

## ACC Playboy Bunnies

Biomed bunny bares all for  
Playboy's "Girls of ACC"



By Andrew Ho  
Contributing Writer

With football season and the ACC in full swing, many students do their part at Tech to show their school spirit, whether it's attending the games, cheering on the Jackets or wearing the school colors. However, some students from ACC schools showed their support for their team by wearing very little at all, as Playboy recently published a special section in the October 2009 issue titled "Girls of the ACC" with models from the member schools posing for their respective teams. Included among these young models was Tech's very own, Ashley Smith.

Ashley Smith, BME '09, posed for the magazine in April when she was still a student. Smith says that deciding to pose for the magazine was not a difficult decision and she had always wanted to do it but was reluctant to audition because she felt that she was not as shapely as many of the other Playboy models.

Smith explained that the audition process was relatively easy. "A friend referred me to Playboy photographer



Photos courtesy of Ashley Smith

Ashley Smith, along with Shayne Devereux (not featured) represented Tech co-eds in this year's "Girls of the ACC" feature.

David Rams. He called me four days before the shoot and asked if he could come over and see me naked without makeup or fixed hair. Usually, when a stranger calls and asks to see me naked I at least ask for dinner first, but I obliged. He was at my apartment for about 5 minutes and scheduled the shoot. I was absolutely ecstatic. I called everyone I knew," said Smith.

The actual shoot took place this April and began by Smith getting her hair and make-up done. Afterwards, the photographer spent about 30 minutes taking pictures of Smith. She had to wait months to see what the pictures were like.

When asked about the craziest thing that has happened because of her appearance in the magazine she said, "By far the most interesting experiences I've had dur-

ing this whole thing is the crazy e-mails and Facebook messages from random people. I used my real name in the magazine so it wasn't very hard to track me down."

Smith said her relationship with Tech was tumultuous at times.

"Georgia Tech and I definitely had a love/hate relationship. Every few semesters I would quit and take a semester (or sometimes two) off. Everyone that goes to Tech knows how hard it is to keep going sometimes. I started in August 2003 and just finished at the end of July, so I guess technically I was on the six year program. Including summers, I ended up taking off 8 semesters," said Smith.

See *Playboy*, page 13



## Students debate health care options, policy

By Chris Russell  
Staff Writer

Ask any student what the hot-button political issue of the day is, and if "healthcare" isn't the first thing out of their mouth, it should be pretty close to it. With marches in Washington, town hall meetings devolving into yelling matches and supporters of both sides of the issue viciously attacking the other, it's safe to say that the state of America's health system is on many minds at the moment.

On Thursday, Sept. 17, the Tech chapter of the Roosevelt Institute held an open forum, what they called a "fireside chat," on the topic of healthcare. The Roosevelt Institute is a national student think-tank that encourages its members to debate issues facing the nation today and attempt to find solutions to them.

Shikha Choudhury, fourth-year ME and president of Tech's chapter of the Roosevelt Institute, said, "[The Roosevelt Institute's] goal is to research, debate and put forward ideas that are fester-

ing in the student body due to our academic pressures. We want students to know they are more than just what is on their graduate cer-

tificate."

The point of the debate wasn't just so students could discuss the problem with each other.

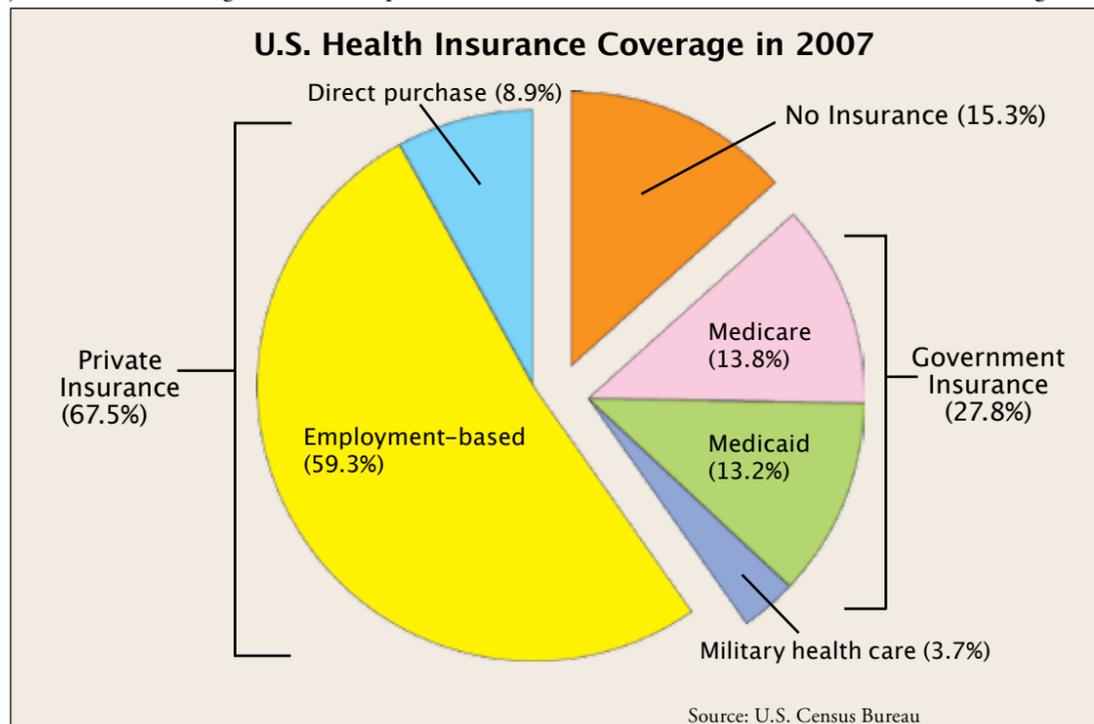
Kristofer Carta fourth-year HTS and VP of Operations for the Tech chapter of the Roosevelt Institute said, "The real goal is

to, at the end of this, to come up with...a policy we think would help the healthcare dilemma in America."

Each chapter of the Roosevelt Institute gathers information and suggestions from its members before sending it up the chain of command to the national level, where the best ideas are forwarded on to several US senators.

The discussion itself consisted of nine students. Most students present supported health reform and some form of a public option for healthcare.

Choudhury said, "We can't accept healthcare, as conservatives see it, as just another resource to purchase." This support was only encouraged by information distributed at the meeting, with two facts standing out from the rest. First, that the US spends more than any other nation on healthcare, and, second, that the quality of healthcare provided ranks 37th in the world, far below countries that spend far less.



See *Health*, page 14

# Rosh Hashannah marks new year for Jewish students

By Sarah Malis  
Contributing Writer

Lshana tovah! Sundown on Sept. 18, Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, will begin and ends at nightfall on Sept. 20.

While Tech doesn't have a historically large population of Jewish students, many still recognize and celebrate the first of the High Holidays, also known as the "Days of Awe".

In other words, the period of ten days including Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are recognized as the Days of Repentance, which are the first ten days of the month of Tishrei.

These days of repentance are a time to examine one's ways and try to improve one's behaviors and actions in the anticipation of Yom Kippur.

This repentance can take form of morning prayers, fasting, charity or self-reflection. Rosh Hashanah is observed as a day of rest and characterized by the blowing of the shofar, a trumpet made from a ram's horn.

The sound of the shofar marks the end of the fast on Yom Kippur, and is blown at four particular occasions in the prayers on Rosh Hashanah.

Yom Kippur consists of a day of fasting, and intensive prayer in and out of synagogue. However, the High Holidays begin with the more joyous of the two holidays.

Rosh Hashanah, like any good holiday, is a time of delicious traditional food, family and prayer. The holiday is essentially creating a "clean slate" and a new start for the New Year.

The "new, fresh start" of Rosh Hashanah can be relatable to the American New Year. People create their resolutions, just as millions of Jews around the world begin a lifetime pact of hopeful begin-

nings.

Many Jewish families have similar traditions.

"[My family] has apples and honey, pomegranates, cooked tongue of a cow, black-eye beans, fish, and egg. We have a gathering two nights - the first night of Rosh Hashanah and the second night of Rosh Hashanah. During the day, we go to synagogue. We also blow the shofar," said Sepura Dosetareh, a first-year BME.

The apples and honey are to symbolize a sweet new year and the fish and egg are for the destruction of the temple.

It is considered very important within the Jewish religion to attend synagogue on the new year. The Rosh Hashanah service is quite different from other services throughout the year and is a very unique ceremony.

Dosetareh said, "There are a lot people there [at temple], more than a usual Sabbath day. We also say different prayers. People are more joyful, but more cautious, because Rosh Hashanah is also a Day of Judgment, like Yom Kippur. Rosh Hashanah, like shabbos, is a day of rest, so you are not allowed to turn on fire, etc."

Rosh Hashanah marks a fresh start for all, and most importantly, to begin a path of becoming a better person.

"The most important part of the holiday is that is the Jewish New Year. Jews and non-Jews should give thanks to God for what they have in their lives, and try to take upon themselves something spiritual and good that they can do in the following year. Whether it is tutoring the disadvantaged or praying more... Rosh Hashanah is a time for people to recall what they did in the past year and set up a path to take in the future," said Dosetareh.

As mentioned before, Rosh



Photo by Josh Sandler/Student Publications

Apples and honey are traditionally eaten on Rosh Hashanah to symbolize the hope for a sweet new year, and pomegranates are eaten as the "new fruit" which has not yet been eaten this season.

Hashanah is just the beginning of the High Holidays.

Dosetareh said, "Rosh Hashanah is also a day of judgment. The name of the righteous are written in the Book of Life and then sealed on Yom Kippur and vice versa. It also initiates Yom Kippur and Sukkot, two huge holiday following the New Year. Yom Kippur is the Day of Judgment and Sukkot is the time we celebrate the exodus of Egypt."

Noah Jaffe, a first year EE, said, "First of all, you go to synagogue and you listen to the shofar. The night before synagogue we have a big meal, and have apples and honey. One of the customs is you only have sweet things, so one time I went over to my rabbi's house and we had gefilte fish and we didn't have horseradish or pep-

per, basically no bitter things, to signify a new year. Rosh Hashanah gives me a chance to be away from classes and homework and spend time with my family."

"[Services] are extra long. Usually the shofar is blown in the middle to give a symbolic gesture to show people the New Year is coming. Its like a wake up call to trigger all the other thoughts associated with Rosh Hashanah. There are a bunch of added prayers specially for Rosh Hashanah where you thank God for what he's given you, asking him forgiveness, and asking him for a better year. The way I see religion is that it's there to make you a better person. So when Rosh Hashanah comes around the main point is getting your 'report card' to see how well you did last year and see

how you can be a better person, be nicer to people, and do better things. The bottom line is fixing your mistakes for the next year. It doesn't matter how religious you are, it's about how you treat others and how you're growing as a person," said Jaffe.

Rosh Hashanah is a holiday for celebration, happiness and family togetherness. Services are for signifying the New Year and recognizing that it's time to wipe the slate clean and restart the New Year with good intentions and a sense of purity.

Soon enough, it will be Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement, a far more somber holiday. But for now, get ready to chop some apples, bring out the honey, congregate with friends and family to bring in the year 5770.

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sliver

[www.nique.net](http://www.nique.net)

What is wrong with the football helmets? Why do they keep coming off on easy hits?

My roommate's fine, it's the guy next door i'd like to kick!

BAD NEIGHBOR: sucks at guitar and singing but must practice as i'm about to go to sleep

I hate how people think the slivers have integrity, they're creepy!

My roommate loves Jews, will you help me find her one?

Andrea finally landed a Jew? Le'Chayim!

'scuse me 'scuse me...I just wanted to say that the sliver 2 lines above me...BEST SLIVER OF ALL TIME!

yo IEs, im happy for you, and imma let you finish your degrees, but George P. Burdell was one of the best imaginary engineers of all time

Kanye West isn't that important! Charlie Sheen wants 20 Minutes With the President! This is NEWS!

tired after the second qtr? better be running some wind sprints this week.

That game was winnable... just not running around like idiots.

trdant@gmail.com

damn you goldsman! why do you make us write so much for a stupid statistics class

Kearse, is it necessary to run for Mr. Georgia Tech for a 3rd time? I hate kernel level rootkits and I HATE how easily vista is damaged D:

Why does GA Tech's campus always smells like hot dogs?

Please don't. It clogs the shower drains.

Hey FB group Tall Techies doesn't exist.

Crazy Oklahoma boy is in all my classes. FML.

West side market has Batman airheads and that

I wish I could Apparate into your bed...- TF

just made my night

Okay, so a black guy, a white guy, and Asian, and an Indian are

in line for the computer cluster...

Wearing a suit does not make you any more qualified for a job.

Do not argue. You cannot win.

happy

# Apollo 16 astronaut inspires



Photo by Michael James / Student Publications

Apollo 16 astronaut Charlie Duke, the 10th man to walk on the moon, spoke to students about his experiences in space.

By Reem Mansura  
Development Editor

Twelve men have walked the moon. Only nine are still alive. This past Tuesday, Tech students had the opportunity to listen to the experiences of the youngest astronaut to ever walk the moon, Charlie Duke.

Duke was on campus to award a \$10,000 scholarship to Jonathan Walker, third-year AE, from the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.

Duke attended the U.S. Naval Academy and graduated with a degree in Naval Sciences in 1957. He went on to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

and received his Master's degree in Aeronautics in 1964.

Duke did not always know what he wanted to do while growing up. During his childhood, there were no space programs to inspire him to become an astronaut.

"I grew up in South Carolina and there was no space program so I wasn't like, 'Mama I'm going to walk on the moon,'" Duke said. "I got interested in graduate school at MIT."

In 1965, Duke graduated from the Aerospace Research Pilot School and in 1966 was selected one of 19 selected for NASA's fifth group. In 1969, he served as capsule communicator for Apollo 11

and was picked for backup crew on Apollo 13.

"One week before the launch [of Apollo 13] I caught the measles and gave it to everyone else."

Duke first set foot on the moon with Tech graduate John Young in April of 1972 on Apollo 16, making him the tenth person to walk on the moon.

During his time in the astronaut program, Duke logged over 2,000 hours the simulator and 500 hours in a space suit.

"We went through rigorous training effort, but we were really focused to get on the moon," Duke said.

He worked on Apollo 16 as prime crew. Apollo 16 was the fifth manned lunar landing mission and the first scientific expedition to inspect, survey and sample materials on the moon.

Duke shared stories from his first flight to the moon to his most embarrassing moments.

"It was just a smooth ride for three days to the moon," Duke said. "The moon was one of the most beautiful sites I've ever seen. Into my view on the right side floats the Earth 16,000 miles away. [There were] three colors in my memory; brown, white and the crystal blue of the ocean."

While landing on the moon, several problems arose.

"We missed a 40 foot crater by about three yards," Duke said.

Duke also showed video footage of him and the crew exploring the moon and conducting experiments. Duke's most embarrassing moment occurred when he dropped several millions worth of experiments. Thankfully, nothing was damaged.

Duke retired from NASA in 1975.

"I only got one flight, but the one I got was fantastic, and I was thankful," Duke said.

## Playboy from page 11

Smith also has some advice for students that are currently working to graduate at Tech.

Smith said, "My first two semesters at Tech I was so homesick I went home after a week of classes. So I really didn't complete a class at Tech until Fall semester 2004. I had a lot of fun on my semesters off, often too much, and I recommend it to anyone who is able to take a break on occasion. Take advantage of the fun aspects of being in college and get out of the library. The real-world will be there waiting for you whenever you graduate. Don't be in any rush. I obviously wasn't, and I would not change a single thing about my college life. I'm still in shock that I graduated."

Smith just recently relocated to New York City and is spending her time there exploring the city. She plans to start looking for jobs there soon and has not been recognized in New York City yet because of her contributions to Playboy.

Smith misses some things about Atlanta including her friends, the familiarity of the city and her dog Lola.

"NYC is great. I really love all the new places to explore and the subway system. I'm nervous about the winters as I've never experienced really cold weather. I'm finding my way around easily using Google maps on my iPhone and everyday I find something new and cool to do," said Smith.

In regards to future modeling work, Smith has been contacted by Playboy to a few more shoots but she does not plan to do any more modeling other than that.

Smith's future plans include going to graduate school in a year to eventually pursue a PhD in a biomedical engineering field.

"With biomedical engineering I can actually design and create solutions for medical problems... there is nothing I enjoy more than being given an open-ended medical problem and spending time researching ways or designing devices to solve the problem," said Smith.



Photo courtesy of Ashley Smith

Ashley Smith, "Girls of the ACC" model, enjoyed spending time with friends during student activities while she was at Tech.

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**Health** from page 11

Understandably, many students present at the meeting were outraged by these statistics. Andrew Willis, fourth year AE, said, "What we're putting into the system are sky-rocketing premiums and what we're getting out is 37th best quality? That's just insane behavior for the supposed worldwide leader in healthcare."

In order to counter this, one of the largest concerns students believe needs to be addressed is how

difficult it is for many individuals to receive healthcare, and receive it on a timely basis.

Carta said, "The reason we're so far behind is accessibility and the fact that so many in our country don't have access to healthcare."

Many see broadening coverage, with particular attention paid to those who can't afford insurance and those with pre-existing conditions, as an important component of this. In his address to Congress, President Obama mentioned that

it makes better business-sense for insurance companies to cut their most expensive clients, and, as grim as it may be, some students see the logic behind this. Carta said, "[Insurance companies] have no incentive to care for their policy holders at the moment."

That's not to say that students aren't concerned what more government involvement in healthcare could mean for efficiency. Even those students at the chat that were for more government involvement believed that in order

for health care reform to work, particularly a public option, special consideration would have to be given to how the system was implemented.

Currently, plans are in the works in Congress, but have failed to garner much support from the GOP, mostly due to the high price tags associated with them. Senator Max Baucus (D. MT), recently presented one of the newer plans in the system, with a price tag around \$750 billion, which is relatively conservative compared

to some other plans.

In his Sept. 16 address to Congress, Obama laid out his hopes for healthcare reform. Chief among them are mandated insurance, restricting private companies from denying individuals insurance and pursuing a public option.

Students point to successful government-sponsored programs in other countries - like Denmark and Taiwan - as examples that prove reformed healthcare would work in the US.

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