The North Avenue Review

a student-produced open forum magazine of thought and expression

issue nine
september 1990

(is)orientation issue

because what you don't know can kill you
STRUCTURE

The North Avenue Review is a magazine of thought and expression communally edited and produced by a collection of Georgia Tech students, faculty, staff, and alumni—all of whom have contributed writing, graphics, or time.

Unless otherwise stated, the views expressed herein are solely those of the individual contributors and are not intended to express the sentiments of the Georgia Tech community.

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SUBMISSION

General Information

Please include your real name, P.O. box and phone number on all submissions.

Send submissions to:

The North Avenue Review
GT Campus Mail
P.O. Box 50271
Atlanta, GA 30332

Meetings are usually every Thursday in D. M. Smith room 105 at 6 PM

Anyone who submits articles, literature, time, or graphics has the option of becoming one of many editors for that issue of The North Avenue Review, just come to the meetings.

Here’s how our editing process works: At the deadline meeting all the submissions are put out for group review. The editors then read everything, offering anonymous, written constructive criticism and writing suggestions. If an editor feels that a submission is unnecessarily inflammatory, he can bring it up vocally in front of all the other editors in order to discuss the submission. A submission may be excluded from the Review with a 3/4 vote against printing it. Finally, articles are given back to the author to rewrite.

It is strongly encouraged that you attend the meetings to defend your piece during group review.

If there are any concerns, questions, or problems, contact Stacy Johnson (P.O. Box 31047) or Tom Hickman (P.O. Box 35919).

Articles

The North Avenue Review welcomes any topics that you deem worthwhile from students, faculty and staff. Be prepared to rewrite. Facts are important. Articles which we feel are unnecessarily inflammatory will be rewritten by the author or will not be printed. Submissions should be saved in Microsoft Word for the Macintosh. You can use many of the Macs around campus. Save your writing,
as we will use your disk to manipulate and extract your article to layout.

Graphics with your article would be greatly appreciated!

Graphic Materials, Announcements, Poetry, Fiction, Blurbs, Photos, Surveys, Small Items of Interest, Whatever You Want, etc.

We welcome all of this stuff from students, faculty, alumni and staff. Unnecessarily inflammatory stuff will not be printed. Please submit all of it at our deadline meeting, or to our P.O. box prior to the deadline.

Letters

All letters to The North Avenue Review will be printed, regardless of political belief. We do, however, reserve the right to withhold letters if deemed unnecessarily inflammatory. Letters should be succinct and signed. You can request to remain anonymous, but we need to know your name and address. Your letter will not be edited, so make sure it is written exactly as you want it.

No More We by Kathy Kolb
Come blow your horn.

The North Avenue Review

is seeking writers, designers, artists, photographers, poets and anyone else interested in working with us. Or, send your letters, articles, creative writing, photography and whatnot to:

p.o. 50271

See page two for details.

Meeting Thursday, DM Smith 105, 6:00 pm
Guide to Disorientation

Fishrap

Letters

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Government Parts  by David Burgess

What Roman Catholics Really Believe
by Brian Evans and Terry Crone

Trash or Treasure  by Richard Wallace

Lip-syncing Low Life  by John Cross

Truths and Consequences: The Hidden Dangers Faced by Carnivores
by Glen Stark

Wake Up, Wally!  by Jim Boatwright

Pornography and the First Amendment
by Brian Smith

Confessions of a Louisiana Republican
by David Burgess

It Indian Thing, You No Understand
by Thomas Peake
Welcome to this, the (dis)orientation issue of the North Avenue Review magazine. Why a disorientation manual? Doesn't FASET cover all the bases? Well yes and no. Much valuable information that is initially unavailable to the incoming student may be gained by talking with upperclassmen, graduates, professors, and so on. Hopefully this guide to disorientation—while certainly not comprehensive—will offer a point at which to start exploring the breadth of intellectual and cultural opportunities on campus and in Atlanta.

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Pissed off. Pissed pissed pissed. That’s it. That’s all I feel.
And why might that be?
Because I’m an Angry Young Man! That’s why.
Now now, lets not bring gender into this...
O.K. I’m Youth Irate. It’s my job. And I’m good at it.
I’m really worked up today.
Well then, why don’t you do something about it.
Good point. Barkeep, another round over here. Sobriety seems, at present, a hindrance. Great acts are afoot. We need the lubrication of inebriation over here at this table. We need to cool our anger.

Youth Irate
by Thomas Carlyle Hickman

That’s not quite what I had in mind, but we’ll go along with it anyway. We’ll see where this next pitcher might take us.

Internal monologue. It happens to me all the time. My Id and my Ego, or was it my Ego and my Super-Ego... Well, they probably don’t care what names we call them. But one of them was angry. You can decide for yourself which one it was. One of them was undoubtedly in a foul mood, pensive and troubled. One of them remained rational, tried to focus the energy towards some positive end. They both have stories to tell...

Youth Irate tells it as it is: I look about me as I walk through our campus. Today is the first day of a new quarter, the first day of my fifth year here. There are first year students everywhere. The faces I see are new and fresh. They are; dare I say...untainted? Hopeful? Yes... hopeful. First year collegians away from home for the first time, eager to embrace life; eager to challenge their eighteen year old way of doing things; eager to live life unencumbered and free from the totalitarian hand of parentage.

I wonder if these fresh young faces are in the right place. I wonder what Georgia Tech has to offer them. I hope that they won’t be disillusioned by the publish or perish attitude of the faculty. I hope that they will come to realize that the needs of the student are often seen as secondary to the needs of science. I hope they won’t be utterly crushed by the overly hostile workload of the first year curriculum here. I hope they won’t be aged before their time by the locally prevailing notion that education, knowledge and literacy are all backseat abstracts to the cold hard reality of grade point averages and starting salaries. I hope that they won’t let any of this happen to them, much as I hope I haven’t let any of it happen to me. Perhaps I hope too much.

I remember an occurrence not long ago, here on the campus. It was the day that Nelson Mandela spoke to Congress, about three days before he spoke here. His speech was broadcast on network T.V. I watched it on the big screen in the student center. I think it was likely out of mere luck that the tube was tuned in to Mr. Mandela. Of the twenty or so people clustered in the proximity of the television, only two were very obviously watching Mr. Mandela’s hopeful speech. Besides myself, there was only one other: an elderly black woman, thin, frail, obviously moved by the image she saw, by the words she heard. I must assume that she was not a student at this fine school of ours.

Said Mr. Mandela: “Justice and Liberty will be our tool. Prosperity and happiness our weapon. We have fought for the right to experience Peace. Peace will not come to our country until apartheid has ended.”

I listened in on some of the conversations around me: “It’s a word or die class man... Guess we’ll have to get John to raid his fraternity house for us... It was soooo (multi syllabic) funny, he was trying to act real cool when he walked by her, right, and then she said hello to him and he just totally dorked out...” They got worse, those conversations. They always do.

Mr. Mandela spoke of life, of liberty, of an end to oppression. The students around me spoke of word, of test averages, of alcoholic improprieties.

The Rational Self interjects some rationale, tells it as it should be: It made me think, with due reference to any sense of history I might have, about this my generation. Our fellow students across the seas are struggling for freedom, for life. We are struggling to best our compatriots on the next test. We voice little if any concern for the ideals which allow us to pursue our self-serving goals. We do little to see that these ideals are maintained or furthered in this our world. We are an insensitive, unconcerned lot. But please, do not be confused. We are not, by default, a happy lot. Ignorance of higher ideals does not mandate happiness; and I would suggest that my generation, our
generation, is an unhappy generation. Again the happy hopeful faces around me today... They, whether they know it or not, are beginning a long and tedious process on this the first day of their college experience. It is unfortunate that the particular college experience they are likely to have here will lengthen the process in question, will make it more tedious. The process, here at least, for these young people with these hopeful faces, may be likened to the selling of their youth... the selling of their youth for the promise of the future dollar.

So very much more exists in this world than these dollars. So very few students today seem to realize this. We are an ignorant generation. We are an apathetic generation. We are a pitiful generation. Sense of history... the student movements of the past fifty years. Next to the students of the 60's, the collective youth of this generation does not even deserve the title student. We are not, with the obvious though rare exception, students. We do not wish to learn. We are mere tradesmen hoping to better our own positions in life. In this, I suggest, we are barely human, barely humane. Can one think of bettering one's own position in life without lowering the position of someone less fortunate? Can one willfully lower the position of another human being without fear of reprisal, of retaliation?

Is this generation to be known as the generation of the Self-ists, the generation of the inhuman journeyman? I am not overly hopeful that it will be otherwise.

We have inherited a great debt from our forefathers.

The Angry Faction of my mind dredges up the national deficit, always quick to the kill in matters monetary. But my mind moves too soon. It is outflanked by its own dissident elements.

The Rational speaks: The debt here postulated is of far greater importance than any overbudgeted Gramm-Rudman contrivance. The principal will be far more difficult to repay. An infinitely greater toll will be extracted in annual interest payment.

The debt I speak of, the debt we have inherited, is an emotional debt. We seem to have borrowed against all of our other emotions a brief and fleeting happiness, a shallow and unfulfilling happiness. We seem now incapable of compassion. We seem incapable of caring. We look at another human being suffering, and if we notice at all, we say "Oh too bad, glad it's not me. Glad I went to Tech and sweated out my degree so I can have this and this and this." We seem incapable of saying "That is my brother. I will help him." This school, in the eyes of Youth Irate, does nothing but encourage in its students this cold and brassy extreme of individuality. The future we seem to face, the future we seem to be building for ourselves, is that of the unfeeling automaton, concerned only with creature comforts, only with self. This is an alarming future.

To see this future even partially realized in my fellow students, and then to see the clear and hopeful visages of those away from home for the first time in their lives, those young men and women so eager to initiate some change within their own lives, those young people so anxious to embrace the new, the untried, strikes within me a clear and resonant note of contrast. It has an eerie tone, an alarming intensity.

If I could speak to each and every one of these new students, these youths, what would I say? What wisdom could I offer them from a perspective only marginally more broad than their own? What words could I give them, hoping against all reason to be heard? I shouldn't be surprised at myself if Youth Irate threw caution to the wind, flaunted its anger, told all these young students, each and every one, to leave this school, to matriculate elsewhere, some place where the inquisitive mind held unfettered might reign supreme over the dogmatic demands of corporate America. I shouldn't be surprised at all.

But if I could master my cynicism for one fleeting moment, muzzle my anger and rein in my rhetoric, I would speak from the mouth of rationale, of sensibility, of prudence. I would remind these people, oh so barely younger than myself, that, they, for the first time in their lives, are free from the totalitarian hand of parentage. I would beg them not to fall victim to apathy. I would implore them not to accept as truth the dogma they might run across in their stay here. I would remind them that their freedom, so recently and rightly won, is a fleeting and fragile thing. To close one's mind to the thoughts and pains of others, I would say, is to lose a greater portion of freedom than any curfew, any familial obligation could ever demand. I suppose I'd give them the old Meet the new boss, same as the old boss speech and tell them exactly what I learned while I was here. And just what would that be? Decide what you are going to do; don't be afraid to follow your own agenda. Don't get so caught up in what you're doing that you lose sight of your present reality. Avoid momentum. Don't be afraid to learn. Don't be afraid to leave this place, for this place is not for everyone. It may well be, in some sense, that this place is for no one at all.

If that's where this last pitcher of beer takes us, then so be it. It is not an unattractive conclusion to such anger. For Youth Irate it is a reasonable compromise.
International Cuisine

by Wes Slaymaker

Eating is an essential activity which all beings share, so why not make it more than just a mere ritual of survival? Atlanta is not known for its ethnic communities, but it does have some really tasty samples of ethnic foods. The establishments I shall describe will be listed in categories of price. The price estimates given are the minimum you should expect to pay.

CHEAP (really! 3-6 dollars per person)

Tortillas (Mexican, Ponce De Leon Ave. near the Krogers and East of the Krispy Kreme donut store).

For 2-3 dollars you can get a super burrito the size of a small football. Only one is needed. The ingredients are excellent. The atmosphere is "nada" (eat and run). This place is worth the visit.

Kool Korner grocery (Cuban, corner of 14th and State St.)

This establishment is run by a friendly Cuban fellow, and he makes excellent sandwiches for 2-3 dollars. The meal is rounded out with potato chips and pickle. Try this place on your next lunch.

Cha Gio (Vietnamese, located on Peachtree near the corner of 10th St.)

The quality is moderate, the food is healthy. There are many selections between 4-7 dollars. Just say, "I'll have number 43," or attempt the proper pronunciation in Vietnamese of the entrées (good luck). Overall a nice place to take a friend or first date.

Farmers' Market (many nationalities, located on E. Ponce de Leon east of Decatur).

If you go at the right time the meal is free. Afternoons, especially weekends are good times to find an entire smorgasbord of free food laid out for consumption. Bring some money though, because you'll be tempted to buy more.

MODERATE (5-10 dollars per person)

Blue Nile (Ethiopian, located on N. Highland Ave., two blocks north of Ponce de Leon).

This is one of several Ethiopian restaurants in town, all have about the same prices and quality. Prepare to eat strange food with your hands. A big platter, with a thin moist bread covering it, is placed in the center of the table, onto this are piled various "dips" made of chickpeas or chicken for example. You make the selection of these. More bread is given, and you use it to grab the food with. This can be lots of fun. The restaurant is never crowded, and offers a quiet evening out.

Tajmahal (Indian, located near the corner of 14th and Spring Streets).

First, get a copy of Creative Loafing and get the, "buy one entree get one free coupon," otherwise this place will be in the expensive category. The food is good, be careful as to what is spicy, for they offer some mouth singeing dishes. Be sure to try one of the many varieties of bread or "naan."

Bridgetown Cafe (Jamaican, located in Little Five Points).

Excellent black beans and rice, along with your choice of charcoal grilled meats or a vegetarian pie. This tiny place has personality.

Little Five Points (not a restaurant, but a location of many interesting restaurants and nightclubs).

Indian, Italian, African, Jamaican, Mexican, American, Vegetarian you can find it all here. Take Marta, bicycle or drive, you are sure to find something appealing in one of the many restaurants located there.

MORE EXPENSIVE (8-15 dollars per person)

Lawrence's Cafe (Middle Eastern, on Buford Highway near N. Druid Hills road).

This place I highly recommend. The food is awesome, and if you come on Friday or Saturday night, you will get a semi-authentic belly dancer jiggling over your table. The lamb and seafood are exceptional.

Camille's (Italian, on N. Highland 1/2 mile north of Virginia Ave).

The food is very good. Prepare to wait a while for a table, for it is not a secret in the Atlanta area. On a budget? Try their pizza; for 10 dollars two people can get stuffed on one of the best pizzas in town.

Khun Nhara (Thai, in the midtown promenade).

Thai food is quite unique. The meals are often cooked with coconut milk, making them sweet and rich. Take a friend here, then see a movie afterwards at the Midtown 8 theatre next door.

This is by no means a comprehensive list of restaurants, it is just a few I have been to and recommend. If you know of a better place, be sure to tell me, or write up a review for the NAR magazine. In the meantime, stop getting your oil checked at the Varsity, and try something exciting.
Books somewhere 'round here...
A survey of Atlanta-area bookshops

by Stephen Danyo

Bookstores are crucial. Here's a selection of new and used bookstores near Georgia Tech (within 7 miles or so). Go to these places to buy books for your Lit classes, or for yourself, or just to hang out and browse. I didn't include any mall stores. Sometimes it's nice to take a break from studying in order to learn something....

A Book Hook (3342 Clairmont Rd. 633-1328)
The usually unhelpful men behind the counter (I think they're the owner-managers) are almost always loudly discussing their obnoxious right-wing politics, to which all customers must be subjected since it's impossible to escape earshot. You can't run, can't hide. Just in-and-out quick, a guerrilla used book-buying binge: Or you can sell and trade your books.

Very large fiction and sci-fi collections. They have a separate section for prose and drama classics, which is usually well stocked, unless you want to find something like The Heart of Darkness, which all the highschoolers have already snatched up. But you could probably find The Prince here. The same may be said for the poetry section. Check out the theology/philosophy/psychology section(s) (I couldn't tell where one ends and another begins). No one hardly ever combs through these stacks, and as a result you can find some gems. I got Gandhi's Truth by Erik Erikson, and The Radical Bible, a pocket paperback on liberation theology. Of particular note are the music periodicals, although they could use more underground stuff; but at least you can find The Big Takeover and Maximum Rock 'n' Roll. Of further note is the lack of political periodicals like Zeta; but this isn't surprising considering, that here, right-wing rules.

A Cappella (1148 Euclid Ave. 661-5128)
One block down the street from Charis Books (see below), in a thin rock of a storefront on the Little Five Points square, is found this comfortable, mostly used book store. The staff of two (Rick and Frank) is knowledgeable and helpful. Used books may be traded to the store for more books, normally at 25% of the price they'd sell it for, unless the book you want to trade is out of print or they already have it or.... Says Rick, "It's completely chaotic."
The selection is broad, with Pynchon, Vonnegut, Barth, Robbins, McLuhan and others of the 60s persuasion well represented. Many African-American studies books line the shelves, with most major writers available: Baldwin, Angelou, DuBois, Silberman, etc. There are also a few books on Native American issues. Relatively good selections of music (especially folk), art, film, and baseball (baseball?!) books are also around here somewhere. They also have some feminist books, so if you can't afford the newer, more pricey stuff at Charis, come here, but the selection is not great. Most major poets may be found (or rather, their works) like Dickenson, Snyder, and Eliot, among others, but I couldn't find any e e cummings. I guess such is the way of any used book store....

Overall, A Cappella is a small, comfortable shop to hang out and browse without some salesman conning you, but sometimes their prices are high (this judgement coming from one mired in the depths of poverty). Seems books are sold at their maximum official trade listing instead of at their real-market value.

It's also a great place to check for that odd book out that you are having trouble finding. Iran across a copy of The Tibetan Book of the Dead, which helps people prepare for their death. Of particular interest are poetry readings every Wednesday at 8 pm. And while you're there ask to see The Anarchist's Cookbook, which contains a veritable wealth of information to get anyone through college—or life. Check it out.

Atlanta Book Exchange (1000 N. Highland Ave. 872-2665)
An experience in anarchy. The stacks of used books in this small, cramped free-standing shop next to Taco Mac's (where you can get a beer from almost every nation on Earth, so get a book of Irish poetry next door and share it with a pint of Guinness) are in no order at all. But this can be good if you have the time to spare 'cause you run across some really cool things while looking for whatever it is you were looking for.

I found Angela Davis's Women, Race, and Class while looking for something by Maya Angelou. Even if you can't find the elusive book, ask the counter-person, who knows where everything is anyway. They have a pretty good selection, especially in the social sciences. They've even got some cool feminist books: one which caught my eye was a pink copy of Up Against the Wall, Mother....
Borders Bookshop (3655 Roswell Rd. [at Piedmont] 237-0707)

About two miles from the Pharr Road Oxford (see below) is Borders, probably the best place in town for new books. Impressive, expansive selection in almost every field. They are outdone in only a few specialized areas like women's writing (see Charis Books) or Marxism (see Pathfinders). Basically, Borders carries titles found nowhere else in Atlanta.

My token arch-friend Kate says, "Cool architecture stuff." I'd say the same for most other sections, especially in poetry, art, literature, and philosophy. Whole shelves are devoted to Buddhism, Zen, Tao, Hinduism, Sufism, Baha'I, and yes, even Christianity (10 shelves). The history shelves could be more complete. I found only one book by Barbara Tuchman (The First Salute), but many by I.F. Stone. African-American, gender, Native American, gay and lesbian writings are amply stocked.

Borders possesses a comparatively wide range of periodicals. There are quite a few obscure literary/art and political journals like Mudfish and Dissent. No underground press here, though.

The large shop is very comfortable, spacious and well designed, with benches around for browsing. Most hardcovers are 10% off list. New York Times Bestsellers and Borders monthly recommended titles are 30% off. When we walked in, there was a table outside with all sorts of books on extreme sale. The Power of Myth by Joseph Campbell was $4.98; I haven't seen that for less than twenty bucks, except for free from a paperback mail-order club.

Special note: On Wednesday, September 26th from 8 to 10 pm, Borders is celebrating Banned Books Week (9/22 - 9/29) with a panel discussion and public forum on "Are Books a Burning Issue? Exploring Censorship."

Charis Books & More (419 Moreland Ave. 524-0304)

Known as Atlanta's premiere feminist bookstore, this small shop (only one book away from A Cappella) on the corner of Euclid and Moreland Avenue in Little Five Points offers much more. Folk musicians, poets, politicians, psychologists, and others regularly hold concerts, readings, discussions and such every Thursday at 7:30 pm.

Charis sells no used books but has an excellent collection of new gender-related books in such areas as history/hersity, women's and lesbian poetry and fiction, and of course, feminist writings on a wealth of topics. Some men's writing may be found here as well.

The selection of political books is impressive to those on the left; no right-wing dogma found here. Adequate, but possibly not comprehensive enough, is their collection of minorities-related writing, especially considering how intertwined gender and minority issues are. Notably missing from the shelves is W.E.B. DuBois's souls of Black Folk.

And remember: men are welcome, contrary to popular patriarchal belief.

Georgia Tech Crookstore (in the heart of Georgia Tech 894-2515)

Like heads of mafia or the biggest monopolistic multinational cartels, these swindlers overcharge you for nearly everything and then further charge you for the privilege of doing so. Buy your texts anywhere else! Go to Engineer's Bookstore (892-1169) or West Campus Bookstore (881-8009), where the staffs are courteous and prices are sometimes a little lower. These off-campus stores also buy back books at better prices.

Or better yet, start a student book cooperative. I'll help. At the least, all you would need to do is organize and develop a list of student buyers and sellers, which would be distributed at the beginning of each quarter. It would be similar to a want-ad kind of thing. SGA might even help fund the project, which wouldn't cost much at all. This way, we could avoid profit margins that eat up our marginal student budgets. Maybe later a small, non-profit shop could be opened up to facilitate transactions, but this would obviously cost a great deal more.

Old New York Book Shop (1069 Juniper St. 881-1285)

So I walk in the place, which is this big, glassy old house between 11th and 12th streets. No one's at the desk by the entrance. So I wander around, checking out and digging the stacks, which are mostly used hardcovers and rare books. So I'm in there stepping in loud brown leather shoes on creaking floorboards, down volume-stressed stairs, hearing two or three others creaking about somewhere else in the haunted house full of books. But I still don't see anyone. Scanning for Freud, Jung, Skinner, Steele—no don't want that—Cabinet, still don't see anyone, but they're here somewhere, creak-creaking about. I make my way out of the basement and onto the street without seeing a soul, and reflect upon my experience....

They've got lots o' art books and poetry abounds. Chairs are in most rooms where you can sit and decide whether you're going to buy that book of alphabet designs upstairs for which you've been looking for years... but this Eric Fromm down here in the basement is so damn interesting....

Most hardcovers are organized by subject (Medieval studies, India, African studies, 19th century lit., translated lit., and so on), but that's the extent of organization, and prices are between $5 and $10. One room houses all their paperbacks, which generally are 1/2 cover price.
Oxford Books (3 locations: 360 Pharr Rd. 262-3333; 2345 Peachtree Rd. 364-2700; 1200 West Paces Ferry Rd. 364-2488)
First, let's throw out the West Paces Ferry store; it's merely an oversized mail-type bookstore (but with a great magazine selection).

Of the other two stores, the Pharr Road location has the better selection (although both are pretty good). It's very, very big, as it used to be a Buckhead car dealership. I know this next thing is sorta beside the point, but they rent videotapes that are way off the mainstream, like Sherman's March. They also often have authors into sign books (Tom Robbins and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar recently came by). The Peachtree store is also big, but some say it feels cramped, which I imagine detracts from a happy shopping experience.

Both stores carry many foreign newspapers and American city dailies. They also have an extensive magazine selection on a breadth of subjects. Underground publications like Punkline and Soma also make a healthy showing. Come by before the middle of the month, because some magazines are sold out by the third week of the month. You can also sneak around back of the store on Peachtree Road to where the dumpsters are and scramble for recent unsold issues. It'll save you some money.

Some more bookdollars may be saved if you check first at Oxford Too, which is the chain's used and price-slash store in the same shopping center as the Peachtree Oxford (See review below). However, you can trade in used books (25% of the cover price) at any of the stores towards credit for anything Oxford Book Stores sell. Of particular note: the Pharr Road and Peachtree stores have coffee hang-outs. A caffeine dependency always pre-empts reading.

Renaissance Bookshop (595 Piedmont Ave. 873-4161)
Yeah, it's very close (walking distance) to Tech, found in an upper corner of the big, hideously blue outdoor mall on the corner of North and Piedmont called Rio. Once you stumble inside, the view becomes much more palatable. Renaissance's best selections are in art and children's books, which makes this place prime for gift buying. But it also has a decent selection otherwise; the inventory is somewhat more ambitious than a mall store. And after combing through the stacks you can stuff yourself at Lettuce Soupriese You, also in Rio. Or vice-versa.

Small Press Books (804 N. Highland Ave. 872-4354)
What's really cool about the place are the two smoke-gray cats (feline, not Beat) that greet you upon entering this small, comfortable shop with WREK honking away on the stereo. Carrying mostly used and oftentimes obscure books, Small Press specializes in philosophy, critical theory, and twentieth century classics. Generally books are ordered based on the staff's interests and interests coming from the academic community. Currently they're developing Architecture and African-American studies sections. The selection of art books is wide, and you can find stuff available nowhere else; for example, the Nexus Press art books are around here somewheres. They also carry a pretty good selection of art magazines as well as a wide range of political and underground magazines and zines, especially anarchist periodicals. But the bottom line, friends, is that you can find bargains galore: my friend got a hardcopy of Socialism in India for a trifling 76 cents.

Other Bookstores
This article is by no means comprehensive. I looked at shops that are within a reasonable distance from Tech, and where I felt I could offer a useful opinion. Some bookstores not reviewed specialize in particular areas such as left-wing politics, mysteries, science fiction, religion, and so on. Here's a sampling:

African American Book Shop 1392 Gordon St. 755-3756.
C. Dickens Rare books. A Lenox Square rip-off. 231-3825.
Crescent Gifts & Books Islamic books and stuff. 341 14th St. 875-7326.
Hakim's Book Store African-American history. 842 Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. 221-0740.
International Bookstore Specializes in literature in Spanish. 3652 Shallowford Rd. 454-8206.
Pathfinders Socialism/Political. 132 Cone St. 577-4065.
Revolution Books Marxist/Leninist. 483 Moreland Ave. 577-4656.
Science Fiction & Mystery Bookshop 752 1/2 N. Highland Ave. 875-7325.
US Government Bookstore Your source for all your socio-statistical needs. (I couldn't find the address, but it's on Peachtree downtown) 331-6947.
Contrary to popular beliefs, students at Tech have some options available to them when selecting their courses. The recently renamed Department of Literature, Communication, and Culture (L.C.C., formerly “English”) not only offers a wide variety of courses in Literature, film & drama, technical communication, and science & literature but issues Certificates to students who complete defined programs of study. Certificates can be obtained in the following areas: 1) Western Literary Traditions; 2) Drama and Film; 3) Literature and Science; and 4) Technical Communication.

It's worth noting that the certificate in Literature and Science may (depending on the Regents) be available as a major starting this Fall. The degree that we hope to be able to offer is a B.S. in Science, Technology, and Culture (STAC). While some students may want to pursue the degree on its own, it will be possible for others to add it to another program as a double major. In either case, the program will give you a strong background in understanding the representation of ideas in culture. Why is this important? Because finally, no matter what profession you pursue, you will need to be able to demonstrate that your analytical abilities are sophisticated, clear-headed, and probing. (The department is also working toward approval of a degree program in Technical Communication that we hope will be available within the next year.)

The certificates in L.C.C. give you the opportunity to engage in new ways of thinking not only about literature, culture, science, and technology but about the work that you're doing in your majors. Nothing, not even your major, exists in a vacuum. There is a cultural context that informs the work that all of us do, whether it is for the Grumman Corporation, for Metro Goldwyn Mayer, or — to be sure — for the North Avenue Review, and we're better off at what we do if we understand it thoroughly.

But this is not a sales pitch. If you come in to L.C.C., we'll be happy to give you one. This is, however, an important reminder to get you to begin thinking about ALL of your courses now. Rather than try to patch together the courses you need for a certificate - in our program or others - during your last few quarters, plan now. Tech can be frustrating, but no more so than when you discover that you missed an opportunity to help yourself out. To learn more about the certificate program, ask one of your pros in L.C.C. or come speak to Professor Bynum, the department's curriculum coordinator.

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Alan Rauch is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Literature, Communication, and Culture at the Georgia Institute of Technology.
Travel guide to the urban Atlanta area

by David Burgess

Midtown

The East side of the interstate from North Avenue to Fourteenth street.

This is a fascinating section of town, right across the interstate from Ga. Tech. Midtown is a colorful area; prostitutes and transvestites are not uncommon. Many of Atlanta's homeless population live here as well. While very safe and professional-looking during the business day, the neighborhood is rough at night, and some back streets are just plain dangerous on weekends. There are several restaurants in the area, many of which feature daily lunch specials for $3-$5, and most are pretty good. Some also have breakfast specials for $2-$4.

Enjoy Midtown while you can. Both skyscrapers and slumming Midtown are becoming popular among the North-Atlanta rich, causing property taxes to increase and killing many of the old Midtown landmarks, like the old Columbia theater. There has been a recent attempt to change the unofficial name of the area to Intown, but many view this as a subversive plot, and the "Intown" terminology should be avoided.

Home Park

The West side of the interstate from Tenth Street to Fourteenth Street.

This is the residential area just North of campus. The neighborhood started growing about 70 years ago, when this area was rural, and much of its history centers around the local Atlantic Steel plant and, recently, the expansion of Ga. Tech. Home Park provides off-campus housing for many Tech students and is home to several wonderful non-Tech residents, including "Wild Bill," the unofficial Ga. Tech ROTC barber. Pat, who operates a sort of private animal welfare center, Malcolm, legally ordained clergy of the Church of the Subgenius, and many, many others.

The commercial side of Home Park, along Fourteenth Street is also worth investigation. There are two barber shops, two photographic shops, several frame shops and galleries, a few places to eat cheap, a mosque, assorted clinics and medical offices, and the Cool Corner (Cuban) grocery.

Little Five Points

Intersection of Euclid Drive and Moreland Avenue

Although very small, this is one of the most interesting pieces of Atlanta. Two bars here, the Point and the Pub (now closed), have helped give birth to several noteworthy bands (like the Indigo Girls). There are a number of cozy restaurants offering Ethiopian, African, Indian, and Creole food, along with pizza, burgers, vegetarian dishes, and whatever else. There are also two book stores, a bicycle/backpack outfitter, a natural foods co-op, a baseball card shop, one of the best used record stores in town, two furniture stores, a crystal shop, a flying-thing shop (kites, frisbees, hacky-sacks, etc.), and several places offering various used items, especially clothing and jewelry.

Buckhead

This was the destination of the great white exodus from downtown Atlanta, where yuppies fied as the city power structure turned black. It's the site of most of the safer, more expensive, more sterile Atlanta nightlife, along with some occasional exceptions, like the Buckhead Art Cinema (i.e., porn flicks) and the now defunct Evotech Theater. The typical student, who is short of money and under 21, is best advised to think of Buckhead as a vast, glittering wasteland.

For more detailed, up-to-date information on the happenings in Atlanta, pick up a Creative Loafing. It gives information on most concerts, plays, exhibits, club meetings, protests/rallies, etc. in the metropolitan area.
...with the invention of printing, thoughts spread so expeditiously that it became possible to acquire quite serviceable ideas without the trouble of thinking; and very few of us since then have cared to risk impairment of our minds by using them.

--James Branch Cabell, Beyond Life

The Classical Alternative

by Thomas C. Hickman

In a world dominated by pursuit of the elusive buck, it is an unfortunate truth that what in years past might have been called a "Classical Education" has been relegated, at many centers of higher learning, to a few scant humanity requirements and social science electives. The liberal arts, so the story goes, are only studied by liberals, and with the recent political trends, who would want to be one of those? It is unfortunate, but it might well be postulated that a knowledge of history, of literature, of language, is no longer necessary to survive, to thrive in this world of ours. We are a highly specialized people of late. It may well be that a highly specified knowledge of a narrow field is a legitimate pursuit.

Education Georgia Tech style provides the

...the humanities are just that:
they are humane. The liberal
sciences and arts are just that:
they are liberal.

tenacious with just such knowledge. A narrow but extremely well illuminated view of the world...

One must ask though, if an illuminated view of the world is the same or better or not quite as good as an enlightened view of the world. Georgia Tech graduates are, past and present, a generally well off, (if not well to do) group of people. Far be it from anyone to suggest that a Tech education, or any specific vocational education, is anything but legitimate. What may however be legitimately suggested is that shortcomings exist.

The written word lies in an intensive care unit on the third floor of The Skiles Classroom Building. Byron and Shelley rot unread on library shelves. The Bill of Rights collects dust in a corner of The D.M. Smith Building. Pavlov salivates silently, wanders about the campus in a mad fugue. Rimbaud, Hegel, and Dostoyevski all babble incoherently, their languages foreign to the finely tuned ear of the engineer, incoherent to the real-world auditory imagery of the future business leader.

An entire world of knowledge lies hidden on our very campus, obscured by trite labels, diminished by required curriculum. This world exists though, and it should not be denied its existence. It should be embraced, for the humanities are just that: they are humane. The liberal sciences and arts are just that: they are liberal. This would imply not the evil and all together inaccurate image of "liberal" that our political leaders would forward, but rather some concept of "liberal" involving liberty, involving egalitarianism. This sort of education, this psychosociological foray into the obscure may seem trivial. It may seem pale in comparison to calculus, to physics, to economics. But it is education. And education is what we are all about, we
In simple point of fact, a semblance of "Classical Education" is important and relevant even in today's world of specialists, of divided labor, of white and blue collars. This education (or this semblance of education for the true purist) can be had at our very school. Absurd! This is a technical school. We would never ever let those artsy types on our grounds!

Well, they're here, and they teach classes, and they give credits, and they award certificates. Several of the less visible departments at Tech offer certificate programs to students wishing to specialize in a given area within the elective offerings at Tech. These programs generally require that all of the electives in either Social Science or Humanities plus an additional three hours of class work be devoted to the pursuit of a given, structured body of knowledge. It is a challenging and rewarding thing to attempt, this classical education within a technical curriculum. Every one of the certificates listed below can offer a whole world of knowledge for the student willing to schedule classes carefully, willing to devote the needed energy toward the learning process. The faculty goes a step further, adding monetary reward to the intrinsic value of thought, of expertise. They say these certificates look great on a resume. Nuff Said. Get one! Get 'em all!!

Education is what we are all about, we students.

School of Social Sciences
The School of Social Sciences, currently located in the D.M. Smith Building, offers seven certificates to choose from. All of these certificates require 15 hours in the certificate field.

- History
- Philosophy of Science and Technology
- Political Science
- Sociology
- International Affairs
- Science, Technology, and Society
- Urban Studies

Department of English
The English Department, (third floor Skiles) offers five possible certificates, each requiring 15 hours of course work.

- Western Literary Traditions Certificate
- Certificate in American Literature
- Drama and Film Certificate
- Certificate in Literature and Science
- Certificate in Technical Communications

School of Psychology
The School of Psychology, (first floor Skiles) offers 5 certificates, each requiring 18 course hours of study.

- Social/Personality Psychology
- Experimental Psychology
- Engineering Psychology
- Industrial/Organizational Psychology
- Biopsychology

School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Three certificates are offered under the umbrella of geo-physical science.

- Geochemistry
- Solid Earth Geophysics
- Engineering Geology

Department of Modern Languages
Located in the French Building, this department fights the daily battle of inducing some cultural diversity into this esoteric campus. They offer four 18 hour certificates.

- French
- German
- Linguistics
- Spanish

The School of Physics
The Physics Department offers two little known certificates to students interested in the field.

- Applied Optics
- Computer-Based Instrumentation

The North Avenue Review September 1990
Most Tech students have a very limited amount of time to take advantage of our location in the heart of a metropolitan area of two million people. This is regrettable, but, like a lot of things at Tech, it's an unfortunate reality.

Given this reality, I would recommend that Tech students use their limited time to enjoy — and to gain an appreciation of — live theater. In my opinion, it is by far the best of the arts available in Atlanta. The city is especially weak in film and the visual arts. Even a half-dozen years ago, Atlanta had six or seven film theaters which regularly screened foreign films and older American classics, but all but two of them have closed, the victims of the VCR and video-rentals. (The remaining two — the Garden Hills at 2835 Peachtree Road and the Screening Room in Lindbergh Shopping Center — are worth checking, although they tend to show only the newest films from Western Europe.) As for the visual arts, there is a new museum — the High Museum of Art, in the Woodruff Arts Center at 1280 Peachtree Street — but many people feel the building itself is more interesting than most of the collection therein.

The situation with live music is better, although somewhat mixed. Tech students tend to be very knowledgeable about the music they like, and can surely get better information about what's available in Atlanta from each other rather than from me. There seems to be a great deal of live music in town, although I've heard very contradictory things from students about both its range and quality.

As for classical music, the Atlanta Symphony (ASO) is generally quite good, but not great. (You can find yourself in heated arguments on this point, which is probably a healthy sign.) Symphony Hall is in the Woodruff Arts Center, at 1280 Peachtree St. For information about Symphony tickets or schedules, call 892-2414. On September 27-29, Robert Shaw conducts the ASO with world-famous pianist Peter Serkin as soloist. The program includes Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 17 (K. 453) and Schubert's Ninth Symphony. There are some very good (even great) chamber music groups in Atlanta, particularly the Atlanta Virtuosi (for information, call 938-8611), the Atlanta Chamber Players (892-8681), the Georgian Chamber Players (352-2584), and the Musica da Camera (321-3787).

Yet, without any question, it is live theater which excels in Atlanta. The reason for this isn't hard to understand. Perhaps ten or fifteen years ago, talented young actors and actresses who aspired to major success inevitably moved to New York City, which was the center of theater in America. Alternatively, they might go to southern California, and try breaking into films or television. In both places, they waited tables and generally lived the lives of "starving artists" while auditioning for every possible part and hoping for the big break. But as the New York theater scene declined substantially in size, many actors and actresses realized that they could do more real acting by moving to several medium-sized cities where vigorous communities of people interested in theater were beginning to flourish.

It is now widely recognized that these regional theater scenes (Atlanta, with Louisville and Minneapolis, are the top three in the nation) are staging many innovative and very high-quality productions, some of which subsequently open in New York. Thus Atlanta boasts a large number of resident actors, actresses, directors, and playwrights, and, consequently, a surprisingly large number of theater companies staging some very high-quality professional productions. During the season (September through May), one often has the choice of six or seven different plays at one time. There are very few U.S. cities where this is the case. It is really quite a luxury, and one of the ways in which Atlanta is an unusual and rather cosmopolitan place. If you have only seen plays in high school or community theater productions, there is much to be learned from seeing a highly talented cast in a professionally staged production: the live theater can have a powerful effect — sometimes exhilarating, sometimes sobering, sometimes infuriating, but always surprisingly powerful. If you only have limited time for taking advantage of Atlanta, please consider the unusual opportunity it provides for learning about theater.

Before describing several of the city's top theater companies, let me stress that you don't even have to leave
the campus to see some very fine theater. Tech's own theater company, Dramatech, puts on very high quality productions throughout the year, and at a price that’s right: last year, tickets were $2.00 for students. You should call Dramatech (ext. 4-2745) or check current issues of The Technique for the Dramatech schedule. My understanding is that Fall Quarter will see two one-act plays, Woody Allen's God and Aristophanes' Women in Power.

There are ten or more professional theater companies in Atlanta. In the following paragraphs, I describe the five which, in my personal opinion, are the best (please be aware that this is very subjective, and you could certainly find differing opinions). When I discuss season schedules, I’m drawing from information currently available. One should always call in advance to confirm dates, times, and prices, and to make reservations. Most companies stage performances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights (usually at 8 PM) and on Sunday afternoons. The prices aren’t cheap (often between $10 and $15 per ticket), but many companies have student prices, especially on Thursday nights and Sunday matinees. Just call and ask. There is no perfect way to keep up on what’s available, although the “Weekend” magazine in the Saturday Atlanta Constitution-Journal has a theater listing which is close to comprehensive. The same is occasionally true of the free weekly Creative Loafing, but only occasionally.

Actor’s Express is the newest small theater company in town, beginning its third season this month. Located in a purple warehouse at 280 Elizabeth St. (follow North Avenue to Manuel’s Tavern, turn right on to Highland, follow Highland to Elizabeth Street), the founder and artistic director of the Express is a very young Chris Coleman. The company is known for the dazzingly rapid pacing of its productions and for putting on a very wide range of works, including classic’s, the most avant-garde plays from New York and Britain, and world premieres. Currently running at the Express is Ponce de Leon, based on an oral-history of one of Atlanta’s most colorful streets. It is written by an Atlantan, R. Cary Bynum, one of whose earlier plays had the longest-run of any play in Atlanta. Ponce de Leon stars Brenda Bynum, the playwright’s wife, and possibly the very best actress in town. It runs through October 21; call 221-0831 for information.

From November 2 through 30, the Express revives one of its biggest hits from last season, The Dreamer Examines His Pillow, by John Patrick Shanley, who wrote the screenplay for the film Moonstruck. Emily Merkle gives an extraordinary performance, and I highly recommend this one, with the proviso that it includes very strong language; and a lot of it. If there are words which offend you, you should probably skip it. Dreamer will run in repertory (alternating) with Four Great Songs from First Grade, a dance-theater piece by New York choreographer Steven Petty, described as “extraordinary” by The Village Voice.

Rounding out the season at Actor’s Express are Gift of the Magi: A Musical (December 7-30), Eric Bogias’s Drinking in America (January 7 through February 1), a modern adaption of Euclid and Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (April 11 through May 26), and the world premier of Atlantan Steve Murray’s comedy, Hungry to Bed (June 6 through July 28).

Horizon Theater Company is another very excellent small theater company, called “Atlanta’s best” by Atlanta magazine and praised for “the most consistent production quality of any theater in town” by Constitution critic Dan Hulbert. It’s housed in the Little Five Points Community Center, a former school building at the corners of Euclid and Austin Avenues: drive down North Avenue two blocks beyond Manuel’s Tavern, turn right on Moreland Avenue, and make a 45-degree right turn on to Euclid Avenue (the intersection of Moreland and Euclid is the heart of the Little Five Points neighborhood); Austin Avenue will be on your left after three or four blocks. For information about Horizon productions, call 584-7450.

Horizon begins its season on October 4 with Richard Greenberg’s Eastern Standard, running through November 17. Its second production will be a revival of one of its best shows from last season, Terrence McNally’s Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune (December 13-29). Starring David Milford and Nita Hardy, this is the story of two middle-aged lonely hearts who take one last gamble on love. It is both funny and very touching, and I recommend it without reservation.

The Horizon features ensemble acting by a core group of talented regulars, and it provides a good opportunity to see the same excellent actors and actresses in a wide variety of roles, giving one an appreciation of the versatility required for fine acting. The company was founded by its current co-artistic directors, the husband-and-wife team of Jeff and Lisa Adler. Other shows at the Horizon this season are Patty Lynch’s What Every Cowpoke Knows (January 10 through February 9), David Hare’s The Secret Rapture (February 21 through March 23), and Angry Housewives A.M. Collins and Chad Henry.

Jomandi Productions is a very fine black theater company which stages its productions at the 14th Street Theater (173 14th St.). It has scheduled three plays for this season: Jeff Steenson’s And The Men Shall Also Gather (October 5-28), Valetta Anderson’s She’ll Find Her Way Home (February 1-24), and Tom Jones’ War Of De Word (April 12 through May 5). Jomandi puts on consistently high-quality work. For further information, call 876-6346.

The Theatrical Outfit is now the oldest of Atlanta’s small theater companies, and is going through a wonderful renaissance under new artistic director Eddie Levee, who...
has been one of the funniest and most unpredictable forces in Atlanta theater for a long time. The Outfit is located very close to campus at 1012 Peachtree St., across from the Midtown MARTA rail station. It is housed in an old building in the area, having been razed for a proposed mall, the brainchild of a now-defunct corporation financed by junk-bonds and leveraged buyouts. The Outfit's season begins with Bruce Jay Friedman's Steamboat (September 26 through October 27), which was staged by Dramatech several years ago.

Also on the Outfit's calendar are Appalachian Christmas (November 14-December 22), a revival of last year's wonderful Christmas play, an Edgar Allan Poe festival (January 16 through February 16), Kevin Heelan's Right Behind the Flag (March 13 through April 13), and An Odd Night in an Odd Place, by Eddie Levi Lee and Phillip DePoy (May 8-June 8).

The Alliance Theater is the largest and most prestigious company in town, being the only Equity company and housed in the Woodruff Arts Center at 1280 Peachtree St. Although the Alliance is historically conservative, it has just appointed as its new artistic director a 34-year-old black Atlantan, Kenny Leon, who has put together an exciting and highly varied season. The current show is David Feldshuh's Miss Evers' Boys, about a racially-charged medical scandal that rocked the South (through October 27).

The Alliance season continues with an adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol (November 13-December 30), Chekhov's classic The Seagull (January 8-February 16), Neil Simon's Broadway Bound (February 26-April 6), and August Wilson's Ma Rainey's Black Bottom (April 23-June 1). For information about Alliance productions, call 892-2414.

And this is not an exhaustive list. There are other companies in town which often produce excellent shows: Just Us Theater Company (753-2399), Nexus Theater (688-1970), Seven Stages (523-7647), Theatre Gael (876-1138), and Theater Emory (727-6187), which, like Dramatech, uses both professional and student actors. Theater of the Stars brings touring shows of current or recent Broadway productions, which are staged for short runs in the remarkable Fox Theater at 660 Peachtree St. Among others, this year's season includes Andrew Lloyd Weber's Cats (November 27-December 2) and Michael Bennett's A Chorus Line (March 19-24).

So you begin to get the idea. There is a wealth of live theater in town. Last year, a friend of mine suddenly realized that she had seen four different plays in one week. That is what makes Atlanta a great town. Tech students (and faculty, for that matter) don't have enough time to take full advantage of this opportunity, but it would be a shame and a waste not to sample it.

### FM Radio Stations

By David Burgess

87.9 Wireless microphone
Techwood Hall, classic rock, alternative, campus news

"Experimental Radio
Techwood, a service of the Techwood Hall Council" (east campus only)

88.1 Columbus
classical, NPR news/All Things Considered

"Peach State Public Radio"

88.5 WRAS
Ga. State Univ., alternative, talk shows

"Album 88"

89.3 WRFG
Little 5 Points, jazz, blues, bluegrass, alternative, classical

"Radio Free Georgia"

90.1 WABE
Atlanta, classical, jazz, NPR news/All Things Considered, talk shows

"Peach State Public Radio"

91.1 WREK
Ga. Tech, alternative, Reggae, jazz, rock, GA Tech sports

"Atlanta's Alternative"

91.9 WCLK
Clark College, jazz, blues, NPR news

"The Jazz of the City"

92.9 WZGC
Atlanta, classic rock

"Atlanta's Classic Z93"

94.1 WSTR

Smyrna, easy-listening, light rock, light jazz, football

"Star 94"

94.9 WPCH
Atlanta, easy-listening, new age

"Peach"

96.1 WKLS
Atlanta, classic rock, pop

"96 Rock"

97.1 WFOX
Atlanta, R&B, beach, rock 'n' roll

"Fox 97, Great Oldies All the Time"

98.5 WSB
(958.5 FM, 750 AM), Atlanta, slow stuff, easy-listening, popular

99.7 WPWR
Atlanta, pop, some rock

"Power 99"

100.9 (splatter of 99.7 due to poor engineering standards)

101.5 WKHX
Atlanta, country

103.3 WVGC
Atlanta, soul

"Z103"

104 WYAY (duplicate of 105.7)

104.7 WALR
Atlanta, light rock

"Atlanta's Light Rock"

105.7 WYAI
Atlanta, country

"Y106"

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The North Avenue Review September 1990
NOTE: This article is targeted towards entering Freshman, however - upperclass people might want to browse it in order to remember the “Good ole Days…”

The Tech Experience

by John Cross

Howdy all! How’s your Tech experience going so far? Bored yet? Let’s hope not; you haven’t even been here for a full week! Besides that fact, if you can get bored at Tech then you have either done it all or at least think you have. Anyways, I’m writing this standard hype-you-on-school letter with some humor (hopefully) and some useful advice because, after all, you’re at school now, and that means you’re on your own and can use all the help you can get (lets face it, brains and common sense don’t always go together).

You all probably got the same advice from your parents that we did, you know: don’t forget this and do this and so forth. Don’t worry, we either forgot it as soon as they left or ignored them too, and in honesty, it’s a good thing we did. I mean think of all the fun we would have missed if we didn’t talk to strangers! Face it, the bun on the way to The V (that’s Varsity, got it?) can say some darn interesting things, and unless you’re one of the unusual ones that came here along with half of your graduating class, most of the people around you are strangers or at least strange. So let me take the time now to put you on to one of the best pieces of advice you can get: Make friends around your dorm, excuse me, Residence Hall (you’ll understand this one later, for now just know that the housing dept. is a bit touchy). If not for the Hell of it, then think in practical terms (I know it involves common sense, but try). These are the people that are going to help you find your room when you stumble in at 3:00 a.m., that might complain when the stereo is too loud, that you’re gonna live with for the next 9 months, that might try to stumble into your room at 3:00 a.m…. This way you at least know the person that wants to sleep on your floor (note: I’m not advocating those weeknight trips to Grumpy’s or Spring Break but they do happen, and for those among you who are a bit slow, please note that I just mentioned two possibilities for an entertaining night and no I’m not getting an advertising kickback). By the way, people you should meet include your RA (Resident Advisor) because they’re friendly, fun, helpful, throw great parties, and can green sheet you for the parties you throw. As a point of introduction, I’ll let you ask them what a green sheet is.

Now that we have ‘home base’ covered, let’s move on to interacting in a Tech society. First thing, you have to understand what is being said around you and this means being fluent with the lingo. There’s too many catch phrases for me to go into, so just be aware that you need to pick them up, such as landmarks such as The Hill, The V, and SAC prominent on your list. Oh, TBS (sorry but it does happen and you need to be aware of it so you can avoid it) and SHAFT (it only hurts a little while) are phrases that you need to become familiar with on your own, with the help of a gorgeous blonde, or the nearest Calculus or English professor. This brings up the second major point of advice (besides the “novelty of Dating at Tech”): Study today, and don’t put off till tomorrow. I know, you were the Academic Stud in HIGH-SCHOOL and didn’t have to study and breezed through with straight A’s; well that ain’t gonna happen here. I was 14th out of 400 in my class, made a 1400 on the SAT, and managed two D’s my freshman year. Quite an eye-opener ain’t it? (No they weren’t in English, I exempted those) I’ll suggest now that you invest in a course critique, because not all Profs are created equal. Tech is hard folks, but not impossible, so buck up campers...

Let’s see, I’ve covered people and classes so far, what else might you run afoul of? Ah, money and campus activities! We’ll talk about cash first. We both know the equation that Money = Fun (it has another form involving limits and credit approaching zero but we’ll save that for after Calc 3) and we also know that money is in high demand and subject to shortages (by the end of the year you will not only be able to time to the millisecond an air-track sled, but also the time it takes for your parents’ deposit to be credited to your account (note: C&D is a better bet than First Atlanta — strong opinion)]. So with money being such an important resource to your fun and entertainment it might be wise to save where one can, wouldn’t it? Well I’ll tell you now that food (let me capitalize that) FOOD is the biggest expense your going to have. In order to cut back on this may I suggest Kroger Runs [det. Something Run: where a group finds someone with a car and persuades said person to play chauffeur, corollary: Something Hop: using Marta and foot power, i.e. Cub Foods], avoiding Fast Food (such as Wendy’s) or Expensive Food (such as ARA; although the grilled chicken is pretty good), and looking for special deals. Specials! You will learn to love the words “Free Food,” and “Buy 1 get 1 Free.” Some hot spots for these are Arby’s (20% discount with ID), Subway (Free Drink with ID, this may or may not come back this year), and Cajun Joe’s (Buy 1 get 1 Free specials now and then). So to sum it up, be...
practical and starve a little while you wait for the latest cash inflow or learn to cook and use those kitchens that are down the hall.

Hmm, last topic. . . Campus Activities. I’m sorta lost on this one, since there’s so much to do. You all have your catalogs and can read through them to see what we have; from athletics to interest groups and everything in between. By the way, I do have a bias since I’m in a fraternity and strongly urge you to go Greek! [just thought I’d mention that]. So go out there and get involved [subliminal: go Greek!].

In some of the activities offered! I’ve found rugby to be a relaxing sport [just joking, it’s fun but not quite relaxing], the NAR (that’s what you’re reading now) and the Technique are always looking for staff members along with the Blueprint, and you can even learn how to sky or SCUBA dive if you get involved. Above all do something that interests you, and allows you to blow off some steam. Seriously though, whether you join a Fraternity/Sorority [give it a try now, or wait till sophomore year] or not, whether you come and play Rugby or write for one of the publications, get involved with Tech and do something with your time here.

Well folks, this stuff should get you through the first few weeks at least and give you time to set up with your own crowd. So I’m gonna leave you with some of the more advanced things to try after you’re all settled in. Study breaks to the awful Waffle House (right next to PonyTails and can prove both entertaining and instructional) or IHOP [the Imaginary House of Pancakes (EE humor)] during early morning hours, let’s say about 2:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m.; or better yet, hit the Majestic during the same time period [build up to this one by hitting the Waffle House first]; walking back to the dorm after an evening at PJ’s or the Wrek Room (two more night spots to try, oh and don’t forget Bash’s); eating a dozen 3 Mile Island wings at Crickets by yourself [experts only!]; and finally, try going to class with Tech’s own legend, George P. Burdell, for a day.

John Cross, Pi Kappa Phi, gw4000a

PS: email welcome if you can figure out how to send it.

WEAR YOUR RAT CAPS!!!

More hip than twin peaks! How the Grateful Dead got their start! Nelson Mandela did it while he was here! What is it? It’s ORGT (Outdoor Recreation Georgia Tech)! Get involved! NO, we really mean it; Get involved! Drop by the ORGT Triangle (past the police station on your way to Bash Riprock’s), or check the ORGT bulletin board in the Student Center (across from the c & S machine, by the game room). Or call any of the following people:

- Backpacking: Nathan Rowland 874-8714
- Canoeing: Marshall Fox 873-4578
- Caving: Mark Jones 252-8692
- Kayaking: Harriet Griffiths 875-6239
- Rafting: Saskia Wittig 875-5927
- Rockclimbing: John Stewart 872-8837
- General: Barry Tolnas 873-4835, Suzi Beaumont 894-7420, 894-6267

Life is not a spectator sport!

by Suzi Beaumont
Take MARTA...

by David Burgess

The Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority operates a system of buses and trains in and around Atlanta. The fare from any point in the system to any other point in the system is only $1, which is less than the wear on your car driving across town and much less than parking downtown.

Ride MARTA and explore Atlanta, but remember that this is a dangerous city. Use good sense, stay out of dangerous areas, and you'll be just fine. But if you're caught alone, late at night, in the wrong area, your life may only be worth ten or twenty dollars. That's not scare-talk, it's a fact.

Food Cost Codes:
* lunch special for $5 or less.
** lunch or dinner for less than $5.

Five Points (not the neighborhood Little Five Point)
This is the transfer point from the East/West line to the North/South line. It is the busiest station in the system.

Underground Atlanta is a large mall area accessible directly from the station.
You don't always go to Five Points for a particular reason. For the suburbanite or small-town native, the street vendors and busy atmosphere often make this downtown area seem like a carnival.

There's usually a woman on the corner of Peachtree St. shouting about how America has chosen the road to Hell, along with a dozen or so Rastafarians and Muslims selling fresh fruit, candy, sunglasses, jewelry, etc. It's important to note that the importance of a MARTA rail station can be gauged by the number of street vendors in front of it.

There are a few worthwhile discount stores and cheap restaurants (*) in this area. Explore the area outside of the Underground.
One of the few MARTA-accessible Turtles Record stores is near Five Points. Just go North on Peachtree about a block.
Don't wander around downtown alone at night.

Going North:

Peachtree Center
MARTA is the only reasonable way to get downtown. Driving in this area is difficult and parking is expensive.
Check the maps before leaving the station, because the North and South exits are a few blocks apart.
This is the deepest underground train station in the world.
North Exits:
Peachtree Center has a mall area with a newsstand and a few places to eat.
Peachtree Plaza is the tallest hotel in the world, and the top floor offers a great view of the city on a clear winter day or night. The Atlanta bus terminal is across International Avenue from this hotel.
The Atlanta Federal Building (NOT the Richard B. Russell Building), including I.R.S. offices and a government book store, is near the North end of the station.

South Exits:
Woodruff Park is an interesting spot and the sight of various demonstrations, a real must-know for the political activist. There are a few fast food places around the park, as well.

Civic Center
The closest stop to that place known as the Civic Center. Be careful when you exit the station though, turning in the wrong direction at first can send on a little walk.

North Avenue
This is the closest put-in point for East Campus residents. Just go East on North Ave. until you see the MARTA signs. It's about three blocks from Techwood.
Junior's Grill**, Wendy's*, J.R. Cricket's, Varsity**, Hong Kong Dragon* are all along the way. Fox Theater, Gorin's Ice Cream, Rio Mall are farther down the street.
Do not go South beyond Techwood Hall from East Campus. This area is like a demilitarized zone most of the time. Casualties stack up three deep in the
...It's Pretty Smarta

halls of Grady Hospital on weekends.
The North exit of the station is inside Southern Bell center. Within the center there is a small mall area with a newsstand and a few places to eat. Athen's Gyros* is across the street from this exit. The North entrance may be a good choice for East campus residents. Take the Third Street tunnel and continue on Third for two blocks.

Midtown
This is the closest put-in for West Campus residents. The easiest way to get to the station is to go out in front of the old church at the corner of Hemphill and Tenth Streets and take bus 37 going East. The station is about seven blocks down Tenth. There is also a MARTA bus service into the campus (98), but check the schedules before using it. A rail transfer is included in the bus fare, so ask the driver if you intend to ride the train.

The station is very close to Peachtree, where other buses are available going both North (23) and South (10, the Peachtree Trolley) along the street.

Frijoles**, Chabu**, Brother Juniper's*, Touch of India, Cotton Club, Sitar Indian* (Sitar's vegetarian lunch is less than $3).

Arts Center
Site of the Woodruff Arts Center, High Museum of Art, and the Atlanta College of Art. The admission price of the High museum depends on the day and time of your visit, so call for details before planning a trip.

This is the closest station to Piedmont Park. To get there, walk down 14th street (about five blocks) or check the bus schedule.

You can also catch bus 10 south on Peachtree, or walk over to Peachtree and catch bus 23 North to the Amtrak Station, Rocky's Pizza, Oxford Books, Fantasyland Records, or Buckhead.

Houlihan's, Petrus, Frijoles**.

Lindberg
You will exit adjacent to the Gold Club (nudisrip-joint) and across the street from a Zesto** (like a Dairy Queen in a time warp).

The station is also within walking distance of number of dull but useful shops, including a K-Mart, Radio Shack, Office Depot, a Spanish-language video rental store, an Hispanic Grocery, and a Waffle House (all in Lindbergh Plaza), and a Cub Foods, Home Depot, Turtle's Records, and Drug Emporium farther along Piedmont Drive in the same direction.

You can catch bus 39 to Buford Hwy. It goes as far North as Plaster Road, passing Sportstown and Windfare.

Lenox
You guessed it. This is near Lenox Square Mall. Phipps Plaza is also nearby, as well as a Tower Records. Lenox offers lots of expensive shops and department stores and a food court with a wide selection. The Upper Crust is hidden back in the corner of the Lenox parking lot; go there for good but expensive pizza.

A new station, Buckhead, is scheduled to open in this area so the yuppies don’t have to walk the extra two blocks to get to Phipp's Plaza.

Brookhaven
This is about as far North as most Tech students get on MARTA.

This is a good place to catch bus 130 to North Buford Highway. It goes from Plaster Road into Doraville, beyond the parameter, passing Delta Electronics, Old Sarge Army Surplus, half a dozen Asian grocery stores, and a Home Depot along the way.

Atlanta CD, Gorin's Ice Cream, check for a bus to nearby Ogletorpe Univ.

Chamblee
This stop is listed mainly for historical reasons. This was the site of the hijacking of a Domino’s Pizza by a Mr. Noid, claiming he was the subject of personal attacks by the company. A bus is available to the former site of Mercer’s Atlanta campus.

Going South:
This is the closest station to the Atlanta City Hall complex, Fulton County Courthouse, and the Atlanta Pretrial Detention Center. Check the station map to find your way. Everything of interest is to the East of the station.

This is the closest station to the State Capitol building, the one with the gaudy gold dome. You can't miss it. Buses are available to City Hall and the Sheriff's office.

This is the closest station to Little Five Points. To get there from here, go East on Dekalb Ave. to the overpass on Moreland Ave. (about three blocks) and then go North on Euclid Ave. (another two blocks) or check the schedule for bus 48.

This was an important site in the Battle of Atlanta, so if you are walking, stop to read the historical markers on Dekalb Ave.

It is not advisable exit the South side of the station. Reynoldstown is a good place to get shot in the head.

Decatur

Past the city of Decatur, this is the closest stop to the Dekalb Farmers' Market. It's about a five block walk, or take bus 120. The bus passes a few antique dealers, automotive salvage yards, and Asian grocery stores along the way, and then continues on to Stone Mountain Park.

This is a great area for bicycling, but MARTA only allows bikes on evenings and weekends, and then only in the last car of the train.

King Memorial

Martin Luther King Memorial. Go check it out one day, and maybe volunteer some of your time to help out.

The Cabbagetown historical area is only a few blocks North of the station, but don't try the walk at night.

Inman Park/Reynoldstown

This is the closest station to Little Five Points. To get there from here, go East on Dekalb Ave. to the

Avondale

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Going East:

Georgia State

This is near the site of Georgia State University, where Tech students have library circulation privileges. The GSU library is in a building at the corner of Decatur and Collins Streets. Further location is left as an exercise to the reader.

This is the closest station to the State Capitol building, the one with the gaudy gold dome. You can't miss it. Buses are available to City Hall and the Sheriff's office.

Decatur

This stop marks the site of that famous place Tech males love to visit--Agness Scott College. Exit on the East side of the station turn right. Walk down a block or so, through the tunnel and you're practically standing on the campus.

Edgewood-Candler Park

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Going West:

Omni

If you are going to the Omni or the World Congress Center, take MARTA. Walking is dangerous and parking is an expensive nightmare.

Westlake

This station is less than a block from Westview Cemetery.

Hightower

A bus is available from Hightower to Six Flags Park.

A few other stations adorn the Marta Route, but there really aren't a whole lot of commercial businesses or anything to see there (some of them aren't even listed here).
Despite what many people may tell you, it is possible to get around Atlanta by bicycle. The trick is to know when to go, and the best routes; at the same time you must find a place to park safely when you arrive at your destination.

Campus bicycling is getting more popular despite the new “advanced” bike thieves. A good way to spoil their attempts is to properly use one of the two special bike racks on campus. These racks, located next to Skiles and the CE building, require a lock only, and are fairly thief proof. Of course these racks may be filled, good luck then in finding a safe place. Registering your bike with the police might aid retrieval, and is recommended. Being paranoid is also advised. Perhaps a Tech student could devise an electronic device to shock some thief in the a** when they sit on that newly stolen item.

The next obstacle to be surmounted in bicycling around Atlanta, and Tech, is the hills. Actually, avoidance of hills is the best idea. If you decide not to get a car, or cannot afford one, then purchase some baskets or panniers for your two wheeler. These will allow you to shop at larger retail grocery stores, like Kroger or Sevananda Health Foods (in Little 5 Points). Consult the maps for the routes to these locations. If you decide to travel farther, consider taking the train, for they allow bicycles on the last car at all times except weekday rush hour (7-9 a.m. and 3-6 p.m.).

If relaxation and exercise are what you desire, consider biking up into Northwest Atlanta. This area offers scenic roads, little traffic, and many possible rides. Another fun idea would be to bike to Chastain Park for a game of frisbee golf on their nine “hole” course. For those seeking accompaniment on day rides, or weekend trips: check out the Southern Bicycle League. They have many rides around Atlanta, and Georgia, for all levels of fitness. A good example of one of the SBL’s day rides might be the Manuel’s Tavern ride, which begins and ends at Manuel’s after a 15 mile jaunt through the city (drink and socialize after). Check a local bike shop for a list of their starting locations and times.

Realistically not that many people will actually decide to become bike warriors of the city. The streets are narrow and the traffic is at many times heavy. Yet, for some, this is the thrill. To glide between grid locked cars, or to break 100 traffic rules in a day gives some of us a real tweak. The frustrations of studying are relieved by yelling at traffic, zipping in and around obstacles, and of course that every so often thrill of a near crash.

Lethargy is all around us, the choice is yours: to be or not to be. The converts will swear by it, others will swear at it, but I’ll just recommend the most efficient, fun, and affordable form of transportation: bicycling.
STUDENT GOVERNMENT AT TECH...

by J. R. McCoy

The most central characteristic of student government at Georgia Tech is the fact that the huge majority of students have very little or no interest in it. It's probable that most students have little knowledge of how student government is structured, and even less about what it does. Without a survey to verify that statement, it remains a surmise, but what is indisputably demonstrable is that most students do not participate in student government.

In this year's election for Undergraduate Student Body President, only 12 percent of the eligible students bothered to vote in the first round (there was a subsequent run-off between the top two candidates). In the election two weeks later for Undergraduate Student Council, voter turnout was only 10.4 percent (982 of 9045 eligible voters). Of the 61 Council seats that were up for election, 19 candidates were unopposed (representatives for the junior class, Architecture, CE, EE, ICS, Materials, ME, and Physics). Another six positions had no candidates at all, and later had to be filled by presidential appointment, approved by the Council.

Why so much apparent apathy? It's not because student government is unimportant: as explained below, the USG annually disposes of a budget in excess of $1.3 million, and this is money which comes directly from student fees. As Mason Persons argues (see his article, "The Parking Disaster - Or How Tech Really Works," elsewhere in this issue), a more plausible explanation than apathy is the simple fact that most Tech students are constantly pressed for time. As new freshmen will soon learn, this is no party school and students are kept extremely busy just trying to survive academically. Most people don't seem to have the time to participate in many outside activities.

The purpose of this article is to provide for all students some more information about Tech's student government, in the hope that it will encourage more students to become attentive and active, or at least promote some vigorous discussion about why there is such a high level of apparent apathy, and its possible consequences.

Alphabet Soup: SGA, USG, GSG, USC, etc.

The Student Government Association (or SGA) is the official name of a very complicated governmental structure. The SGA has two halves: the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) and the Graduate Student Government (GSG). This article will attempt to describe the USG, its principal components and functions. The
organization of the GSG will be described in another article.

The USG is structured according to a Constitution of 10 single-spaced pages and a 17-page set of By-Laws. In addition, the members of the Undergraduate Student Council (or USC, the legislative branch of the USG) are provided with an extremely helpful 22-page "Representatives Handbook," which was compiled by Cliff Norris, who is the 1990-91 USG Treasurer, chairman of the USG's Internal Affairs Committee, and also a senior class representative in the USC.

To be honest, reading these documents is an incredible chore. While many of their very specific details are undoubtedly necessary, a lot of it also seems extremely bureaucratic, not to say trivial. I found myself really unable to find the line between the necessary and the trivial, and began to see why most students might not take the time to learn a great deal about the USG. The article that follows is based on a careful reading of these three documents, on interviews with several USC members, on my observation of four or five USC meetings, and on a number of articles from the 1989-90 Technique, but it should be stressed that I am not a member of the USG in any capacity, and there may be errors or misunderstandings in what follows. If there are, they are solely my responsibility, and I hope readers will write to the NAR to point out any corrections that may be necessary.

How Is the USG Structured?

The USG has an Undergraduate Student Body President (currently Stacia Smith) and an Executive Vice-President (currently Mark Russo) who are elected by all undergraduates who care to vote in the annual election. A Treasurer and a Secretary are elected by the Undergraduate Student Council, and need not be members of the Council (although the current incumbents are). The Council has 63 members, 21 of whom are elected to represent classes (3 for seniors and 6 each for juniors, sophomores, and freshmen), 33 members representing various degree programs, weighted for the number of majors (the largest major, EE, has five representatives and eight small majors each have one representative), co-ops have six representatives, and varsity athletes have one. The entire Council elects two additional, at-large members at its first meeting.

The USG also has eight members on the 10-member Joint Finance Committee (JFC); the other two members are from the Graduate Student Senate. In addition to the USG Treasurer, the Undergraduate Student Body President appoints the other seven USG members, designating one of them as chairman of the JFC, who also has the USG title of Vice-President of Finance (currently Garrett DeVries). The JFC is arguably the most important of the many SGA components, as it reviews all financial bills drawing from the various SGA accounts and prepares the Annual Student Activity Fee budget. This is the procedure for allocating money from the Student Activity Fees paid each quarter by full-time students. This fee is currently $38 per quarter, and the 1990-91 Student Activity Fees budget was approximately $1.3 million.

The JFC does not have the final word on the budget or financial bills. It makes recommendations to the USC and its graduate counterpart, the GraduateStudent Senate. These two legislative bodies will vote separately on all such financial recommendations. Whether or not a bill is approved depends on a complex formula (called the Enactment Ratio) which basically provides that the votes of the two bodies are weighted according to the total number of full-time graduate and undergraduate students. To pass, a financial bill must have an Enactment Ratio equivalent to a 60 percent majority.

The USG also has nine subject-matter standing committees (things like Academic Priorities, Athletic Seating, Campus Organizations, etc.). In order to be on one of these

...HOW MANY SENIORS COULD EXPLAIN IT TO A FRESHMAN?

The North Avenue Review  September 1990  27
committees, one has simply to show up for the meetings. The nine are open for input from any student who wishes to volunteer time and energy in order to help make things run a little smoother. The process to select USG representatives to various Institute governing boards and councils (such as the Radio Communications Board, the Student Center Governing Board, the SAC Governing Board, and the Executive Board of the Resident Hall Association) involves being appointed by the President of the USC (the applicant must be appointed that is) and having a majority vote of approval in the USC.

When Are All These Elections?

All USG officers and Council members serve a one-year term which begins the first week of Spring Quarter. The elections for these positions are thus held in Winter Quarter, on dates set by the USG Elections Committee. In 1990, the voting for Student Body President and Vice-President was scheduled for February 2 through February 6, and the run-off election was held from February 9 through February 12. Voting for USC representatives was held from February 16 through 20.

For the first time in 1990, voting for all these positions was on-line through the Student Access Menu of GTNET. Students could vote during the day, but were encouraged to vote at night, as they would have easier access to the menu after normal business hours. To vote students had to choose the Miscellaneous menu (pick number 5) on the Student Access Menu, and then SGA Elections (pick number 3 on the Miscellaneous Menu). There was some discussion — not very much, actually — about the possible effect of switching to on-line voting. Some thought it would increase voter turnout, others thought it would reduce the already low levels. In the end, there was little significant change in turnout levels. Some candidates later made the intriguing argument that the "types" of students who would vote on-line were different than those who would vote in an election using the old paper ballots. It’s a very interesting suggestion, but I can see no way to determine an accurate answer.

It would also be very interesting to know what percentage of students knew that there was a new voting procedure, and when and how to follow it. When the change was announced, Alan Priest, the chairman of the USG Elections Committee was quoted as saying: "we plan to flood the campus with information on voting." How many students were aware of this flood? This is not necessarily a criticism of the Elections Committee, but perhaps a suggestion that there are few effective channels of communication at Tech. Ads and articles in the Technique, and posters around the campus (in designated areas) are the major methods used. I once heard a professor say that this was "the most fragmented campus community" he had ever known, and, if I understood the point correctly, one sign of that fragmentation is that there is no single channel that effectively distributes information to all members of the community.

What Can You Do About All This?

It's obvious that an individual student doesn't have to do anything about student government; in fact, that's the norm. But, while you can obviously do as little as you want to, the more important point is that you can probably do as much as you want to, also. For starters, you can find out who your SGA representatives are (contact the SGA office in the Student Center). You can attend the meetings of the USC, which are held every week on Tuesday nights.

You can vote in the elections. Let’s face it, a 10 to 12 percent voting turnout rate is abysmal, especially since Tech students obviously have some common interests and encounter many, many problems that could and should be remedied. If you complain constantly (and who here doesn't, usually with good reason), then shouldn’t you attempt to be part of the solution? You could even run for office. In 1990, the deadline for applying to run in the February 16th-20th elections for class and major USC representatives was February 9th. The schedule will be roughly similar in Winter Quarter, 1991. Consult the SGA office in the Student Center and/or read the SGA news and announcements in the Technique. Don’t be cynical or apathetic, be informed and involved.
The Student Advisory Council (S.A.C.) to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently (August 23-26) held its summer conference at the Jekyll Inn, on Jekyll Island Georgia. Now, most of you are probably wondering: 1) What is SAC? 2) What is the purpose of SAC, and 3) What was accomplished this summer?

Well, for starters, the S.A.C. was formed by the Board of Regents in 1968 at the behest of then Chancellor George L. Simpson, Jr. The S.A.C. is an organization composed of student leaders from the 34 colleges that make up the University System of Georgia (publicly funded colleges). The two main purposes of the S.A.C., as chartered by the Board of Regents (Regents) are:

1. To provide a forum for communication and recommendation between the students of the University System (all 172,000 in the System) and the Chancellor, the Board of Regents, the State Government, and the public, concerning problems and issues which are important to students, and
2. To promote better Student Government in institutions of the University System through sharing of information and providing assistance in programs and activities of the member institutions.

Now, of the two, S.A.C. has really concentrated on the first of the two charges. More specifically, S.A.C. has done well in communicating needs and concerns of students to the Chancellor and the Board of Regents. Traditionally we (S.A.C.) have put forth the greatest effort in working on issues we find to be problems throughout the System and presenting our recommendations to the Chancellor and the Regents every Winter quarter. This year is certainly a time to change that. We have, through the limited view of simply addressing the Regents, not addressed the rest of the first charge and the second change in an appropriate manner. Now, exactly what do I mean by this? Well, take for example, the former. In the first charge, as previously stated, S.A.C. has worked well with the Chancellor Council (S.A.C.) to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia recently (August 23-26) held its summer conference at the Jekyll Inn, on Jekyll Island Georgia. Now, most of you are probably wondering: 1) What is SAC? 2) What is the purpose of SAC, and 3) What was accomplished this summer?

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Most Students In The University System Do Not Know Diddly-Squat About Their Local Student Governments
And Even Less Know Anything About The S.A.C.

Patrick J. O'Leary Jr.,
Academic Affairs Chair, S.A.C.
but also in providing assistance to students, programs, and activities of the member institutions. S.A.C. exists for students, but the vast majority of students are not even aware that S.A.C. exists.

Now don’t get me wrong, I do not want to turn this into a S.A.C. beating article. (Especially since I am entering my fourth year as a member of S.A.C. myself). What we, the S.A.C., need from all of you students out there, is feedback. I know, from experience working with student government in SAC, that a lot of students are apathetic and distrustful of/dislike their student governments. Not only do your host student governments need your help, we do too. In the second part of this article you will find committee reports from our Summer meeting. If you have any example cases for any of the issues, any suggestions for any of the issues, or any suggestions for the SAC itself not mentioned here, please contact your local student government or myself. (address at end of article)

The SAC is composed of the following three standing committees: the Academic Affairs Committee, the Student Life Committee, and the Internal Affairs Committee. For the purposes of this article the minutes of the Internal Affairs Committee will not be included as the committee handles internal SAC issues, not external ones.

The issues at Hand (Academic Affairs Committee):

1. Transfer of Credit
   Two years ago SAC presented a transfer of credit resolution to the Board and there was not very much done about the problems in the System. One of the problems then was that students transferring from two-year schools to four year were facing problems with basic core classes that were taught at the freshman and sophomore levels at two-year, and junior levels at four-year. One of the cases brought up then, and again now, is that at Georgia Tech the policy is “due to the intellectual differences between two year and four year schools, classes taught at the freshman and sophomore levels there will not be accepted for credit.” Research is still being done on the matter, so if you run across any cases, please let us know as soon as you can! Patrick J. O’Leary Jr. is in charge of this issue.

2. Teacher Evaluations
   Billie Nyc (Dekalb North) has been researching this topic for the last year and has given her final recommendations on where her research stands. Her recommendation, to definitely recommend the every class, every quarter faculty evaluations, was backed up by a rather long report on the different evaluation policies throughout the System. Current Board Policy only requires that professors be evaluated once a year, so a change in the actual policy of the Board will be necessary if this is to be passed. Working on a proposal to be ready by Fall Conference.

3. Developmental Studies
   Initially the problem brought up here was that some students complained that once a student is placed in the Developmental Studies program, it is impossible to exit until the entire sequence is passed. i.e. if a student starts at the beginning of a D/S series, let’s say math 95-99, then that student must complete all four math courses in order to exit the program. The students in question want a setup so that if they do well enough in each course, they could be tested at the end of each to exit the program. Several other points were brought up regarding the computer scoring of the entrance tests. Both a student (Dekalb college) and advisor, remarked that hand scored
tests results are generally higher than those that are run through the machine. Why this is, the chair has several unproven rather nasty theories, so the report will simply read, in an overall case, that research is being done by the affected parties for further action fall quarter. The Dekalbs are heading up research on this one.

4. Appeals
Colby Edwards (Georgia State University) and Marcus E. Williams (Fort Valley State) are researching cases in this area. Problem arose out of a student’s appeal being heard by the college president, and awarded, but the president said “So What?” This signifies that if a student wins an appeal against anything (in this case a professor) and the president does not want to do anything about it, the student is S.O.L. and nothing is done about the professor (where this is pertinent). A preliminary proposal will be written by fall conference.

5. Academic Probation
Problems arise if a student is placed on academic probation (for whatever reason, here the example was cheating), said student may transfer out of the institute currently enrolled and into another unit of the University System. This transfer is done without penalty to the student and students doing so lose no ground, if continuing in their major studies at the same pace, as students in the unit that was left. This is unfair not only to the students in the original unit, but to those in the transfer unit if said student was placed on academic probation for cheating. Under current policy, the registrars are supposed to review the applications, but apparently the machine has become so large that a lot of people are slipping through. Also of note that at the University of Georgia students placed on suspension may go on independent study at the University, still not losing any ground compared to students in the same program.

6. No Forgiveness Policy
Tracy Boyd (Columbus College) is researching the matter of the University Systems No Forgiveness Policy. As it stands right now, if a student takes a class and makes an “F” and then retakes the class and makes an “A”, both grades appear on the transcripts. Example given for other systems was the De LaSalle University System (France) where a student in the preceding example would have the first grade dropped from the transcripts. Some pointers on this were that it was unfair to students who made it through a class the first time with an “A”, but likewise students who retook the course paid for it twice.

7. Geography
Vincent Otuonye (Atlanta Metro) raised the question again about including in the core requirements a class in geography similar to those of political science and history. Every year we are bombarded with statistics about students who do not know where anything is on the map. College students, not just high school students. Research on the matter is being done by Scott Orr (Georgia Tech).

8. Georgia History & Politics
John Fox (Georgia Southwestern) raised the question about why students who transfer into the University System from an out of state school, or a private school in the State, must take a test on Georgia History and Politics when students who take POL 101 and HIST 101 (or 102) do not. Unit schools supposedly satisfy the requirements for the test that are administered even though all they have to do is mention the state of Georgia one time in politics and one time in history and the requirement is satisfied. Another aspect raised is that students, when preparing for the test, are simply given the material to study and told, “Study it.” In the case of Southwestern, and several other schools in the system, there are enough students transferring in from out of state or private schools to fill a class on the subject for an entire quarter. Whether a one hour, two hour, or three hour course would be appropriate is secondary, but there are enough students in cases to form classes on Georgia history and politics. One side note of interest is that passing the test in Georgia and US History is a requirement by law of the Georgia General Assembly, Board Policy simply conforms to the matter.

9. A simple request
was made to check on the policy of withdraw after dropday due to hardship. It seems that for some schools there is a problem where students have to fight to get the W instead of the WF. Research is being done.

10. Multi-Ethnic Class
The idea of having a history class that covers the histories and/or impacts of different cultures being feasibly offered to satisfy the core curriculum (as an elective in place of Hist 101, 102, and so forth) was rather quickly brought up. Want a
regents policy listing such so that it, if taught, will transfer throughout the University System. Georgia State just went through a process spearheaded by Mr. Dwayne Redding, for offering African-American History as a required class in addition to Hist 101 & 102, but the decision from State was simply to offer it as an elective in the core. Linda Streater from Dekalb South will spear-head our research on this matter.

11. The Police
The last topic thrown around, brought up by Lynda Paynter from Floyd, was about the idea of having a police force that would randomly look at colleges and how they (the colleges) are abiding to the current Board Policies. Big con appears to be that with the budget crunch, a new committee in the Regents offices would not be likely and that SAC or the various student governments will still be the main force no matter what. Further research as to what nature we need to do with SAC and/or the Regents and various student governments is being done.

Well, as you can see the Academic Affairs Committee has had rather productive conferences (most of this work was started last spring). The report from the Student Life Committee contains:

1. Immunization
As was demonstrated last spring quarter on the campus of the University of Georgia, college students are at high risk for spreading contagious diseases. The main issue discussed is whether or not all students entering the University System should or should not be required to be immunized.

2. Well/Stress Management
One suggestion raised concerned the matter of how students handle stress on campus. Certain examples cited of the negative involve cases of suicide, fights, tension, etc... What can be done to help people in general? Several schools indicated that such programs are already in place in the student services offices (Georgia Tech for one) & it was suggested that everyone look into how their own campuses handle the issue.

3. Non-traditional Student Program
Discussion centered on what colleges and Student Governments can do to attract and help non-traditional students feel at home in a college atmosphere. As studies indicate, the number of students graduating from high school nationwide will drop considerably over the next ten years. Coupling this with an already increase in the enrollment of non-traditional students, it does not take one long to realize that very soon non-traditionalists will be a major force in the student body. Some schools (such as Georgia State University, Dekalb College, and Kennesaw, to name only a few...) have average student ages in the vicinity of 28. Georgia State has a Non-traditional Student organization which is comprised solely of non-traditionalists.

4. Red Ribbon Day
During drug awareness week, October 20-28, 1990, the 23rd of October will be recognized as a day of protest against the use of illegal drugs. The main idea here is to wear a red ribbon and show your support for a drug free society.

Now, if you have any suggestions for any of these topics; if you've had any specific problems mentioned here; or if you're plain pissed off, send your remarks in! (well, write them down if that's not too much trouble). You can a: drop suggestions/remarks c/o Patrick J. O'Leary Jr. in box 30987 (campus mail), b: send them directly to S.A.C., 344 Washington St. SW, Atlanta, GA 30334.

Patrick J. O'Leary Jr.
154, 5th Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30313
404-607-7734
404-651-2236

Academic Affairs Chair,
Student Advisory Council to the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia
Program Guide

SUNDAY
The Sunday Classics 5-7 PM
A broadly based look at 'classical', or 'art' music. From Gregorian plainsong to the latest in modern composition, the Sunday Classics attempts to survey the entire range of instrumental and vocal classics. Music by small and large groups and by composers, famous and obscure will be programmed. Occasional thematic programs will explore aspects of the classics in detail.

Sunday Special 8:30-10 PM
Ninety minutes of music by the featured artist(s) of the week.

Personality Crisis 10-11:30 PM

MONDAY
Radio Dialogue 6:30-7 PM
From the Woodrow Wilson Center, issues in international affairs, culture, and history.

Ragamuffin Rock 7-8 PM
Join Jeff Dillinger in the fight against apartheid, fascism, and oppression. Freedom reggae.

Continental Drift 8:30-9:30 PM
Rob Gislon has the whole world in his hands and music from all over the planet. Tune in for international music.

TUESDAY
The Mind's Eye 6:30-7 PM
Radio dramas based on classic stories.

Earwacks 7 PM...
A new album played in its entirety for your listening pleasure.

Stupefact 8-9 PM
WtW Mills will air the hardest non-metallic musical substances known to man, and make the collector nerd sweat. Rock 'n' roll the way god meant it to be!

Live at WREK 10-11 PM
Hear some of the best bands from Atlanta (and occasionally some of the worst) perform live in our studio just like the old days, before tape recorders, recorders, and CDs. Tune in for info.

WEDNESDAY
51 Percent 8:30-7 PM
A public affairs series that looks at how the news of the day affects women, and how women affect the news.

Notes From Underground 7-8 PM
Join host Beth Slater for low frequency rumblings. Electronic-industrial-experimental music to suit most occasions.

Destroy All Music 8-9 PM
Over half a decade in the making, Noise for noise's sake, art for art's sake, and everything in between. Hosted by Ellen and Glenn.

Greek Like Me 9-10:30 PM
George Magiros is Greek and plays experimental noisotronics, music to soothe the nerves of any on-sale system.

Live at the Knitting Factory 10:30-11:30 PM
The cutting edge of music as performed at the Knitting Factory in New York City. A different artist is featured every week.

THURSDAY
The Environment Show 6:30-7 PM
A public affairs program dealing with environmental concerns.

Earwacks 7 PM...
A showcase for WREK's best new music: an album or CD played all the way through. Every Thursday and Tuesday night.

The Beat Box 9-10:30 PM
90 minutes of madness with nonstop main' and scratchin' of hip hop and house with host Subtle T and his posse.

WREKage 10:30 PM - 1 AM
Host Mark Delgado will bring you some of the hardest and most progressive metal in the nation. Stay tuned for Night Reign, metal's non-thrash zone.

FRIDAY
Ramblin' On WREK 5:05-7 PM
A show covering the recorded history of the blues, from down and dirty blues to contemporary blues. So tune in and get 'em with host Matt Sickles.

Classic Rock Album 7 PM...
Before CD's and even before celluloid, when vinyl was king, these artists roamed freely before their extinction. Rare albums from the 60's and 70's played all the way through.

Stoneangle... 10 PM
Host Don Mead brings you real blasts from the past, classic rock, obscure hippie music, and more!

SATURDAY
The Comedy Show 12:1 PM
Laughter is the best medicine, if we can't keep the doctors out of business, at least we can get rid of the chiropractors.

The Desoto Hour 7-8:30 PM
A showcase of uniquely American music which evolved from ragtime and blues and is characterized by propulsive syncopated rhythms, polyphonic ensemble playing, varying degrees of improvisation, and deliberate variations in pitch and timbre, in other words - big band jazz! Hosted by Fred Runde.

Best of the Mixers' Dub Sessions 11 PM - 12 AM
Join Arthur for continuous riddim as he hits the highlights of WREK's four Mixers' Dub Sessions.
Georgia Institute of Technology

Emergency Telephones

Know WHAT to look for and WHERE . . .

OUTSIDE (SIDE VIEW)

INSIDE BOX

HOW TO USE . . .

Simply press the Red Emergency Button and the Ga. Tech Police Dept. Dispatcher will be automatically dialed. Your location is automatically known by the dispatcher.

Emergency phones are strategically placed for your safety and convenience.

Locations of Emergency Telephones

1. S.A.C. Field (Curran St. & McMillian St.)
2. Textile Engr. Bus Stop (Atlantic Dr.)
3. Old Architecture Bus Stop (4th St.)
4. College of Mgmt. Bus Stop (Ferst Dr.)
5. S.W. of Boggs Bldg. (on sidewalk)
6. Commons Bldg. (McMillian St.)
7. A.A. Bus stop (3rd. St.)
8. McAfee parking lot (North Ave.)

Georgia Tech Police Dept. 894-2500
Warning, Warning, intellectual attack!

The content contained herein, to wit, the section of this magazine entitled fishrap, contains elements deemed by some to be "art." It is worthy of mention that these "artistic" elements, in their effect on the reader, might invoke thought or possibly even introspection. In this regard the following few pages might be deemed offensive, dangerous, or subversive. It is suggested that overly sensitive readers close their eyes and their minds while partaking of this heady brew we call fishrap.
Shoe Salesman

Past pointed fingers and through casual stares
He walks in the shoes that aren't really there
He staggers through life and falls to the ground
One day to the next he is lost and not found.
He wears the shoes that no man wants to wear.

On spiked high heels and with tangled sprayed hair
She lurks on the corners and works anywhere
Two hundred an hour, or more for the night
She takes them all home and turns out the light.
She wears the shoes that no girl wants to wear.

He bundles his arm and then pierces with care
In hopes that sweet dreams will soon be his there
He flies and he crashes and smirks in his glee
He'll give you dreams too if you pay him his fee.
He wears the shoes people die just to wear.

In shoes of great glory he treads with great care
And speak fine opinion, no he doesn't dare
While burning a symbol you'll see his face spoil
This king of the state who should battle for oil.
The popular shoes are the ones that he wears.

The wise and the lucky go barefoot.

Ryan Todd
melanin means
misery for many
crushed slap-jack
under the Invisible Hand

S. Danyo
A very strange man just sat down here while I was drinking my coffee and reading Genesis from the Bible for my women’s studies class—the first time I had read any part of the Bible since I came to college. I decided to be an atheist—he just threw his stuff onto the chair next to me and went to the snack bar and returned with candy and cigarettes. He was very loud. He sat opposite of me. He offered me a sour apple lollipop, gum, a cigarette. I refused all three, indicating that I was perfectly satisfied with my coffee.

“So what do you do besides sit around here studying and looking cute?” he asked with a wink as he leaned back in his chair, sucking on a green lollipop. He was very loud. “What are you reading?” he questioned before I could answer his first question.

“Something for women’s studies,” I said quietly, feeling slightly annoyed at his intrusion. “Oh well, gotta go,” he joked. Then, with another wink, he leaned forward and asked, “So how are they doing?”

“Not too well,” I said, nervously uncapping and recapping my fluorescent highlighter marker. I was aware that I had a goofy grin on my face. It had been there ever since that remark about being cute.

“Yeah, there’s a lot of bad stuff out there,” he said. I couldn’t tell if he was serious. I felt slightly embarrassed. My embarrassment caused me even more embarrassment. I wanted to change the subject.

“Sorry about the smoke,” he said, changing the subject for me, “It’s been a hard day.”

Next I learned that he was a law student. I sat smiling while a mixture of amusement and disgust pumped through my veins and drugged my brain.

“Guess how much money I will be making next summer?” was his next question. Of course I guessed wrong. He was glad to correct me.

“You know, I really don’t know why I am going to law school. I don’t need the money. I’m at the top of my class. It’s always the ones who don’t need the money who are at the top of the class,” he told me as I sat speechless, capping and recapping that yellow marker. I had highlighted my whole right hand by this time.

“Where do you live?” he asked, allowing just enough time for me to say, “Midtown.”

“Midtown! I hate Midtown. That’s one of those places where people bug you. There are all these bums always asking for money and just bugging you. Virginia-Highland is like that too. People just won’t leave you alone. I live in Buckhead. Buckhead’s a different place. What time is it?” (I show him my watch) “I’ve got to go. Have you ever been to the Majestic? Well, I was there at six A.M.: minding my own business,” (he winks) “reading the New York Times and circling things and I had to go outside and buy a Journal-Constitution. and there was this woman hanging out by my car and she was pretty rough looking and I said ‘Get the hell away from my Beamer!’ and she just stood there and then this man came up and said ‘She’s not doing anything, leave her alone!’ and I said ‘Tell her to leave my car...”
the fuck alone!—excuse my language but this made me mad. I can’t wait to go back to San Francisco. No one bugs you in San Francisco.”

“I’ve been there,” I managed to break in, “I loved it!”

“Oh, really? Where did you stay?” he asked, discarding the gnarled stick from his lollipop and unwrapping another. “Oakland,” I answered, smiling as I remembered. I wanted to go back. Badly. I knew I would someday.

“Oakland! Oakland! Why the hell did you go there?” He screeched, leaning too close, “Oakland is horrible! Gross! I said, quoting some percentage.

“So?” I asked, even showing my annoyance for once.

“It’s like Atlanta,” he answered vaguely, “I don’t know—they treat you bad. You know, like saying ‘Oooh—you’ve got money,’ he said, screwing his clean-cut face into a sour scowl and poking at the air with one finger. I didn’t say anything. I didn’t have a chance to. He quickly changed the subject to his future as a lawyer and how much money he would make. I wasn’t smiling anymore. I fiddled with my empty coffee cup, wishing it would magically refill. This guy was unbelievable! This was the kind of guy my friends and I referred to when we talked of yuppies, greed, sexism, sexism, racism... What was he doing at my table? Did I look like the kind of girl who would enjoy his company? These thoughts and many like them flashed through my head like neon signs at cheesy truck-stops, yet I continued to gaze intently at the Polon-clad law student, listening with interest. I was intrigued by this boisterous, over-bearing, loud person. He was the antithesis of all I believed in. I was spellbound.

“I’ve got to go,” he said for about

Oakland!”

“What’s wrong with Oakland? Why don’t you like it?” I asked, dropping my marker on the table.

“Oakland!” He said once more, as if the name of the city itself tasted bad, like soured milk, “Do you want to know everything or just the top 200 reasons?”

“The top ten will do,” I conceded.

“First of all, I’m not racist, but...”

“... How many times had I heard that?

“But what? Is there a lot of racism there?” I asked, giving him the benefit of the doubt.

“Well, there are a lot of blacks,”
the tenth time. He did not stand up. He leaned back languorously, his buttoned-down body emanating leisurely while his hands and eyes twitched nervously. I wondered briefly if he was taking amphetamines or cocaine or if he got his fix from all those green apple lollipops.

"I went out with this girl and didn't know she was sixteen—I'm twenty-six—and we went to this party. You would not believe what seventeen year old rich kids do at these parties. There was a girl dressed up in a red velvet dress with red stockings and high heels and white sunglasses and I was just minding my own business" (a wink) "when she asked me if I was a pedophile—you know what that is, don't you? A pedophile—can you believe it?"

"That's really messed up," I said, frowning. "That's not all!" He said excitedly, leaning close, "She said, 'I'm seven years old!'"

"Was she?" I asked incredulously, still smiling with my mouth. It was a tight, nervous smile.

"No—she was about nineteen," he said.

"Was she just demented or do you think she was molested as a child?" I asked, hoping to delve into deeper matters. I was interested to find out what this strange and evil man thought—if he did think—at a deeper level.

"I don't know—they said she couldn't have been because she grew up in Palm Springs," he answered.

"That doesn't matter! Those things happen everywhere!" I cried out, my smile a bit warped.

"Yeah—at this one party I went to they had this girl's cousin tied up. She was about twelve, maybe thirteen. They asked me if I wanted to fuck her. Excuse my language," he said loudly, biting into the green lollipop with a sharp crack.

"I know," he said almost quietly. After a pause that lasted for maybe a second, he asked, "What are you doing Wednesday night?"

"I'm going to a poetry reading," I answered, thankful that I didn't have to lie.

"Too bad. Two blonde, rich Nordic types who go to law school with me and I are going to pile into the Beamer and smoke Danish cigars and go to Club V around 11:30. You should go. Do you ever go to the Masquerade? It's a reggae bar. Go there Friday. The other day, I went to work out—I work out every day—racketball, tennis—and I heard reggae music and I went outside and took off my shirt and danced and I had on my cool Little Five Points pendant and it was swinging around. It looked cool. I worked out and had dinner. I had a good day. There's no need to be sad. I hate it when people say 'Have a nice day.' Why not have a nice day? I'm not just happy because I have money. Poor people can be happy, too. I just want to finish law school, make a half a million, buy an island and move there so no one will bug me. I will retire and spend my time reading."

"I'm just going to read now and be poor," I commented, smiling almost apologetically.

"Some people think money is an end but it's a means. Those people aren't happy. I've never had to worry. Well, I've got to go. Go to the Masquerade on Friday."

"Yeah," I murmured, pressing my fading smile onto the edge of my empty coffee cup.

"If you don't go, have a nice life," he said as he strode away, leaving a crushed out cigarette, a pile of green apple lollipop wrappers, and a styrofoam cup on the table.

"Goodbye," I said, more to myself than to him, as I pulled the xeroxed literature I had been studying out from under my notebook. The only section I'd highlighted so far glared up at me.

Then the Lord said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent beguiled me, and I ate."
In the NAR...

The North Avenue Review:

I would like to commend the NAR, its authors for the three excellent articles on gun control, which you recently published: a conservative article by John Cochran (issue #8), the liberal article by Stacy Johnson (issue #7), and the self-described “centrist” article by David Burgess (Issue #9). These articles were all well-written and thought-provoking. I especially enjoyed the articles by Cochran and Burgess, perhaps because my own gun-control views are quite liberal and I was predisposed to disagree with these views. I learned some things from both articles, and have been forced to rethink some of my positions, and (this hurts) even modify them.

I think this illustrates the real action and the great potential of the NAR. It is good to see more conservatives taking the time to write such thoughtful articles. I particularly wish to thank Mr. Cochran for his effort. It was difficult to understand how conservatives (I guess the College Republicans are the leading example) could objectize the NAR for being too one-sided when they would not take the time or make the effort to write articles presenting and defending their views.

There is one point on which I wish to differ from Mr. Cochran’s article. He states that strict city or state gun control laws (he cites Atlanta, Washington D.C., and California) are not correlated with lower rates of violent crime. I think this is a manifestly unfair comparison, since one can travel easily and freely across city and state lines in the U.S., so that local gun control laws are easily evaded. Indeed, one can live in Washington, D.C. and enter Maryland (even knowing it, and entering it, is not much more difficult). Surely better comparison would be between cities with sharply differing gun control laws. Of course cultural differences may obscure any relationship in this case; but if you look at countries with quite similar cultures (for example, the U.S., Canada, and the U.K.), you will find that Canada and Britain have much stricter gun control laws, and that they both have rates of violent crime per capita that are about one-seventh of the U.S.

I would also like to make a suggestion for a new format through which NAR could promote even better and more focused debate on important issues. Why not have two writers who sharply disagree (one liberal and one conservative, perhaps) write short articles on the same issue, and then let each write a short response/rebuttal to the other’s arguments. Something like the old “Point-Counterpoint,” but using an A-B-A-B format, all in one issue. Since any debater knows the value of having the last word, the two writers should take turns leading off the debate. Two possibilities might be your writers Steve Donkin and Allan Yarbrough, since they are both obviously very bright and very good writers. (One possible defect here is that Donkin is so very left-wing and Yarbrough so very right-wing that the moderate “center” would get lost.)

It seems to me that such a format (all in one issue, short articles) would help clarify the differences between the two ideological positions and encourage readers to focus on those differences, perhaps extending the debate further and even (is this permitted at Tech?) growing intellectually. For example, in one of your first issues, Mr. Donkin began an excellent debate with his article, “Is Capitalism Inherently Anti-Environment?” John Hannon responded to Donkin’s article (in the Technique, which sort of hijacked the debate) and then Donkin answered Hannon’s response. Because the debate occurred in three separate issues (and, in this unfortunate case) two different publications, it was hard for readers to follow the arguments, which, as a consequence, were never clarified in a very useful way. For example, Donkin posed the question “is capitalism inherently anti-environment?” The answer, for anyone who reads history or looks at the air in Atlanta is “obviously yes.” Hannon attacks Donkin’s proposed solution, by asking “Is socialism the answer for correcting present levels of environmental damage?” The answer, for anyone who is conscious of events in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, is “obviously no.” The real debate should be about what kinds and degree of governmental regulation of capitalist economies will be most effective.

It’s obvious that capitalist systems lead to great environmental damage and that socialism is not a politically realistic solution to anything at the present time. If the two sides of this debate had been forced to engage each other in the same issue of one publication, perhaps the debate could have been extended into more useful areas.

Again, thanks for publishing articles from a more diverse point of view. Stimulating debate is what the NAR should be all about, and more and more people on the campus will begin to recognize this.

J. R. McCoy

Letters

Response from the NAR:

We would like to thank you for your suggestions concerning how the NAR could more effectively present focused debates. The only problem is that the NAR does not assign topics; writers chose their topics freely. On occasion, we are lucky enough to be able to print two opposing views on the same subject in the same issue. For example, in issue 6, there were two articles containing opposing views on sexism, and in issue 7 there were two articles containing opposing views on gun control. Usually, however, an opposing view is printed in the issue following the original article, when a reader has had a chance to respond to an article with which she or he disagrees. The NAR does, however, feel that the format of alternating views and rebuttals in one issue is a good idea, but, of course, whether this format happens or not depends on who shows up at the meetings.

The Supreme Court Nominee

To the editors:

In the last issue of the Review, Alan Yarbrough presented some interesting opinions on the nomination of a Supreme Court Justice. He stated that a specific issue, such as abortion rights, should not be an interest of the Senate Judiciary Committee in reviewing a nominee. He stated that instead, the nominee should only be questioned on his dedication to upholding the Constitution. He specifically referred to original intent, judicial restraint, separation of powers, the federalist principle, and...
equality before the law.

The first argument against such an asinine statement is rather clear: the Constitution and its architects are not infallible, and in changing times, the Constitution does not always necessarily truly represent the people (which still is its intent, right?). What would the United States be like today if the only Supreme Court Justices ever chosen had to adhere to such a blind loyalty to the Constitution? If it is a requirement for the Supreme Court, then it would stand to reason that all judges would be evaluated in the same manner. If the Constitution were so perfect, then I suppose that only 3/5 of the black male vote would count today. I would not be allowed to vote at all.

The second argument is just as obvious: it is the right of the people of this country to know the opinions of those who represent and govern them, since these opinions will weigh heavily on policy making and interpreting. Granted, the people do not elect a Supreme Court Justice directly; however, the voters will have an influence on whether or not their senators approve the nominee. To know how the lawmakers or interpreters are inclined to vote on serious issues is not an unreasonable request. Many women would like to know if Souter is anti-abortion. What is a "litmus test" issue to Mr. Yarbrough could very well decide the rest of many women's lives.

It is rather simple for Mr. Yarbrough, who is a sexist, anti-choice male, to rant about the insignificance of Souter's position on abortion. Mr. Yarbrough will never be directly affected by Souter's position. I wonder, however, if Mr. Yarbrough would take the same stance on single issues in a nomination if the issues affected him directly.

Finally in his article, Mr. Yarbrough had to throw in his snide insult which claimed that most pro-choicers are "Constitutionally illiterate." I don't think that this is the case; there is a difference between ignorance and caution. Just because pro-choicers do not worship the Constitution as God's law like Mr. Yarbrough, does not mean that they are not aware of its contents. Mr. Yarbrough needs to open his eyes and realize that it is our duty as citizens to evaluate our lawmakers and laws; not blindly follow them.

Stacy Johnson
p.o. 31047
Democracy is the most important word that has not yet been mentioned in connection with the move to abolish the state primary runoff election. Several black Democrats have filed a lawsuit asking the courts to abolish the primary runoff. They believe that a black candidate would have a better chance to be Governor without it. Originally, the plaintiffs had asked the court to block the runoff this year. It would have made no practical difference in this year's election. Zell Miller would have been the Democratic nominee with or without a runoff. Recently, the U.S. Justice Department joined the plaintiffs seeking to abolish the primary runoff by judicial decree.

Runoff in Black and White

by Dale Gillis

Runoffs were invented because vote splitting by similar candidates leads to absurd results. Suppose we use election totals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Runoff, if any</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zabrowski 40%</td>
<td>Albert 60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert 31%</td>
<td>Zabrowski 40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alberta 29%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If no rule requires the winner to have an absolute majority, then Zabrowski is the so-called winner because he has a "relative majority" or plurality. But suppose that Albert and Alberta are very similar, as are their supporters. They usually agree with each other, but disagree with Zabrowski on everything. The Albert/Alberta voters are a mandating majority of 60%, but without a rule requiring an absolute majority, they are entitled to nothing. Sixty percent loses and forty percent wins. The most commonly used way to enforce a majority requirement is a runoff.

A more advanced system would allow voters to send third choices, and this would eliminate the need for a primary. If no candidate achieved a majority, their second choices would be added in, and if necessary the third choices. Besides the moral or theoretical aspect, there is also a practical problem of eliminating primary races. Primaries produce candidates, hopefully with a chance to win the election. A candidate who has the genuine and uncoerced support of voters of one party is a weak candidate.

Returning to the lawsuit, the only slender thread in the plaintiffs' favor is that northern states do not have a runoff. These northern states are assumed to be non-segregationist tendencies. Since Georgia does not use a runoff in the general election, its use in the primary seems to demand explanation. When a majority winner fails to emerge in the general election, the legislature elects a Governor from the top three candidates. Lester Maddox became Governor this way.

No one seems to have considered the possibility that the southern states are right about the value of the primary runoff. It is more democratic, so the southern states are more democratic on this point. Perhaps Georgia should use the runoff method in the general election, instead of election by the state legislature. If there is anything to be said for the legislature electing the Governor, the voters should know about it ahead of time.

Who is a Federal Department to pass judgment on Georgia's vote for Governor? The Federal method of electing a President is completely irrational. Until the 1960's, Georgia had its own version of the Electoral College, but it was declared unconstitutional by the Federal courts. Called the county unit system, it worked like the "automatic plan." The automatic plan is a version of the Electoral College that eliminates Electors but retains winner-take-all by states. In its rulings on reapportionment, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the county unit system is incomprehensible in a democracy. Yet the Federal government continues to elect its President with a method that it has declared absurd and discriminatory for the states.

Two districts in Georgia were without a Congressman for a month in 1982 due to a Federal court ruling. The re-election of Wyche Fowler and Elliott Levitas was delayed because of a Justice Department suit against Georgia. These are the seats now occupied by John Lewis and Ben Jones. Georgia had not tried hard enough to create a district that would elect a black, the suit said. The original decision blocking the primary for Congress said that the election would not be held until Georgia produced
acceptable boundaries, under Federal guidelines. Voters might wonder if they would ever get to vote on a Congressmam. Levitas’ district had elected a Jew from a largely Baptist district, but this show of tolerance was of no interest to lawyers. Without comment, Supreme Court Justice William Brennan refused to extend the deadline for submission of boundaries, causing the election to be delayed.

This case seems to be unique in the history of the nation, although there is little comment about it. Ordinary mortals might think that the U.S. Constitution requires Congressional elections to be held. Levitas was a critic of the EPA and of its Administrator, Anne Gorsuch, who had not resigned or been indicted yet. If the election had been delayed another few days, Levitas would have missed crucial committee votes on holding Gorsuch in contempt of Congress. Now let us return to the present controversy.

Do black Democrats believe that white Democrats cannot represent them? If so, this is much the same as saying that blacks believe that the Democratic party does not represent them. They are free to leave the Democratic Party and form their own party. This possibility is one reason for believing that a lawsuit over election laws is not needed. It is possible, of course, that the lawsuit only shows the ambitions of a handful of prosperous blacks. If they left the Democratic party, the masses might not follow. Surely it would not be good thing for every ambitious politician to go to the courts asking for changes in election law.

To do away with runoffs, for the possible benefit of black candidates, would strike a blow at principles that are taken for granted. What is multi-ethnic democracy, or melting pot democracy, based on? It is based on the belief that a politician can represent people of various ethnic groups. It is based on the assumption that a British-American can represent those of Italian, Mexican, or African descent. A politician can be aware of these groups, go after their votes, understand their concerns, and act accordingly. A group might prefer a politician of the same extraction, but they can get most of what they want without that cosmetic victory.

If politicians cannot represent people of different ethnic groups, then melting pot democracy is unworkable. If that is so, then democracy requires ethnic uniformity.

So far, the quality of debate on the primary runoff is abysmal. Editors and political scientists have commented on whether eliminating the runoff would help black candidates. Whatever answer they reach, they are asking the wrong question. How is it that no one has asked, “Do the voters want a runoff? Should they want a runoff?” The purpose of an election is to express the will of the voters. No one has bothered to ask whether a majority requirement with a runoff helps the voters express their opinion. It is clear that it does.

It is important to grasp the relation between basic values like democracy, liberty and equality. Democracy is the power of the people to control the government, in personnel and policy. Liberty means that the individual has a wide range of choices, even when others do not agree. Since liberty can never be complete, equality says that everyone should have the same basic liberties. Conservatives define equality as equal treatment under law, while liberals put more emphasis on economic equality.

The inability of liberals to grasp the value of a runoff is related to their suspicion of democracy. Throughout the world, liberty exists only where there is democracy, one follows from the other. South Africa is closest thing to an exception, but it is also a country where both democracy and liberty are restricted. It is not necessary to believe that the people are infallible to believe in democracy. You only need to agree with Lincoln, that you can’t fool all the people all the time.

Today, liberals seem to reject this view. They often imply that liberty and democracy are opposites that cannot be reconciled. They often make liberty more important than democracy, and sometimes think that equality is more important than liberty. It does not occur to them that people know when they are oppressed, or oppression will generate opposition. While I call myself liberal, I no longer expect to agree with the liberal establishment on anything, due to their misunderstanding of democracy.

The Direct Election Amendment would have abolished the Electoral College, but it never passed Congress. It was proposed by Birch Bayh, Chairman of Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Amendments, auliberal. The amendment explicitly stated that a President could be elected with 40% of the popular vote. Bayh thought this to be in accord with our history, since two Presidents were elected without a popular majority. The failure to require an absolute majority is certainly a good reason the Direct Election Amendment did not generate enough enthusiasm to pass Congress. We may have lost our chance to get rid of the Electoral College.

Controversy swirls like a tornado; after a while brain blows. Weary to the point of delirium, I talked the whole matter over with my friend, Harvey Harsh. An amateur strategist for the Democrats, Harsh dreams of election victories and lives in a replica of FDR’s private car.

“Manipulating the election laws opens up a lot of possibilities for the strategist,” he said.

“How so?” I asked.

“Fuddy duddees think of voting as a basic right,” Harsh went on, “but strategists know better. We judge election laws by their results at the polls. Take the vote to women, in 1920. What were the results? The Progressive movement was wiped out. The country’s twelve years under drowsy, inept, do-nothing Republican Presidents. Whoever the campaign manager was who suggested that ploy to Woodrow Wilson should have fired.”
Government Parts
by David Burgess

By this time, engineers at the research lab were exasperated. Obviously, TRW's prices and service left much to be desired, and the general feeling was that the manufacturer's 200% mark-up was nothing short of treason. An affordable source had to be found, but like all mil-qualified parts, this connector could be purchased only from a approved list of suppliers, who seemed to have taken advantage of the fact by placing a strangle-hold on the market. It was a familiar situation.

Fortunately, there was a new competitor. A small Texas company called Airborne had just been approved to supply micro-mini connectors for military contracts, and someone seemed to have forgotten to tell them to inflate their prices. Airborne promised ship the parts Federal Express for $75 each. The equipment was repaired and working within two days.

Most mil-qualified acquisition stories don't have such happy endings: Airborne is an exception to the rule, and no, this isn't an ad for Airborne. Outrageous mark-ups are commonplace, and battlefield-qualified parts are expensive to make anyway. Strict specifications and inspection processes require that only particular manufacturers be approved to supply any given part. Such supplier approvals lead to natural cartels, and these high prices are passed on to the public in the form of tax. I'm not sure what the point of this story was supposed to be, or how to easily solve the problems of military procurement. Personally, I have no problem with spending money on weapons, but it infuriates me to see the government not get OUR money's worth. I just thought some other people should know why our defense bills are so high.
In general, southern states have a lower Catholic population than the national average of 20%. For example, South Carolina is 2% Catholic. Logically, then, the Georgia Tech population should not include many Catholics. Based on the number of students that express Catholicism as their religious preference, however, 1 in 6 students on the Georgia Tech campus is Catholic. This makes Catholicism the largest denomination on campus.

For many entering Georgia Tech students, this means that this will be their first opportunity to interact frequently with Catholics. For some, their knowledge of Catholicism comes from people who are not Catholic themselves or from the media. Unfortunately, some Roman Catholic leaders have recently received much negative press. Earlier this year, Father Mowat was extradited to Atlanta from England because of charges that he molested altar boys at Corpus Christi Catholic Church in Stone Mountain. He plead *nolo contendere* (I do not contend) to the charges and was sentenced to 28 years in jail. During the summer, Vicki Long alleged that she had sexual relations with one nun and three priests (one of the priests was the Archbishop of Atlanta). Even though immorality does exist among members of the Roman Catholic Church, immoral actions do not reflect the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church.

It is Jesus’ words and apostolic teaching that form the foundation of Roman Catholic teaching. That is, doctrine (the entire body of Roman Catholic teaching) is in harmony with the teaching contained in the Bible. Catholics believe that God inspired the authors of the Biblical books and has continued to speak through individuals to this day. Therefore, Catholics rely on the Bible as well as other documents for their beliefs. Extra-biblical sources of doctrine include the decrees of the General Church Councils. These councils bring together bishops, nuns, other clergy, and sometimes lay people, from all over the world to interpret previous teaching so that they can solidify beliefs and settle controversies. Twenty-one such groups have met sporadically over the last 1665 years, the first being the First General Council of Nicea (in 325 A.D.). The most recent was the Second Ecumenical Council of the Vatican, commonly known as Vatican II, which was held from 1962 to 1965. It was this council that, among other things, recommended changing the language of all religious services from Latin to the vernacular (the language of the people).

**Hierarchy of Truth**

Although its teaching comes from many sources, the Roman Church presents its teachings in a hierarchy of truth. The highest level of truth includes the orthodox tenets of Christianity, which Catholics hold to be absolutely true. It was the early Church councils that defined these tenets and composed the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed to sum them up. These tenets include a belief in the Trinity (that God is One and yet Three simultaneously) and the virgin birth of Jesus (that Jesus’ mother was a virgin before and during the birth of Jesus, and therefore Jesus did not have a human father). These tenets also hold that Jesus Christ always existed (as the Second Person of the Trinity) but chose to take on a human form temporarily, thereby making Jesus 100% God and 100% Man. Another tenet states that the Bible is both wholly inspired by God and complete with respect to salvation. Simply put, salvation is the process by which God delivers individuals from their imperfection and sin. This means that the key points of how God does this are recorded in the Bible, and that the teaching of Scripture can show one how to respond properly to a deliverance from sin. The second level in the hierarchy of truth are those teachings which the Pope in conjunction with the Curia (the Cardinals and their advisors) has declared to be absolutely true. This privilege, known as Papal Infallibility, has been exercised only twice in all of history, once in 1854 and once in 1950. In both cases, widely held beliefs concerning Mary, the mother of Jesus, were decreed to be absolutely true:

Mary was taken up to into Heaven before she saw death, called the Assumption of the Virgin Mary (1854), and

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**What do Roman Catholics really believe?**

*by Brian Evans and Terry Crone*
Mary was conceived without sin and remained in a sinless state, called the Immaculate Conception of Mary (1950).

The origins of these beliefs are found among the early Christians. St. Saint Augustine wrote prolifically about them in the fourth century A.D.

The third level in the hierarchy of truth is sacramental theology. A sacrament is an outward sign of an inward gift from God. In other words, a sacrament is a tangible expression of God's love for us; it is an act which is holy because God is present in it. By definition, many actions are sacramental. In the Catholic Church, however, we recognize and focus on those Sacraments taught by Jesus Christ, namely: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist (Communion), Reconciliation, Matrimony, Holy Orders, and Anointing of the Sick. The meaning of these Seven Sacraments is profound. How they are implemented, however, has varied over the years. For example, Catholics have always believed that Jesus becomes present in the bread and wine of the Sacrament of the Eucharist (Communion), and the tangible expression here is the assumption of the Body and Blood of Jesus under the form of bread and wine. This has never changed. What has changed is who can distribute Communion and how it is consumed.

Moral theology and dogmatic theology comprise the remaining level in the hierarchy. Moral theology concerns itself with the teachings of the Church as they affect the way one lives one's Christian commitment; it includes issues of birth control and sexual behavior. Dogmatic theology is concerned with explaining the Catholic Church's teaching with regard to doctrine; e.g., physical life begins at conception and ends with natural death. Abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia are all contrary to Roman Catholic doctrine.

Individualizing this Hierarchy of Truth

Arranging truth in such a hierarchy is important because it indicates how a teaching is to be individualized. On some teachings, there is a pluralism of interpretation; on others, there is only one correct interpretation.

That is, every Roman Catholic must believe in the Orthodox Tenets of Christianity and the two Infallible beliefs on Mary. Every Roman Catholic must accept the teachings on the Sacraments. For matters in the realm of moral and dogmatic theology, a pluralism of interpretation exists.

Roman Catholics have much in common with each other - the Bible, the Sacraments, the Orthodox Tenets of Christianity, and so on. As a rule, Catholics respect all human life, be it unborn, recently born, physically challenged, or elderly. Yet, there is much diversity on how to act upon these beliefs. For example, concerning the unborn, should a person protest abortion, write letters to government officials, work at a counseling center, only pray about it, or do nothing? In many countries, the Roman Church is an outspoken critic of the death penalty, yet a Roman Catholic concludes on an individual basis whether or not capital punishment can be justified. A more personal concern for a Roman Catholic might be how to relate to non-Catholic Christians and non-Christians.

What Makes Someone Roman Catholic?

So far, this article has defined some of the key precepts of the Roman Catholic Church. Simply put, a Roman Catholic believes all the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, which includes the teachings in the Bible, and participates in the Sacraments on a regular basis. This implies that each Catholic accepts the death of Jesus as a payment for sins committed, believes in Jesus' Resurrection from the dead (which foreshadows that person's own eternal life), and commits to following all the teachings of Jesus. A natural consequence of this commitment is the establishment of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As a Roman Catholic, outward signs of such a commitment include participating in the Sacraments, feeding the hungry, giving shelter to the homeless, and simply loving one's neighbor as oneself.

*Note: The author has worked closely with Father Mario Di Lellio, O.P. M., of the Catholic Center in Geneva, Switzerland, to ensure an accurate presentation of Roman Catholic beliefs.*
Since moving to Atlanta, about a year ago, I have considered The Jody Grind to be one of Atlanta's best local bands, but only recently did I realize how much wisdom their music had to offer. This occurred just the other day, after I won one of their tapes from WRAS. While casually listening to the tape, I was struck by how right they are in claiming that "one man's trash is another one's treasure."

Although the song "one Man's Trash is Another Man's Treasure" is concerned primarily with male/female relationships, The Jody Grind have, I think, stumbled, intentionally or unintentionally, upon an even more general observation—that many members of our society derive their livelihood from other people's trash. I do not mean to imply that some people are parasites, nor am I referring to suburban teenagers from plush homes who hang out at Amvets or the local Salvation Army Thrift Store looking for "groovy" used clothes. Rather, I am referring to those people who, due to the unsympathetic and uncaring state of our society, are forced to live off of whatever refuse they can beg or find.

Just a few weeks ago I met one of these people when I tried to drop off my recyclables at a recycling center near my apartment. The center was closed, however, and would not be open for one hour; and I was in a hurry. Luckily for me, but not for her, a woman, with a few tattered bags full of newspapers and cans, was quietly waiting for the center to open. I could not tell how long she had been waiting, possibly hours, but I guessed from her appearance that, unlike me, she probably had no appointments to keep that morning. So, I offered (how very considerate of me!) to add my trash to her small pile. "Perfect," I thought. "I can recycle and help the homeless all in one shot."

Based on that one small thought, I have developed a new policy idea; perhaps we should not eliminate poverty and homelessness because the poor and homeless can live off of the trash produced by the rest of us. That way, we can continue to enjoy our exploitative, wasteful lifestyles without forcing the poor to starve.

I hope that President Bush will read this, but he should remember that I thought of this program first. I call it "The Thousand Points of Trash." Implementing this policy would eliminate the need for social programs. Why, with proper financial management, the poor can easily scrape by on $1.50 per day earned—not merely handed out to lazy freeloaders—via recycling!

Although I believe that I am on to something that is economically wise, I fear that my policy will never be implemented. Some liberal will probably invent some argument against it based upon some idealistic, unrealistic concept like justice or human dignity, and then, despite ardent support from rational, economically-minded conservatives, my policy proposal will be down the tubes. Furthermore, the same liberal that killed my proposal will probably start spouting off about compassion and equality and demand more money to fund social programs, completely ignoring that the military will need loads of money to fight Saddam Hussein. After all, for the last ten years we have neglected conservation and research into renewable energy sources, so we need cheap gas.

Well, I hate to see all that trash, I mean treasure, go to waste, but, having thought it through, perhaps I should keep my plan silent. Maybe George is right; perhaps it is better to ignore our social problems than to encourage some liberal to raise taxes, thus lowering our standard of living, and to spend money in an effort to solve some of these problems. Those of us who are at least reasonable comfortable can probably live with homelessness, but we might not survive without three televisions sets, a VCR, and $1-a-gallon gasoline.
TRUTHS AND CONSEQUENCES: The Hidden Dangers Faced by Carnivores

by Glen Stark

Any vegetarians out there — don’t read this. It is strictly written for carnivorous/omnivorous persons.

If you are still eating meat, it is obvious that you can handle the moral and ethical ramifications behind injuring and killing a sentient creature such as yourself. This indicates that you are a creature to whom other creatures have far less importance than your own desires (at least to the point at which you will kill to sate your taste for blood). That’s fine. I assume this means that you consider yourself worthy of life. If so the following should concern you.

The dangers of a diet high in saturated fat and cholesterol are well documented. The most common cause of death inside the U.S. is cardiac arrest. The risk of the “average” American man of getting a heart attack during his lifetime is 50%. According to the US FDA the risk of heart attack of an “average” American ortho-lacto (egg and milk consuming) vegetarian is 15%. The risk of heart attack in the “average” pure vegetarian American man is 4%.

The FDA states that for every 10% you reduce your consumption of meat, dairy products and eggs, you reduce your risk of heart attack by 9%. By reducing your consumption of these animal products by 100% you reduce YOUR RISK of heart attack by 90%. Enough to make the most hedonistic man take a second look at his meat habit.

The American meat industry has attempted to squeal the facts with a huge, tax-money subsidized, public relations campaign. Two of the celebrities hired to tout beef as “real food for real people” were James Gardner and Cybil Shepard. Cybil was fired, when in answer to a talk show host’s question, “How do you keep your youthful appearance and good health?”, she answered, “Well, I don’t eat red meat…” And James Gardner?

Went to the hospital in April 1988 for a Quintuple coronary artery bypass operation. Great.

Lip-syncing Low Life

by John Cross

All I can say now is that I’m glad the travesty is over with, and hope the nightmares stop soon. God, it was horrible! Tasteless music blaring at high volume, accompanied by the screams of thousands upon thousands of teeny-bopper High School kids. I’d have to say that the New Kids on the Block concert was one of the worst things Ma Tech has ever done.

Looking back with a semi-objective eye, and disregarding the fact that their music has no artistic merit and wasn’t even live, the concert was still a disgusting abuse of our campus. Traffic was horrible, due to the fact that none of the fans were old enough to drive, and the concert was a general hassle to the students. It took me thirty minutes to get from the Physics building to O’Keefe due to this raid on our campus. Tech needs to plan better for the traffic and mobs of pedestrians that come with any concert.

However, don’t take me wrong here. I don’t mind concerts in our stadium, in fact I’m for them, or I should say some of them. The concerts don’t even have to be groups I like, but I do have one requirement: Somebody at Tech should want them here.

Think about it. The Rolling Stones concert was great, there was a demand for it here, but I sure as Hell didn’t see 5000 N.K.O.T.B. tickets reserved for students. In fact, I would have fallen over laughing if they had reserved them because nobody would have bought them. Hold it, some people would have bought them to scalp to the pre-puberty fans or just to prevent others from going as a civil service.

I hope Tech has learned its lesson, and doesn’t torture its students with such “music” again. After all, we are trying to promote a Higher Institution, and hosting what most college students would term the dregs of the music scene at our school just doesn’t promote that image.

PS: Good job Kappa Sigma!
Wake Up, Wally!

Why don't you get a clue and read Thomas Jefferson's Articles of Confederation from whence the term 'separation of church and state' comes. It has nothing to do with keeping religion and morals out of politics and policy making. It is a means of protecting the people from having to worship under the religion and denomination of the states choice.

Get a clue!

by Jim Boatwright
Pornography and the First Amendment

Looking at pornography as a civil rights issue

by Brian Smith

Recently there has been much ado concerning freedom of speech in America. Some people have formed groups to attack other people for what they have created. Some people have formed unions to defend themselves and others against these attacks. Legislation has been drafted and passed, lawsuits have been filed, record stores have been raided, concerts have been watched over by police, tempers have flared, and a lot of people have been running around deciding and telling other people what is moral or what is freedom. One might think that with all of this thought and debate going on, enough people would find the root of the problem involving pornography and freedom of speech, but it seems to me that, as usual, people are getting so caught up in the war that winning the conflict has become more important than resolving an issue, and all of their efforts are now devoted in pursuit of glory. What we need to do is to remember where all of this came from, and to put the war and our preconceptions aside.

Just what is pornography? What is all the fuss about? A few pictures of women that some lonely man masturbates to now and then? A film with extensive sexual content? It is much more than that. Some people today applaud the widespread availability of this pornography. They call this as a sign of 'sexual freedom.' What they mean by 'sexual freedom' is sex free from suppression and restraint. What they mean by 'sexual freedom' is sex free from guilt and shame. To quote John Stoltenberg, "Sexual freedom has never really meant that individuals should have sexual self-determination, that individuals should be free to experience the integrity of their own bodies and be free to act out of that integrity in a way that is totally within their own right to choose. Sexual freedom has never really meant that people should have absolute sovereignty over their own erotic being. And the reason for this is simple: Sexual freedom has never really been about sexual justice between men and women. It has been about maintaining men's superior status, men's power over women; and it has been about sexualizing women's inferior status, men's subordination of women. Essentially, sexual freedom has been about preserving a sexuality that preserves male supremacy." Pornography plays a big part in maintaining men's male sexual identities, and the maintenance of men's male sexual identities is the fuel for the pornography industry. Pornography shows men how to act out their male sexual identities in sex. It shows them what things they should do to women to maintain male supremacy. It shows them that 'real men' are violent, aggressive and dominant in sex. Pornography shows men just whom they should perform these 'sexual' acts on. It shows them what
makes a woman attractive. It lets men know which parts of a woman's body are attractive, and teaches men to look at these parts as separate pieces in order to help ignore the fact that this other being is a real person, and not an object. It shows them that all women are targets for their weapons, their penises. It lets men know that women all 'want it,' and tells men that it's O.K. for them to do whatever they want to women, whenever men want to. It teaches them that in order to keep male supremacy alive, they must live out their male sexual identities at all times, and that raping women will drive the message home that men are dominant.

Pornography sexualizes the feeling of men's dominance over women. It teaches men that aggression is sexually arousing. It makes them sure that in order for them to 'get off,' someone else has to be 'put in their place.' Pornography shows men why this is all O.K. It explains to them that men are the dominant sex, and women are, and should remain, subordinate.

Some groups today believe or accept that notion that pornography is bad, because it encourages and/or depicts acts which are against their morals and/or religious beliefs. These groups think that pornography should be banned from sale because it causes and exposes 'problems of the flesh.' These groups have taken action to effect criminal laws against pornography. They have lobbied for legislation that punishes 'indecency,' as an offense against the community, with imprisonment, fines, and censorship. The crime described in these laws is based on its offense to public morals. This kind of law does not cure the real problem at all. This law does not even acknowledge that pornography is harmful to women as a class, but only denounces 'obscenity.' What is obscenity? According to these laws, a work is obscene if 'the average person, applying contemporary community standards, would find that the work, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest.' What this means is that obscenity is defined in these laws by arousal. This is a law designed to keep women, as a class, where they are now—in their place. Paraphrasing Andrea Dworkin, what would 'contemporary community standards' mean in a discrimination law in Nazi Germany? What would 'contemporary community standards' mean in a discrimination law in the pre-abolition South? What does 'contemporary community standards' mean in a current day anti-pornography law in a society where women are persecuted for being women and pornography is a form of political persecution? Criminal laws allowing censorship are not the answer to the pornography/freedom of speech problem.

Other groups today feel that pornography should be protected as speech under the first amendment to the Constitution. They understand that censorship laws including such language as 'contemporary community standards' are open to interpretation, and could be construed to mean whatever those most politically empowered would like them to mean—most likely, that which perpetuates the status quo. These groups not benefiting from the status quo understandably do not have the political power as those who do benefit from the status quo, and are trying to act now in order to prevent those with more power from being able to decide what should legally be censored. They want to make sure that their 'freedoms' remain intact. What they are really protecting is freedom for men. These groups refuse to understand that pornography perpetuates and institutionalizes the subordination of women, the same way racial segregation perpetuates and institutionalizes the subordination of racial minorities. Any group trying to win 'freedom' should make sure they're not stepping on anyone else's, especially women's.

It may seem like there's no solution. When the issue is presented as having only two sides, it seems as though the decision to be made will be either for freedom of speech or for freedom of women. Thankfully, we can have both. We need to consider pornography as a civil rights issue, and take into account the harm pornography does to women as a class, as well as individuals. Laws which impose criminal penalties for offenses against 'public morals' will not work, and don't even address the real problem. Laws which don't give women a chance to gain compensations for the harm pornography does to them are also inappropriate. What we need are laws that recognize the facts that pornography perpetuates the subordination of women as a class, and that individual women are hurt as a direct result of pornography, and provide a way for women to seek compensations for injustices borne against them. These laws need not be censorship laws at all. If there were a way for women to seek justice against pornographers causing male violence against women and perpetuating women's subordination to men, even though that way may be through costly lawsuits and long processes, then maybe the subordination of women will stop feeling so sexy, and women could finally gain freedom. Men know this, and have made sure that these kinds of laws remain non-existent. What other conclusion can you come to when a Supreme Court judge rules that non-censoring anti-pornography laws are unconstitutional under the First Amendment, agrees that pornography perpetuates the subordination of women, but justifies his ruling by saying that the subordination only exemplifies the power of free speech? The conclusion to politics like these is male ownership of women's bodies, de jure, at last.
I lived in Louisiana for the first eighteen years of my life, and hope to return there one day. It is a magical, beautiful state, with a unique history, colorful culture, and abundant natural resources. In fact, the land in southeast Louisiana is the most productive in the world in terms of oil, natural gas, shrimp, oysters, soybeans, and rice. It is also raped regularly by some of our largest corporations, and the people who live on it are among the poorest in the country. Against this backdrop plays one of the most corrupt political troups never held a stage in the industrialized world, and it calls itself the Louisiana Democratic Party.

Just so this statement wouldn’t be taken as an exaggeration, I’d like to give a political history of the party. I’d talk about vote-buying in Louisiana: frozen chickens and cheap wine the night before an election. I’d

"The right of people to cast fraudulent votes has become a central issue in an important and expensive, but relatively unknown battle between our country’s two significant political parties."

I’d talk about congressional districts gerrymandered into such bizarre meandering mazes that even the Registrar of Voters couldn’t honestly tell me what precinct I lived in. I’d talk about Governor Edwin Edwards’ indictment for gambling away two million dollars of state funds. I’d talk about how the Democratic Party put the state billions of dollars in debt despite some of the highest per capita revenues in the country. I’d talk about how five members of the state pardon and parole board were convicted on charges of bribery, or evidence of links to organized crime. I’d tell how the sheriff of Avoyelles Parish ran his election campaign from a Marksville jail cell and won with the Democratic blessing. I’d even tell about John Snyder, the Democrat mayor of Alexandria who converted the city swimming pool into a catfish pond, was committed to psychiatric care for two weeks, and then sued the city council for refusing to return him to office afterward. Unfortunately, there are so many such cases that there is not enough space or time for a full history.

Because of this history, I am proud to be a Louisiana Republican. Perhaps the Republicans are honest only because they have never had enough power to practice wholesale corruption, but in any case, they have a clean record.

When I was seventeen years old, I spent my summer working for the campaign of the district congressional candidate, Clyde C. Holloway. Clyde had never been to college, and struck many people as being a little hokey, but the was district was mainly rural, and most people were perfectly comfortable with his “down-home” mannerisms. Clyde was by no means dumb, though. He was a self-made millionaire from a poor family, and a good businessman who respected hard work. In any case, he was a local boy with local support, and he wasn’t a Democrat. Clyde was a safe candidate, offering the standard over-the-counter platform of more jobs, better living conditions, and less out-of-state abuse. He didn’t promise to change the world, but at least we knew who he was and what to expect of him.

The opposition was a woman named Faye Williams. She had been living out of state for at least ten years, but moved back just in time to qualify as a candidate, bringing along massive amounts of financial support from a bunch of rich-kid, Ted Kennedy-clone, New England yuppies: a pack of elitist, nosey brats who had no business meddling in our local politics. It was a case of liberal imperialism. Some people said a black woman wouldn’t stand a chance in the Deep South, but the district was 70% Democrat, 30% black, and she had already won the Democratic primary, so we weren’t taking chances. I worked against her not because she was a black woman Democrat but because I thought she was planted here by outsiders to serve their purposes instead of ours.

We fought a good campaign all summer, but were disrupted in mid-August when we received a box of returned postcards from an opinion-survey firm on the East coast. All the post cards had addresses in our district, and had been sent out on instructions from the national office as part of a program to eliminate voter fraud.

Confessions of a Louisiana Republican

by David Burgess

The North Avenue Review  September 1990
In Louisiana, a piece of mail sent to a voter’s registered address and returned by the U.S. postal service as undeliverable is valid basis for the challenge of that voter’s registration. Once the challenge is issued, the parish Registrar of Voters must attempt to locate the voter through information available in public records and notices in local newspapers. If the voter is located, he will be required to update his registration to reflect his new address. If the voter cannot be located, the registration is removed from the voting records. By law, each Registrar of Voters must perform a purge every four years, in which the registrar’s office contacts every voter in the parish to verify accurate registration. In practice, this rarely happens.

We had heard of the anti-fraud project before: it had proven that nearly 10% of the votes in the last New Orleans mayoral race had been cast illegally. We were told that randomly selected precincts in our parish had been blanketed with postcards with addresses taken from the current Registrar’s records and marked “do not forward.” The undeliverable returned mail was then sent to us with instructions to challenge the registrations. There were over 2000 postcards. A few were Republicans. An overwhelming majority were Democrats. A little over half were black, and therein were the seeds of unforeseen legal problems.

Being young and idealistic, I volunteered to help deliver the postcards to the courthouse. Jim Grimillion and I signed an affidavit stating that the mail was returned by the U.S. postal service as undeliverable, and quietly handed the box over to a secretary in the office. I registered to vote for the first time while we were there and after ten minutes of bickering with the office staff they convinced me that I lived in a different congressional district than my mother, despite the fact that we had the same address.

The next afternoon, we were on the front page of the local newspaper. The Registrar B. G. Dyess, a Democrat who hadn’t purged the rolls in over ten years, had accused us of trying to take away the right to vote from Rapides parish blacks. District judge Richard Lee, another Democrat, anxious to boost support in the black community, took up the cause and within 24 hours had filed a case against us in a federal court. Lee claimed that by challenging suspect registrations of black voters we were violating their civil rights, and that this was a felony. The charges reeked of political self-interest. A lot of illegal votes were probably cast for Lee and no mention was made of a nearly equal number of white registrations in the challenge, but the federal judge was taking the matter very seriously. Reporters jumped on the story like a pack of dogs, and were thorough enough to include my home address in the article.

At this point, the story becomes confused. There was a great deal of legal maneuvering and by the end of the next week Jim and I were scheduled to appear before a grand jury. Dyess and Lee found out that I was only seventeen years old when I signed the affidavit and my name quietly disappeared from the charges. About this time, FAEST V was starting at Tech, and it looked like an opportune moment for me to leave the state. Two weeks later, received a letter of apology from the president of the state Democratic party, saying the he hoped the experience had not destroyed my faith in the American political system. Meanwhile, Republican researchers began locating death certificates for many of these challenged votes for use as evidence in the upcoming court battle.

The case is still being tried home city of the polling firm mailed out the postcards, a town somewhere in New Jersey, and still has to go there every few months to give testimony, but fortunately, he no longer personally faces any charges. The right people to cast fraudulent votes has become a central issue in an important and expensive, but relatively unknown battle between our country’s two significant political parties.

I’d like to take this opportunity to say a few words about David Duke. Some of you may have heard of him. Duke is a former Grand Dragon of the Klu Klux Klan and is believed to sustain links to the American Nazi Party (of which he is also a former member). He ran for state representative two years ago in south Louisiana with a platform of no more affirmative action, strongly attractive in times of an underemployed white majority, and called himself a Republican. The president of the state Republican party, the local Monson and Presidential candidate George Bush all got on T.V. to denounce him, but he still won the election.

David Duke is now running a campaign for the U.S. Senate, has a frightening amount of support, and is still calling himself Republican. David Duke is not an official Republican candidate and does not have the support of the party. Most of the Republican leadership would kick him out if they could do so legally, and some have gone so far to say that the Democrats planted him to hurt the party name. The Republican’s have their own candidate, but no will vote for the Democrat. J. Bennett Johnson, just to keep a real anti-Duke opposition. David Duke is killing the Louisiana Republican party, so please don’t think of him as being representative of Louisiana Republicans.

"David Duke is killing the Louisiana Republican party..."
At 12:00 p.m. May 24, 1896, J.W. Powell and his U.S. Geological Survey expedition group set out on the first exploration of the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon. Their assignment, according to technical writers at Dover Books, “to fill the last white space on the map.” It’s ironic that we white folks impose our color on lands we haven’t even seen. This may be a trivial grammatical irony, but manifest destiny was (is) a horrible ethnocentricity. This region was, rather, the last red space on the map, considering the many tribes of Native Americans who lived in the cliffs, in the forests, and on the plateaus for centuries.

It Indian Thing, You No Understand
by Thomas Peake

These soon to be conquered and civilized territories were mapped, named, and cataloged as if they had never existed before. Like a child in a candy shop, we went over the mountain passes, down rivers, and up mountain peaks, naming the wonders of the West after ourselves. Or after comically trivial events. Or after miscalculations. Or after respected white folks. Or after a cultural relic. Less often we gave the terrain a name of a physical resemblance. Even less often we let the name used for centuries stand - an Indian name.

America’s prized motto is “first come, first serve,” a notion that didn’t make the demolition of Indian culture stand for one second. Recent American judiciary decisions have further strengthened the white man’s cultural imperialism against American Indians.

The use of peyote in Native American rituals is an historically indigenous practice, especially in the Northwest. A similar restrictive act against an American institution by an outside agent (perhaps an impossible scenario) would certainly be treated as invasion. We have slaughtered their fertile land, spread diseases, introduced our drug of choice, alcohol, and relocated them to dreadful locations with almost no regret or remorse. Indians are denied freedoms when they interfere with our social order. To paraphrase the Christian science monitor, modern American Indian’s culture, lifestyle, and values have all been subverted by disease, unemployment, pollution, overbearing bureaucracies, and land claims disputes.

Until April 17, 1990 federal law permitted the use of peyote in Indian religious ceremony. Legally, it was accepted since 1896 that the government “cannot inhibit the free exercise of religion” unless they pursue a “bogus government interest.” This is what protects Jehovah’s Witness children (or anyone, for that matter) from being forced to salute the flag in elementary school. In an incredible 180 degree turn, the Supreme Court has changed the precedent of the law to allow the government to forbid the use of peyote for one hour or three hours? It doesn’t make me a better human being to be in contact with all that.”

And it is a pity to see this culture go. It had an ethic, passed down from generation to generation that was realistic. Three key elements, the first being Respect. Snake was taught by his grandfather to forgo his egoism to regard others with equality. Compassion emphasizes love and concern for fellow being. Honor, having pride in your actions and taking responsibility...these are what makes life enjoyable.” This what what our technology is doing to them, and ourselves. We have been tainting the Indian since our first contacts, we named Mr. Hawkins, along the Colorado River, after W.R. Hawkins of the Powell expedition. Because, amazingly enough, he killed a deer there.

Snake feels that American Indians haveloved too heavily on the idea of man’s dominion over Earth. “That idea has led people to think that they can control nature through technology. That gives them a false sense of superiority.”

About the only thing we can do now, apart from packing it up and heading back to Europe (Snake’s jovial suggestion), is to be aware of our own faults as a culture, and try to respect the offerings of those around us. We can avoid cultural imperialism by recognizing the rights and ways of our equals. Historically, Indian displacement has occurred, unforgivably, for economic reasons. The U.S. Geological Surveys originated for the purpose of discovering areas with plentiful resources, not out of any mere curious exploration or extension of friendship.

Mr. Snake believes in equality. “Everybody, I don’t care what color, creed, ethnic origin their roots are - we’re all the same. We have common roots. In spite of all these technological achievements, we’re beginning to understand that there is a oneness to the whole universe - there is a oneness.”

A free press can of course be good or bad, but, most certainly, without freedom it will never be anything but bad...."

*Albert Camus*