George Thompson, former professional dancer and general manager of the American Conservatory Theater, has been named as the new director of the Ferst Center for the Arts.

He steps into the position more than a year after former director Jay Constantz left Tech. Stephanie Lee, marketing director of the Ferst Center, served as interim director until Thompson was appointed last month.

As manager of the American Conservatory Theater, Thompson was responsible for organizing the production and operation of 14 shows per year. At the Ferst Center, he will be in charge of not only organizing each season’s performances but also administering and fundraising, among other things.

“Early in my career, I worked at the State University of New York. That gave me a very student-centric perspective on managing a campus arts program. So coming to Tech is like a homecoming experience for me,” Thompson said.

Thompson has over two decades of experience in managing arts organizations. One of his most significant accomplishments was increasing the budget of the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center’s operating budget from $7 million to $27 million while serving as executive vice president there.

“We had three very strong finalists, but George stood out because of his background and interviewing ability,” said Bill Schaefer, vice president of student affairs, who chaired the search committee for a new director.

According to Schaefer, after the former director left, a company called the Management Consultants for the Arts Inc. worked with Tech to develop a comprehensive report on what the future direction of the Ferst Center should be. One of the recommendations was that the Center needed to deepen its connections with the academic side of the campus.

“I think there are many connections that we can draw between the arts and engineering. Dance and architecture, for example, use a lot of the same nomenclature,” Thompson said. “Trying to find those connections while bringing world-class art to the campus is a main part of what I want to do,” Thompson said.

Traditionally, the Ferst Center has been funded through state funding, revenue from performances, and fundraising. In light of the decreasing state budget, Thompson says that a main priority for the Ferst Center will be making sure that all the performances can pay for themselves and that further efforts to increase attendance, both from within and outside of the campus community, are undertaken.

“The Ferst Center cannot and should not be just another presenter in a vast array of presentations around the country,” he said. “We need to brand our programming so that it’s distinctive,” Thompson said.

Another main focus of Thompson’s is getting students more involved in the performing arts. “When students come to a university, they are pulled in so many different directions. I would just like to expose the arts to them, maybe bring in an outdoor performance or simply ask students for their opinions. But I am heartened by the large number of our students who do come to all of our performances,” Thompson said.
Founded in 1911, the Technique is the student newspaper of the Georgia Institute of Technology, and is an official publication of the Georgia Tech Board of Student Publications. The Technique publishes on Fridays weekly during the fall and spring and biweekly during the summer.

Traffic report

According to KSR’s (the University’s main radio station) website – 97.3 The Point, on Monday, July 6th, at around 9 a.m., a Tech student was walking northbound on 10th Street, soliciting rides and bus fare. After being stopped by a black SUV, the students were told to get into the vehicle. One of the attackers ordered him to run away, upon which he did so and alarmed the police. Even though the victim was slightly injured during the incident, he refused medical treatment and was released. Neither Atlanta police nor Tech police were able to locate the suspects.

One of the attackers ordered him to surrender his wallet and struck him on the head with the handgun. After taking the student’s possessions, the suspects told him to run away, upon which he did so and alarmed the police. Even though the victim was slightly injured during the incident, he refused medical treatment and was released. Neither Atlanta police nor Tech police were able to locate the suspects.

When high, keep to yourself

On June 29 at approximately 2 a.m., officers arrested a man for public intoxication at the corner of Tenth Street at State Street. The suspect was obviously drunk and was found to be in possession of marijuana and drug related equipment. Officers ran a check on the offender and subsequently released him to the Fulton County Jail.

POLL OF THE WEEK

How do you feel about the Iranian presidential election?

18.89% They have elections in Iran? No way!

13.33% It was fair and democratic. Ahmedinejad won because the people picked him.

37.78% It might have been tampered with, but this is still a big step forward for the Iranian people.

30% It was completely rigged. The results should be nullified.

Based on 90 responses

Next issue’s question:

How do you feel about the Centergy parking deck collapse?

Tell us at nique.net
Tech helps launch “green” mission

By Vijal Narayanan
Senior Staff Writer

Tech has recently been named as a founding partner for Mission Zero, an online community that offers a place to share ideas and ask questions about sustainability issues. The goal of the website is to provide resources for companies interested in taking steps to become zero waste or carbon neutral. Moreover, it is a place for interested participants to learn about sustainability practices and how to implement them.

This resource was developed by Interface Inc., a local Atlanta company and leading manufacturer in the carpet industry. The idea for Mission Zero was conceived by Ray Anderson, a Tech alum and founder of Interface Inc. Anderson is also recognized as a pioneer in the sustainability cause, and the company and leading manufacturer is to provide resources for companies interested in taking steps to become zero waste or carbon neutral.

In addition, the site includes a social networking component where individuals, as well as members, can participate in group discussions to share ideas and ask specific questions.

“The more information and interaction there is on the site, the more global support it will attract, so that more people can join and make positive change happen,” Mallory said.

According to Mallory, Mission Zero was a logical step for Tech after GreenBuzz was developed early in 2008. She said that Tech strengthens its position in the sustainability field by participating in the project. In fact, Tech was the only university invited to be a part of Mission Zero.

“Interface approached Tech because of its research efforts in the field of sustainability and its track record on environmental issues,” said Terry Blum, Professor in the College of Management and an initial point of contact for Mission Zero.

“We are especially excited about the students getting involved. This next generation is critical to maintaining the momentum that has been started,” said Joyce LaVelle, Senior Vice President of Marketing for Interface FLOR. “We sought out leaders who will contribute valuable information to the site and be able to recruit their own stakeholders...to build and sustain the community.”

In the early stages of the project, Tech played a mainly advisory role on how to build the community and raise the project’s visibility. According to Mallory, the next step would be attracting faculty, staff and students to get involved in the mission as well as to suggest possible improvements to the website.

Interface Inc. plans to step away from the project once the final version of the site is released. Afterwards, the site will be run by the community alone.

“Anyone anywhere can participate, which is so exciting to us because it is the community, not Interface, who will determine where this will go,” LaVelle said.

A screenshot of missionzero.org shows industry-related forums.

Try our student specials:
1 large 3 topping pizza for ONLY $9.99!
2 large 1 topping pizzas for ONLY $16.99!
3 large 1 topping pizzas for ONLY $21.99!
(pick up or delivery)

News

Call (404)872-5252
990 State Street NW
Delivery and Carryout

Lee is the most amazingly stunning woman I have met. Ohh I forgot I like beer. So I like girls, cars, beer, and pies more or less in that order.

There is a difference in the number of emails in my inbox. It is over 18,000. I have no idea who more than 100 people have sent emails to me.

I did a big experiment. I took all my emails and put them in a folder called "Home".

I opened a new email program and searched for "home".

There were over 20,000 emails in the "home" folder.

I deleted them all. I felt so much better.

I also did a quick search for "love" and "friendship".

There were over 50,000 emails in those folders.

I am going to do this every day.

I think I might be done with emails now.

Ohh I forgot I like beer. So I like girls, cars, beer, and pies more or less in that order.

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Crime still a concern

Administration and GTPD should work with students

Crime around Tech has been the topic of discussion for students for the past month and deserves still more attention than it is being given. While we appreciate that the student reaction so quickly sparked the extension of the Stingerette service from campus to door of off-campus housing in Home Park and Centennial Place, this is not enough to make students feel safe.

In the recent town hall meeting held by College Democrats, some students left feeling as though the only advice given was not to walk at night anywhere.

This advice, while sound, does not address the practical needs of students. Students must be able to get home after studying at night. For now, the extended Stingerette service helps students to protect themselves, but what will happen in the fall?

Student initiatives, such as a town hall meeting addressing crime held by the College Democrats are a clear demonstration of student activism, and the administration and Atlanta PD should respond in kind.

Beyond emails, the administration itself has yet to reach out to students to help them feel safer. We applaud students for trying to make their voices heard on this issue, but now Tech needs to step up and answer. For once, students are willing to take action, interested and concerned about crime. Tech, GTPD and Atlanta police should take this opportunity to tell students about crime prevention.

It would be great to find a way to make the extension of Stingerette services permanent and financially feasible. Perhaps Tech could extend a bus route off campus, much like the green route. However, there would have to be some way for students to be safe at the bus stops while they wait. If Tech students can come up with Waitless on their own, though, surely a notification system for the buses can be created to do the same.

The Consensus Opinion reflects the majority opinion of the Editorial Board of the Technique, but not necessarily the opinions of individual editors.

ADMINISTRATION should take action

President Peterson, thank you for keeping us all in the loop on steps Tech is taking on public safety. As a faculty member concerned about community, who commutes by foot from Midtown, I follow these topics with interest.

However, I am disappointed in reading this bulletin that the only solutions suggested are on the part of the police on the one hand, and individuals on the other. What is the role of the Institute?

There are many things Tech could do besides liaising with the police and educating individuals that would help us all stay safer.

For example, the areas of construction sites and the detours around them are very poorly lit; fixing that would make them less appealing as hiding places and safer for pedestrians to navigate.

At present, there are long waits in the dark for scarce and inadequate shuttles. Students writing in the Technique have also pointed out the potential to increase safety by improving campus transport. The relay and shuttle system could be a usable alternative to parking or walking alone for those who must come to labs, offices, the library, or student events at night, if there were reliable increased frequency, expanded routes, and well-lit secure waiting places.

Students, staff and faculty who have to come in from off-campus late at night have to park very far from their labs and offices, forcing them to walk across empty parking lots and a dark campus. Changing late-night parking rules would be a bureaucratic hassle, but would increase safety. These are just a few ideas; there are many more ways to make campus safer.

Bigger conversations need to happen about how to strengthen the communities in neighborhoods around Tech to make them safer for all of their residents. Tech should be a good neighbor by being, in dialogue with non-Tech residents of those neighborhoods and supporting their initiatives to improve community centers, schools, youth programs and the like, as well as making sure police are accountable and their practices are transparent so that they can earn the trust of community members at Tech and beyond.

Fundamentally, I hope someone at Tech is thinking, what besides more police and individual common sense can we do to make our community safer?

Anne Pollock
STAC assistant professor

If you must commit a crime, don’t use a gun

Upon reading the influx of letters regarding recent incidences of crime near campus, I feel led to offer a different perspective. Crime is often an economic problem. As the economy worsens, crime increases. With lack of jobs and other alternatives, people become desperate, and resort to crime.

Previous submissions have implied local law enforcement to improve their efforts. Since this has already been done, I address this letter to the criminals.

As a child growing up in Atlanta, my house was robbed a few times. We never had cash in the house, and computers and televisions were too large for petty thieves to steal, so we were out less than fifty dollars after those incidences.

The only items robbers ever took with them were VCRs and boom boxes. If we were never robbed, we would probably never have upgraded to DVD and CD players, and I would still be listening to mix tapes on cassette and watching VHS movies. My parents now live in the suburbs and will probably never upgrade to Blue Ray. The reason I can talk about these few incidences so lightheartedly is that they weren’t armed robberies.

No one can convince me that firearms are necessary to rob a Tech student. What are we going to do to you, gouge your eyes out with a mechanical pencil? I’ve never heard of anyone dying from getting hit in the back of the head with a TI-89. Simply demanding that I empty the contents of my purse is sufficient.

If I were robbed on my way me from the library at night I would consider that a bad day. If you robbed me at gunpoint, I would suffer a traumatic experience that would probably blight any good memories I may have of Tech.

Plus, the punishments for armed robberies are much more severe. Why take on the unnecessary risk? While I don’t condone crime, it is a nearly unavoidable with an economic downturn. However, the unnecessary use of firearms is bad for everyone.

Korin Reid
Fifth-year CHBE

Healthier food should be offered, not donuts

Are we the only person who views GT’s recent decision to bring Dunkin Donuts to the student center abhorrent? Just what

Opinions Editor: Katlin Goodrich

No dignity, no learning, no force of character can make any stand against good will.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson
Amusement parks turn people to drones

Amusement parks have, since the dawn of civilization, been available for the delight of every community imaginable. Birthed from the ideas of carnival and fairs, it has grown into the beast that we know it today, resembling small cities hosting iron sergeants and various other attractions. But the irony ensues through the symbol being an anathesis of what it really represents, somewhat dismantling its romanticization of culture itself.

Disney had a vision of creating “lands” which would help stir the imagination of the patrons that visit. This was to give individuals to partake in different experiences throughout their visit, going from “future land” to “neverland” to exhibit a contrast in every aspect of life. I soon realized that this was not as adventurous as the lands of Disney’s amusement parks. Instead individuals become mindless, disregarding all the fine details that Disney put in place, completely ignorant of the surroundings.

After coming back from Disney World, during the July 4th weekend, I was intrigued by the sociological mentality of the crowd. They are herded like cattle, mindlessly wandering, pushing, and shoving toward their destination. One by one, each head swings left and right, we walk to the same rhythm as if we were all being lead to an inevitable end. Walking down, everyone is bounded by steel cages that lead through long walkways, a maze for ourenses.

The public no longer thinks while inside the future, instead succumb to the nature of our final destination, of frightening encounters. Fighting to become the first in line, there is no affinity to other human beings, but instead only to the groups they are in. Civilization as we know it crumbles and rots as we degrade to animalistic beings. Slowly as we inch forward, each individual becomes more tightly knitted and familiars, no longer matters. Obvious to their current status, until finally, a glinting steel steed appears to take them away.

Our true selves come out while mounted on the track of any roller coaster. Anticipating the events to come, yet only able to sense and live for the moment. Once the cart is unleashed, our inhibitions are dropped and fear grasps us by our tails, unraveling us. With nowhere to hide, our raw emotions shine for everyone to witness. Sheet fright, enjoyment, indifference is casted, and we always just for more devolved into what civilization has started to avoid.

The corporation dehumanizes us, facilitating our tendencies to grasp on the ideas of riding the next big roller coaster. Thrill seekers are no longer thrill seekers, but instead another statistic in their books.

Every aspect of the park is planned, so we no longer have to think, no longer have to anticipate our fate.

Our humanity drops right as we lay our feet on the asphalt, suddenly and inevitably, I was ingested into the monster that hibernates inside of us. I find that people no longer have empathy for each other, but only fend for themselves, and their direct subsidiaries. With park prices increasing recently raising the admittance to each park, the new price at 80 dollars for a day, worth of musky sweat, harsh sunlight, and rude patrons does not tickle my fancy. I find myself fighting to get my money's worth also. I believe that I could easily receive the same treatment if I were to, for free, any local public park.

What is the method to this apparent madness we call amusement parks? Are we really living for the moment, in order to degrade ourselves into mere beings?

Why do we pay top dollar to mindlessly wander the pastures developed by amusement park giants? I ask all the questions after each endeavor, waiting for a clue on what is truly fascinating about these stables.

While leaving the park, I see the same ritualistic mannerisms that consumed the ones that dared enter. Individuals marked after the exit of the park, as if branded for remembrance.

With the lingering euphoria, we exit as we had entered, funneled through wires into transportation that will lead us away, shipped back to our dwellings, leaving us with bewilderment and a blase attitude toward what they have ahead, leaving for more adventure. This desensitization has made me wonder why we always allow nature and nurturance in these situations.

25 year plan should embrace all majors

It seems President Bud Peterson has decided to take another go at developing a 25-year plan for a major university, as he announced to campus Monday by email.

His first, the “Flagship 2030” plan for the University of Colorado at Boulder, referred to a goal of establishing a “new flagship university of the 21st century”. Tech’s current strategic plan contains similar wording “the technological research university of the 21st century”. While references to the 21st century are textbook marketing-speak, in this case it represents an actual development that has to occur for Tech to remain not just an elite university, but relevant as a driver of progress in our society.

Some of the items in Tech’s new plan will be usual elements of 21st century strategic plans: improving education and research, promoting diversity, expanding financial aid opportunities, and so on. These are worthy and necessary goals but these represent the current status quo. Tech has done a great job at being an excellent institution by the traditional standards of an engineering school. But to truly live up to being a 21st century technological research university, Tech will need big adjustments to its approach.

I strongly believe that, first and foremost, Tech needs to drop the notion that it is an engineering school by definition. Almost as a matter of fact, from the bottom, it seems everything at Tech is supposed to be about engineering first and foremost, and then the other disciplines where there is room left over. Even the selection of Peterson as Tech’s president, depending on which member of the presidential search committee you ask, was based in part on satisfying a requirement of being an engineer. This does not represent much of a commitment to the success of Tech’s other programs on the part of those individuals having controlled Tech and its future. For too many, the primary measure of Tech’s success is how high U.S. News has ranked our engineering programs.

Craig Tabita
Editor Emeritus

“For too many, the primary measure of Tech’s success is how high U.S. News has ranked our engineering programs.”

Amanda Magabo
Third-year CE

“Going to Costa Rica.”

Photos by Kevin Kuo

25 year plan should embrace all majors

“It’s time for Tech to move out of the past. The time for Tech to forge new definitions of success while forging new campus traditions. I can only offer my own perspective of what that means and how it should be done, but I’ll be severely disappointed in any 25 year plan that doesn’t take very seriously our non-engineering programs and recognize how vital they are to Tech.”

Peterson’s message to campus included a reference “directed discussion sessions” to be held this fall as a chance for students to be involved. My suggestion is to take these sessions very seriously and make time to prepare and attend them. As students, our perspective is critical towards Tech’s course for the next 25 years. For most of us, the majority of that time frame will be spent reading, writing and building a reputation of Tech as an institution after having graduated, with a degree whose value will be highly dependent on the success of this 25 year plan.

Caleb Galeos
Fourth-year CS

“Graduating.”

“Going to Stone Mountain and doing sky hike.”

Tyler Meehan
Third-year CS

Rachel Munnerlyn
Fourth-year CS

“What was the best part of this summer?”

Cra...
Leave behind a legacy in life

Over 20,000 people turned out on this past Tuesday to honor Michael Jackson, the one and only “King of Pop.” In his lifetime, MJ sold over 750 million records, supported 39 charities, won 13 Grammies, and revolutionized the world of music. People are going to remember Michael Jackson forever because he left behind a legacy of all the amazing things he did in his lifetime.

Although most of us don’t have MJ’s moonwalking skills or his collection of awards and honors, we all still have something unique to leave behind—our experiences and the lessons we have learned. Inevitably, after four, five or six years, all of us will “get out” of Tech. The question is if the valuable things that we have learned and the great things we have done will leave with us, or if they will be passed down.

This is a fundamental question that everyone should think about, especially in the context of student life and leadership. As both students and leaders we should have the poise to think about not only the here and now, but also how we can leave a legacy for the future.

A legacy is not simply a litany of accomplishments; it is a conscious effort to manifest intentions into actions. The objective of leaving a legacy should not be solely for recognition or for validation. Rather, the most important defining aspect of a legacy is to leave behind a positive impact.

It is essential to consider the ways that we can best make positive impacts that will continue on after we are gone. For example, philanthropy is a critical part of many student organizations that seek to give back to the community. Conducting a one-time service project is a great way to have a positive impact on the present, but establishing an ongoing program that continues to carry out service projects is a way to carry that impact into the future. While we students need, yet another multinational fast food corporation serving us nutritionally-void food that preys on our addiction to sugar and fat. Add Dunkin Donuts to our impressive list of quality food establishments like Chick-fil-A, Pizza Hut, and Burger King. The last time I checked, energy and nutrition do not come from simple carbohydrates, refined white sugar, and saturated fat. They come from complex carbohydrates, found in fruits and vegetables. The stuff they put in the smoothies that they make at the location that will be replaced by Dunkin Donuts. We will be replacing real food with junk food. Health and quality are not associated with Dunkin Donuts.

It is because of our addiction to sugar and fat that in 5 out of 5 children born after the year 2000 will get early-onset diabetes and part of the reason we are the fattest country in the world. The idea that GT would not only allow, but actively recruit such an unhealthy enterprise that makes bad choices more convenient for students actually epitomizes everything wrong with our country’s health system.

I’m not sure which is more refreshing for students actually to continue our work in the future.

One important way to help prevent these lessons learned is to conduct a proper transition. This is probably one of the most common mistakes that a student organization can make. Many student organizations have struggled because those in charge did not share any information, thereby making their successors repeat the same mistakes that they endured. As busy Tech students, it becomes very easy for us to get caught up in the tasks at hand. It is a vital skill, however, to have the ability to think ahead about what the future holds. What legacy will we leave?

Donuts from page 4

If you have ever been unfortunate enough to be caught at the traffic light at Atlantic and Ferst, you know how long you can waste time and watch nothing happen. Since Atlantic is now closed off from both directions, no one is turning either left or right there, but rather simply stopping to enjoy the weather. Perhaps the little traffic on Atlantic deserves only a stop sign to save time.

Enjoy a FREE bruschetta when you purchase an entrée. Present your student ID

Join the Technique!

We are always looking for new writers, photographers, and artists.

General staff meetings are held every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in room 137 of the Flag building.

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All students are welcome!

No experience necessary!
ISA hosts remembrance ceremony for protesters in Iran

Students gathered at the Campanile on last Tuesday to honor the victims of the violence currently taking place in Iran.

By Vijai Narayanan
Senior Staff Writer

The Iranian Student Association (ISA) hosted a remembrance ceremony on June 30th to honor victims of recent violence in Iran.

The event, which was held at the Campanile, highlighted issues facing Iranian society today, as well as the problems faced by members of the Iranian-American community at Tech.

“We really wanted not only to educate the community about what is going on in Iran but to also bring together the Iranian-American community so that they could share their concerns about what is going on in Iran,” said Melissa Pat- ham, second-year CHBE and president of ISA.

In recent weeks, violence has rocked the capital of Iran, Tehran, due to disputed results of the country’s presidential election.

In the days leading up to the election, the main opposition leader Mir Hossein Mousavi emerged as a strong contender against the incumbent, Mah- moud Ahmadinejad. After the election, the opposition ac- cused Ahmadinejad’s govern- ment of orchestrating a wide- scale fraud and stealing the election away.

The Supreme Leader of Iran, Ayatollah Khamenei, has come out in support of Mr. Ahmadinejad. However, other members of the clerical estab- lishment have expressed doubt about the legitimacy of the election, suggesting a strong fissure between the otherwise united government.

As a result, the streets of Tehran have erupted with protests, which were attended mainly by students, young people and women.

Seen as a serious threat to the Islamic Republic since its founding in 1979, the gov- ernment has harshly clamped down on dissidents, making use of the pro-government Basij militia and more recently, the Revolutionary Guard. As a result, many protesters were injured and some killed.

Due to a ban on foreign media in Iran, traditional news outlets have turned to social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter for information. The Iranian government has blamed western media for in- citing the riots.

Parham stressed that Tech’s ISA does not have any politi- cal or religious affiliation but instead held the remembrance ceremony as an appeal to end the violence in Iran.

“The latest events have moved every Iranian, all over the world. The taboo has been broken about speaking out against the government’s injustices. Although we cannot be directly involved with the change movement, events like this really help the community come together,” said Mr. Abel, a member of the local Atlanta community and an Iranian-American.

The remembrance ceremo- ny began with a reading of a Tehran professor’s personal ac- count of the protests, intended to humanize the protestors and understand what it would be like to protest in that politi- cal climate.

The event also included a candlelight vigil for the vic- tims of the recent violence in Iran as well as the airing of songs in Farsi and a recita- tion of the Iranian national anthem.

Organizers also handed out green arm-bands, similar to those worn by the protestors, in an effort to show solidarity for their cause.

“I was really motivated by what I saw on TV and the web, and I was concerned about how students from Iran would cope,” said Rev. Chris Hannum, who attended the event to learn how to support Iranian-American students at Tech who seek him for help.

Other attendees had a more personal connection to the events in Iran.

“I am half Persian, and I wanted to pay respects to my family in Iran,” said Davoyush Vaqar, fourth-year ME.

The delicate nature of the political and social climate in Iran was highlighted by the fact that many attendees of the ISA event did not want to be filmed or provide their names to reporters and event camera- men, fearing that it may have unintended consequences.

“The one positive that has come out of the violence in Iran is that the Iranian people are more united and together in a way that they weren’t be- fore,” Parham said.

Due to the recent spike in crime in the Home Park area, many students are concerned that if they move off campus simply to cut costs, they will incur another expense in risking their safety.

To address concerns about crime in and around campus, students met in a town hall style meeting Wednesday in the Student Cen- ter with representatives from the Atlanta Police Department (APD), the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD), Atlanta City Council and the Institute’s Office of the President.

The representatives emphasized the impor- tance of working together to create a safe envi- ronment for everyone and that the situation is very important to everyone present.

“I am [scared to walk home] now, actually. After the Hampton Street thing I ride my bike now,” said Home Park resident Chet Sanders, fifth-year EE, in reference to the armed robbery that took place June 29th.

Officers at the meeting stressed that the reason Tech students were victims of crime in Home Park had more to do with the time they were out on the streets of Home Park.

The robberies generally occur between 10 p.m. and 4 a.m., and officers assured that in any area of Midtown it would not be wise to walk alone or in pairs during those hours.

The officers strongly recommended that students wishing to walk to campus at night should take the Stingerette, because many of the robberies occur while the victim is on foot and the thieves are in a car.

“Our students are targeted because they are out. But they’re not targeted [because they’re Tech students], that’s just not true,” said Chief Melissa Crocker of GTPD.

Students and Home Park residents expressed concerns that the increase of Tech students from campus at all hours is a major drawback for a community that is known for being so pedes- trian friendly.

In response to students’ need to travel during these hours, the Institute now offers Stingerette services in Home Park for the summer. By the fall, SCA hopes to install a bus for students traveling to Home Park by taxi.

“Twelve robberies involving Tech students since February is twelve too many,” said Jim Fettig, associate vice president of Marketing and Communication for the Institute, “but we realize that the situation [in Home Park] has changed, and it’s going to take the cooperation of the neighborhood.”

Representation from the Home Park Com- munity Improvement Association was also pres- ent at the meeting.

The group is interested in enlisting the help of Tech students who live in the area to help form a neighborhood watch group that can re- port any suspicious activity.

The officers agreed that one of the strongest defenses the Home Park community has lies in creating a strong support system that is proactive and reports any suspicious activity.

“Get to know your community. From a pol- iceing standpoint, we depend on you guys just as much as you depend on us. If all of you know your community to [the point] where you know who’s coming in and out of your community and can give us the information when someone is suspicious, it goes a lot further [than when something has already happened],” said Crime Prevention Officer Ian Mayberry of GTPD.

Officer Mayberry also added that if anyone sees what he or she believes is suspicious activ- ity, they should call 911 immediately.
Table tennis team achieves national recognition

By Yameen Huq
Contributing Writer

Table tennis is a sport requiring the utmost concentration, precision and effort. Tech's own table tennis team is a prime example of this level of effort and commitment. Having already achieved national-level status and recognition, Tech's table tennis team plans on progressing even further in the upcoming journey against other nationally-ranked teams. The girls' team in particular has done well, scoring in the top four at the national level. The matches at the national level typically involve four single players and a doubles match. Victory is decided on a best of five scale.

"We just started about two and a half years ago. We are ranked number 15 in the country," said Aaron Scott, third-year AE and team vice president.

The team has been improving ever since they entered the competitive circuit through a combination of skill and determination. "We have practice three times a week. [On] Tuesdays and Fridays [practice is] open for all types of members," Balla said.

"We have practice three times a week. [On] Tuesdays and Fridays [practice is] open for all types of members," Balla said.

"Thursdays are for people who want to become more serious in the sport. We have 15 members and we are interested in recruiting some new talent. I also met with Mark Peterson, the president," said Kumar.

"We got an inactive club off the ground. At first, Peterson was only interested in recreational play, but we made sure he was interested in competing with other teams," Kumar said.

"I transferred here a year ago from Gainesville State College. I played there recreationally. I got serious with it just recently. I came to Georgia Tech, in my third year I met with Aneece, a third-year ME and one of the best players in Lebanon. I also met with Mark Peterson, the president," said Kumar.

"We got an inactive club off the ground. At first, Peterson was only interested in recreational play, but we made sure he was interested in competing with other teams," Kumar said.

"I transferred here a year ago from Gainesville State College. I played there recreationally. I wanted to join a team and so I met Aaron Scott, and he really got me involved in this club," Balla said.

"The team hopes to become an even greater club, and climb above their top-15 ranking from last year. "This year we hope to finish in the top 10. If it becomes a varsity sport, while I don't think it's possible, we could have a lot more members and scholarships for people. Anyone can get involved, but to join the [competitive] team you have to pass tryouts and be in the top ten or fifteen. To go to nationals you have to be on the A-team," Kumar said.

Several of the team's members are graduating this year, so the current members are really hoping to recruit some fresh, talented faces.

"We actually have a new person coming next year with 10 years of table tennis experience. His mom emailed about her son, asking how the team here is. So people really do know that we are the best in Georgia and one of the best teams around," Balla said.

The table tennis team placed first in Georgia for the last two years and is ranked 15th in the country.

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Safety

Officer Mayberry suggested that other ways to try and stay safe in the community are remaining back bushes to eliminate potential hiding spots and adding lights to the outside of homes.

Chief Crocker of the APD assured meeting attendants that the recent criminal acts are "on their front burner and they would like to put the [suspects] in jail.

She also assured them that the Atlanta Police Department is working hard to locate the responsible individuals but cannot release all of the information at this time.

They are planning to construct road blocks in hopes of finding individuals in the area that have outstanding warrants and are participating in illegal behavior.

She would not comment on any plans to place undercover officers in the area as part of a sting operation.

The Home Park area is patrolled by the APD in conjunction with the Tech Police Department.

The Georgia State Troopers also offered to start patrolling the area to create a stronger law enforcement presence in the area.

Residents in Home Park should call the APD to receive the fastest help, but GTPD often accompanies them to the calls and assists in back-up when necessary.

The meeting was organized by the College Democrats at Tech and comes on the heels of President G.P. "Bud" Peterson's June 23 press conference with the Atlanta Police Department to announce the arrests of three suspects in relation to the May 4 shooting of a former Tech student at Tivoli Tennis.

When prompted as to why the crime in the area has escalated, Chief Crocker said that there has actually been a decrease in the amount of crime in Midtown and at Tech.

The table tennis team placed first in Georgia for the last two years and is ranked 15th in the country.
**LP fails to rival members’ previous work**

By Mark Jackson  Contributing Writer

Most of these songs are hit-or-miss, and when they miss it can be quite painful. “I Wanna Be Your Boyfriend,” featuring Angel Deradoorian of Dirty Projector, is especially bad. Loop Deradoorian’s polished vocal scales with glitchy drum ticks and stalkery lyrics and you have yourself the worst song on the album.

As a whole, LP is a mixed bag of summery, synth-drenched pop songs that draws less from Vampire Weekend and Ra Ra Riot than expected. A few tracks bring down the overall quality and put you at ease. The problem here is what’s around the surface. At times it seems like the mainstay, which is aggravating for Vampire Weekend and Ra Ra Riot fans, something one thing in music, using it to create an overall experience is actually incredibly it definitely lacks in comparison to the duo’s other outings.

**Inferior plot defeats Transformers**

By Chris Emit  Staff Writer

Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen is a hot, hot mess. It’s so hot it should be on a tin roof, or be dropped. But however bad any review may be, people will still go to see this movie. Nothing can stop the power of sex appeal and robots together.

It earned $16 million on its Wednesday night premier alone, which is a record. It earned almost $600 million in two weeks. This movie is so shiny that people will stand everything else that is terrible about it.

The story makes no sense and the way it is presented in the plot is chaotic at best. There were so many action scenes the dialogue punctuated the fights … not the other way around. For being two and a half hours, a great, complex story could have been carefully designed to entice the audience. But instead, it is action followed by explosions, sound and by yelling, running and explosions.

There was no way for it to end well because nothing had been done over the course of the movie. It just ends, the credits roll, and the audience wonders what just happened. This movie is too big for its own good and it needs fighting robots and not enough reason for them to fight. Everything was very epic, but for no reason. What was not epic was the ending.

For being so grandioso, there should have been multiple dimensions in peril, not just some machinery, or aliens, or Megan Fox’s empty head or whatever it was. This script is so incredibly terrible and cut and pasted together there was no way it wouldn’t be one of the worst movies of 2009. To be fair, it is a causality of the writers’ strike.

The plot holes are jarring, distracting and confusing. The heroes walk out the back door of the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum, which is located in downtown Washington, D.C., for a U.F.O. hunt with the majestic Rockeys in the background. There were no apologies or attempts to make the Laville Bad style explanations. It just was.

**Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen**

**GENRE:** Action, Adventure

**STARRING:** Shia LaBeouf and Megan Fox

**DIRECTOR:** Michael Bay

**RATING:** PG-13

**RELEASED:** June 24, 2009

**OUR TAKE:** ☹️☹️☹️

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Also, Petra is not visible from the Great Pyramids, so there is no way the heroes ran from one to the other. And if there is a mythical gun, why not use it on more than one thing?

I was not prepared to do and only really has one moment to shine. It’s about four seconds long since it fuses podiles or invades earth or bursts through a wall. Furthermore, Shia driving a huge robot, but instead he is just running on the ground a shot later like nothing happened. Somehow he traveled several hundred feet to the ground safely, quickly and without a hitch start.

As a final note, someone needs to be either fired or promoted regarding these “racist robots.” It is a streaming pile of controversy that could have been avoided easily, but then GM would have to be plugged elsewhere in the movie. The robots add nothing to the movie and could be excluded without a problem, but instead guess it was supposed to be funny.

But the movie is just so shiny. It’s so pretty. It’s so pretty it hypnotizes you to the audio. This is its only redeeming feature. The robots are pretty. Megan is pretty and the $600 million isn’t arguing.

**LP**

| LP |
Piled Higher & Deeper by Jorge Cham

You may find this hard to believe, but I knew what you’re going through.

I remember what it’s like to be a struggling grad student.

Trying to keep up with the workload. Unsure if I’m cut out to be a professor.

You do?

Yes, I knew many of them when I was in grad school. Sadly, they all dropped out.

Yes. But only if you use it here within a four foot radius. And if you give it back right away.

People are always borrowing my stuff. And then I have to track it all over the lab because they never return it.

I haven’t seen my stapler in five years.

The red one. I have it.

TO: all group members

A film crew will be visiting the lab this week to do a feature on our research.

I realize this will be an enormous inconvenience on your busy work schedule...

Still, I expect the utmost level of professionalism and seriousness on your part as we reach out to the ignorant masses. -SNT

Dude, we’re gonna be on TV!

Grooming vs. Time in Grad School

What happens when you realize nobody’s paying attention.

Morning Routine:
Shower
Brush teeth
Shave
Dry clean hair

Morning Routine:
Shower
Brush teeth
Shave
Dry clean hair

Morning Routine:
Shave

CONFERENCE

BEGIN "THESIS BEARD"

THESIS DEFENSES/INTERVIEWS!

EVEN YOUR ADVISOR AVOIDS YOU (MORE THAN USUAL)

PERSONAL GROOMING

CLASSMATES FIND OUT YOU ARE LEGALLY BLIND

SOCIAL EVENTS

GOALS WITH SANDALS

BEGIN "THESIS BEARD"

I mean, why bother?

THESIS DEFENSES/INTERVIEWS!

EVERY ADVISOR AVOIDS YOU (MORE THAN USUAL)

TIME IN GRAD SCHOOL

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Non Sequitur by Wiley

Hm. Did you watch the U.S. Open?

Uh... I did?

Really? You bet it!

I thought the rain delayed?

Yeah...

Did you watch the U.S. Open?

Oh...

Haa...

Don’t tell my future self about the speed dating gone awry ofwedding process.

OK. You need to do a price-cut, then be boot. Hopefully some of the data will be saved...

THE REAL STORY BEHIND NOAH’S ARK

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**Technique**

**Non Sequitur by Wiley**

Go win one will it take up to get there, Jiffy?

Well, it was like a light minute from Earth.

...Lunch!

Well, I am kinda hungry.

I want talking about our lunch.

**Dilbert** by Scott Adams

Asok, the company isn't growing, and no one is quitting in this economy.

Your only hope for promotion is if a senior engineer dies.

I joined a gym!

Hi, Graybeard. I brought you a brochure for a great retirement home.

I'm only 52. I'm not going to retire just so you can get promoted into my job.

Risky adventure?

There it is, Frank! Mars 5.5. The twin planet to Earth.

Entering the atmosphere is the trick. Fire, don't touch anything.

Which part of 'don't touch anything' didn't you understand?

Oh, when you really sound like my dad.

This one still has some fight left in him.

We replaced our styrofoam cups with paper cups to save the planet.

We didn't do it to help the planet. We did it to look like the sort of company that cares about the sort of thing.

Oh, in that case it's working great.

As soon as you stop whining.

I've been asked to chronicle your rise to management for the company newsletter.

So far, I have the story of how your father was a barrel-shaped moron who married a blind woman.

But it could have been the other way around. I'm mostly guessing.

For the company newsletter profile, I need to know how you rose from being a ignorant baboon to an overpaid speed bump.

And make it not boring. I'm not an overpaid speed bump.

My fact-checker will need to see your pay stub.
Jackets earn pre-season WNIT bid

By Steven Cappetta
Sports Editor

On June 30, it was announced that the women’s basketball team will play in the 2009 Preseason Women’s National Invitational Tournament. This will be the Jackets’ second appearance in this tournament; the first came before the 2002-03 season, when the team reached the second round.

Tech is one of the 16 teams in the field and will host Winthrop in the opening round. The Jackets and Lady Eagles will face off for the fourth time in school history. In the last matchup, which occurred last season, Tech was able to defeat Winthrop 65-27 in the first round of the Bahamas Sunsplash Shootout. The winner of this year’s game, scheduled for Nov. 13, will play either Oklahoma State or Arkansas-Little Rock in the second round.

This year’s WNIT will include 11 teams that reached the postseason last year. This year’s field will include Arkansas-Little Rock, Bowling Green, Florida Gulf Coast, Marist, New Mexico, North Carolina A&T, Ohio State, Oklahoma State, West Virginia, Winthrop, Chicago State, Eastern Illinois, Northern Colorado, Towson and the University of Texas-Pan American.

The event will run from Nov. 13-22. The second-round games will be played Nov. 15-16, the semifinals on Nov. 18-19 and the championship game on Sunday, Nov. 22. All games will be hosted by the participating schools.

Last year, No. 4 North Carolina defeated No. 2 Oklahoma 80-79 in the pre-season WNIT championship game. The game featured a pair of top-five teams in a close game that had six ties and seven lead changes.

Tech’s biggest wins of the season were against conference foes as a pro prospect, and he would likely have to spend his first couple of years in the NBA on the bench continuing to learn the game if he entered the draft right away.

ESPN’s Jay Bilas believed that Lawal was talented enough to be drafted, but that he would benefit from returning to Tech and working on his post play against ACC opponents.

By spending another year refining his game, Lawal would put himself in position to be drafted earlier by a team looking to take someone ready to play right away, and thus avoid the risk of riding the bench during some of his best potential years of professional play.

Also, even though Lawal posted very strong numbers against conference foes as a sophomore, Lawal’s numbers began to decline late in the season. He led the team with 9.5 rebounds per game, and was second in scoring on the Jackets’ roster with 13.1 points per game after leading Tech in that category for most of the season.

Additionally, two of his best statistical games came in Tech’s two biggest wins of the season. He had 25 points and 10 rebounds in the 76-74 upset of No. 6 Wake Forest on Jan. 31, and his 20 points and 14 rebounds helped Tech earn an 86-81 victory over Clemson in the first round of the ACC tournament.

After declaring for the draft, Lawal participated in a number of pre-draft camps and workouts with several NBA teams, all the while gathering information on where he was projected to be drafted and what he could do to improve his stock.

He performed well in these post-season activities, and NBA scouts had plenty of positive things to say about Lawal’s intelligence, footwork, motor skills, and his potential for success in the pro circuit.

As mock NBA drafts began to emerge, many projected Lawal to be drafted late in the first round, where strong teams such as the Portland Trail Blazers and Cleveland Cavaliers would be making their picks. However, many believed that Lawal would be better served returning for his junior year of college basketball.

The general consensus among many scouts was that he was still somewhat raw as a pro prospect, and he would have to spend his first couple of years in the NBA on the bench continuing to learn the game if he entered the draft right away.

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