High gas prices, low fuel levels

The depletion of the world’s natural petroleum sources and volatile situations in the oil-rich countries of the Middle East have contributed to the high price of gas today. Students who drive are feeling the pinch in their finances as they shell out more money at the gas stations.

Gas prices in the U.S. have been climbing for the past 10 years. In 1996, a barrel of crude oil cost 20 dollars. In 2005, the price skyrocketed to 50 dollars per barrel, a price that continues to rise. Whether you drive a luxury sedan like the S65 or the most ancient taterup this side of creation does not matter—gas is the great equalizer, for all cars are at the mercy of the pump and all drivers must pay. Although gas prices have dropped significantly from the peak they reached in 2005, they are still double what they were 10 years ago.

Atlanta drivers pay approximately 2.10 dollars per gallon for regular unleaded gas and 2.90 dollars for premium gas. These high gas prices have drawn complaints from already poverty-stricken college students.

“[It] really sucks. I remember when gas prices were around 89 cents a gallon 12 years ago in Atlanta. I remember back when hybrids were girly,” said Taejin Kim, a third-year Mechanical Engineering major.

In September 2005, CNN reported that most gas stations in Georgia were charging drivers well over three dollars per gallon for regular unleaded gas. One notorious gas station in Stockbridge charged 5.87 dollars per gallon.

This is unwelcome news for any student on campus who drives.

Rising gas prices empty students’ pockets

The Mercedes-Benz S65 is a roomy, quiet and speedy automobile, lined with sleek curves and charged by a powerful 612 horsepower engine. Cruising through traffic in one of these is like cruising through the lap of luxury all the way to the top. That is, if you still have enough money for gas to start the car after purchasing it.

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“Their’s a really negative view of Muslims right now in the world,” said Sheliza Bhanjee, a second-year Psychology major.

Organized in connection with the MSA at other Atlanta universities like Emory and Georgia State, Tech’s Islamic Awareness Week does not fall into the category of a religious event. This event is aimed at being more about understanding what Islam is...about.”

“People should learn about the different types of [Muslims]...and be open to understanding what Islam is...about.”

By Aileen Li
Staff Writer

By Shikha Choudhury
Staff Writer

Islamic Awareness Week promotes understanding

In recent years, the deplorable activities of terrorist organizations like Al-Qaeda and the Taliban have unfortunately led many people to have many misconceptions about Muslim people.

Even the Islamic faith has become a victim of false accusations and beliefs as a result of the mistrust towards the Muslim community that has been precipitated by events like 9/11 and the 2005 London train bombings.

In response, Tech’s Muslim Student Association (MSA) launched an Islamic Awareness Week last Tuesday, Feb. 13.

This week was meant to add momentum to the organization’s attempts to break down common misconceptions about Islam and Muslim people.

The week’s events were sponsored by the Student Government Association, Residence Hall Association and Stephanie Ray, the associate dean of students and director of diversity programs. To some, the need for this event was clear.

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“This event is aimed at being more about understanding what Islam is...about.”

“Their’s a really negative view of Muslims right now in the world.”

By Shikha Choudhury
Staff Writer

Several Muslim students at Tech regularly visit the newly constructed mosque, located nearby at the corner of 14th and Snyder Streets.

Fuel economy

With gas prices rising, fuel economy has become increasingly important. Check out the fuel efficiencies of the 2007 models of a few well-known cars, according to www.fueleconomy.gov.

Annual fuel cost is based on 15,000 annual miles and a fuel price of 2.24 dollars per gallon. Fill-up cost is based on the combined miles per gallon (mpg) rating and the assumption you will re-fuel when your tank is 10 percent full.

Annual fuel cost: $612

TOYOTA PRIUS
Mpg (city): 60
Mpg (highway): 51
Cost of fill-up: $3.39

ANNUAL FUEL COST: $612

HONDA ACCORD
Mpg (city): 24
Mpg (highway): 34
Cost of fill-up: $3.47

ANNUAL FUEL COST: $1200

FORD EXPLORER
Mpg (city): 15
Mpg (highway): 20
Cost of fill-up: $4.36

ANNUAL FUEL COST: $2441

MERCEDES S65
Mpg (city): 13
Mpg (highway): 20
Cost of fill-up: $5.26

ANNUAL FUEL COST: $2441

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Have Some Fun

What's On?

WEEK OF 2.23 - 3.1

mon., tue. & thurs.

12:00 National Lampoon
2:00 Scoop
4:30 Phat Literature
5:00 UVA Newsmakers
5:30 Campus Calendar
6:00 In Remembrance of Martin
7:00 Nacho Libre
9:00 Accepted
11:00 Lady in the Water
1:00 Nacho Libre

wed. & fri.

12:00 Zilo Network
2:00 Scoop
4:00 Phat Literature
5:00 UVA Newsmakers
5:30 Campus Calendar
6:00 Nightfighters
7:00 Nacho Libre
9:00 Lady in the Water
11:00 Accepted
1:00 Saw III

You think you have what it takes to host a science program? GTCN gives you a chance to show what you can do! Contact Dean Degennaro to schedule your audition today!
dean.degennaro@housing.gatech.edu

Vote for the movies you want to see on GTCN! Go to: www.gtcn.gatech.edu/CinemaSelect

February Movies

GTCN OPEN CASTING CALL!

Get Your School On

mon., tue. & thurs.

12:00 Nightfighters
1:00 Mississippi America
2:00 In Remembrance of Martin
3:00 Underground Railroad
4:00 RHA Today (Thursday Only)
6:00 ME 6442
7:00 ECE 6279
8:00 ME 6602
9:00 Tutor-Vision
11:00 Poetry at Tech

wed. & fri.

12:00 Citizen King
2:00 Nightfighters
3:00 Maya Angelou
4:00 SGA Today (Wednesday Only)
6:00 Math 4305
7:30 AE 6042
9:00 Tutor-Vision (Sunday and Wednesday)
11:00 Poetry at Tech

Movies brought to you by:
The Georgia Tech Cable Network
www.gtcn.gatech.edu
Muhammad Ali launches healthy G.O.A.T. snacks on campus

By Susan Liu
Contributing Writer

Praised and revered all over the world, Muhammad Ali remains one of the most prominent figures of the 20th century, boxing legend in his own right. Always a fighter, neither retirement nor his battle with Parkinson’s disease has kept Muhammad down for long.

Since stepping away from the boxing ring, Ali has been active in humanitarian efforts around the world, and now he has come to Tech with a little something called G.O.A.T.

G.O.A.T., which stands for “greatest of all time,” in reference to Ali’s self-proclamation during his 1964 boxing roundhouse hit, is Ali’s newly developed, healthy snack food brand.

Why and how did G.O.A.T. come about?

In his heyday as a world-renowned boxer, one of the benefits that Ali encountered as reigning champion was a slew of skilled chefs and nutritionists that helped him stay fit.

As such, nutrition played an important part in Ali’s life, which later inspired him to create G.O.A.T. Ali developed the healthy snacks alongside co-brand inventor Peter Arnell.

G.O.A.T. was launched this year on five different campuses: Tech being one of them, on Ali’s 65th birthday, Jan. 17.

Everything about G.O.A.T. snack products, from the flavor names to the packaging shape, incorporates a boxing theme in connection with Ali’s past as a legendary boxer. Currently, the snack foods come in three varieties: Rumble, Shuffle and Jabs, which are described as fruit bars, energy crunchy and energy crisps, respectively.

Each of these varieties have their own flavors, which are given boxing-related names like “thrill-a dill-a,” a dill-flavored snack whose name is a reference to an intense match between Ali and Joe Frazier in 1975. The match was aptly dubbed the “Thrilla in Manila.”

Other flavors include “holy guacamole,” “big bad bbq,” “slammin’ salsa” and “hot picnic chik.” In addition to these bold names and titles, G.O.A.T. brand foods also offer a variety of essential minerals and nutrients, including vitamins A, C, D, E, calcium, potassium and iron—up to a quarter or almost a third of the normal daily recommended intake of these in some cases. The snacks are low on sodium and high in carbohydrates and proteins to keep bodies energized.

“Basically the foods are great foods, but you don’t feel like you’re eating something healthy. I guess the best way to put it is: bad foods gone good,” said Miya Ali, daughter of Muhammad Ali and G.O.A.T. account manager.

According to Miya, promoting healthy eating is one of the things that her father wanted to do, because eating smart was an important part of his success as a sportsman. Ali believed that foods with better nutrition for the mind and body would empower young adults.

Students at Tech can find G.O.A.T. products at the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Tech Square. Prices for these snacks range from $1.99 for regular-sized pouches of all three varieties to $2.99 for larger sizes of Jabs.

“I think it tastes good, and it’s through the price is a little steep,” said Blake Israel, a fourth-year Computer Science major, after munching on a pouch of “thrill-a dill-a” flavored Shuffle.

For Israel, the cost of the snack could be a reason why he chooses the snack over others.

“Two dollars for the snack plus a dollar more?” Israel said. “You might end up spending four bucks on your snack, so why not just go down to Junior’s and get a burger basket for a dollar more?”

Other students appreciate the nutrition value of the snack. According to Vincent Palacios, a sixth-year International Affairs and Economics dual major who is also a regular Odwalla customer, G.O.A.T. scores pretty high nutrition-wise.

“It’s a great snack. It’s a healthy snack, but it’s not as filling of a protein bar. For an on-the-go snack between classes...it’s something that I would consider now that I know about it,” Palacios said.

To Palacios, the ingredients in G.O.A.T. snacks are fairly healthy, lacking the usual high fructose corn syrups and partially hydrogenated substances that pervade the food industry nowadays.

This healthy content is a key reason why he chooses the snack over others.

“You’ll have to try it and see for yourself. It’s a great brand. There’s nothing else like it out there right now,” Miya said.

For more information, check out www.goatfood.com.

Packaging A Punch

Vincent Palacios
Sixth-year IE, Economics

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Nutritional Content

Check out the nutritional content of a typical G.O.A.T. snack, a “slammin’ salsa” Shuffle, listed below.

- Total Fat: 5 g
- Cholesterol: 0 mg
- Sodium: 140 mg
- Potassium: 125 mg
- Total Carbs: 25 g
- Protein: 6 g

(Percent daily values based on a 2000 calorie diet)

- Vitamin A: 20%
- Calcium: 30%
- Vitamin D: 10%
- Thiamin: 20%
- Niacin: 20%
- Iron: 20%
- Vitamin E: 20%
- Riboflavin: 20%
- Folic Acid: 20%
First student think tank forms

A speaker takes the platform at the 2006 Roosevelt Institution Policy Expo in Washington, D.C. The summit was held to discuss and share visions and ideas for the institution, a national student think tank.

By Shikha Choudhury
Contributing Writer

How can the country reduce fossil fuel consumption? What should policymakers do to increase the lack of socioeconomic diversity in higher education? How can people maintain a good family life while pursuing difficult, time-consuming careers?

Any student who is interested in these and other issues should look into the Roosevelt Institution (RI), the nation’s first student think tank, which is forming a chapter at Tech.

A think tank conducts research in social or political strategy, technology and armament, and RI will be the first one on campus. The institution is a chapter-based organization, with each chapter consisting of a number of policy centers for a given topic.

A key focus of the institution is to give students a voice to influence political and economic policies. RI primarily aims to establish a national network of student think tanks in an attempt to give students a voice to influence political decisions. The Roosevelt Institution provides the necessary impetus to acquiring these skills,” Stephen Durham, Southern region co-chair of the organization, said.

The institution is a chapter-based organization, with each chapter consisting of a number of policy centers for a given topic. RI seeks to foster a spirit of innovation and openness to new solutions that will encourage students to push new frontiers in their research studies of policy issues.

Additionally, RI gives students the opportunity to learn about current issues through seminars, activities and research that extend beyond the realm of their academic courses.

“RI is not [part of] my routine. Also, it is just not as convenient or reliable as having a car,” he said.

Goldstein agreed. “It’s totally worth it having a car on campus. I’m not limited to places where I can only walk. I don’t have to get rides from people. Last year when I was dating a girl from Agnes Scott, having a car around made life a lot easier,” he said.

Despite their preference for driving, most students understand how expensive driving is and thus try to conserve gas.

“I drive on the highway as much as possible and I switch to neutral if I can,” Kim said.

“I drive a stick, so I try to drive cautiously. My friends and I carpool as often as possible. When we go out to one place, we take one car instead of everybody driving. Gas prices today are better than what it was two years ago, but it is still pretty ridiculous,” Goldstein said.

For students who are concerned about fuel economy, www.cheapgas.com offers helpful information about where to find the cheapest local gas stations and strategies to reduce gas consumption.

Join the Undergrad Math TA Team!

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INFORMATION SESSIONS
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Thursday, March 1, 11 am – 12 pm, Skiles 243

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www.math.gatech.edu

APPLICATION DEADLINE
Thursday, March 15, 2007, at 4 pm
Students get inked

By Manu Raghavan

When most people think about tattoos, the images that come to mind probably include swashbuckling pirates, bikers in leather jackets, gang members in prisons or similarly dark stereotypes.

David Clay, a second-year Biomedical Engineering major, fits none of these bills. Sitting at Barnes and Noble in a matching band T-shirt with a backpack at his side, Clay could pass for just another student.

However, Clay’s self-spoken voice and medium build belie the three tattoos he wears.

“I was watching something on the Discovery channel about the Maoris in New Zealand [who have tribal tattoos] and one thing just led to another. Once I learned more about tattoos and how they were done, I really wanted one,” Clay said.

Clay was 19 when he had his first tattoo done, and now he has gone on to get an image of a tribal cross on his shoulder. Chinese characters and Egyptian hieroglyphics that read “God’s child” on his back.

What is surprising is that Clay is not alone among the student population in having body art.

“[The needles] do hurt...but after a while, when you’re no longer shocked by the initial pain, it’s really exciting.”

Jeffrey Starker
Second-year CS

At first, I figured it was only for the hardcore people,” said Jeffrey Starker, a second-year Computer Science major who also wears a tattoo.

“After getting one on my forearm though, I’m surprised to get a lot of [positive] reactions from people. They often go, ‘Oh, you have a tattoo as well?’”

For Starker, tattoos are an impressive way of saying something about themselves. “I have a tattoo as well?”

“Getting inked was definitely exciting. Most of the time, I was thinking ‘Man, I can’t believe I’m doing this.’ [The needles] do hurt a lot. There’s no getting around it, but after a while, when you’re no longer shocked by the initial pain, it’s really exciting. It’s really hard to explain the feeling,” Starker said.

However, parents are often not as excited.

“Parents are often not as excited,” Clay said. “I’ve turned in some samples of more than a handful of students who wear permanent tattoos on their bodies.”

Once reserved for the dark fringe of society, getting “inked,” as tattooing has come to be known, has become a much more mainstream practice in recent years as a result of celebrity endorsement.

“A lot of celebrities have tattoos on their bodies. It comes to be known, has become a much more mainstream practice in recent years as a result of celebrity endorsement. I’m surprised to get a lot of [positive] reactions from people. They often go, ‘Oh, you have a tattoo as well?’”

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from page 11

Islam

Clearly, our faith does not, contrary to popular belief, declare that all Muslims are guaranteed (entry to) heaven. Our intentions and deeds are what take us there,” Masud said.

Jihad was an other issue that was discussed and clarified during the week.

“Jihad is directed towards purifying yourself and your inner values and not towards purifying the world by extraluding other religions,” Masud said. Masud also explained how wearing the hijab, the Arabic term for "veil," is not a method of oppressing Muslim women, contrary to other religions,” Masud said.

“I feel that the week greatly [benefited] students at Tech,” Masud said. “Achieving a better understanding of a different culture fosters unity and cooperation and removes the tendency for segregation and division,” Masud said.

For more information about the MSA, check out www.gcmsa.org.

from page 15

“Inked

as students are about tattoos. “[My parents are] starting to get a little concerned...because they don’t want me to become this person who gets covered in tattoos from head to toe,” Clay said.

Why get inked anyway? Some students have said that their tattoos give them a unique identity.

To me, [body art] is just another way of self-expression. If you look at somebody’s tattoo, it can probably tell you a lot about them. If somebody’s walking down the street with a Coptic cross on the hand, then he or she is probably Irish,” Clay said.

Starker offered wise advice to any student about tattoos.

“[My parents are] starting to get a little concerned...because they don’t think it suits my personality. I think tattoos are only for people who ever invented MP should be beat Rice, you got into the Technique—but you totally shoulda worn your ‘O face’ for that photo—it goes with the quote. Staff: Quit screwing up the sliver! My submission was great, until YOU split it up! It wasn’t that funny anyway...parking needs to let up...why is tech punishing those who are trying to study at the lib techs full of a bunch of greedy people who think ticketing people is the best way to earn money green space??? we need more parking. Yeah, GT Reps, stay out of everyone else’s vaginas. We should care, because? Here’s an idea: focus on the other factors that lead to women getting pregnant before they’re ready.

You know, like education, the economy, little things like that. But I guess it is easier to simply attack women for making choices you don’t approve of. Fantastic.

On the other hand, let me also say how DISGUSTED I am with the Democrats in Congress. “We support the troops but not the Democrats in Congress. On the other hand, let me also say how DISGUSTED I am with the Democrats in Congress.

“The support the troops but not the war ‘sad and comfort’ used to be called TREASON you idiots! a nice guy has to stop being a nice guy to get a quality woman, once you understand that, all else will follow. To all of Tech’s Greeks: Frat Hard or Go Home!”

See page 19 for more Slivers!