10,000 budget from the Freshman Experience Program, which goes toward activities throughout the year for first year students—nearly 1200 of whom participated last year.

FAB also includes advisors who guide members through event planning and put on activities such as a fall retreat, spring banquet and Fresh Formal for all of the members.

The best part? FAB's events reach a large part of campus, and members gain invaluable experience while planning them. And since there is already a budget, all of FAB's events are free.

Freshman Council (FC)

FC is the oldest freshman leadership organization on campus—and the most open-ended. Comprised of 15 girls and 15 boys, FC has no rules or guidelines. There is no set budget and most of the money is raised by the council. Members are chosen by five sophomore advisors based on their creativity and intellect, but the advisors do not influence the ideas or plans of the group. Members of the council are given the freedom to plan events or become involved as much as they want.

"Freshman Council is what you make of it," said Jessica Juneau, second-year FC advisor. "It reflects solely on the creativity of the freshmen chosen to make it up."

The best part? The freedom to do absolutely anything that the Council decides to do.

freShGA

As the only freshman leadership organization affiliated with SGA, freShGA prepares its members for later involvement with SGA while encouraging the development of leadership through involvement on campus. FreShGA consists of 18 to 25 freshmen who are selected through an application process.

FreShGA responds to issues on campus specific to each new school term. Last year, freShGA helped support One Night Stand, an event which opened the CRC from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. for athletic activities such as basketball, volleyball and dodgeball, and started a program called Tickets for Tech to supply discount tickets to museums and attractions around Atlanta to residents.

The best part? FreShGA is closely involved with SGA and members have access to all SGA resources.

Freshman Foundation

One of the newer organizations on campus, Freshman Foundation was created as part of the Georgia Tech Student Foundation (GTSF). Twenty freshmen are selected through an application and two-part interview including both individual and group interviews. Once selected, members benefit from the opportunity to be mentored by a third, fourth or fifth-year student from the Student Foundation Board of Trustees.

"The Freshman Foundation has the unwavering support if the Student Foundation Board of Trustees," said Brittany Copeland, Freshman Foundation advisor.

The best part? GTSF has an endowment of almost $800,000, and Freshman Foundation helps to allocate these funds to campus student organizations.

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IN SEPTEMBER:

WED. SEPT. 5th:
Asst. Professor Ian Bogost:
Persuasive Games: The Expressive Power Of Video Games

MON. SEPT 10th:
Professor Michael Salomone &
Assoc. Professor Adam Stulberg:
Managing Defense Transformation

WED. SEPT. 19th:
Assoc. Professor Adam Stulberg:
Well-Oiled Diplomacy

WED. SEPT. 26th:
Asst. Professor Dan Breznitz
Innovation and the State

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Honors from page 14

was setting a date for the retreat. Many students did express a slight sense of apprehension with the date selected: the weekend of Sept. 8-9.

"It was difficult to find a weekend to reserve the park so that it would not interfere with other activities or football games...we also had to plan a time to accommodate several Honors Program faculty and executive faculty members," Shaffer said.

Indeed, the weekend selected was a busy weekend on and off campus; those who attended the retreat were not able to make it to the first home game against Samford.

"We knew that the students would have to miss the Samford game in order to attend...the best day in September was the 22nd, on which there is no home football game. However, this such weekend in September is historically when many student organizations hold retreats, so we wanted to minimize the overlap," Boyd said.

> "It was a collective effort to improve student leadership and involvement..."
>
> **Will Boyd**
> Second-Year Physics

"The intent of the program was to get students acquainted with other Honors students and to feel more comfortable under the college setting," Halka said.

Boyd expressed similar thoughts. "It was a collective effort to improve student leadership and involvement," Boyd said.

More students should know about the Honors program as well as the members in it. Sophomore Honors students plan to host more activities in the future.

"The faculty seems to like it...I got multiple e-mails from faculty that were complimentary of our efforts and the ideas behind it," Shaffer said.

The effectiveness and format of the retreat is currently in the process of being evaluated. The hope is for Honors Program students to continue coming up with ideas to encourage a sense of camaraderie as well as to improve the overall academic experience.

By Ben Keyserling /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Nobles, the Director of the Honors Program, accompanies students on a hike through the woods at the Honors Program Retreat.

By Ben Keyserling /STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Honors Program students gather around a bonfire at the end of their first night camping at FDR State Park in Warm Springs, GA.

Minds from page 13

know what ends people meet if they are not helped. However, treatment may only stop at the symptoms.

"The unfortunate truth is that mental illnesses can't be cured... only the outward symptons may be cured," Graves said. While therapy does commit an essential amount of help, it alone cannot "cure" the illness. That is why it is so important that people understand and have not only empathy but also practical knowledge.

Graves has obviously found a major stigma and has endeavored to make others aware that people with mental disorders are perfectly productive members of society.The resources available from Active Minds educate people both with and without disorders, so that everyone on campus can understand better for the future.

Though Active Minds is a campus-based organization, Graves realizes that the problem is definitely nationwide.

"While we may not directly be influencing the workplace, Tech is a very work-oriented university... people who [are] educated here will practice not only their curriculum but [also] many of the things they learned outside of class," Graves said.

> "The unfortunate truth is that mental illnesses can't be cured...only the outward symptoms may be cured..."
>
> **Christina Graves**
> President, Active Minds

Graves knows that the priority of Active Minds is not to call out institutions for what they do wrong in contributing to the severity of mental health, but rather what they can do right.

Offering resources via a screening later this fall, students may find answers to problems they have. Already alcoholism, eating disorders and depression have online screenings available to everyone all year.

The screening will not diagnose a disorder, but will help students in a completely confidential and anonymous method. Throughout the year there will also be popular film screenings for the education of these illnesses.

Active Minds is already reaching out to many at a startling rate, but needs the participation of anyone in the campus, not only students affected by illness.

Graves and Active Minds are pushing forward in not only awareness, but also help, so that people will be able to overcome whatever they may be hiding. "People shouldn't be afraid," Graves said. With Active Minds available for all, people do not need to be.

For more information, visit the website of NIMH at www.nimh.nih.gov, find the Active Minds at Tech Facebook group or contact Christina Graves at cgraves3@mail.gatech.edu.

www.nique.net