PKT brother arrested on sexual assault charges

News

KENNETH MARINO
NEWS EDITOR

Newly recovered records reveal that Caleb Ackermann, a member of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity (PKT) at Tech, was arrested on February 24 of this year on charges of sexual assault and spent the night in jail before being released the next day on a $20,000 bond. The arrest follows an incident reported to Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) on January 22 that occurred the night of January 17, 2014. A separate sexual assault was also reported to GTPD against Ackermann on January 28 by a different woman.

The first victim, a student from an Atlanta College (whose name is being withheld to protect the victim’s identity) and girlfriend of a former PKT brother, told GTPD officers that she did not recall occurring at the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity house in his room. According to the incident report, the victim had bruises on her neck, breast, thigh, and back. On the advice of GTPD, the young woman went to Grady Hospital to collect medical evidence. However, because of the time that had passed, there could not be an effective examination. Her injuries were cataloged and the clothes she wore that night were sent to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

GTPD applied for a warrant to recover the text messages sent between the victim and Ackermann the day after the incident. After receiving the records, the officer in charge contacted the Assistant District Attorney who advised that there was probable cause to charge Ackermann with rape. He was booked into Fulton County Jail on February 24 and released on a $20,000 bond the next day. No further actions have been taken by the District Attorney or GTPD, but the case remains open.

PKT was disbanded in March for violating the terms of their suspension given after the so-called “rape bait” email and for exhibiting a “pattern of sexual violence that...suggests a deep-rooted culture within the fraternity that is obscene, indecent and endangers women,” according to the disbandment letter. According to the notification of decision sent to the fraternity by the Office of Student Integrity (OSI), the fraternity was found responsible for violating six sections of the Student Code of Conduct including the underage use of alcohol and a count of a sexually related offense.

Matthew Peterson, author of the so-called “rape bait” email, in the course of GTPD’s related investigation...
Congress should have heard any issues with the service. Other dissenters were Justices Scalia, Thomas and Alito.

On June 5, 2013, an employee of Georgia Tech Housing reported that a blue Bosh 12 Volt drill worth $140 was removed from room 213 of the Graduate Living Center. This drill belongs to Georgia Tech. This theft was thought to have taken place between 2:00 PM on June 4 to midnight of the next day.

On June 8, 2014, at 1:00 A.M., GTPD responded to a call in the Gerald Wayne Clough Undegraduate Learning Center to investigate a pedestrian robbery that occurred between the time of 11:50 P.M. and 11:58 P.M. the previous night. The victim was a middle-aged African American male and registered $300 of stolen material, including a laptop bag, Hewlett-Packard brand of office equipment and a keychain.

On Thursday, June 12, 2014, a 2001 red Hyundai Santa Fe was stopped in traffic on Atlantic Drive, NW at Gorkeroff Street, NW. The incident occurred between 6:02 P.M. and 7:08 P.M. that day. Quavisious Glover was taken from this vehicle; he was wanted by the Atlanta Police Department under charges of aggravated assault. As a result, Mr. Glover was transported to Fulton County Jail.

On June 12, 2014, a student reported to the Campus Bicycle Master Plan office at midnight patrol arrested a male for attempting to break into the Instructional Center, when it is locked at this time.

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Because of student demand, new dining options will be available on campus starting in the fall, namely the opening of a Panda Express in the Student Center.

The operator of Burger Bytes came to us and said they really could not sustain the operation and asked if they could close," said Rich Steele, Senior Director of Auxiliary Services. "We found out...that burgers are just a much less popular item for lunch than what we expected and they had some issues with quality during some of their operation.

This new location will offer essentially the same menu as a full-scale Panda Express and is projected to be open for lunch and dinner for four or five days a week, with Saturday-bonding weekend specials on a trial basis. "We'll make adjustments semester by semester based on demand," said Steele.

"Panda was the highest ranked, most interesting concept that was interested in the location and we spent a fair amount of time with our Student Advisory Council talking about a wide range of options and this is where we landed," said Steele. The Auxiliary Services Dining and Retail Services Advisory Council is affiliated with the Undergraduate SGA Campus Services Committee and consists of students from various campus organizations along with Georgia Tech faculty and staff members.

The board concluded that Panda Express, Chipotle, and Panera Bread were highly popular among students after soliciting feedback from the student body, however two options were not feasible.

"We have talked to Chipotle about trying to come to our campus and they're not building out concepts on campus campuses," said Steele. "Panera needs a much larger space and they have unrealistically expectations, in our opinion on how much they need to generate in sales to justify their operations," Panda Express currently has locations on college campuses nationwide and were interested in expanding into Atlanta.

We're also working on a new Mexican concept we would like to install in the food court to replace Roostis [Cantina] and something that is close to Chipotle or Moe's," said Steele in response to the strong student demand for Tex-Mex.

Dining Services is also in talks to change the current pizza offering, a pizza-by-the-slice restaurant may replace the current Pizza Hut in the Student Center.

"We've heard that that's really a preferred option by the students. Typically pizza by the slice is inexpensive, and very fast," said Steele, citing a current successful operation at Emory University. "Pizza Hut has done very poorly in the past year so we've seen the customer count at Pizza Hut decrease...by about 35%." Complaints over nutritional value and cost were reasons for its unpopularity.

Primarily, student feedback is responsible for the yearly changes in Georgia Tech's dining options. "We don't change things unless we find that students don't want to purchase that product," said Steele. "There is not reason to take up space because space is really valuable especially in the student center.

Photo by John Nokons  
Student Publications

Interim News Editor

KATHLEEN ZHANG

FROM PAGE 1

tion of underage drinking on the night of January 17 admitted to being among those who provided the victim with alcoholic beverages. In the leaked fraternity email, Peterson advised the recipients to make sure that girls at house parties had something to drink and that "if anything ever fails, go get more alcohol." Among the fraternity's OSI misconducts was their failure to remove Peterson from the house after the email was transmitted between each other. "stated she informed [Acker man] that he better not tell anyone of their sexual encounter otherwise she would have him criminally charged with rape and she instructed him to delete all the text messages that [they] were transmitting between each other."

According to the report, the victim stated that she drank a lot of his bourbon. The victim reported that he began saying "Awaw man, I've been this asshole before." The victim stated she did not understand him and excused herself to ask him if he knew where her hair tie was; he proceeded to search for it in his bed. The victim stated that this action confused her because she did not remember being in his bed. According to the report, she told Ackermann that she did not remember parts of the previous night; he responded that she drank a lot of his bourbon. The victim reported that he began saying "Awaw man, I've been this asshole before." The victim stated she did not understand him and left the house. Later that day, the victim states she received a text message from Ackermann, but she did not recall giving him her number. According to the report, she texted Ackermann asking what happened that night; he responded that they had sex. She stated that they exchanged texts during which he said that she seduced him; she responded that she had no recollection of having sex with him. He asked her why he took advantage of her when she was blacked out. She then stated that he tried to convince her that it was her fault and that she should tell her boyfriend. According to the report, she stated she informed [Ackermann] that he better not tell anyone of their sexual encounter otherwise she would have him criminally charged with rape and she instructed him to delete all the text messages that [they] were transmitting between each other."

According to the report, the victim stated that she believed the bourbon the Ackermann provided to her contained a drug such as ecstasy because he was "known to use ecstasy, marijuana and acid at parties."

According to Ackermann's statement to GTPD, the victim was flirting with him and rubbing her hands on him. He stated that she made a comment that she had always found him attractive. Ackermann stated that she then laid on the couch and took off her pants, and he proceeded to initiate oral sex on her. He stated that she stated that she "wanted [him] inside of [her]" and she then performed oral sex on him. He stated that they then proceeded to have sex on his lofted bed.

Ackermann stated that he began to act indifferent and that he believed that she was remorseful for cheating on her boyfriend. He stated that she then went back to partying with her friends. According to the report, he then stated that the next day, she asked about their encounter and they stated they had sex. He stated that around noon they began exchanging heated text messages. He stated that she threatened to charge him with rape if he mentioned the encoun- ter to anyone. He then stated that he deleted their messages at her request.

A separate woman who attended the same university as the first victim made similar allegations against Ackermann. GTPD was notified on January 28, 2014, but the incident occurred in November of 2012. According to the second victim's statement to police, at the fraternity's semi-formal, Ackermann provided her with copious amounts of alcohol, and that once she finished one drink [he] would have another alcoholic beverage ready."

The second victim told police that she had met with the first vic- tim who told her about her inci- dent with Ackermann. The second victim later told GTPD that she did not want to criminally charge Ackermann and only wanted her statement to corroborate the first victim's story. Although the sec- ond victim's case is closed, the first victim's case is still an active GTPD investigation.
Summer Semester Transportation

Confusing routes and construction causes problems

During the summer, Parking and Transportation traditionally shortens the hours stingers and trolleys run, while also reducing the number of vehicles running. This year, with the added construction and new bus schedule, the efficiency and ease of using Tech transportation and dropped considerably.

While there is a smaller number of students on campus during the Summer semester, reducing the number of buses makes it much more difficult for the students left on campus to use the transportation system. Students do not usually decide to take the Stingers or Trolleys based on the number of students already on board, rather, they decide to use these modes of transportation because they fit into the students’ schedule. With transportation arriving at longer time intervals, students decide not to ride for fear of being late to class, which creates the idea that students need less transportation.

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

The reduced number of students on campus during the Summer Semester should not imply that those students need travel around campus any less than they did during the Fall or Spring semesters.

Thank you for sharing your college experience and your insight...That was a very important point to echo Georgia Tech as a university, in its campus and student body.

As a washed-up-former-has-been photo editor, I sometimes peek in on student publications to see what you’ve been up to... all I have to say is “well done”.

K. SWINDELL

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THANK YOU FOR SPEAKING UP, PRESIDENT PETERSON! I AM SO THANKFUL TO THE AUTHORS OF THIS WHITE PAPER

STUDENT

We need better reporting, nationally. Georgia Tech could be the leader in this critical aspect of disrupting rape. Anonymous reporting is important, but better official reporting of all sexual assaults to the student body is even more important. Reputation drives behavior and accurate reporting will change behavior and disrupt rape. The total sexual assaults reported to the Department of Justice by all colleges nationally is less than 2,500 per year...Georgia Tech has the opportunity to lead the change.

KRONN

Just because it is typical does not mean that it is okay. It is completely possible to change culture and conduct, it just takes a concerted effort.

ARCADe_GANNON

Thank you for your thoughts on the topic of rape. The total sexual assaults reported to the student body is even more important, but better official reporting of all sexual assaults to the student body is even more important. Anonymous reporting is important, but better official reporting of all sexual assaults to the student body is even more important. Reputation drives behavior and accurate reporting will change behavior and disrupt rape. The total sexual assaults reported to the Department of Justice by all colleges nationally is less than 2,500 per year...Georgia Tech has the opportunity to lead the change.

GR8SHOPPER

As a washed-up-former-has-been photo editor for both the ‘Nique (1983/84) and Blueprint (1985) I occasionally peek in on student publications to see what you’ve been up to... all I have to say is “well done”.

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Write to us:
letters@nique.net

Got something to say? Then let your voice be heard with the Technique. Sliver at Nique.net, tweet us @the_nique or check us out on Facebook at facebook.com/thenique. We want to hear your opinion and want your voice be heard with the Technique. Sliver at Nique.net, tweet us @the_nique or check us out on Facebook at facebook.com/thenique. We want to hear your opinion and want your content within the pages of the Technique. Along with these letters, we are open to receiving letters that focus on relevant issues that currently affect Georgia Tech as a university, including its campus and student body.

When submitting letters we ask that you include your full name, year (1st, 2nd, etc.) and major. We ask that letters be thought provoking, well written and in good taste. We reserve the right to both reject or edit letters for length and style.

For questions, comments or concerns, contact the Opinions Editor at opinions@nique.net
On July 1st, the new Safe Carry Protection Act of 2014 which was signed by Governor Nathan Deal last week in April will go into effect across the state of Georgia. According to an end of session analysis by the non-partisan, non-profit research office House Bill 60 will expand the rights of gun owners in various ways. This will include allowing people with a license to carry a concealed weapon to bring their guns to bars and associated parking facilities (though gun holders cannot drink), and bars are required to hand a notice by the property owner, government buildings (except when used for business purposes during business hours by security personnel), places of worship (with a permit), as well as school safety zones with approval from school officials.

As reported by the Washington Post, the bill will also expand Georgia’s “Stand your Ground” law, get rid of the “gun free zone” signs, and require gun dealers to maintain record of sales and purchases for state purposes, such as background checks or suspending or limiting the carry or sale of guns, making banning or restricting lawful firearms possession in public housing illegal, expand the protection of local laws, remove the fingerprinting requirement for license renewals, as well as not allowing the release of a database of information on license holders that spars multiple jurisdictions.

As the question goes if you see someone pull a gun threatening you, it is not a right to hold a gun so you could shoot them down? Or do you wish the other person have a gun an all! The debate is neverending as one side will say that if there’s no gun laws then will open up or see old people get hurt in a way. The other side will say that this decision while the other believes unrealistic to think that guns can be kept out of the hands of those intent on hurting others. Ultimately there’s no solution in which everyone can agree.

According to some FB 60 is considered the most sweeping pro-gun measure passed in the US this year with opponents like the “Americans For Responsible Solutions” who are against this action, and proponents like GeorgiaCarry.org which lobbied for the bill calling it “meaningful pro-gun legislation.”

My problem with this new law coming into effect in the state of Georgia is that it does not truly help anyone. Why do we need guns in churches? A place of worship is one of the last places I would expect anyone to want or need a gun, so who does it help? Why do we need guns in bars? Since when have alcohol and guns been a combination that logically makes sense, how does that help reduce violence? Why do we need guns in schools? I only think of places like here at Tech where students already realize that they are overpowered with a heavy workload at all times. Would a gun help with these frustrations or lead to consequences on no one wants to see? Or why not have an illegal records of lie detector tests or how people are purchasing these guns? For me personally there are just too many questions as result from this legislation rather than answers or solutions to reducing gun violence and violent crime.

Two weeks ago I lost a family member to this gun violence, they were found dead in South Atlanta shop and killed in their car. We don’t know the circumstances of this shooting and nobody including the police have been able to provide information as to a motive behind this. Do I wish that they had a gun in his car? No! Do I wish that whoever shot them did not have access to a gun at all? Yes. To me more people on the streets with access to guns does nothing but result in more injuries and violence. I do believe that continuing to do this, we will never solve gun rights in Georgia and across the country is the wrong way to go, so let’s all realize this is an end to unnecessary violence.
Summer Freshman
We do not know if its your turns from FASE or the lanyards, but the new Yellow Jackets on campus are definitely a hot this week. Now is the perfect time to test out all the trolley routes and CULC booths before everyone arrives. Remember, the Starbucks line will never be this short again.

Construction Cons
The large blockades often delay arrival to class or add difficulty to students who walk or ride their bike in the middle of campus. The matter worsens when detours are changed multiple times through out the day and week. The detours also involve annoying stairs and narrow passages.

#1 Ranked Golfer
A big congratulations to Ollie Schniederjans, 4th year BA major, who is ranked No. 1 in the World Amateur Golf Rankings. In the past year, he has won five collegiate events. Schniederjans also finished second in the NCAA Golf Championship and was named the 2014 ACC player of the year.

Shorter Hours
There may be less students on campus during the summer, but that doesn’t mean we are okay with shorter hours. The inconvenience of having to remember to wake up before the food court or Starbucks closes is leading us to stay in our dorm rooms and eat Ramen.

Binghamton enrolled 20 percent and 26 percent Pell grant students. Suitably alarmed, three-fifths of the states have taken steps to increase graduation rates, sometimes by rewarding schools that do a better job of helping students get their degrees. Meanwhile, the study notes, “the federal government sits passively on the sidelines, writing check after check for higher education with almost no consideration of institutional performance.”

The study says the federal government should set minimum performance standards for all colleges receiving federal aid: at least 17 percent enrollment of poor and working-class students; a six-year graduation rate of 15 percent; and three-year student loan default rate of no more than 28 percent.

Colleges that do not meet these standards could face escalating sanctions — including the loss of federal grants and charitable interest deductions for donors.

Dropout factories and diploma mills that fail to improve would face the ultimate penalty: loss of eligibility for federal aid, which would have the effect of shutting them down.

All performance standards would be updated periodically as a way of steadily raising the quality of schools rated at the very bottom.

The report outlines useful steps Congress can pursue should it bestir itself to listen to the president and allocate federal aid along the lines he has suggested.

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Students chosen as Fulbright Scholars

LINDSAY PURCELL  INTERIM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This year, a three Tech students were accepted into the Fulbright Scholarship program for either research or teaching positions. Cole Simpson, MS in ME, and Ayanda Francis, EIA '14, agreed to sit down with the Technique to discuss everything from childhood goals, application difficulties and swimming with Bob Marley's family.

Technique: What was your major and why did you choose that one?

Simpson: I have a BS in mechanical engineering from GT as well as a BA in music with a minor in mathematics from Emory University as a result of a joint degree program between the two schools. I am now working on an MS in mechanical engineering at GT.

I chose mechanical engineering because I was very undecided about what I wanted to do long-term, but knew that I wanted to create new things and that I enjoyed mechanics from physics, so I decided to give it a try!

Francis: My major was Economics and International affairs, and I kind of stumbled upon it honestly! I ended up EIA with minors in French and Korean. I loved the major and minor subjects! I’ve had life changing experiences. I’m glad I switched.

Technique: What do you hope to do with your degree after the Fulbright program?

Simpson: After my Fulbright year, I intend to pursue a PhD in mechanical or bio-engineering at a top ranked engineering school supported by a graduate research fellowship from NSF. Afterwards, I would like to pursue international post-doctoral research positions. From there, who knows?

Francis: Well, I’m actually already contracted to work at the State Department so the timeline basically goes Fulbright, Columbia for grad school, then the State Department as a diplomat.

Technique: What did you most memorable moment from your time at Tech?

Simpson: While studying at Georgia Tech Lorraine, a group of friends and I traveled to Edinburgh, Scotland to participate in the first Tough Mudder competition in Scotland. The Tough Mudder is a 12-mile special forces inspired obstacle course. We grew mustaches for the event which turned out to be a big idea...

Technique: Why did you choose to be a diplomat?

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Graduate plans to change power grid

KATHLEEN ZHANG
NEWS EDITOR

A team of Georgia Tech graduate students represented the Southeast region in the National Clean Energy Business Plan competition from June 11 to 12 in Washington, DC after winning the ACC Clean Energy Challenge on March 26. Their idea, called “Energy Internet,” will try to transform the existing power grid to allow for the creation of renewable energy.

Due to their success in the regional competition, they won a $100,000 cash prize and participate in this summer’s NSF Innovation Corps program, where they will further develop their concept for commercialization. This idea was a cross-disciplinary effort: The student team consisted of graduate students Jennifer Howard, Marcelo Sandoval, and Mitch Costley, from the ECE department and Eric Crane from the BA department. In addition, a team of four faculty members assisted the students: led by Dr. Santiago Grijalva from the ECE department, they include ECE professors Magnus Egerstedt and Marilyn Wolf and ISYE professor Shabbir Ahmad.

“Energy Internet is developing a software platform as a service to solve several key problems that electric utilities face today,” said Costley. Existing infrastructure is unable to handle renewable energy devices such as electric vehicle chargers and solar panels. These individuals who are able to produce and store this energy are called “prosumers.” Power companies are currently concerned about losing revenue due to the increase of resident-generated power.

“It may actually help them transition to a different paradigm not built upon electricity as a commodity which is just on megawatts but a paradigm where the industry works as a service,” said Dr. Grijalva. This group envisions a future where this energy can be exchanged between consumers and utility companies. By doing away with centralized energy distribution increased grid reliability and sustainability can be reached.

This project is funded by a $2,000,000 ARPA-E research grant from the Department of Energy. “It is a special agency... that funds high-risk, high-reward projects like ours,” said Howard.

What distinguishes the Energy Internet project from other ARPA-E-funded projects is that all involved members are associated with the Institute. “Because the availability of resources and experts within Georgia Tech, we were able to have a Georgia Tech only project and that facilitated coordination allows us tremendous speed in moving forward. We have access to world-class researchers and students that can work on these challenging problems,” said Grijalva.

“So that grant ends in December and after that we’ll be starting a company to continue that work,” said Howard. After this year, they will form a start-up called ProsumerGrid and work closely with ATDC in Tech Square to develop their business.

“We look to make small changes in the ways systems [are] controlled at first,” said Costley. “But once we keep going in that direction 10 to 15 years from now [the industry will] look different.”


Pictured from left to right are Jennifer Howard, Marcelo Sandoval, Mitch Costley and Eric Crane with the prize money from the ACC Clean Energy Challenge. They plan to reduce the load of the existing power grid to allow for the creation of renewable energy.
Atlanta's premiere art museum, the High Museum of Art (further referred to as the High), is home to a permanent art collection with over 13,000 pieces, and has an extensive anthology of 19th and 20th century American and decorative art. The southeast's leading art museum is also expanding its collection of European paintings, African American art and contemporary and photography.

Four years ago the High organized a popular automotive exhibit called “The Allure of the Automobile”, which acted as a celebration for custom-coach built cars and luxury automobiles. This year changing things up a bit with a new summer auto-exhibition that’s sure to draw interest from the student population here at Georgia Tech.

“Dream Cars: Innovative Design, Visionary Ideas” is a five month exhibition of innovative automotive design curated with seventeen concept cars developed over that past century in both the United States and Europe.

The exhibition consists of conceptual drawings and blueprints, 3D scale models, and fully functional concept cars to fully represent how imaginative and forward thinking these designs were for their time. The goal of this curation is to showcase how creative thinking and innovative engineering pushed the automotive industry to where it is today.

The High Museum hopes to enlighten budding auto-enthusiasts, inspire students of engineering and design and even lead some to discover a new found passion in those fields. The selection of cars here wasn’t done arbitrarily; each of the seventeen cars were carefully studied and picked to create a timeline that would best represent the most influential movements in car design.

The museum also brought in Ken Gross as a consultant; Gross has been a juror for the North American Car of the Year award since its inception, has written a number of award winning books on cars and twice produced SPEED TV program called “Behind the Headlights”.

Concept car selections date all the way back to the 1930s with William Stout’s “Scarab”, a strange precursor to modern minivans that makes the iconic VW minivan look bland, and date as late as 2010 Porsche “Spyder 918” concept car that has actually made it to production in 2014. The exhibit is hosted on the second floor of the museum. This could not have been an easy setup, since these cars are unique one-of-a-kind works of art worth millions.

Attendees are greeted by a gorgeous hand built car, known as the Norman Timbs Special, 1947 (above) was designed and built by mechanical engineer Norman Timbs, for his personal use. Built in his garage and driveway, this car stunned viewers and eventually made it on the October 1949 cover of Motor Trend.

Attendees may be looking back on this car for a bit too forward thinking, given today's driving laws. With all the talk today about electric and solar powered roads, with self driven cars the Scarab really does act as a model that was ahead of its time and is something modern designers may be looking back on. The Peninsular (Ferrari) Modulo was built to be the ultimate "wedge" car and stood at only thirty-seven inches high; the Lancia is shorter at 33 inches.

BMW and exhibit sponsor Porsche both have their most influential concepts present as well. The famous BMW GINA Light Visionary Model from 2001 is extremely difficult to not touch (if you want to get an idea for what it feels like, buy a speedo) and the Porsche 918 concept may be the closest some come to seeing the actual production vehicle.

Reading about these cars, or even looking up their pictures and history does not do them justice though. To really experience these “Dream Cars” and to learn all about them, one really does need to go to the High Museum of Art in Atlanta. The amount of history and inspiration is nearly unexplainable; the exhibition began May 21 and will run all the way through until September 7.
Music Midtown announces its phase one lineup

Ah, it seems as though the Music Midtown gods are smiling down on us yet again, though this time giving us a little bit of everything. Here comes the run of the mill run down of who will be there, who should be there, and who could be there.

Let’s not get off on saying that Atlanta’s premier music festival has done it again and lined up its premier music festival at home? Keep your eyes on the Underground of music lovers here in Atlanta. There are not too many communities that represent the diverse community that Atlanta has. Let’s not get into saying that Eminem is heading the list, it feels a bit weird. Zac Brown Band and John Mayer go hand in hand as two names to watch out for. Keep your fingers crossed on that one.

Continuing on another rap superstar: Eminem. Traditionally Music Midtown seems to have been primarily an alternative genre-centered festival with hints of rock and hip-hop here and there. In the past, bands like Coldplay and Red Hot Chili Peppers were the headliners, and it just felt right; with Eminem as heading the list, it feels a bit out of place. Zac Brown Band and John Mayer go hand in hand as two names to catch the college crowd’s attention. Long time fans should be excited to see John Mayer pay a much- overdue homage to his hometown with “Why Georgia.”

Hold onto your flower crowns ladies, Lana Del Rey, Lorde, and Iggy Azalea will all be in Piedmont Park. The production folks behind Music Midtown really hit it home here, grabbing up what many may not be on the radar. What we have on the horizon right now might just sell out.

With Lana Del Rey selling out in 15 minutes for her recent show at the Tabernacle, Iggy Azalea’s “Fancy” lyrics being practically ubiquitous, and then Lorde—predictably and finally—breaking ground in Atlanta, I could practically hear the cries of utter excitement break all across the suburbs.

So far we have the attention of the late 90s and early 2000s hip-hop listeners, the southern proper and college crowd and pretty much all girls from the ages 16-25, but wait, there is more.

British and nor-One Direction, Bastille is joining the hodgepodge party, they are new on the alternative scene but many have properly heard “ Pompeii” chanting in the background somewhere.

The band has been around since 2010 and has been nominated for four Brit Awards. They were one of the headliners at Coachella and have sold over two million records in the UK alone. They may not be on the top of the list right now but might end up being one of the shining performances.

Next up we have Run-D.M.C. and Gregg Allman. At this point people reading the lineup are either happy and/or thoroughly confused with this year’s lineup. Reading the big names in order and ending it with Run-D.M.C. and Gregg Allman kind of feels like listing who all is coming to the family reunion and leaving off good-ole grandpa at the end.

There are not too many complaints though, based on the reactions on Twitter and Facebook, fans are just excited to have another day filled with good vibes and pumping music.

Of course there are more names to follow: Fitz and the Tantrums, B.o.B, twenty one pilots, NEEDTOBREATHE, Mayer Hawthorne, Banks. The Strokes, AER, Sleeper Agents, Magic Man, Bear Hands, Ron Pope and “more acts to be announced.”

There really is almost something for everyone to enjoy this year. With a mixture of new and old acts this year, the lineup deserves a good listen like Fitz and the Tantrums, B.o.B, Twenty-One Pilots, and Banks. It is a good spread.

Music Midtown is taking a more varied wildcard approach for 2014, perhaps in an attempt to attract a wider audience and drift away from being solely an “alternative music festival”. Sure, veterans would have loved to see Muse and the Killers make the list but everything fingers on that last “more acts to be announced.” It is a potpourri of acts this year, but no one that should disappoint.

The only thing that can be said is that notably missing from the lineup would be an EDM producer. With the recent meteoric rise in the dance music scene, one would expect at least one or two DJs on the list. Maybe that is being saved for a later announcement to really throw us a curve ball.

Music Midtown is resembling a sort of miniature Austin City Limits festival, so if there is any room for artists like Zedd, Major Lazer or Chromeo, our hometown festival may start receive some national acclaim, and have the ability to draw in longer lineups with bigger names. Would anyone else want this to be a three day event again?

All in all, major props to the producers this year for managing to compile a lineup that accurately represents the diverse community of music lovers here in Atlanta.

Natalie Bohdan
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Music Midtown originally ran from 1994-2005, and returned in 2011. The 2013 lineup was mostly made up of alternative bands, like Phoenix (above), but also had hip-hop and pop artists listed.

Mayer, Jack White, Lana Del Rey, Lorde, Iggy Azalea, Bastille, Run-D.M.C., and Gregg Allman. Some may be thinking, where in God’s name is Outkast?

Well if that is the worry, just be in mind that they’re performing 3 times in Atlanta the following weekend. But after having already thrown down at Coachella, Counterpoint and Governor’s Ball (to name a few), what’s another music festival at home? Keep your fingers crossed on that one.

Let’s start with the big names: Eminem, Zac Brown Band, John Mayer, Jack White, Lana Del Rey, Lorde, Iggy Azalea, Bastille, Run-D.M.C., and Gregg Allman. Some may be thinking, where in God’s name is Outkast?

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X-Men: Days of Future Past sets up to continue series

BRENDA LIN
PHOTO EDITOR

The X-men are back! However, this time, it’s not just the original movie cast or the new younger cast, but all the characters, spanning several decades and geographical locations. Everyone, but a personified proverbial kitchen sink.

Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) is the link between the two groups, mentally traveling back in time to 1973 with the powers of Kitty Pryde (Ellen Page) to warn and help the younger versions of the X-men stop the development of the modern Sentinel robots.

These automatons were ironically originally created to hunt mutants, but have now destroyed them. But have now destroyed the very thing they were trying to protect.

Old foes Magneto (Michael Fassbender, Ian McKellen) and Professor X (James McAvoy, Fassbender, Ian Mckellen) and Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) prepare to enter Cerebro. Left to right: Hank (Nicholas Hoult), Charles Xavier (James McAvoy) and Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) prepare to enter Cerebro.

Once again, his people are being persecuted. Overall, X-Men: Days of Future Past is a fun, fast-paced movie with nary a dull moment. It’s fully developed characters permits for a wider audience beyond action film buffs.

It is a wonderful follow up movie to X-Men: First Class, is a must see for anyone who loves this group of super heroes, whether they are die hard comic book fans or casual moviegoers.


UNFORTUNATELY, WITH A CAST SO LARGE, SEVERAL OF THE CHARACTERS HAVE LIMITED SCREEN TIME, WHICH LEFT MANY OF THE SECONDARY CHARACTERS REDUNDANT, UNDER DEVELOPED OR REPLACEABLE, INCLUDING THE PRIMARY SECONDARY CHARACTER, BEAST (NICHOLAS HOUlt).

AFTER BEING ONE OF THE DELIGHTS OF THE FIRST FILM OF THE NEW X-MEN SERIES, HOUlt’s CHARACTER, WITH THE EXCEPT OF A FEW KEY SCENES, SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REDUCED TO THE SIDE-KICK TROPE, ONLY THERE TO HELP OUT THE REAL HEROES BY BLOWING THEM AROUND OR GIVE THE BACK STORY TO THE SITUATION SUCH AS EXPLAINING WHY CHARLES XAVIER HAD GONE INTO EXILE.

Perhaps, the role was always intended to be this way, or perhaps I’m just in love with Nick Hoult and want more of him. I also felt rather disconnected from several of the new characters in the future time period as the audience is never properly introduced to them.

Understandably, the filmmakers want to explore their storylines in future movies; however, it’s hard to feel upset when something happens to one of these soldiers.

Although I understand the attempt to unify the scenes of the older cast and younger cast by bringing James McAvoy and Patrick Stewart nose to nose for a pep talk, the scene felt very odd to me. Both in idea and how it was acted out, most likely due to the logic about how Charles Xavier’s mind was able to travel.

Despite the dubious logical flaws, I really appreciated the incorporation of characters impacting history a la Forrest Gump, such as Magneto and the magic bullet of JFK’s murder. There was something incredibly chilling about the dystopian opening sequence of mutants and their allies being rounded up into cages, paralleling the opening sequence of the first X-men movie, where Erik Lensherr and his family was being sorted during the Holocaust.

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Once again, his people are being persecuted. Overall, X-Men: Days of Future Past is a fun, fast-paced movie with nary a dull moment. It’s fully developed characters permits for a wider audience beyond action film buffs.

It is a wonderful follow up movie to X-Men: First Class, is a must see for anyone who loves this group of super heroes, whether they are die hard comic book fans or casual moviegoers.
SMBC by Zach Weinersmith

Divorce strategy: Make the most of your glossy time. So, has daddy signed you real pants yet?

LIT ERARY THEORY IS A TYPE OF PERFORMANCE ART.

CAN YOU DO ANY OF THAT STUFF?

HARK! A VAGRANT by Kate Beaton

Shane, Come Back

XKCD by Randall Munroe

[Comic panels with various characters and situations]

WHAT YOU'RE REALLY SAYING IS YOU'RE SMARTER THAN ME.

And maybe you're right. In which case... EVERY DAY, I MAKE A LITTLE LEAF BOAT, THEN THROW ROCKS UNTIL IT SANKS OR FLOATS AWAY.

IT'S POINTLESS, BUT AT LEAST IT'S RELAXING.

NEDROID by Anthony Clark

[Comic panels with a robot and various situations]

There's a fort

CLASSIC

Foxtrot by Bill Amend

KEEP CALM
LAST SEMESTER WAS A RUIN

KEEP CALM
LAST SEMESTER WAS A RUIN

KEEP CALM
LAST SEMESTER WAS A RUIN

KEEP CALM
LAST SEMESTER WAS A RUIN
**DILBERT® by Scott Adams**

**PEARLS BEFORE SWINE by Stephen Pastis**

**CLASSIC**

**Cul de Sac by Richard Thompson**

**Lio by Mark Tatulli**

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**SUDOKU PUZZLE**

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  8  5  9
  7  9  8  4  3
  1  2  8  5

BY SUDOKUCOLLECTION.COM**
Six Tech players taken in MLB Draft

NEWT CLARK
SPORTS EDITOR

The Jackets had six players taken in the 2014 MLB Draft and five have signed contracts to play professionally. Four of the six players are pitchers, one outfielder, and one infielder. That makes a total of 13 total draft picks from Tech in the last two seasons, but only 12 different players as pitcher Matthew Grimes was drafted in 2013 as well, but opted to stay at Tech for an extra season.

The first Yellow Jacket taken in 2014 was left handed sophomore pitcher Sam Clay. The Minnesota Twins selected Clay in the fourth round with the 10 overall pick. Clay was the 83 player in Tech history to be drafted in the top ten rounds of the draft. Clay led the Jackers with a 1.26 ERA and an opponent’s batting average of just .197 in 2014. Clay made 31 appearances on the season, allowing just eight runs in 57 innings pitched. In terms of statistics, Clay’s two seasons as a J acker were polar opposites. In 2013, Clay gave up 18 earned runs in just 23.1 innings pitched for an ERA of 6.94. Clay could have returned to Tech with two years of eligibility remaining, but elected to sign instead. Clay will begin his professional career with the Elizabethtown Twins, the rookie ball team of the Minnesota Twins.

The second Tech player drafted was junior pitcher Josh Heddinger. The Detroit Tigers drafted him in the 14 round with 430 overall pick. Heddinger had a 4-5 record for the Jackers in 2014 in 16 appearances (14 starts). This is the second straight year the Tigers have taken a right-handed pitcher from Tech. In the 2013 Draft the Tigers selected Buck Farmer in the fifth round.

Two more right handed pitchers were taken in the 18 round– Dusty Isaac was selected by the Toronto Blue Jays with the 534 overall pick and the Baltimore Orioles selected Matthew Grimes just seven picks later at 541 overall. Isaac had an 8-5 record with a 1.92 ERA in 29 appearances while Grimes posted a 5-3 record with a 4.39 ERA. Isaac was drafted out of high school by the Pittsburgh Pirates, but enrolled at tech instead. Isaac’s is the 35 player under Head Coach Danny Hall to improve his draft position by electing to play for Tech instead of signing out of high school. Grimes had been drafted two other times—in the fourth round of the 2010 draft by the Chicago White Sox and in the 31 round by the Philadelphia Phillies last year, even coming off a season in which Grimes missed recovering from Tommy John surgery.

The two other players selected were junior outfielder Daniel Spingola and senior second baseman Moor Hyde. The Chicago Cubs selected Spingola in the 24 round and the Houston Astros selected Hyde in the 26 round. Spingola led the team with a .319 batting average and was second on the team with 35 RBIs. He is the lone Tech player drafted yet to sign. The four teams who have selected the most yellow Jackets over the years—the Braves, Dodg ers, Red Sox and Indians—failed to Tech a single one in this draft. Heddinger had established himself in the weekend rotation last season and Grimes made se veral weekend starts. With both deciding to sign professionally, Tech will return Devin Stanton, who made 12 total starts last season, and Ben Parr who made a total of ten. Tech will also have Jonathan King and Cole Pitts, who were both in the weekend rotation at the beginning of the season, returning after miss the majority of the 2014 season due to injury.

To replace Hyde at second base, Tech could move Thomas Smith back over from first base back to second, and then put designated hitter A.J. Murray back in the starting lineup. With both deciding to sign professionally, Tech will return Devin Stanton, who made 12 total starts last season, and Ben Parr who made a total of ten. Tech will also have Jonathan King and Cole Pitts, who were both in the weekend rotation at the beginning of the season, returning after miss the majority of the 2014 season due to injury.

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Senior catcher Alysha Rudnik gets the signs in a game against Georgia State. Rudnik hit .399 with eight home runs and 49 RBIs for the Jackets in the 2013 season and was named All-ACC First Team.

Technique: What is your least favorite softball memory?
Rudnik: My parents have just been an awesome example of how to love someone and encourage them, especially when it comes to softball. I would not be where I am without them. I think sometimes they love softball more than I do, which is a lot, and they've just always been there to encourage me.

Technique: What is your favorite softball memory?
Rudnik: There's a lot of good ones. I would say probably the ACC Tournament Championship we won my sophomore year here in 2012. We just ran through the tournament. We beat Virginia, FSU and then we beat Virginia Tech in the championship. None of the games were really close; we just ran through them, and it was awesome.

Technique: How do you prepare in the off-season?
Rudnik: A lot of hitting and a lot of individual things. Especially since I don't always have the team with me in the summer and fall, it's a lot of individual work, focusing on fundamentals and breaking things down, a lot of stuff in the weight room, getting stronger. Also getting my mind right for the games and stuff like that.

Technique: What is your major and why did you choose it?
Rudnik: Business. Coming in, I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do, but after I got here and they showed me the business school and just the more I looked into it, I knew that's where I wanted to be. I really enjoy it. I'm in Operations Concentration and I love what I'm doing there. I don't know what that's going to look like for the future, but I really do like the degree I'm getting here.

Technique: Did you look at other schools when you were deciding where to play (sport)? Which ones?
Rudnik: Other ACC schools like NC State, FSU, and UNC...

Technique: What is your favorite softball memory?
Rudnik: There's a lot of good ones. I would say probably the ACC Tournament Championship we won my sophomore year here in 2012. We just ran through the tournament. We beat Virginia, FSU and then we beat Virginia Tech in the championship. None of the games were really close; we just ran through them, and it was awesome.

Technique: Do you plan on playing softball after Tech?
Rudnik: I don't know. I was actually talking about that with one of my teammates the other day. I would definitely consider playing professionally in Europe or something. I don't know about professionally here, but I would love to go to Europe for a couple of months and play there.

Technique: How do you prepare in the off-season?
Rudnik: A lot of hitting and a lot of individual things. Especially since I don't always have the team with me in the summer and fall, it's a lot of individual work, focusing on fundamentals and breaking things down, a lot of stuff in the weight room, getting stronger. Also getting my mind right for the games and stuff like that.

Technique: What are your hobbies outside of softball?
Rudnik: I play guitar. It's a nice stress reliever for me. I like Colbie Caillat and slower mellow songs to play. I like to play some country songs too and I write some of my own songs too. One of my friends and I from high school play together (and record ourselves for our YouTube channel AEMusic91).

Technique: Do you have any role models?
Rudnik: My parents have just been an awesome example of how to love someone and encourage them, especially when it comes to softball. I would not be where I am without them. I think sometimes they love softball more than I do, which is a lot, and they've just always been there to encourage me.

Technique: Rudnik's goals for the softball team for the 2014 season were as follows:
Rudnik: We definitely want to be on the top of the ACC. We have that ability and that's definitely our focus right now. Even beyond that I really want us to get to a Super Regional; that's one of the things that the seniors and I have been talking about. We've been here for four years and that's one of the things that we haven't done yet. Especially for us to leave our mark on the program, that's something that we want to do.

And since we have new coaches this year, we want to leave a foundation for the teams to come, setting our standard of hard work ethic and passion.

We give all the birds a chance
Headed to the Farm

Tech had six baseball players drafted in the 2014 MLB Draft, including Sam Clay in the fourth. 

Tech hoops adds four transfers, loses one

**MARK RUSSELL**  
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The state of Tech athletics is close to a breaking point and new Tech athletic director, Mike Bobinski, will have to make some tough choices within the next year. Bobinski was a former athletic director at Xavier, which has had one of the most consistent basketball programs in the country since 1997, but when he arrives in Atlanta, fans wanted to win at least one game out of Virginia Tech, Miami, Georgia, and Clemson. But, for the second straight year Tech went 0-4 against their biggest rivals. After a lackluster showing on a Thursday night game against Virginia Tech it became obvious that the high expectations most Tech fans had entering the year would not come true. The team had one last chance to salvage the season on senior day vs archival Georgia, but a 20-0 lead in the second quarter was not big enough as Georgia won in double overtime. It was the sixth loss to Georgia in a row and the 18th loss of the last 14.

Tech’s last coach, Chain Gai ley, was fired for not being able to beat Georgia and for only winning 7 games each year outside one season where he won nine games. Gailey was also the coach who recruited NFL stars Calvin Johnson, Demaryius Thomas, Morgan Burnett, and Michael Johnson.

Coach Johnson inherited many future NFL stars when Gailey was terminated and he helped lead Tech to a vacated 2009 ACC Championship. The only real difference between Johnson and Gailey is that Tech played in its lone BCS bowl under Johnson. Johnson has averaged seven wins a season over the last four years. The ACC has given him 14 recruits for an ACC football program and Tech has been one of the worst programs in the country since 1997; but when