FOCUS
Technique - Friday, October 6, 2006

VOLLEYBALL ON THE ROCKS
Tech volleyball struggles to gain momentum in conference play. Volleyball is 0-4 in ACC matches for the first time since 1998. Page 32

GRAFFITI TRANSLATES TO LIT
Tattooed Walls just hit bookstores nationwide. The book contains over 100 color photographs of graffiti from New York City. Page 17

Remembering the past
Tech hosts round table discussion to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 1906 Atlanta race riots

By Sirena Andrews
Contributing Writer

100 years ago there were riots that left upwards of 12 people dead in Atlanta, but few Tech students knew about this part of the city's past. From Sept. 22-24, 1906, white mobs sought out, attacked and murdered many African Americans.

The Coalition to Remember the 1906 Atlanta Race Riots recently hosted several events to memorialize the riot's 100th anniversary. These events included a candlelight vigil, radio production and several lectures. Tech participated by hosting a round table discussion Sept. 28 to discuss and commemorate the events.

Some of Tech's scheduled panelists included Rebecca Burns, author of Rage in the Gate City; John Dobbs Bars, granddaughter of John Wesley Dobbs, an African American political leader in Atlanta during the riots; Larry Keating, an Architecture professor; Ronald Bayor, a professor of History, Technology and Society; Amanda Meng, member of the Ivan Allen College Student Advisory Board; a Coalition representative; and descendants of the riot's victims.

"It's important that we recognize [the riot] happened and learn from it, since we live [here] and it happened here."

Tiffany Nettles
Second-year AE

American disenfranchisement as a platform in the 1906 race. Smith owned the Atlanta Journal and used it to espouse the necessity of ending African American suffrage in order to maintain white supremacy.

Clark Howell, as editor of the Atlanta Constitution, fought back. He argued that white Democratic primaries were "how one ought to live." He argued that white Democratic primaries and the poll tax were sufficient for preventing African American suffrage. The result was a barrage of African American men assaulting and raping white women.

Atlanta Georgian and other newspapers published similar stories, and in just one week, 12 tales of African American men raping white women rode the headlines of Atlanta's newspapers. On Sept. 22, 1906, Atlanta newspapers reported accounts of four assaults and violence erupted. By 9 p.m. that night, 10,000 rioters took to the streets.

A white mob coursed through Decatur Street, Pryor Street, Central Avenue and the African American business district. In their wake, they vandalized businesses and beat African Americans.

They threated a barbershop and murdered the people inside. The mob ripped men, women and children from streets and beat them.

Walter White, former secretary

June Dobbs Butts speaks at Tech's panel discussion "Remembrance and Reconciliation," which focused on the 1906 Atlanta race riots.

Indian orgs offer community

By Shriti Kumar
Contributing Writer

A large and diverse Indian community exists at Tech, with so many ethnic and cultural communities on campus, what makes the Indian one stand out?

"[Indian] culture is different because it is the fusion of the American and Indian culture, and in the Indian culture in which our parents grew up...this is a reflection of how connected the world has become," said Pulin Patel, a second-year Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering student.

Many Indian organizations on campus work to promote and raise awareness about Indian culture by hosting a variety of events.

The organization also participates in community service activities that India Club hosts range from different communities.

Additional social events planned by the India Club throughout the year include cricket match viewings (a popular sport among Indians) and events coordinated with the Pakistani and Bangladesh organizations on campus.

Community service activities that India Club hosts range from the annual on-campus Vihba walk to a recent project coordinated with Child Relief and You Atlanta, a nonprofit that aids underprivileged children around the world.

The organization also participates in traditional on-campus community activities such as TEAM Buzz and Tech Beautification Day.

In addition, India Club has decided to commemorate the memory of Mahatma Gandhi by participating in a Be the Change campaign, a
Riot from page 11

of the NAACP, witnessed the events as a boy.

In his memoir, White wrote, “We saw a lame negro...pathetically trying to outrun a mob of whites...We saw clubs and fists descending to the accompaniment of savage shouting and cursing. Suddenly a voice cried, ‘There goes another nigger!’ Its work done, the mob went after new prey. The body with the withered foot lay dead in a pool of blood on the street.”

When heavy rains came that night, several bodies lay mangled and beaten to death. Atlanta soon came under the control of state militia.

On Sunday, 6,000 troops patrolled the streets, and a temporary quiet led newspapers to report an end to the riots. Many African Americans still feared continued attacks and armed themselves.

That night, white mobs marched into African American neighborhoods and assaulted people in their homes.

On Monday, a group of African Americans gathered at Brownville, and when Fulton County police raided the meeting, gunfire erupted. A white officer was shot and killed.

Three companies of militia were dispatched to Brownville, and they arrested 250 African Americans. Soldiers were ordered to round up any possible weapons from inside African American homes.

Mob violence continued, but the coming days saw an armistice on both sides. The official death toll was 10 African Americans and two whites. However, it is widely accepted that many more African Americans died in the riot, but Atlanta attempted to preserve its reputation by only issuing 10 death certificates. In addition, hundreds of African Americans were badly beaten and thousands fled the city.

“It’s essential to remember what happened, because I think people keep forgetting the lessons of the past. We need to make sure these mistakes will not be repeated in the future and treat everyone with equal respect,” said Karen Melikov, a second-year Aerospace Engineering major.

“The effects of this event are still reverberating today. We still have racism and we still have hate crimes, so it’s important to recognize what happened before if we are to address these issues now,” Nettles said.

“We need to make sure these mistakes will not be repeated in the future and treat everyone with equal respect.”

Karen Melikov
Second-year AE

Architecture professor Larry Keating discusses the 1906 Atlanta race riots and their present and historical implications at the panel.

Heisenberg was a stud. Schroedinger was a wild man. And you can take it to the bank.

wtf he is in the projector room again.

Andy loves the polar bear if you know what I mean.

why is the physics department always on probation again.

is it wrong to pick your major based on how much money you make when you get out?

I think my roomate had sex in my bed....

people should close their doors when they change mode +m #gatech.edu ...shutup freshmen no one cares what you think that master plan has lakes and a park over a bridge I told you this school is crazy.

yeah...this girl that I hooked up with has a boyfriend that lives next door, that didn’t get too well if this makes it in here my girl will...you know...

I emailed my chem teacher and told him that I had a raid so missed the test boom headshot vin strikes again why do they keep on touching my stuff tell the guy in hopkins 4th to turn it down, know one like numa numa halta she called it the Silver vin train 09h:09h

I have no friends so I make up sliver quotes and I am the guy that stole the food from hopkins Amazaaazing weather! It should stay like this.

DSP homework is just accounts with a lot of e^x thrown in

Why are there no circuits in DSP? It sucks.

How Physics II professors make a quiz: Step 1: Gather all the sample problem sets that they so graciously gave to us and Step 2: Give them all to M. Night Shyamalan.

Domo arigato mr roboto

I quit my job and fraternity, now i have no money or friends STUMPYANGRIVATEDERAL! STUMPY SMASH!!!

Blarg!

See page 14 for more Slivers!
Campus groups promote cultural diversity

By Felicia Burkes
Contribution Writer

Two campus groups that embrace diversity, focus on cross-cultural issues and impact student involvement are Culture Tech and the Women’s Multicultural Society.

Culture Tech found its beginnings in the annual International Festival, which Tech started hosting in 1985. The international fair gradually transformed into the Culture Tech organization.

“The mission of Culture Tech is to ‘promote diversity on the Tech campus and increase cross-cultural interaction’,” said Jana Williams, the international student advisor for the Office of International Education. “[Culture Tech] seeks to promote a common ground in which all cultural organizations on campus can come together,” said Karan Gandhi, president of Culture Tech.

Culture Tech typically hosts two events each year, International Education Week in the fall and Culture Fest in the spring.

International Education Week begins Nov. 13 and continues through Nov. 18.

This year, Culture Tech will also host a festival sale to support fair market trade through a non-profit organization called 10,000 Villages.

Culture Fest is held during the week of Mar. 5. Two major components of Culture Fest are the Food Fair and Performance Night.

The Food Fair gives student organizations on campus an opportunity to present native dishes to the student body.

“It was amazing to see so many different cultural groups cook together,” Gandhi said of last year’s event.

Performance Night presents an evening of entertainment that highlights various art forms, music, martial arts and dances from around the world.

“Performance Night is the sell-out event that draws the diverse cultural talents on campus,” Williams said.

Groups that have participated in Culture Fest in the past have included the India Club, Lebanese Students Association and Thai Students Association. Culture Fest is open to both international and American student organizations.

Looking ahead, Culture Tech plans to expand its membership by spreading cultural awareness on campus,” Gandhi said.

Culture Tech would like to plan more activities such as international mixers for interested members.

“The mixers are fun gatherings which promote cross-cultural interaction,” Williams said.

Another exciting organization on campus is the Women’s Multicultural Society (WMS).

Formed this past spring, WMS became the first and only multicultural club for women on campus.

The events that the club participate in “allow women to create strong bonds with each other [and] extend their social and academic networks. But our main goal is to just have fun,” said Anees Mawani, president of WMS.

“Now women have a place where they can feel accepted no matter who they are or where they come from, and we see that as nothing but an improvement on campus,” Mawani said.

The WMS members will attend the Atlanta Greek Festival in October. In November, the club will participate in a TEAM Buzz community service project.

Both Culture Tech and WMS helped to bridge gaps between people of different ethnicities and cultures.

By teaching students how to build relationships with each other on campus now, these organizations stand to have a lasting impact on students’ future relationships, both in school and in the workplace.

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- Let Us Get to Know You - Meet SEI Employees
  Monday, October 23rd 10:00am - 4:00pm
  Technology Square
  Come meet SEI Employees and share with us your story and career desires.

- On Campus Interviews
  Monday, October 30th 8:00am - 5:00pm
  Student Success Center
India from page 11

campus-wide event that will be held this weekend and involves India Club chapters from Emory and GSU.

Varun Maniar, a third-year Computer Engineering major and co-president of India Club, said that "India Club really caters to everyone that is part of it—there are a wide variety of events for participants to choose from. Being the largest cultural organization on campus, your social circle definitely expands by becoming a member."

Tech also offers opportunities for students of Indian heritage and those interested in Indian culture to take part in performance events.

Aarohi, an on-campus Indian Classical Music and Arts Society, sponsors annual Indian classical musical and dance events, such as the upcoming concert with professional guest artists this Friday, Oct. 6.

Aarohi began two years ago as a low-scale organization to encourage awareness of Indian classical music and has slowly expanded, according to Tarvi Ratta, a third-year Industrial Engineering major and vice president of Aarohi. Aarohi is a unique organization because it sets up a platform for students with an interest and/or training in Indian classical music and/or dance.

"India Club really caters to everyone that is part of it—there are a wide variety of events for participants..."

Varun Maniar
Third-year CE

Students Council promotes awareness of Hindu culture and religion on campus.

Through these organizations, Tech helps Indian students find a balance between Indian and American cultures and gain the best from both worlds.

"You can find a balance between your family and friends [within your culture and otherwise], you'll feel more comfortable with yourself knowing that you contribute to both communities," said Shrutik Suresh, a second-year Biomedical Engineering major.

Ethics from page 11

Whitbeck went on to speak about ethical considerations that are unique to engineering.

"[Engineering] problems do not have uniquely correct solutions," Whitbeck said.

According to Whitbeck, an engineering solution must achieve the desired end, conform to explicit criteria and be reasonably secure against accidents and miscarriages.

What about ethics in other professions? Whitbeck said that since a profession "requires mastery of expert knowledge," we must rely on others for expertise and knowledge that we do not possess in our own professions. Additionally, every profession must be responsible for holding its members accountable.

Whitbeck also addressed the implications of rapidly changing technology for today's engineers. She discussed unhelpful tendencies that are common responses when dealing with new technology. The most common tendencies included doing nothing, doing what causes public uproar and doing what closely resembles what worked in the past but is no longer appropriate.

The lesson to be learned here is that continuing change is normal, every new problem should be dealt with in a new way and there are multiple possibilities for each solution.

When faced with a new challenge, engineers should consider others' expectations and anticipate their reactions.

How does society prepare tomorrow's engineers?

Whitbeck pointed out that some engineering programs now consist of a five-year course of study as a minimum for earning a bachelor's degree. Teaching design early in the curriculum along with ethics is also crucial, according to Whitbeck.

"Moral problems result from culture to culture...to those [who are] used to solving problem sets," Whitbeck said.

The lecture sparked different reactions from those in attendance.

Alejandro Suarez, a second-year Electrical Engineering major, said that ethics is "also a problem of management...how they allow you [as the engineer] to do things."

Berry Whitaker, a researcher at the Georgia Tech Research Institute, had the opposite idea.

"In regards to their responsibility towards ethics, I was surprised that the students thought it was up to management instead of up to them. Students need more discussion on broader issues [concerning ethics]," Whitaker said.

According to Whitbeck, when it comes to situations that challenge one's morals, there is no cut-and-dry answer.

Whitbeck had the following advice for students who want a formula for making decisions: "I hope you don't expect me to give you an algorithm....Think about a moral situation and be prepared for surprises...we haven't got a recipe."
This year, Tech hosted the biannual international conference for the Union Pan Americana de Asociaciones de Ingeniería (UPADI), which is translated as the Pan American Federation of Engineering Societies.

Tech had the honor of welcoming the Western Hemisphere’s brightest engineering authorities to the Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel from Sept. 19-22.

UPADI consists of 26 member nations from North America to South America and is a central agent in helping countries from Latin America and the Caribbean improve their infrastructure and economic capabilities. The conference was held to further explore methods of technological and economic advancement in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Tech and UPADI collaborated with the American Society of Civil Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers to host this year’s conference, for which the slogan was “Build a Better World.”

The conference focused on how to enhance sustainable infrastructure in Latin America and the Caribbean by promoting economic, scientific, technological and educational initiatives. Speakers from all over the Americas presented on topics ranging from ocean and coastal engineering to urban development and population growth.

All of these presentations were meant to offer new solutions and ideas concerning the issue of infrastructure in the Americas. One highlight of the conference was Institute President Wayne Clough’s plenary session presentation on the future of engineering education.

Clough delivered a discourse on a new project titled the “Engineer of 2020.”

In an introduction to the project, Clough said, “In a world in which things are going very quickly, it’s very important for engineers to try to anticipate the future. So the premise for our effort was that we would anticipate the future and shape engineering education in advance to create the dynamic role for our profession and for engineering graduates.”

Clough emphasized that changes in engineering education should go beyond changes in classroom curriculum, noting Tech’s co-op program as an example of innovative engineering education outside of the classroom.

Two aspects of engineering education that Clough particularly stressed were leadership and innovation.

“We need people who are dynamic, agile, resistant, flexible and lastly, adaptive leaders; so it’s important to educate leaders with an understanding of what the role of leadership is,” Clough said.

Clough pointed to a need for innovation as a result of increasing competition from Asia in the science and technology sectors. Fourteen of the world’s major information technology companies are already headquartered in Asia, whereas only six are headquartered in the U.S. Therefore, to beat out competition, one must be “innovative, not just bigger and faster,” Clough said.

“The capacity to innovate is the most critical element in sustaining competitiveness,” Clough said.

Among other initiatives in the project are the improvement of K-12 science and math education and increases in science and engineering scholarships and fellowships.

These educational initiatives actually made their way into President George W. Bush’s State of the Union address last year as part of the American Competitiveness Initiative. Recommendation, which would increase federal research funding in science and engineering and improve high school science and math education.

However, Congress has not passed this legislation yet, “which I find odd because the best way to make your country whole and welcoming to people and to make it successful is to concentrate on this effort, not build fences between you and your neighbors,” Clough said.

The 2006 UPADI conference was successful in proposing innovative solutions for the future of engineering in the Americas.

Tech, as host and partner in this important strategy for improvement, has played a central role.

“This is a critical time for engineering. The opportunities are simply amazing, but we have to be ready to take advantage of them,” Clough said.

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