Committee proposes multiple fee hikes

By Stephen Baehl Senior Staff Writer

The School of Biomedical Engineering will no longer have a restricted admissions policy as of fall 2004. Currently, not all students who apply for a Biomedical Engineering major are accepted into the program.

“We had this special admissions policy only for a few years, to first of all, get a building in place and to get faculty size up to the numbers that we believed necessary to meet the demand that we were anticipating,” said Biomedical Engineering Associate Professor Paul Benkeser.

While applicants to Tech will have the option of selecting the school as they would any other major, an oversight in the application creation has led to the omission of this option from current application forms. Benkeser said the admissions office will correct this oversight and will provide incoming freshmen a chance to sign up for the program in FASET.

“Faculty [size] has been increasing in size rather dramatically over the past three to four years.”

Paul Benkeser
BME Associate Professor

“This is just something that slipped through the cracks and got out there before they realized this was the year we were changing the policy,” Benkeser said.

The Board of Regents approved the current special admissions policy in spring 2001, and the school first began admitting students that year.

The policy was laid out to accommodate a gradually growing department. The class of 2004 would have 40 people in the program. The class of 2005 will have 40 people in the program.

See BME, page 5

Freshman course renamed, regrouped by major

By Daniel Amick News Editor

A committee of students and administrators recently recommended that student fees rise by $36.

Institute President Wayne Clough reviewed the recommendations, and last Wednesday revised the increase request upward to $51.

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia will consider Clough’s recommendations before making a final decision later this spring.

The committee, called the Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee (MSFAC), in made up of eight student government leaders and four administrators and faculty members. Its members voted in early January to recommend increasing five student fees: transportation, health, student activity, academic and technology.

The largest recommended increase, $14, came for the student activity fee. This fee, which now stands at $86 per semester, funds the Campus Recreation Center (CRC), the Student Center and all student organizations. A larger-than-expected budget request from the CRC, as well as higher budget requests from multiple student organizations, necessitated the increase.

“I believe that we were actually seeing the numbers out there be- ing historically high, and we are raising it to meet the needs of the students,” said SGA President Pat Coughanour.

While applicants to Tech will have the option of selecting the school as their major, an oversight in the application creation has led to the omission of this option from current application forms. Benkeser said the admissions office will correctly inform applicants who ask about the oversight and will provide incoming freshmen a chance to sign up for the program in FASET.

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Paul Benkeser
BME Associate Professor

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See BME, page 5

Rocker Henry Rollins talks about his new one-man work, “Shock and Awe, My Ass.”

IAC appoints new associate dean

Ann Bostrom, an associate professor in the School of Public Policy, has been appointed Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. In her new position, Bostrom will facilitate faculty members’ sponsored research activities and aid in the development of faculty research programs.

Bostrom received her Ph.D. in Public Policy Analysis from Carnegie Mellon University in 1990. She came to Tech as an assistant professor in 1992.

Alumnus headed for space station

Tech alumnus and astronaut Bill McArthur will command the next crew of the International Space Station (ISS). McArthur, who earned a M.S. in Aerospace Engineering in 1983, will travel to the ISS aboard a Russian Soyuz spacecraft in April 2004. Although McArthur has traveled to the ISS before, this will be the first time he has lived aboard it.

He becomes one of four NASA astronauts that have earned Tech degrees. Three other graduates have been selected as candidates for future missions. Another astronaut is a former Tech faculty member.

Doctoral student wins Marshall

Gabriel Brostow, a Computer Science doctoral student, has won the prestigious Marshall Sherfield Fellowship. The fellowship is awarded by the same commission that awards Marshall Scholarships to undergraduates.

This is the first time that a computer science or engineering student has won this fellowship.

Brostow, on track to complete his Ph.D. in May, hopes to spend the year at the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom. He plans to research computer vision.

Brostow completed his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. He came to Tech in 1997 to pursue an M.S. in Human-Computer Interaction.

BC to hold career fair Jan. 26

The College of Architecture’s Building Construction program will sponsor a career fair open to all students. The fair will be held Monday, Jan. 26 in the Student Center Ballroom from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Callbacks will be held Monday afternoon.

Civil Engineering, Architecture, and Management majors are encouraged to attend. Anyone with questions should contact Kevin Davis at 404.385.1421.
Technique Online Voice Your Opinion!
Last issue’s question garnered 36 responses:
What do you think of GPS trackers on the trolleys?

Traffic accident
1/12/2004 8:35:00 hrs.
LOCATION: Tenth Street @ Hemphill Avenue.
INCIDENT: Report of a vehicle/pedestrian accident (injuries reported).

Damage to property
1/12/2004 9:28:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 658 Williams Street/ Brittain Laundry Room
INCIDENT: Report of a damaged Coca-Cola machine.

Conduct Code violation
1/12/2004 16:18:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 711 Techwood Drive/ Field Hall
INCIDENT: Report of possible marijuana use.

Larceny-theft
1/13/2004 8:44:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 555 Eighth Street/ Eighth Street South Apartments
INCIDENT: Report of a stolen vacuum cleaner.

Larceny-theft
1/13/2004 12:57:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 500 Tech Parkway

CRIME REPORTS

From the files of the GTPD...

Traffic accident
1/12/2004 19:16:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 825 Techwood Drive/ Phi Sigma Kappa

Larceny-theft
1/13/2004 8:59:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 871 McMillan Street/ Commander Building
INCIDENT: Report of a stolen Homelite backpack blower and vacuum cleaner.

Larceny-theft
1/13/2004 12:57:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 500 Tech Parkway

Motor vehicle theft
1/13/2004 5:12:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 600 block Cherry Street/Guggenheim Building Parking

Entry auto
1/13/2004 5:09:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 600 block Cherry Street/Guggenheim Building Parking
INCIDENT: Report that a green 1994 Mazda 626 was entered and items taken.

Motor vehicle theft
1/13/2004 5:09:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 600 block Cherry Street/Guggenheim Building Parking
INCIDENT: Report that a red 1996 Mazda Miata was entered and items taken.

Motor vehicle theft
1/13/2004 5:09:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 600 block Cherry Street/Guggenheim Building Parking
INCIDENT: Report that a green 1994 Mazda 626 was entered and items taken.

Larceny-theft
1/13/2004 8:44:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 555 Eighth Street/ Eighth Street South Apartments
INCIDENT: Report of a stolen vacuum cleaner.

Larceny-theft
1/13/2004 12:57:00 hrs.
LOCATION: 500 Tech Parkway

Motor vehicle theft
1/13/2004 0:11:00 hrs.
LOCATION: Atlantic Drive/Fourth Street
INCIDENT: Report of a stolen Club Cart.

Information
1/12/2004 22:07:00 hrs.
LOCATION: Kappa Sigma
INCIDENT: Terroristic threats.
Senators reconsider Monologues bill

By Daniel Amick  
News Editor

After a close call on quorum, graduate senators reconsidered an allocation bill that failed last week after new information emerged. The bill was to fund a Women’s Awareness Month production of The Vagina Monologues.

Last week, senators failed the bill because proceeds raised from ticket sales would be donated to charities. Senators objected both to the idea that student money would support charity fundraisers, and the idea that the event proceeds go to charity before covering costs.

Electrical and Computer Engineering senator Eric Clopper moved to reconsider because he said the organization was required by licensing agreements to donate 90 percent of all proceeds to charity.

International Affairs senator Jim Barnes said he thought nothing had really changed—that student money would still be going to charity. Joint Finance Committee Chair Lisa Brown also argued against passage.

Joint allocation to Chinese Student Association Haughn passed
Joint allocation to CSFA (b) Bunzmann passed
Joint allocation to WAM: The Vagina Monologues Clopper failed
Joint allocation to UTC Risk Management positions Phuong failed
Joint allocation to Canoe and Kayaking Club Lawder passed
Joint allocation to Fresh Formal Case passed
Joint allocation to CSFA (a) Lawder passed
Joint allocation to CSFA (b) Lawder passed
Joint allocation to Chinese Student Association Phuong passed
Joint allocation to Canoe and Kayaking Club Lawder passed
Joint allocation to Fresh Formal Case passed
Joint allocation to CSFA (a) Lawder passed
Joint allocation to CSFA (b) Lawder passed
Joint allocation to Chinese Student Association Phuong passed
Joint allocation to UTC Risk Management positions Phuong passed

“Would increasing requirements [with constituent caucuses] really help this body or hurt it?”

Glenn Matthews  
MSE representative

Computer Science representative Adam Bernstein said caucuses would give members a chance to gather constituent opinion about upcoming bills, as well as encourage representatives to do the hard work of regulating bills that members are not sure of. He said those opposed to the idea had not come forward with any counterproposals.

Sophomore representative Andrew Howard expressed concern that no one knew if caucus meetings would be successful.

“I’m against bringing [caucuses] into our bylaws when we have no idea if it will work.”

Materials Science and Engineering representative Glenn Matthews worried that additional time requirements would hurt development. Matthews said the bylaws should be changed before the event occurs, and that is what the students asked for.

“I don’t think we should pass it.”

Matthews worried that additional time requirements would hurt development. Matthews said the bylaws should be changed before the event occurs, and that is what the students asked for.

“The Vagina Monologues is seeking to be a high art production, and I think the time requirements would make the event an absolute failure.”

Matthews urged for passage.

“We set up these policies for a reason,” Brown said. “And I don’t think we should pass it.”

Matthews worried that additional time requirements would hurt development. Matthews said the bylaws should be changed before the event occurs, and that is what the students asked for.

“It’s not our duty to make up for the organization’s poor planning,” Barnes said, referring to the Senate’s longtime aversion to funding charity events.

Materials Science and Engineering senator Kasi David argued for passage.

“It seems to me there’s some kind of flexibility inherent in the rules,” David said.

“After discussion, the bill failed”

See UHR, page 4

See GSS, page 4

President Nate Watson recognizes EAS rep Hunter Oates for a top-notch performance as a representative. Watson awarded Oates a bag of Peppermint Patties.
Remembering Dr. King

A performer sings at a Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration held Monday in the Student Center. The event also featured a choir, poets and speakers who commemorated the life of Dr. King.

By Ayan Kishore / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Fees

The Georgia Tech Athletic Association (GTAA) requested a $7 increase in the athletic fee, but, according to Watson, some committee members "found that unacceptable."

The MSFAC recommended a $3 increase. Members also recommended the GTAA focus on outreach, especially toward graduate students.

The MSFAC recommended a $3 increase for the health fee, which stands at $117 per semester. The increase would fund new services like the dentist which was introduced last spring.

The transportation fee, which stands at $49 per semester, will rise $6 if the increases are approved. The increase would pay for administrators who would oversee transportation contracts, as well as improvements like GPS trackers.

Watson said that, given the large requests for increases and the amounts actually approved, the MSFAC was "much more conservative" in its recommendations than in past years.

The Board of Regents’ final decision would come in March or April. The decision may depend heavily on whether the Georgia legislature decides to continue funding fees with the HOPE scholarship.

UHR

recruiting efforts.

"Would increasing requirements really help this body, or hurt it?" he asked.

Other representatives countered that if the meetings did not work out, the bylaws could be changed again later.

After prolonged discussion, the bill passed by a wide margin. The change will take effect next fall.

Representatives also heavily debated an allocation to FreshFormal, an end-of-the-year event for freshman leadership organizations like Freshman Council and Freshman Activities Board.

History, Technology and Society representative Tiffany Turner and other representatives raised concerns over allocating money for an event that catered to such a small group of people. Turner and others recommended cutting most of the bill or failing it.

Management representative Ben Lawder argued that to do so would fundamentally alter the nature of the event.

The bill narrowly passed by a vote of 15 to 12.

Representatives also failed a bill that would have funded a graduate risk management position at Under the Couch. Organization representatives of the Musicians Network asked for $14,500 for that position as well as an undergraduate one.

"We’re ready to become popular again," said the organization representative. "We’re ready to be heard." Dean of Students Gail D’SaBato said that Under the Couch needed paid management staff. Representatives failed the bill because it was too costly.

Senators also considered bills for the Chinese Friendship Association’s Spring Celebration to be held in the Student Center theater. The organization representative said spring celebrations are very important to Asian culture.

The Joint Finance Committee recommended cutting funding for decorations, microphones, a spotlight and background music CDs. Senators amended the bill per JPC, but re-added money for a spotlight and microphones when they discovered the Student Center does not provide those items free of charge.

Senators also failed a bill that would have funded a graduate risk management position at Under the Couch. Brown and David spoke against passage.

They were concerned about the idea of paying such a large portion of the remaining budget.

Once again.

Senators also considered bills for the Chinese Friendship Association’s Spring Celebration to be held in the Student Center theater. The organization representative said spring celebrations are very important to Asian culture.
60 students. An additional 20 students would then be added to the class size each year for the next two entering classes. It was assumed the school would be fully operational and able to follow a normal acceptance policy in subsequent years.

Now, the school has a new home in the UA Whitaker Biomedical Building, and its “faculty has been increasing in size rather dramatically over the past three to four years,” Benkeser said. “We’re more than doubled since the degree was first created.”

There are currently 20 full-time faculty members in the school. While Benkeser said the recent budget situation could affect growth and “create some challenges for us,” the department feels it is ready to assume normal admissions.

There have been allowances for more students than originally prescribed in the policy approved by the Board of Regents. 100 students instead of 80 were admitted in the Class of 2006.

Peter Benkeser said, “By virtue of this agreement, we’re committed to letting in 100 students at the end of this semester,” but “we assume normal admissions.”

Each year, roughly two-thirds of applicants have been accepted to the program. These applicants were a combination of freshmen and those who were attempting to change majors.

“A much higher percentage of the first-semester freshmen get in than those that have already been here and are trying to change their majors,” Benkeser said. He estimated about three-fourths of first semester freshmen who applied were accepted.

Still, Benkeser said, “the majority of the students who have tried to change their major into BME have been accommodated.”

Those who were not initially accepted into the program will still have a chance to get in after the admissions policy is no longer restricted. They will be treated like any other Tech student changing majors.

Students with under 60 credit hours and no major changes to date are allowed one unrestricted change—others, who have either already changed majors or have over 60 credit hours, are looked at on an individual basis. Benkeser said the Biomedical Engineering program will likely follow the example of other high-enrollment programs at Tech, such as Electrical Engineering, and set a minimum GPA requirement for those with over 60 hours who want to change majors.

Students who want to change majors to Biomedical Engineering this semester will still be subject to the current policy of restricted acceptance.

“A lot of misinformation has been floating around out there that we only accept a small fraction of the students that apply, and that’s not true,” Benkeser said. “The majority of the students are allowed to get in.”

Each year, roughly two-thirds of applicants have been accepted to the program. These applicants were a combination of freshmen and those who were attempting to change majors.

“A much higher percentage of the first-semester freshmen get in than those that have already been here and are trying to change their majors.”

Paul Benkeser
BME associate professor

GT 1000

GT 1000 from page 1 took a discipline-based Psych 1000 class. Currently only 60 percent of freshmen take the course. However, administrators hope that the increase in major-specific classes will lead to a rise in enrollment as well.

Other changes included an updated curriculum focusing around six key aspects of college life. These include interpersonal communication, university culture, time management, leadership initiative, major/career research, career development skills and optional classes.

“One of the biggest things we want to see is more consistency across the board...without dictating how a teacher should teach the course,” said Dr. Paddy Kennington, Assistant Director of Success Programs. By having a more structured curriculum, administrators are hoping to lessen the varying viewpoints on the relevance and importance of Psych 1000.

Some of the other changes are logistical changes. For instance, the class will have a new textbook called Psychology of Success.

Also, the class “will be moved out of the School of Psychology and housed under the Office of the Registrar,” and “all of the instructors teaching the course will now have a master’s degree,” Stein said. Even though the course will undergo changes, some of the core aspects of Psych 1000, like resumes and group projects, will remain intact.

In addition, “It remains one credit, it remains one hour...[and] it will continue to have team leaders,” Stein said.

Student opinions have been mixed. One student said that “GT 1000 will be a good try to engage students and help them understand the point of the class.”

However, some students did not see the importance of the class. “GT 1000 will still be too much work for a one-hour class,” said Electrical Engineering major Punna Chala-

sani.

BME

from page 1

A lot of things went on outside of the bubble of Georgia Tech this week. Below are summaries of a few of the important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

Kerry, Edwards shock Dean in Iowa Caucus

The Iowa Democratic Presidential Caucus dealt one-time frontrunner Howard Dean a setback Monday as Senators John Kerry and John Edwards each captured the votes of about a third of caucus-goers. Dean came in third with 18 percent. Representative Dick Gephardt, for whom a victory in Iowa was essential, came in a distant fourth. He dropped out of the presidential race Tuesday. The New Hampshire primary will be held Tuesday, Jan. 27.

Bush delivers annual State of the Union address

President Bush addressed a joint session of Congress Tuesday night, giving his last State of the Union Address before the 2004 elections. Bush attempted to justify the war in Iraq, though he did not address the failure of weapons inspectors to turn up weapons of mass destruction. Bush also spoke about the ongoing war against terrorism, saying that, two years after 9-11, “it is tempting to believe that the danger is behind us. That hope is understandable, comforting—and false.”

Rover leaves the nest to explore Martian terrain

The Spirit rover rolled of its landing vehicle last week on Mars and began using various tools to examine the Red Planet’s soil characteristics. Meanwhile, Spirit’s twin, Opportunity, prepares to land Saturday on Mars. If all goes to plan, the Opportunity should land in Meridiani Planum, halfway around the planet from Spirit’s landing site in Gusev Crater. NASA dispatched the two robots to look for geologic evidence of water on Mars. Some scientists theorize that Mars was once warmer and wetter. If that is true, it could mean Mars was once capable of supporting life.

RIAA files additional lawsuits against downloaders

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) filed 532 additional lawsuits against people illegally distributing copyrighted music over the internet. The RIAA said that it would be targeting “major offenders.”

Breaking

the Bubble

NEWS

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OUR VIEWS

Consensus Opinion

FEE INCREASES

The fee increases proposed by the Mandatory Student Fee Advisory Committee (MSFAC) come on the heels of last semester’s Student Government Association (SGA) fees. One of the proposed fee increases, the student activity fee, should pass the Board of Regents without hesitation. Of all the proposed fee increases, the student activity fee should have highest priority. The benefactors of the other fees could survive without a boost this year, but denying a hike for the student activity fee could mean death to some programs and decreased funding for student organizations.

Additionally, a $25 technology fee increase accompanies the $14 activity fee hike. Such a steep increase demands clearly evident improvements in campus technology proportional to the amount of money that will be pouring into the fee recipients’ coffers. Considering that the campus has been able to grow and improve its technology with the current fee level, a substantial increase is unreasonable to expect that the entire campus be included on the wireless network as a result of the extra resources.

The Board of Regents should pass the proposed fee increases because otherwise students will suffer direct, immediate, and substantial consequences.

PSYCH 1000 CHANGES

Incoming freshmen will soon have more to look forward to from their Psych 1000 class than learning how to write a resume. Changing the freshman orientation class to be more major-focused is an excellent improvement, allowing students to explore their potential field before taking major classes and giving them the opportunity to meet professors in their department.

In order to be truly effective, though, qualified professionals who have a passion for their subject area must be chosen to teach the classes. This could pose potential problems for the class organizers in securing excited candidates for the job.

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Dear Mr. Bush,

Congratulations on your annual State of the Union speech Tuesday night. I know how nerve- cracking it must be to speak to a joint session of Congress and a television audience of about 60 million Americans.

I, unfortunately, did not see your address. The demands of my position required that I cover a far less interesting student government meeting at the time. (Even if I wasn’t otherwise indisposed, I’d probably have chosen to listen to the Tech/Wake Forest basketball game instead.)

I did, however, read a transcript of your remarks, as well as the post-speech coverage. We’ve developed a consensus: You don’t manage quite as many words as you used to.

Yep, that’s right. You, the President of the United States, leader of the free world and former Texas governor, speak to the nation for almost an hour, and the most noteworthy item to come out of the whole experience is that your oratory has marginally improved in the last three years.

Come on, Mr. President. You really let me down. Do something exciting. We all know you’ve got it in you.

Just a few weeks ago, you were full of interesting ideas about the moon bases and Mars missions. But was that in your speech? No.

Instead, we heard about the negative effects of steroid use among major league baseball players. You don’t have to generate new material in order to be effective. Just rework some of Duluth’s Classics.

Remember two years ago, when you lumped Iraq, Iran and North Korea in an “Axis of Evil”? That was awesome. Couldn’t you add a few nuances to the list, just for kicks? Don’t go for the obvious ones, like France. I suggest Lesotho or maybe Iceland.

Or how about last year, when you scared the pants off of us with that stuff about Iraq trying to acquire uranium from Africa? Can’t you top that?

This time, instead of nuclear arms out of Africa, you could have taken the opportunity to shed light on Latin American weapons programs: “The British government has learned that Suriname has attempted to acquire a can of mace from Portugal.”

Sure, it might turn it out to be completely bogus, but we are here for dramatic effect, not accuracy. If you’re not comfortable inserting any exciting content into your speech, you could at least work on your delivery.

With all due respect, you can be so bland sometimes.

I suggest you take some pointers from Democratic presidential candidate and emerging media star Howard Dean. Stay one- degree delivery at throat-searing volume. Step two: insert disturbing screams after every other phrase.

Example: “Beginning next year, seniors will have new coverage for preventive screenings against diabetes and heart disease. EEEEEAAAAAAAAHHHHHHH–HHHH!!! And seniors just entering Medicare can receive wellness exams AAAUUUGGGHHHHHH–HHHH!!!” You can be sure no one will fall asleep or reach for the remote.

I’d watch that over a basketball game any day.

Yours,
Daniel Amick
News Editor
A legacy worth ending at public schools

By Alex Rosemblat
Cavalier Daily

(U-WIRE) University of Virgin-ia—Since the beginning of this month, Texas A&M University has been embroiled in a controversy over its practice of “legacy” admissions, an admissions criterion that favors applicants if they have a blood relat-ive who attended the university. The uproar began over race-based issues, in that legacy status favored Caucasian prospective students over minority applicants. Although mi-nority legacy students were also awarded additional admissions con-sideration, there are statistically fewer minority alumni. Texas A&M de-cided on Jan. 9 to end its legacy program. Other universities, espe-cially public ones, should consider dropping their admissions policies favoring legacy applicants.

The Texas A&M legacy admis-sions system awarded four points on a 100 point admission scale for applicants who had a parent, grand-parent or sibling who had attended the university. There were roughly 1,650 to 2,000 applicants an year who are awarded these legacy points. It is estimated that the legacy pro-gram was the difference for six blacks and 27 Hispanics in 2003, and three blacks and 25 Hispanics in 2002.... But in 2003, 312 whites were ad-mitted who wouldn’t have been with-out their alumni ties. In 2002, that figure was 321.

Although both sides can offer sizable numbers of students who play a part in admissions. Accord-ingly to Dean of Admissions John Blackburn legacy applicants from out-of-state are considered as in-state. For in-state prospective stu-dents, legacy status is also taken into consideration as part of the applica-tion. Admittance rates from legacy in-state students are slightly higher than non-legacy students by 3 to 4 percent.

It is understandable why a uni-versity would want to make legacy status a part of its admissions crite-ria. Even though such programs were begun as a sort of “grandfather clause” in attempts to limit the admittance of Jews and minority students to universities, admitting legacy stu-dents does have its benefits. First and foremost, it increases the possi-bility that the blood relative of the student who was admitted will do-nate to the university. Also, it is good word of mouth publicity and speaks highly for a university to have members of an alumnus’ family who want to at- tend the university based on the recommendation or tradition set by his older relatives. Although a uni-versity may benefit by these aspects of maintaining legacy admissions, it should be worth the damage to a university’s fair recruiting practic-es.

Regardless of what the reason or the benefits of having legacy admis-sions may be, institutions across the nation should consider discarding them. They are simply a completely non-ment based criterion in admis-sions of students that a university claims are being recruited on their academic, personal and test-proven aptitude.

Although it may not be fair, a private university is owned by itself or by its trustees and receives its income from its own means. Ulti-mately, to the inherent exclusivity and unfairness involved, legacy ad-missions policies should be discon-tinued in all public universities and should be considered for removal by the boards of private universities as well.
GT Motorsports revs it up Down Under

By Shaketa Badar
Contributing Writer

While students all over campus were frantically studying for final exams during Dead Week last semester, the Georgia Tech Motorsports team was halfway across the world, competing in the great Down Under in Formula SAE Australasia.

Though Formula SAE is usually held in Detroit, last year the Australians took the American trophy, so the Yellow Jackets went down under to claim it. During the competition, the team had their share of problems and setbacks, but GT Motorsports was still able to take first place.

Scott Flanagan, an GT Motorsports’ team leader, attributed the success to teamwork. “There was an immense amount of how hard we worked as a team...it made me proud,” he said. Flanagan also commented on the many man hours everyone in the team contributed while building the car.

“There were countless sleepless nights,” he said. In fact, just packing the car into a large crate was painstaking. However, when they stepped off the plane in Tailem Bend, South Australia, where the competition was held, the team was spirit and ready to compete. “We came off the flight ready to win. We were motivated,” said J.P. Stephenson, a fourth-year Aerospace Engineering major.

The cars, which are designed to reach up to 60 miles per hour in 3.2 seconds and hold 1.9 G’s in a turn, were judged according to cost efficiency, engineering design and endurance.

There was also a dynamic portion, which included events that tested other aspects of the car’s performance: an acceleration event; a skid pad event, which checked the car’s handling; and autonomous, a one-lap event to find its maximum speed.

One of the obstacles the team encountered occurred when the car stopped running after the skid pad event. The team only had a few hours to fix it before the acceleration event. “We worked frantically, and it turned out a wire was loose,” Flanagan explained. “We fixed that, and at the end of the day, we were in second place.”

However, it was the endurance event that boosted the team into first place. Composed of two separate heats, which are held in the morning and afternoon, the endurance event was worth 400 out of 1000 points. The best score out of the two heats was taken, and the car was also judged on fuel efficiency.

Because it was worth so much, the endurance event was the determining point of the competition. “It was really close. There were probably seven or eight teams that could have won the next day,” Flanagan said.

The event was also where the GT Motorsports team traveled across the Pacific last month to compete in Formula SAE Australasia, winning first place in a tournament that tested the limits of their car as well as the limits of their team members’ creativity.

**FOCUS**

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**FOCUS**

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By Jennifer Lee
Focus Editor

“Richard B. Gardner, come on down—you’re our next contestant on The Price Is Right.”

To anyone who has watched the long-running game show, that phrase is a familiar one; however, five Tech students got to hear those words live and in person when they road-tripped to Los Angeles over winter break to be on The Price Is Right. Gardner, second from left, was the first contestant, winning a water bike and $170.

The Price is Right

Jeff Smith, Rick Gardner, Joe Mc Gill, David Chen and Justin Whitehead road-tripped to California over the break to be on The Price is Right. Gardner, second from left, was the first contestant, winning a water bike and $170.

Hotties all around

Topher Grace and Kate Bosworth star in the unabashed chick flick What A Girl Wants. A classic romantic comedy, the film follows the story of Amber (Bosworth), a young woman who leaves her charming but overprotective older brother (Topher Grace) to find her own path in life. The film is a heartwarming tale of love and self-discovery, as Amber navigates her way through the ups and downs of relationships.

Gardner bid $1250 for a real Barracuda water bike, which, according to Gardner, is essentially a really nice paddleboat.

The first item up for bid was a Barracuda water bike, which, according to Gardner, is essentially a really nice paddleboat.

Gardner bid $1250 for a real Barracuda water bike, which, according to Gardner, is essentially a really nice paddleboat.

Gardner bid $1595, making him the winner of the water bike.
Aerospace major Xu takes new direction with scholarship

By Haining Yu
Contributing Writer

Just a few months ago, Aerospace Engineering senior Jia Xu would never have imagined that a visit to an air show over ten years ago would eventually lead him to be a recipient of one of the country’s most prestigious scholarships: the Marshall Scholarship.

Named in honor of General George C. Marshall, the scholarship was founded in 1953 by an act of the English Parliament as an expression of gratitude for Marshall’s European Recovery Program that greatly aided postwar Europe.

Each year, a pool of roughly 1000 talented applicants are endorsed by their respective universities for the scholarship. 40 recipients are then selected to be the “potential leaders, opinion formers and decision makers” of the future.

A lofty, but not unattainable, goal for young scholars like Jia Xu, this vision has produced prominent national figures such as New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman and Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer.

Despite his natural modesty, Jia Xu already has much to boast about. His pristine GPA holds but one B among a multitude of As, and his resume is stacked heavy with awards and honors spanning the whole of his academic career. Last year, Xu was named a Henry Ford II Fellow, an honor awarded only to the top eight rising juniors in the College of Engineering.

Xu feels, though, that it was his research experience which really boosted his merit in winning the scholarship. Incidentally, it was also a research opportunity early during his high school career that lead him to study aerospace engineering. According to Xu, an internship with NASA in 1996 at the famous Dryden Flight Research Center is what “ultimately inspired me to want to become an aerospace engineer.”

At Tech, Xu has conducted two years of research in fundamental fluid dynamics under Aerospace Engineering Professor P.K. Yeung. Surprisingly enough, Jia Xu came to Tech after he was rejected from his first choice school. But with his Tech career winding down, Jia does not feel regret in a missed opportunity.

Instead, he feels that not only does Tech train great engineers, but that “at Georgia Tech, we have engineers who are also people. We are more sociable and more able to communicate.”

When first introduced to the scholarships last spring, Xu was interested, “but I had my doubts. I thought the Marshall was a long shot, and if I did go for it, it would be an interruption in my career in aerospace.”

Jia already faced a tough fall semester with applications for fellowships and graduate schools to concentrate on, not to mention his work as a math TA and OMED tutor.

“I looked at the profiles of past winners…all these people had done so many amazing things. You always ask, how do I measure up against that?”

Finally, it was Amanda Gable, Tech’s advisor for the Marshall, Gates, Cambridge and Churchill scholarships, who convinced Xu that he “had a shot.”

The application process for the Marshall was by no means a breeze, but, at the same time, it helped force him to really examine himself and what he wanted. “Most people come into college not really knowing what they want to do. I came in knowing exactly what I wanted to do,” said Xu, though he admits to not knowing what to do after college. “I do think there is something more that I have to do, something that I want to do.”

Xu plans to use the scholarship to obtain a master’s in International Relations at the London School of Economics.
Tenth and Home gives modern look to family housing

By Kristin Noell
Contributing Writer

Undergraduate and unmarried students may have a reason to be jealous next year when the Georgia Tech housing department opens the newest addition to campus housing; Tenth and Home, located at 251 10th Street. Tenth and Home is a state-of-the-art apartment facility for students with families.

“Our family housing was very antiquated...and we needed to update it with all the modern technologies that our students want and need at Georgia Tech,” said Michael Black, Director of Housing.

After a feasibility study, Housing got students involved and found out what they wanted with a marketing survey in 1996-97.

The facility will contain 394 one- and two-bedroom apartments, which are 633 square feet and 745 square feet, respectively.

Each one has 650 square feet, was designed for efficient use of space, and will also have a new washer and dryer. In addition, the complex will have front desk assistance.

“Our apartments will be all self-contained,” said Black, “so all the utilities will already be turned on. Cable TV will be on...and ResNet will be there.”

The utilities integrated in the housing payment are electricity, water, garbage collection, cable television and high-speed internet access, so Tenth and Home residents do not have to worry about paying bills in addition to caring for their families and working on their studies.

Although Tenth and Home is intended to be more affordable than off-campus housing, “we think...that it’s hard to put a dollar price on convenience. If you walk across the street from your lab to your home, there’s not a dollar value associated with that,” said Black.

In addition to the proximity to classes, residents will not have to worry about their children while they are in lectures, as the complex will also contain a daycare facility, though plans for the service have not been finalized at this date.

In terms of recreation, “Students will be asked to go participate over in the CRC...we’ll have some grounds and small playgrounds for kids, but we expect that most people will utilize the facilities at the CRC,” Black said.

Parking is also one less thing that Tenth and Home residents have to worry about, in comparison to off-campus housing, because the complex will have its own parking deck.

However, Black noted that the parking deck was designed to be as unobtrusive as possible. “The neat thing about [the parking deck] is that [it] is not going to be seen from 10th Street,” Black said. “As you’re coming up Tenth Street, you’ll pass Turner Broadcasting, and then you might see a glimpse of the garage as you’re coming up, but most of the garage will be shielded by trees.”

The project architect is Cooper Carry, an Atlanta-based firm that has designed property for Tech in the past, including the Undergraduate Living Center. The builder is Holder Construction.

Black meets with the architect, builder and project manager one to two times each week.

“We’re very heavily involved to make sure our standards are met...and that they’re building it to our standards,” Black said. “Tech has a certain standard that they want their students to live in, and that’s what we’re watching.”

The total cost of this project is an estimated $55 million. Since the Department of Housing is under Auxiliary Services, they receive no money from the state and are completely self-sufficient, paying all of their own utilities, salaries and renovation costs.

Therefore, the funds for Tenth and Home, like all other housing projects, come from student rent.

So why build this new complex worth millions of dollars?

“The neat thing, the reason we decided to go build this, is because we have been charged by our president to bring the best and brightest graduate students to Georgia Tech,” said Black.

“In order for us to go out and get those best and brightest students from throughout the world, we have to have housing that’s going to be able to be the best for the best, and what we had to offer previously was not in that mode,” Black explained.

Families can already apply for apartments in the new facility online at tenthandhome.housing.gatech.edu. Because there may be phase-in openings in October or November before the official opening date, Housing wants to be able to have a list of people waiting to move in at that time.

Tenth and Home residents can expect a pleasant living environment, as the goal of Housing is to ensure the family’s comfort, convenience and success.

“We’re very excited about this project,” Black added. “Georgia Tech family housing will be the best in the country, bar none.”

“Tenth and Home is ”already under construction, (and) if you go over on 10th Street, you can see it come out of the ground,” Black said. It should be ready for tenants on Jan. 1, 2005.

The facility will contain 394 one- and two-bedroom apartments, which are 633 square feet and 745 square feet, respectively.

Each apartment was designed for efficient use of space, and will also have a new washer and dryer. In addition, the complex will have front desk assistance.

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**Price**

from page 9

“We actually did some research before the trip. We watched a lot of episodes... weeks before, I wrote down all the prices on all the items and we studied up,” said Smith.

“It’s amazing how many things are repeated during the show.”

Before Gardner knew it, he was on stage. “It lasted five minutes from when [Barker] set foot on stage and I’m up on stage with him,” he said, “which was just crazy, because I was the first person up there—I don’t know exactly what’s going on.”

In addition, he didn’t receive much help from his friends, as the crowd was so loud that it was impossible to hear prices being shouted. Also, “the camera was right in front of my line of sight of [the rest of the guys]... and I could barely see them,” Gardner said.

“So it was me and Bob... I get up there, and Bob’s like, ‘Richard, how would you like to go back to Atlanta in this?’ and it’s a Pontiac Vibe.”

**Rick Gardner**

Contestant, *The Price Is Right*

“I get up there, and Bob’s like, ‘Richard, how would you like to go back to Atlanta in this?’ and it’s a Pontiac Vibe.”

**Actually, he’s a lot like Happy Gilmore,** Smith said. Interestingly, Barker fielded questions from the audience during commercial breaks, and according to Smith, “Joe actually asked, ‘Did you perform all the stunts yourself in Happy Gilmore?’ and he said, ‘All but falling down the hill.’”

After the show, Gardner had to go backstage to fill out paperwork for the prizes he had won. In addition to the water bike, Gardner also won $170 from the Money Game. “I don’t really have a use for [the bike], so I’m planning on selling it on eBay,” said Gardner.

**FOCUS**

The episode of *Price Is Right* was somewhat different from the studio.

“The studio was a lot smaller than we expected,” said Chen. Also, “[Bob Barker] looks old,” Gardner said. “He just turned 80 the Thursday before we got there.” Also, he added, “He’s kind of a jerk.”

**The episode of Price is Right is scheduled to air on Thursday, Jan. 29, at 11 a.m. on CBS.**

**Scholar**

from page 10

other than being an aerospace engineer.

Jia’s love for airplanner began many years ago as a young boy at an air show at Andrews Air Force Base. I had never had that up-close, personal kind of feeling. That was the singular moment when I knew that I had to have something to do with [airplanes],” he said.

With his scholarship, Xu will pursue a master’s degree in International Relations at the London School of Economics (LSE).

“I plan to read and write a lot,” he said, and has already received a list of over 30 books to read.

“I don’t think I’ve read 30 books in my entire Georgia Tech career,” he said.

Though he expects to “have a lot of catching up to do” as an engineer trying to earn a master’s degree in a liberal arts area, “I expect to have a lot of fun,” he said.

After a year at the LSE, Xu will then enter the master’s program in aerospace engineering at Imperial College, a top technical institution in London.

Many people find his planned course of study unusual. “I have an AE background, and I’ve only taken one INTA class,” Xu said. For a long time, Xu’s interest in the subject was “just a pastime.”

It was the tragedy of September 11th that made Xu’s interest in international relations evolve from a hobby into a passion. Through 9-11, Xu came to understand that “you can’t take things for granted.

“If you have good intentions, you have to mate that with action. When you see what’s happening in the world today, you see that there are some pressing issues that need to be addressed,” he said. “International relations is about applying historical today’s world, actually making a difference and changing things.”

“I realized as an engineer that there are certain limitations on how you can change things in the world,” Xu said.

The group also made the most of the rest of their trip, going to see Jimmy Kimmel Live that night, and sightseeing stars such as Ben Stein, Ryan Seacrest and Rachel Leigh Cook. “Ben Stein gave us a shoutout,” Smith laughed. They also visited the Grand Canyon on the way back to Atlanta, and some of the group went to New York for New Year’s Eve. For the brothers, it was a great last road trip.” It’s been our fourth road trip together since freshman year,” Smith said. So now that they’ve done their road trip for the year, what are the guys planning for spring break? “We didn’t know what to do... because we’ve already seen pretty much everything in the U.S. that we wanted to see. Joe did a map, we’ve seen 36 states, just us, together, we’ve been to Canada twice, Mexico once, and put our feet in the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean,” Smith said.

“It’s hard to top it off, you know,” Smith said reflectively. “So now we just want to chill.”

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**Jia Xu**

AE senior and Marshall Scholar

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**However, the cash prize was split between the guys, who made a deal beforehand saying that the contestants would get 60 percent of any cash prize and the rest 10 percent each.**

“So in the end the rest of us got $17 a piece,” Chen said. “Pretty sweet deal, if you ask me.” The group also made the most of the rest of their trip, going to see Jimmy Kimmel Live that night, and sightseeing stars such as Ben Stein, Ryan Seacrest and Rachel Leigh Cook.

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“I realized as an engineer that there are certain limitations on how you can change things in the world,” Xu said. The greatest thing about the Marshall,” Xu said, “is that it affirmed my humanity.”
Motors from page 9

The team faced its greatest obstacles.

The team encountered problems early on in the day. "Halfway through the first heat, the inside tire starting coming up because the suspension broke," Flanagan said.

He remembered the driver anxiously informing the team over the radio, "I cannot shift. I'm stuck in first gear."

The car was in dire need of repair because "the inside engine got really hot, and it was really dry outside; the rear left shock had broken, the wheel was there but not functioning, and the transmission was broken," Flanagan said.

Though the car survived through the rest of the first heat, the team quickly worked to fix it afterwards.

"We bought a spare engine in case of car trouble, and we installed the new one by removing the back half of the car to do the engine swap," Flanagan said.

Other problems required the team to be more inventive, resulting in makeshift gadgets to fix the car.

"We stole a windshield wiper pump from the rental car and filled an apple juice bottle with water to make the system spray the radiator to keep it from overheating," Flanagan said.

They also replaced other parts with the car parts of the rental car they were using to travel around Australia.

With so much last minute work on the car, the team was ecstatic to discover they won first place in the second heat and the endurance event overall. "It was the highlight of the entire competition and quite the experience," Flanagan said.

The other team members felt the same way. Second-year Mechanical Engineering major Kevin Bray said, "the best part of the trip was the feeling when they [announced that] we won."

In fact, endurance was the only event the team won, but points were very close in each portion of the competition, which gave the team the winning edge.

Along with the thrill of the competition, the atmosphere of the continent was also an experience in itself. Traveling to Australia was an incredible opportunity, according to all the team members. "[In] Australia, the landscape and the wildlife are beautiful, nothing like I've ever seen before," Flanagan said.

On the other hand, the team members commented on the parts of Australia they could have lived without. Matt Stephens, a senior Mechanical Engineering major, said that the weather was "really dry and hot, and the black flies made it hard to work."

However, "I really liked Australia," he said. "The competition was near the coast, and the people were laid-back, nice and friendly."

Even the competitors developed a sense of camaraderie and would let rivals borrow tools to tweak the cars.

Cody Fenstermaker, a second-year Mechanical Engineering major, said, "It was the team that won the event, not the car."

**Tech Up Close**

Last week’s Tech Up Close:

Vents on the Manufacturing Research Building

Last week’s winner:

Danny Nguyen

email: focus@technique.gatech.edu

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### Are you free on Friday mornings? Would you like to make an easy $30?

**The Technique needs a distribution manager!**

The job involves distributing the newspaper to various locations on campus Friday morning each week.

Email editor@technique.gatech.edu if you are interested.
Rollins induces “Shock and Awe”

Black Flag singer Henry Rollins set to perform in Atlanta Jan. 25 at Variety Playhouse

By Evan Zasoski
Staff Writer

You know that really scary looking guy on those Rollins Band T-shirts you see around from time to time? Yeah, that guy who looks like he could kill a grown man with his bare hands.

His name is Henry Rollins and, believe it or not, he actually has quite a bit more to his credit than being professionally terrifying. His life includes running his own publishing house, performing music in such bands as Black Flag and the aforementioned Rollins Band and being a spoken word performer who has stayed on tour for the better part of his adult life. Despite all this, he took time to speak with the ‘Nique regarding his new spoken word show, “Shock and Awe, My Ass,” playing Sunday, January 25 at the Variety Playhouse.

The show, like all of Mr. Rollins’ spoken word performances, is basically just him getting up on stage and talking about whatever strikes him as funny, interesting or otherwise worth sharing with the audience. He can be expected to discuss topics ranging from his life, to music, to politics and all points in between. What follows is just a small sampling of topics that caught his fancy.

As the singer for one of the great punk bands of the ‘80s, and, arguably, at least a steward of the genre, Mr. Rollins was surprisingly disinterested in the current state of the style of music that he and the other members of Black Flag helped to shape. Speaking of pop-punk in particular, Rollins said, “I’m probably more unaware of what is going on in that kind of music at this point because those aren’t really records that I buy and it doesn’t really do for me.”

In fact, “time and place” seemed

“Some things in life should be free, like...love, music and office supplies.”

Henry Rollins
Singer/Performer

seen Rollins, page 17

Drag along a Date to Bosworth’s latest flick

Win A Date With Tad Hamilton makes you gag, then do yourself a favor and stop reading now. This cutesy movie revolves around a small-town girl named Rosalee (Kate Bosworth, Blue Crush) living in West Virginia and working at the local Piggy Wiggly. She is content with her routine life as a grocery bagger and enjoys being able to work with her two best friends, Pete (Topher Grace, That ’70s Show) and Cathy (Ginnifer Goodwin, More Lisa Smile). The only way she is able to escape from the reality of her humdrum life is when she goes to the theater to watch movies and Rosalee enters online and wins, giving her the big-time chance to be whisked away to Los Angeles to meet her idol face to face. Now for the love triangle you lose the tech, gain the IMAX

Broadway lands on Peachtree at Fox

This weekend, New York and the Midwest come together down South at the fabulous Fox Theater with showings of Oklahoma! Enjoy the music and relive the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic. Show times are 8 p.m. Friday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Ticket prices range from $15.54 and are available through Ticketmaster.

Fernbank shakes, not stirs the IMAX

Nothing to do this Friday? Stop by Fernbank Museum for Martins and IMAX. The event includes live music, dancing, food a la carte, an IMAX movie and martins for those over 21. Socialize, mingle or just enjoy the scene. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. and tickets start at $35. It would make a great date.

Influence Sting

Break band decision

If art is your thing, ATLart can deliver

ATLart[04] is a citywide event consisting of art exhibitions, lectures, tours and special events from galleries across the city. The event spans the second-half of January. Upcoming highlights include exhibitions at the Swan Coach House Gallery, Georgia State University, Hammond’s House and the Savannah Gallery this Friday, presented by the Visual Arts Network of Atlanta. On Saturday, site-specific installations will be on display at Saltworks Gallery in Fourth Ward from dusk until dawn. Both events are free and open to the public. Further information can be found at www.atlart.com

Lose the tech, gain the arts for a day

Famous poets Thomas Lux, H. Bruce McEver and Patricia Smith converge on Tech Feb. 5. The free event will be held in Tate Hall, the Student Success Center. Refreshments will be served. The poets will sign books afterwards.

Jacket hoopsters zip through ACC

Hoop it up!

The group will perform several pieces, showcasing a broad range of talent and style. The event begins at 8 p.m. and tickets start at $35. It would make a great date.

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Incoherent Scribblings by Matt Norris
Rollins from page 15

to have a great deal to do with his current thoughts on pop music.

"When I hear a young man’s woe
I respect it. I remember it, way back
when, ... I’d be lying, if I said I
was still on the same page as it.”

He went on to say that he con-
sidered that sort of music to be a
“rite of passage.” “It’s just kind of
a thing you do for awhile and I just
say rumble, young man, rumble.
You know, go for it...” Rollins said.

Also on his rather curious, con-
sidering his profession and past, list
of benign neglect is the subject of
file sharing. “I don’t really care,
quite honestly. I think that when
someone downloads my record
instead of buying it, I would have
appreciated the money, but if
that’s gonna be the dividing line
whether someone checks me out or not, I’d rather be
checked out than paid.”

And what of the music indus-
ty’s reaction to file sharing? Mr. Rollins said that he thinks “that the
record industry for so many years
has charged so much for so little.
How can they be surprised when
people all of a sudden get music
for free? And in some ways, to me,
I think music should be free like... love, music and office supplies...”

As you probably guessed from
the title of his show, Mr. Rollins has
quite a bit to say about the current
situation in Iraq, starting with one
of the administration’s favorite de-
scriptive terms for the conflict.

“Well, I call the tour ‘Shock and
Awe’ just ‘cause about a
year ago... we were watching the news, and we watched some general
saying we’re going to shock and awe
the Iraqis and we’re going to give
them a light show the likes of which
they’ve never seen. And it was kind
of this tough, swaggering talk and
when you’re talking about people
coming home in body bags and wom-
en and children being blown up by
mistake—of course bad guys get-
ing incinerated, you know: dead
people. Why are you bragg... shouldn’t you be a little bit more
grate?”

“And now when you see Ameri-
cans getting scraped off the ground
and flown back to America, who’s
shocked and awed? Not the Iraqis.”

He continued along the same vein
with the admin-
istration in gen-
eral, calling
them “anti-per-
son, anti-envi-
ronment and
pro-business at
any cost.”

He be-
lieves that
“they’re turning
country into
big business,”
saying that,
“when you put
 civic responsibility into the hands
of major corporations by saying, ‘Oh,
look, don’t worry. We can deplete
this and that, because... these com-
panies will watch their emissions,
and they’ll make sure they pay the
people well.” No, they won’t, and
that’s why you have regulations to
make sure people are compassion-
ate. You don’t leave it up to Enron
to be cool. You make laws so they’re
forced to be cool.”

He then closed his remarks on
the subject by calling President Bush
an “expensive habit” and saying that
he doubts this country, specifically,
the students and young people of
this country “can afford this guy for
another four years.”

Expect monologue along the same
lines and more, on a vivid, enthral-
ling level at Henry Rollin’s upcom-
ing show.

...Two Bits

Live with an impending sense of doom, chest pain?

It would appear that I am falling
apart at the seams. So far this week
I have had pain in my back, my neck,
my inner thighs, 60lb arms and (wait
for it...) my chest. Now I don’t claim
to be any sort of expert on the hu-
man body or anything, but speak-
ning as someone who has a human
who went to medical school for two
whole semesters I think I’m quali-
fied to diagnose these symptoms as
a possible bad thing—largely be-
cause I don’t imagine that an entire-
ly healthy person would have
committed the warning signs of a
heart attack to memory just in case.
One of which, by the way, was list-
ed online as “a sense of impending
doom.”

Seriously, WebMD, whatcha talkin’
bout? I ask you: what person, who is look-
ing up the symptoms of a heart at-
tack at two o’clock in the morning,
doesn’t sense some sort of doom,
and when is this doom not im-
pending? Do you people do
that sort of thing for
cheap laughs? Thanks for scaring
the crap out of me in the middle of
the night, you jackasses. Maybe next
time, you won’t give the designing-the-really-important-page describ-
ing-symptoms-of-a-life-
and-death-alment job to the cold-
hearted sociopath who sleeps better
at night knowing that, even as he
slumbers, his work still causes vast
suffering and woe. I mean, really,
come on, guys. Get on the ball.

So, based upon the expert, pan-
ic-inducing advice found in that
wondrous encyclopedia of the in-
formation age, I went to the health
center the next morning to have my
situation checked out immediately.
Unfortunately for my precious, pre-
cious chest cavity, the receptionist
informed me that the Health Cen-
ter doesn’t allow walk-ins except in
cases of emergency, and while her
mouth asked me if it was an emer-
gency, her eyes told me that,
as I had entered the building under
my own power and was not visibly disch-
arming any vital/bodily
fluids, I could make
an appointment
like everyone else
and that, while
they’re think-
ing about it,
my shirt was
quite tacky.

“And, oh
yeah,” her
eyes said, “you
smell funny
too.”

Being a care-
ful sort by nature
and not wanting
anew kind of toothpaste said to make
my teeth so white as to be visible to
a legally blind man at a hundred
yards.

After my night of wondrous com-
ercial infotainment, I was finally
ready to go see a real-live doctor
who took all of ten minutes to diag-
ose me as both “healthy as a mule”
and “totally out of my mind.” How-
ever, considering the facts that the
medical erudition and top notch
care the tobe found at the Student Health
Center have killed better men than
me and that I’m reasonably certain
that the doctor was making up those
tests he performed on me as he went
along—“put your arms over your
head and jump up and down on one
leg, ‘my ass—I think I might just be
seeking a second opinion at some
point. Assuming, of course, I make
it that far.”

Next week: a very special “Fare-
well, Two Bits Man” issue of the
Technique.
Theme Crossword: Safe Bet

By Robert Zimmerman


See Solutions, page 27
Theron impressively puts on new skin for Monster

By Raquel Laneri  
Michigan Daily

(U-WIRE) University of Michigan—There’s nothing more annoying than the drooling adoration critics shower on actresses who alter their physical appearances for films. Nicole Kidman was lauded for wearing a prosthetic nose in The Hours, Halle Berry was praised for appearing sans makeup in Monster’s Ball and—most insultingly—Gwyneth Paltrow was commended by women’s magazines for donning a fat suit in Shallow Hal.

Now Charlize Theron (The Italian Job), usually cast as arm-candy for the leading man, is garnering similar buzz for her portrayal of real-life serial killer Aileen Wuornos in Patty Jenkins’ Monster—a portrayal that involves fake yellowed teeth, spotty skin, dry stringy hair and an extra 25 pounds to her frame.

What separates Theron from the rest of these actresses, however, is that while audience members are aware they are watching Kidman, Barry or Paltrow in their roles, they cannot even find a trace of Theron or Kidman. Theron completely immerses herself in the role, churning out one of the best performances seen in recent years and saving Monster in the process.

Without a strong female lead, Monster would have fallen flat on its face, lacking a tight, well-written script with clear motivations for its characters. The voice-over narration shamllessly pleads for sympathy for the main character, and on paper the interactions between Wuornos and her lesbian lover, Selby (Christina Ricci, Sleepy Hollow), seem rather cheery and superficial, consisting of either adoring compliments (you’re so beautiful) or naive, foolish promises (I’ll-buy-you-anything-you-want).

Theron, fortunately, more than compensates for these flaws in the script. The way she confidently wagers in order to mask her vulnerability and naiveté shown through her shaky fingers and spasmodic head twitch makes her undeniably human and automatically garners sympathy. The way she holds a wounded, yet passionate look in her eyes communicates all the motivation the audience needs to make her character believable. The way she seems like she’s improvising rather than reading a script gives a freshness and sincerity to the otherwise mediocre dialogue. Theron even manages a first-kiss scene accompanied by Journey’s “Don’t Stop Believin’” to appear touching rather than sappy—quite an astonishing feat.

“Monster” does not go deeply into Wuornos’ past that lead to prostitution, though sexual abuse and abandonment are mentioned. The film chooses instead to focus on the relationship between Wuornos and Selby and the murderous streak sparked when she is raped by one of her customers—a streak that leaves seven men dead.

The relationship between the two women is a bit muddled, however. Theron makes it clear that when Wuornos meets Selby, she is so damaged and disillusioned by the treatment she has received from men that she clings onto Selby out of desperation and hope for something better.

Ricci, however, never paints a clear picture of Selby. She can’t decide whether she wants Selby to be extremely naive or incredibly selfish. She claims to love Wuornos, yet she gets angry when Wuornos announces she wants to quit “hookin.” She demands that Wuornos murder to obtain a car, even after reacting in horror to Wuornos’ confession. Selby’s decision to testify against Wuornos also remains unexplored, leaving Selby more as an outline or sketch rather than a three-dimensional character. Strangely, the audience understands the prostitute/serial killer more than the confused drifter who gets swept into a relationship with her.

Monster may have its flaws, and its bleak portrayal of humanity can turn off many, but the gritty honesty and uncompromising passion that Theron brings to the movie transforms it into a captivating drama and forces us to see Wuornos as more than a monster.
Wake from page 28

Jackets from behind the arc, going 7 for 12 from this position in the first half. However, sparked by Muhammad’s two monster dunks and 6 for 6 shooting in the first half, Tech took control of the game and went into the locker room with a 41-30 lead at the half. Things got worse for Virginia in the second half as the team’s hot shooting went ice cold, going 0 for 9 on threes. By dominating the second half, Tech cruised to a 75-57 win. Both Elder and Lewis didn’t seem too affected by coming off the bench as they put up 16 and 17 points each.

After picking up their first conference win, Tech suited up to face Maryland, a team that was coming off an upset of UNC. Tech started the game much better and led most of the first half. However, it was the visitors that took control at the half, scoring 15 points in the last six minutes to take a 38-35 lead at the break. Coming back from the break, Maryland remained hot and extended their lead to seven before Tech regrouped and shut down everyone but Maryland’s standout sophomore John Gilchrist. Gilchrist was unstoppable on the floor, almost single-handedly keeping the visiting Terrapins in the game in the second half. He ended up with a game high 27 points but no other teammate scored in double digits. Tech’s defense held Maryland to 36.5 percent field goal shooting, 10 percent lower than the team’s season average.

Aside from a stellar defense, Tech’s second half run was sparked by Bynum’s offensive production. On the offensive end of the floor, Bynum took over for Tech. He hurt Maryland from the outside, going 5 for 7 from behind the arc, and inside when he produced the play of the game by breaking down his opposition and finishing with a high floater banked off the glass. He led all Tech scorers with 25 points despite coming off the bench as Elder regained his starting spot for the game. Tech pulled away in the second half and picked up their second conference win with a 81-71 victory over Maryland.

The real conference test came against Wake Forest at Winston-Salem on Tuesday. Last year, Tech was a horrible road team, going 2-11 and winning only one conference game, against Virginia, on the road. Having failed earlier against North Carolina, this year’s team was hungry to prove their road-worthiness against the Demon Deacons.

Wake was reeling from back-to-back road losses to Texas and Duke, but they started the game shooting well. Luckily, Tech also came out clicking on offense and the first 10 minutes of the game looked like it would be another thrilling shoot-out, much like the win Wake had over North Carolina. Both teams shot over 55 percent from the field in the first half.

The second half saw neither team shooting above 30 percent from the field, both a testament to the teams defensive effort and their offensive ineptitude. Both teams struggled to score. Wake had troubles hitting their threes and Tech threw away good scoring opportunities under the basket when they failed to make layups.

By rotating defenders on Wake’s freshman star Chris Paul, Tech was able to keep him from making an impact. Wake’s other star guard, Justin Gray, fouled out with much of the second half left and made things worse for the Deacons backcourt. On the offensive side of the ball, Bynum continued his production and led Tech with 20 points. Not to be overshadowed, Lewis had a great day as well coming off the bench. He had a perfect day from beyond the arc, going 4 for 4, and contributed 14 points. More importantly, it was encouraging to see Lewis shooting well on the road, something he had troubles with last year. He shot 38.1 percent from the field when not playing at the Coliseum (vs. shooting 46.8 percent at home).

By holding Wake to a miserable 23.3 percent shooting in the second half and answering every Demon Deacon attempt with a big shot of their own, Tech was able to pull off a big 73-66 road win despite shooting a poor 29.0 percent from the field in the second half.

Tech will face N.C. State on the road Saturday, a game that will break the current tie for second in the ACC, before coming home to face Clemson Tuesday night.

“We with the three conference wins, Tech is sitting right behind Duke for second in the ACC, tied with the fast starting NC State.”

Let us know what you think about the paper.

E-mail your opinions @ technique@gatech.edu
Men's tennis team fares well at Championships

By Clark Nelson
Contributing Writer

Earlier this week, the men’s tennis team opened its spring season competition in Winston-Salem, NC at the ACC Men’s Indoor Championships. Headlining the Jackets lineup were seniors Scott Schnugg and Joao Menano, who won singles titles in 2002.

"This will be a great test for us to see exactly where we are as individuals," said head coach Kenny Thorne in a press release.

"It's a great tournament and in addition to fine-tuning a few things, it will give us a good indication of what our lineup will be," Thorne is in his sixth season guiding the Jackets.

Jose Luis Muguruza, a freshman from Wesley Chapel Florida, was the only Tech player to advance past the round of 32, making it to the semifinals before falling to eventual champion Doug Stewart of Virginia, 6-0, 6-1. Muguruza also teamed with Schnugg to advance in the doubles portion of the tournament. The two were the No. 1 seed in the consolation draw before losing to No. 3 seed Mat Cloer of Florida State and won four matches in the consolation bracket.

Noah Tyler advanced to the quarterfinals of the consolation draw before falling to Texas Tech's Menano and Rath reached the quarterfinals before falling to UNC's Metzler and Monroe, 8-5.

However in the consolation draw, the Duke doubles team of Peter Rodrigues and Jonathan Stokke won the doubles flight title with an 8-6 victory over No. 4 seed Brett Ross and Derrick Spice of Wake Forest.

Rodrigues and Stokke had advanced to the finals with a 9-7 victory over Metzler and Monroe, the pair that had earlier defeated Tech's Menano and Rath.

In the singles bracket, Virginia's Doug Stewart, the tournament's number two seed, won the title with a 7-5, 6-4 win over No. 1 seed, Monroe.

After completing their tournament at Wake Forest, the Yellow Jackets will next play host to Georgia Southern Jan. 31 at 1 P.M.

Meanwhile, Schnugg advanced to the finals of the consolation where he faced Andy Metzler of UNC in the title. Schnugg ended up finishing as the consolation bracket co-champion along with Metzler. Metzler had gone 1-1 in the main draw before losing to No. 3 seed Mat Cloer of Florida State and won four matches in the consolation bracket.

It's a great tournament and in addition to fine-tuning a few things, it will give us a good indication of what our lineup will be.

Kenny Thorne
Men's Tennis Coach

Menano, Trevor McLeod, Zachary Rath, West Nott and Nico Gysi all won their first round singles match but then stumbled in the round of 32.

faces in the crowd

by kimberly rieck

Itai Eden
Senior
Swimming

One of three Israeli swimmers on the men’s swimming and diving team, Itai Eden is making his impact on the team in and out of the water. Eden has exemplified the team “student-athlete” with his Dean’s List grades in electrical engineering and in his role as team captain. Eden made the ACC Honor Roll last year.

Before coming to Tech, Eden was a two-time finalist at the European Championships and named best junior swimmer at the 1998 Israeli Championships. At last year’s ACC Championships, Eden placed 12th in the 200 butterfly. Eden also competed in the final at the conference meet in the 500 free and 200 free.

Lisa Hancock
Junior
Swimming

Hailing from Pendleton, South Carolina, Lisa Hancock came to Tech after leading the state in track, cross country and swimming. Hancock was a six-time South Carolina state champion in cross country and received the state Female Runner of the Year Award.

In 2002, Muguruza teamed up with teammate Zachary Rath to reach the doubles quarterfinals at the USTA International Grass Courts Championships.

Muguruza was also the only Tech player to advance past the round of 32 at the ACC Indoor Championships last week.

Swimming

One of the world’s top junior players, Luis Muguruza burst onto the scene by winning the prestigious Orange Bowl tournament. Muguruza has reached a singles ranking of No. 17 in the International Tennis Federation poll and No. 54 in the doubles’ poll. A highlight from Muguruza’s career includes defeating the U.S.’s Brian Baker, the third-ranked junior player in the world. In 2002, Muguruza teamed up with teammate Zachary Rath to reach the doubles quarterfinals at the USTA International Grass Courts Championships.

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When Isma’il Muhammad delivers a thunderous dunk, the crowd chirps and mocks. When Will Bynum crosses up defenders and makes them look foolish, the crowd chirps and mocks. When David Nelson enters a basketball game for Georgia Tech, the crowd simply goes bonkers. One such cacophonous ovation serenaded Nelson on Dec. 23, when he sank a jumper after taking a Marist player through a bevy of pump fakes during Tech’s 90-40 triumph. When he simply touches the ball, the decision level in Alexander Memorial Coliseum suddenly mirrors that of a Kid Rock concert.

Arguably Tech’s most beloved roundball participant, the diminutive Syracuse, New York native has earned the admiration of both teammates and fans. Nelson’s tireless efforts in practice, as well as during Tech’s strenuous conditioning regimen, has earned the former walk-on a scholarship for the 2003-2004 basketball season. Off the court, Nelson is a Dean’s List student majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

We sat down with “Little Dave” in an effort to discover more about the crowd favorite that wears no. 51.

What has been your favorite memory in basketball while you’ve been at Tech?

My most memorable moment in basketball while here at Tech would have to be playing against Syracuse in the Carrier Dome. This memory brings mixed emotions, however. We lost by a lot so that was horrible, but I got to play in the game. I have liked SU basketball since I was little and being able to make a three-pointer there was a great feeling. Especially doing it with my family and friends in the stands and my girlfriend cheering for SU.

What teammate or coach has taught you the most?

As a child I played basketball and baseball. I really liked both of them, but I decided to focus on basketball because baseball was just too slow of a game for me. I got sick of waiting in the outfield for a ball to be hit to me.

If you could play any other sport here at Tech, what would it be and why?

The one that is there right in and right out watching video and coming up with philosophies. I never knew so much went into one play until I heard Coach Hewitt talk.

What teammate do you admire the most?

I admire a lot of the people on the team for many different reasons, but I would have to say that I admire and respect Marvin Lewis the most. I just really think that Marvin is a stand-up guy who carries himself very well. He is quiet leader. He leads in a way that is different than most people would expect, by example and not by blurring out or yelling.

What sports did you play as a child and why did you decide to focus on basketball?

As a child I played basketball and baseball. I really liked both of them, but I decided to focus on basketball because baseball was just too slow of a game for me. I got sick of waiting in the outfield for a ball to be hit to me.

Do you have any pre-game rituals and what are they?

I don’t really have any pre-game rituals, but Luke and I have a joke going since it always seems like we are going to the bathroom right before the game starts at the same time.

What do you want to do after graduating from Tech?

I really wish I knew or had something concrete, but I will be graduating with an ME degree. I think that I would like to work for a financial firm or with business consultants and then in two or three years go back to school to get an MBA.

If you could tell next year’s freshman recruits just one thing, what would it be?
FSU’s men’s team came into the meet looking to improve on its 1-1 ACC record. Divers Tony Burkhardt and Paul McCarty led the Aquajackets. McCarty captured the first place on the one-meter board with a score of 284.0, while Burkhardt finished second in the event. The pair traded spots on the three-meter board as Burkhardt captured first place with a tally of 303.45.

Overall, Tech’s men and women’s divers have consistently improved from meet to meet, thanks to diving coach John Ames and the new facilities as well.

“They’re excelling right now. They’re doing a very good job,” said head coach Seth Barton.

Junior Jeremy Raines captured first place honors for the Jackets in the 200-yard backstroke. Raines was also a member of Tech’s second place relay team in the 400-yard freestyle relay.

Freshman Ryan Bishop ranked up more points for Tech with a second place win in the 200-yard breaststroke. Bishop also placed second in the 200-yard IM.

At the end of the meet, the Seminoles had extended an early lead and defeated the men’s team 138-101.

“We knew we had to work for it,” said head coach MaChelle Terry. “They’re diving well. They’re very consistent and being very competitive right now. They’re doing a very good job,” said head coach Seth Barton.

Clemson stretched the lead to 46-36 in the 200-yard IM. The Tigers scored 32 of their first 50 points and swiped nine boards in the second half.

“We knew who the three-point shooters were,” Joseph said.

“We talked about that for two days now. They made big shots but they got great looks, and defensive-ty, we can’t give up those kinds of looks at the basket with the three-point shooters that Clemson has.”

Clemson stretched the lead to 25 with barely two minutes left in the first half and never looked back despite a qualified Tech comeback in the second half, where the Lady Jackets scored the first 12 points of the half and managed to knock Clemson’s lead down to only eight points. The Tigers scored 32 of their first half points off of 15 Tech turnovers. Overall, Tech had 22 turnovers.

“Turnovers killed us,” Joseph said. Turnovers prevented a win on the road against Maryland a few games back where the Lady Jackets turned the ball over almost as many times as possible.

The icing on the cake for the Lady Tigers proved to be Clemson’s Lakeia Stokes, who scored 25 points, nine from downtown, nabbing 10 boards, helping out her fellow teammates with four assists and squashing the Tech offense with four steals.

The bright spots for Tech during the game included a better second half against Clemson scoring-wise, where the Lady Jackets controlled the rims by out-rebounding Clemson 46-36 and created a formidable inside presence with seven blocks, five from starting center Kasha Terry.

Perhaps the biggest bright spot for Tech, despite the loss, was the gradual maturation of freshman starter Kentrina Wilson, who put up 13 points and swiped nine boards in her second start of the season.

Despite losing in the end by fourteen, the ladies played solid basketball after a disastrous first half and look to improve upon their careless mistakes and defense around the perimeter as the season progresses over the next few weeks.

The loss is the fourth in a row for Tech, all of which have come against ACC teams bringing their ACC record to 1-4.

The Jackets next face Florida State Jan. 25.
**Atlanta Thrashers number challenge**

**By Joseph Jeong**  
*Contributing Writer*

Thrashers rebound as well.

Number of home games the Wake Forest Deacons had won before the men’s basketball team snapped the streak Tuesday night. Wake Forest had been looking to tie its school record of 25 consecutive victories at Lawrence Joel Coliseum. Instead, the game was the Deacons’ first loss since Feb. 21, 2002.

Number of points Will Bynum scored off the bench against Maryland last Saturday. The total was a career high for the Arizona transfer. Bynum also received the Wendy’s Georgia Tech Student-Athlete of the Week award for his efforts.

2:31.84

Amount of time it took Laura Heiser to win the 200 breaststroke for the second consecutive meet. Heiser led the women’s team with a time of 2:31.84, finishing second behind FSU’s Lisa How.

Number of top five finishes senior Amanda Rickett had at the Kentucky Invitational. Rickett finished second in both the 60-meter dash and the 200-meter.

By Joseph Jeong  
*Contributing Writer*

**Bynum leads Tech to ACC win**

If any doubts were raised about this year’s basketball team after dropping two in a row, those doubts were eliminated after going 3-0 against conference opponents this past week. After dropping the conference opener to North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Tech bounced back to hold their own at home against Virginia and Maryland and went on the road to snatch a big win over Wake Forest at Winston-Salem. With the three conference wins, Tech is stringing right behind Duke for second in the ACC, tied with the fast starting NC State.

Coach Paul Hewitt sported a new lineup for the first time this season against Virginia in the opening home conference game. Instead of long-time starters Marvin Lewis and B.J. Elder, Hewitt went with the explosive duo of Will Bynum and Iman Shumpert. Clarence Moore also took Anthony McHenry’s spot in the starting rotation.

According to team captain Lewis, the changes were not just for a new look and to reward the good play of the trio from the bench thus far. “Coach wanted us to set the tone in the first five minutes. Not let the game come to us like we have, but to set the tone. Those guys [Bynum, Muhammad and Moore] add an intensity to the lineup that helps us do that,” Lewis said.

It didn’t really seem to work in the beginning, as Virginia actually took the lead early 15-11 behind some very torrid shooting by the

See Wake, page 23

**Aquajackets race against nationally-ranked FSU**

**By K. Kimberly Rieck  
Sports Editor**

In the past whenever Tech’s swimming and diving teams have faced Florida State, it’s always been a battle to the finish. However, in last Saturday’s competition, FSU’s men’s and women’s swimming and diving teams were out for more than just points and wins as the team re-wrote Georgia Tech Aquatic Center records.

On the women’s side, Tech faced tough competition from the Seminoles’ squad. The Seminole women went into the meet with an undefeated conference record. In the first event, FSU’s ‘A’ team defeated Tech’s ‘A’ and ‘B’ teams while the Seminoles’ ‘B’ team was disqualified.

In the 200-yard butterfly event, sophomore Meghan Devlin cut the 2:17.79 to 2:16.98. In the 200 Yard Breaststroke,tech led with a score of 179 to 136.

Johnathan Keyaron Fox in the game. The Jackets’ men's and women's teams were eliminated after going 3-0 against conference opponents this past week. The Seminole men won by a score of 168 to 179.

For the second consecutive meet, Laura Heiser won the 200 breaststroke. Heiser’s time was 2:31.84. Freshman phenom Vesta Studemus earned a third place mark in the 500-yard freestyle and third place in the 200-yard butterfly.

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On the diving side, Amy Sutton and Laurissa Pryzoga dove well against stiff competition from FSU’s highly-ranked squad, finishing third and fourth respectively.

Florida State’s women’s team proved to be too big of a challenge to overcome as the Seminole women broke five pool records and won 143-86. The Jackets’ women’s team is now 9-3 against FSU.

**By K. Kimberly Rieck  
Sports Editor**

“’They’re diving well. They’re very consistent and being very competitive right now. They’re doing a very good job.’”

Seth Baron  
Head Coach