OUR VIEWS CONSENSUS OPINION

Leave WREK alone

Public Broadcasting Atlanta (PBA) recently sent a letter to Institute President Wayne Clough suggesting they become involved in the management of WREK 91.1. WREK is a student-owned and operated radio station and should remain that way; any proposal to the contrary should not be considered. PBA suggests that bringing in the expertise of their “experienced management team” would give Tech “an improved and stronger WREK.” We find their insinuations that our student station is weak and in need of improvement offensive and patronizing. For one thing, PBA suggests that our students are incapable of the engineering and management involved in a station that has been under student direction since its inception in 1968. Students involved with WREK are highly capable of running the station; it is also a valuable learning experience for them, which they should be allowed to keep.

Additionally, PBA’s idea of improvement is not in line with what the Tech community would consider improvement; their goals are different from ours. The primary draw of 91.1 is that it is an alternative station that offers diverse and varied music to Tech students which they would be unable to find anywhere else. We do not need another station playing NPR programming or Top 40 countdowns; we can find those options elsewhere.

While the official party line is that we could reach a wider audience by taking PBA’s offer, that is not WREK’s purpose. According to the organization’s constitution, they are a “non-commercial, non-profit radio station which shall be operated in the interest of and by the students of Georgia Tech.”

If administrators are concerned about WREK being better utilized, perhaps they should look for options to do so within the station. The station should remain for students by students, not for administrators. The station is an alternative that offers diverse and varied music only place they can hear it—and that is the point.

Public broadcasting options are clearly geared toward a more specific audience, whereas WREK has diverse programming for a diverse audience, which we would lose with a change in management. While every student may not like every program playing on WREK now, there will be at least some students who enjoy each program, especially considering it may be the only place they can hear it—and that is the point.

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Selling out would be going against everything for which WREK stands. We need a station that plays what we want to hear and cares about our interests; PBA could not give that to us. The station should remain for students by students, not for administrators.

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Nature provides escape from Tech stress

It’s so easy to walk to class while listening to your iPod, wearing your sunglasses and simultaneously shutting your self off from the outside world. Nothing else exists and social interactions start to fade away as you overlook saying hi to a friend you pass on the sidewalk or decide against talking to the attractive guy or girl sitting across from you on the Stinger.

Be careful not to get too sucked into your world of music, because there’s so much going on all around you that you may cause a moment and take a look.

There is a lot of life around campus; more than meets the eye upon first glance. Peek inside a flower bed and you may witness some ladybugs-on-ladybug action. Look in another and you’ll see a praying mantis silently stalking its prey.

Dragonsflly’s like to zip around over open, grassy areas. They’re especially easy to observe in the morning while the sun slowly warms their beliefs.

If you keep a watchful eye, soon enough a red-tailed hawk may swoop down over your head. There are several nests scattered around campus.

Squirrels are easily one of the most common creatures scurrying about Tech. We’ll all see them scamble up trees holding their newest prize acorn in their mouths.

Every now and then you feel an acorn bonk you on your head, and when you look up a squirrel is directly above you laughing at your success.

The largest collection of kangaroos outside of Australia, amazingly enough, is a kangaroo center, a mere hour and a half north of Atlanta. There you’ll find large red kangaroos, small wallabies, koalas, and the pocket-sized dik-dik antelope.

Head a farther north into the Smoky Mountains and you will find elk, wild turkeys and black bears. Careful with the bears though, as they definitely will charge people who approach too closely. Take a look around and you’ll find some really interesting creatures.

Coming back to our city, there’s plenty to see around here. Of course, we have Zoo Atlanta and the Georgia Aquarium, which exhibit many other exotic animals.

Animals aside, there’s lots of trees to climb around here. From a high enough point, you can watch the sun rise behind the Bank of America building. In the evening as the sun sets, an orange glow is cast along the Atlanta skyline. After a thunderstorm, the cloudy sky will lead to an especially brilliant sun.

Fall colors recently peaked here on campus and most of the leaves have fallen back to earth. Covering the sidewalks is now a blanket of leaves that display every possible shade of red-orange.

Piedmont Park is a nice place to go and spend a few quiet hours. The Botanical Gardens is another beautiful place to visit. Their gardens are a treat for the eyes.

There’s so much to explore...when we break free from...the repetitive life that is Tech.

Ariel Bravy
Assistant Photography Editor

OUR VIEWS

HOT or NOT

My oh Maya

After weeks of controversy regarding funding, Maya Angelou’s keynote address for the Finding Common Ground initiative was a welcome reprieve from the cacophony. Her address was filled with stories both moving and funny. We are happy that she spoke for an hour rather than the promised 45 minutes, though it would have been nice for her to stay around longer to allow her to receive her token of appreciation. I’m not sure how many homecoming lovers would actually be interested in a keynote address, but I feel like you all would be interested in listening.

Holidays not hot?

The holidays are rapidly approaching, but instead of inspiring cheerful thoughts of turkey and pie, all we can think about is the monotonous grind of assignments. We have to complete our break exams. We also can’t help but feel envious of universities who get all of Thanksgiving week off. And come on professors, we know it’s technically an official campus holiday, but...do you want to spend money on our planet at this time of year?

They assume everyone on campus will take advantage of SGA-funded events to get our S226 worth.

I’m not sure how many homecoming lovers would have to see $5000, or how much Drama tech publicist I would have to hear about ($2500) tug my money’s worth. I guess I could listen to 20 seconds of Maya Angelou’s speech.

Letter Submission Policy

The Technique reserves the right to edit for length and space available. Letters may be marked "off-campus" to the Editor at the Technique’s discretion. The on-campus deadline is Thursday at 5 p.m. All letters must be signed and must include a campus box number or other valid mailing address for verification purposes. Letters should not exceed 400 words and should be typewritten or neatly written by hand. A typed or printed copy must be submitted to Amanda Aguina, Editor in Chief. No letters will be accepted by email and must be submitted to the Technique. All letters should be 5 p.m. and include a name and a phone number to be added to the publication. Only one submission per person will be printed each term.

Ball injured

With the final two games of the season drawing near, Reggie Ball’s lower leg injury remains a concern. Not only will it continue to affect his performance, but we hate to see our fourth-year starter in pain for the last two games of his collegiate career. Still, bearing Georgia with a hurt leg should make for a sweeter victory.

Advertiser Information

Information and advertisers can be found online at www.nique.net. For information on reserving ad space and submitting ad copy, please call our advertising representative, Mindy Wills. For more information, call our advertising representative, Mindy Wills. Advertising representatives cannot be contacted over the phone.

"Once I got on the Green Route..."  Katie Schneck
Second-year IE
"I walked in front of the bus so it wouldn’t leave me, but the driver almost ran me over."

"A kid on the bus asked [the driver] what was taking so long. The driver said, ‘You don’t own me.’"  Lauren Weishelt
First-year INTAME
"I slipped and fell on the steps right out of the bus and broke my leg. The bus didn’t stop."

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Maximize Your Potential with an MBA/Dual Degree

Rise to the top of your field faster by earning an MBA while working on another graduate degree at Tech.

The College of Management’s Technology Leadership Program makes it possible to finish both degrees almost as fast as it takes to earn one.

Many engineering and science students find that an MBA complements their technical and background, providing them with greater opportunities for career advancement.

“Getting my MBA degree was an opportunity I couldn’t pass up when I went back for my master’s in electrical engineering. I want to be able to move into a management role in the future, and the MBA program has taught me how to become a successful leader, work in a team environment, and communicate effectively to different audiences.”

— Alan Ngo, MBA Class of 2007 • MS Electrical Engineering, 2006

http://mgmt.gatech.edu/dual

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