Drops increase with midterm drop day

By Alexandra Pajak
Contributing Writer

Drop day arrived last Friday, marking the last chance for stu-
dents to withdraw from classes this semester. However, this drop
day came eight weeks into the semester, a later date than students
have been used to. Students dropped more than ever this year.
The new academic school calendar, adopted this past summer,
also now allows students to receive midterm drop dates two weeks
prior to the final drop day.

Proposed by the Institute Under-
graduate Curriculum Committee in
March 2004, the schedule allows
students to drop a class through
the middle of the semester, two
weeks later than in previous terms.
The Academic Senate approved the
policy in May 2004.

Registrar Jo McVey ran through the
numbers of dropped courses among
undergraduate and gradu-
ate students, indicating an increase
from last year.

The total for this year was 3,472.
Last year it was 3,776,” she said.

She noted that in addition to drop-
day, the date for progress report dis-
tribution has also changed. “We've
changed two variables. It will be
hard to compare the total from last
year to this year,” she said. The data
can be skewed by the increased
size of the freshman class.
The new drop date now matches the
final drop day procedures of both
Georgia State University and the
University of Georgia. Both institu-
tions allow students to drop classes
until the middle of the term.

Massachusetts Institute of Tech-
nology allows students to drop classes
till 10 weeks into the semester. At
the California Institute of Technol-
ogy students can drop classes eight
weeks into the term, just before the
distribution of midterm grades.

Some students find the class with-
drawal date change helpful in their
decision-making processes. “It gives
me more information on whether
I'll do well in the class. It definitely
helps,” said Stephanie Tolbert, junior
Chemical Engineering major.

Chris DeBee, a junior in Elec-
tronic Engineering, also likes the
change. “It think it's a step in the
right direction. It makes it easier
for the students to know whether or
do not to continue in this class. Since
drop day is later in the semester,
we students know an even larger
portion of our grade, which makes
it easier to make the decision not
to continue in that class,” he said.

As a result of the later drop date,
deleted grades can be found. “It's
evident from the later drop date.
There’s an observed effect of the cutbacks
from last year,” she said.

The Board of Regents voted
Tuesday against a midyear tuition
increase for the University System of
Georgia, thanks in part to a deal made
with Gov. Sonny Perdue to
downsize budget cuts.

The Board instead approved a
series of cuts proposed by Chancel-
or Thomas Meredith that would,
as Perdue had asked, “trim the fat”
off the University System's yearly
budget.

While stressing the poor tim-
ing of the budget cuts and the
importance of maintaining a high
quality of education, Meredith
said that these cuts to their budget
would be the only way to avoid an
unprecedented midyear tuition
increase.

“We're pushing the envelope here with the kinds of things we're recom-
dending to you, but by do-

ing that we can avoid the midyear

I can do 100 push-ups in 20 minutes. God I love being a turtle.

Hey, I ride with the AK.

I swear I didn’t know taking 400 technique papers was illegal. Can nique print some more Campbell soup coupons

Wait all I have to do is buy a playboy to see a tech girl naked... sorry officer I won’t.

freeipods.com, and I thought freecondoms.com was the best site ever. She said I was an idiot, does that mean no 2nd date?

what i have to refer 5 friends, screw this, I’ll just buy one www.freebmw.com, all u have to do is refer 100000 friends

what do u mean we have no money, new building are popping up every year

To my Bio1520 Lab Section P8 TA: I want to rip your clothes off and have my way with you...you’re one sexy nerd!

whether you call him red jesus or the crimson clipper, we can all agree on one thing. the kid is a pimp.

...or stalker? depends on how you look at it. omelettes are the only food at brittain that actually taste like it should...

...oh yeah french toast too too bad im never awake early enough to get them

I understand you need to test the fire alarms at 5 AM!!

and if it was a prank by someone... we will find you parents get ubermed when they call and u don’t answer

This is Tech, stop bitching about your Ivan All Bullsh*t!

I might not be a good writer but I can differentiate anything.

Is anyone else surprised that she over-priced, cheap quality trashy clothes store is gone from Tech Square?

4:45 am fire alarm. awe some.

See page 5 for more Slivers!
Undergraduate House of Representatives

By Arcady Kantor
Staff Writer

UHR passes nine bills before week off

The Undergraduate House of Representatives passed nine bills in a lengthy meeting Tuesday night. With no session next week as a result of Fall Break, the representatives made an effort to deal with as many bills as possible this week.

Before dealing with the bills, however, the representatives received news of the conclusion of the SGA sign issue.

After the death of the bill thanks to a mistake in the Conference Committee version last week, SGA was able to secure outside funding for the project rather than making students foot the bill.

Amy Phuong, undergraduate student body president, said that one of the reasons the organization was able to receive money that it had failed to obtain previously was the negative reaction some students had to being expected to pay for the sign.

The undergraduates then proceeded to discuss four separate bills allocating funds to the Men’s Lacrosse Club.

Between all of the bills, the club asked for over $20,000 to help cover its operating expenses. Tech’s lacrosse team has over the past years won several tournaments and competed on the national level.

Within the first four bills, the club asked for $3,000 for travel to tournaments, $3,000 for conference dues, coach salaries, and some equipment money.

The large sum of money requested by the club is a result of it not yet having an SGA-granted budget for the project.

Yeager explained that the Lacrosse Club’s yearly fee of $500 goes to pay for another third of the club’s expenses, with the final third being taken up by alumni and company donations.

The 54-member club more than doubled in size from last year, explaining the increased funding needs.

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the bills altogether requested, saying spoke up about the amount of money would qualify. there was no guarantee the team the tournament travel cost since recommended cutting funding for away games and a tournament; JFC $3,000 of travel expenses for four the bill passed soon thereafter. to $1,500 was quickly carried, and policy." he said, "and we could not make recommendations based on policy," and if they were included in budgets. requests would not have been funded to last year's budget policy, travel

The third bill asked for for Tech students to enjoy at no cost. the grads should consider how much they spend on the club. It was also noted that, according to last year's budget policy, travel requests would not have been funded if they were included in budgets. Since this was a bill, however, the measure still passed, amended per JFC to $2,310.

The last bill for the club, however, proved to be one too many for the graduates to pass. The bill asked for $5,400 for equipment. Senator Karen Feigh added that the equipment requested, which included helmets and pads, seemed like personal equipment that members should purchase. As such, the bill was amended to $0 and passed.

The senators also amended a bill for the Chinese Student Association mixer to $0 and passed it, due to the lack of organization fundraising. Another bill for about $10,000 for TEAM Buzz was passed after changing some lines to indicate funding from the Capital Outlay account.

He again added that they fundraise plenty of money to cover some of these expenses. The senators also amended a bill for JFC to $2,310. The last bill for the club, however, proved to be one too many for the graduates to pass. The bill asked for $5,400 for equipment. Two points proved to be the bill's downfall. Greco pointed out that funding everything they had thus far and this bill would basically eliminate the team's entire budget, despite the late request. There should be some penalty, he said, for coming to the SGA late with their budget. He again added that they fundraise plenty of money to cover some of these expenses. Senator Karen Feigh added that the equipment requested, which included helmets and pads, seemed like personal equipment that members should purchase. As such, the bill was amended to $0 and passed.

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The club also needed to do some emergency fundraising last year when it discovered it would be going to the U.S. Lacrosse Men’s Division Intercollegiate Associates (USILA) national tournament with less than two weeks’ notice.

“Winning the championship actually put more pressure on our finances,” Yeager said.

At the time, the club raised about $5,000, largely from the parents of players and from alumni contributions.

This year, the club asked for money to cover this trip in advance, a controversial request that met opposition from JFC.

The Lacrosse Club’s equipment bill also met opposition from several reps, as many of them were afraid of setting a precedent that would allow organizations to ask SGA to cover their equipment year after year.

Concerns over the quality of the existing equipment did sway the undergraduates in favor of the bill, however.

“It’s a rough sport, people die,” Clough said. Accord-

ing to his speech, Tech students won several prestigious scholarships and

four graduates were chosen to receive NASA fellowships. “Our people are what make Georgia Tech great,” he said.

Students play an important role in Tech’s research as well, according to Clough, who said this creates a fertile environment for innovation.

The ability, he said, “to share educational experiences tailored to the location of study. Students in Ecuador surveyed the damage done to infrastructure by war, and in Angola students studied urban sprawl.

The programs provide unique educational experiences tailored to the location of study. Students in Angola surveyed the damage done to infrastructure by war, and in Ecuador students studied urban sprawl.

These programs allow students to “tackle real-life problems,” Clough said. The ability, he said, “to share knowledge with others differentiates Tech students.”
Protestors bring debate to campus

By Alexandra Pajak
Contributing Writer

On the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 11, men and women not affiliated with Tech protested homosexual lifestyles on Skiles Walkway.

Their protest occurred just following Georgia Tech Coming Out Week (GTCOW), sponsored by PRIDE alliance.

The protestors carried large signs and debated with students who approached them.

One poster featured pictures of a crucified Jesus from Mel Gibson’s Passion of the Christ. Another sign read, “Sodomy: It’s to die for.”

Stephanie Ray, associate dean of student affairs and diversity issues for Tech, said, “We had six people who would speak out about gay beliefs, “ he said.

Hembry acknowledged the legality of the group’s visit. “We had permission from the protesters, the group is protesting lifestyles on Skiles Walkway.”

According to Ben Narsil, one of the protesters, the group is protesting homosexuality “all week at different locations.”

First-year Mechanical Engineering major Anthony Coulter was among the students who argued with the protestors about their message. “I think that coming on campus the week after COW is impolite at best. Intolerance is bad. Sickenning.”

Anthony Coulter
First-year ME

“I think that coming on campus the week after COW is impolite at best. Intolerance is bad. Sickenning.”

Regarding his decision to confront the protestors, Coulter said, “I still think that I can make a difference.”

The protestors insisted upon the importance of their Biblical message. “This is the love of God for sinners,” said Narsil, who participated in the protest with his wife and two children. “We’re not condemning anybody.” Narsil attends the Open Bible Tabernacle church in Marietta, Georgia.

“Here at Georgia Tech there are many fornicators, many drinkers, many sodomites. We’re here for Jesus Christ,” said Matt Bourgault, a protester from Florida. Bourgault had attended such “open air preaching” in 25 states and at many universities, including University of California-Berkeley, as well as colleges in Maine and the Midwest. Motioning to the students congregating around the signs, he said, “This is great dialogue. Great preaching. This is about believing the Gospel.”

Student reaction to the protest was varied. “I’m for Bush,” said Ali Soza, a Georgia State University senior majoring in engineering. “I don’t know about it.”

“Life is a competition – take the one you know best.”

Gale T."
Midyear tuition hike avoided by last-minute negotiations

Tuition
Continued from page 1

While Perdue has made a $3.9 million adjustment of the original $68.7 million in cuts to University System, the board still faced a $64.8 million budget deficit when it met this Tuesday and Wednesday in the Global Learning Center at Technology Square.

In the final plan passed by the board, around $20.3 million will be cut from all around the state’s 34 campuses. Another $27.4 million in reductions will come from shortening the University System’s health care reserves from 60 days to 30 days.

An additional $9.4 million will come from money set aside from previous years for a project that fell through.

The governor still has to ask the state legislature for permission in order to transfer that money over to the University System, however. The board is still looking for ways to make up the remaining $7.3 million.

The approval of the $20.3 million cut means roughly $2 million in cuts for Tech, much less than the expected $7 million. But the cuts still mean additional layoffs, hiring freezes and delayed purchasing and maintenance projects for Tech.

While these reductions will alleviate budget problems for this year, they are only a “one-time solution” Meredith said. The board will not be able to make these same reduc-
tions in future years, Meredith said, and long-term solutions need to be sought out.

Regents echoed these same concerns, remarking how in the past few years the board had been “playing catch-up” with their budget while trying to absorb the over $313 million in budget cuts they have received since November 2001.

“We feel quite positive about mitigating the immediate financial impact a midyear tuition increase would have had on our students,” Meredith said.

“Still, we know the one-time cost-cutting solutions we have identified are frankly stop-gap measures that only temporarily solve our problems. We will have to find these dollars from other sources for our fiscal year 2006 budget,” he said.

To help address long-term solutions, Meredith has appointed a “tuition taskforce” that will examine long-term tuition goals at each of the three levels of higher education in Georgia. The task force will be responsible for formulating a plan by the beginning of next year and presenting their findings to the Board of Regents when they meet to decide on next year’s tuition late this spring.

Previously, Meredith appeared to be in favor of proposing a 10 percent midyear tuition increase to make up for the $68.4 million in cuts enforced upon the University System by Perdue after he decided to scratch plans for a one-day payroll shift that had been proposed in the state’s original budget.

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Debate from page 6

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