Kucinich rallies Tech supporters

By Stephen Baehr
Senior Staff Writer

Democratic presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich made an appearance on campus Tuesday night for a political rally in his name. A delayed flight, however, pushed back the feature speaker’s first showing underground 8 p.m., a little over an hour after the rally began. Still, this did not stop the roughly 250 supporters packed into the Old Architecture lecture hall from rising to their feet to give Kucinich a loud welcome, complete with cheers and hoisted posters.

“‘I think it’s great to have a presidential candidate come speak at our school.”

Sheila Mahadevan
IAM senior

There was no lack of activity while the crowd waited, either. The rally played host to an entire program, complete with an emcee and multiple speakers and poets. All gave performances or speeches aimed at promoting Kucinich’s platform and criticizing the Bush administration.

Musical performances by local band a fit-ju well were interspersed among the speeches throughout the evening. “I was glad to see how many people were interested in the speeches,” the emcee said.

See Politics, page 4

VP decision could come soon

By Daniel Amick
News Editor

Institute President Wayne Clough could choose a new vice president of student affairs as early as next week, according to Executive Assistant Gary May.

Two final candidates are under consideration: William Kibler from Texas A&M University, and William Schafer from University of Texas El Paso.

The vice president of student affairs is a cabinet-level administrative position reporting directly to the president. The vice president oversees the Dean of Student Office, Campus Recreation, Career Services, the Counseling Center, the Park Center for the Arts and Student Success programs.

Lee Wilcox retired from the position in December. The search for a replacement began in July. Soon after he announced his decision.

A search committee made up of deans, faculty members, administrators, alumni and student government leaders reviewed a candidate pool of between 60 and 70 people. The committee developed a list of criteria including education, demonstration leadership ability, vision, business acumen and ability to change. The criteria were used to rank the candidates and narrow the field to about half a dozen semifinalists.

Semifinalists interviewed with committee members, who then selected three finalists. One finalist dropped out of the process.

See VPSA, page 7

Bookstore gets new manager

By Fenton Gardner
Contributing Writer

Barnes and Noble at Georgia Tech is under new management after the resignation of former manager Bobby Pearsons.

“Bobby Pearsons was a hard working guy, and he did a great job seeing us into the new store,” said Rosalind Meyers, associate vice president of Auxiliary Services. Pearsons resigned, she said “not because we were dissatisfied with him in any way. As far as Georgia Tech was concerned, he was doing a good job.”

The new manager is Jerry Moloney. He was previously the manager of the Barnes and Noble bookstore at the College of William and Mary, his latest position.

See Bookstore, page 4

‘04 fall break dates changed

The dates for fall break 2004 has changed from Oct. 11-12 to Oct. 18-19, 2004. Homecoming will be Oct. 16. As a result, fall break weekend will coincide with the Friday and Saturday of Homecoming, which includes the Mini 500, the Freshman Cake Race, the Wi-Fi Dance, Mr. and Ms. Georgia Tech announcement, and the football game.

Apps. available for scholarships

Applications are now being accepted for the Georgia Tech Women’s Forum scholarship competition. The awards scholarships range from $500 to $1,000. Undergraduate and graduate women students are eligible. Applications can be found at www.chemistry.gatech.edu/gwf. or in room 1176 in the Ford ES&T Building. Deadline is March 1. Award recipients will be honored at a luncheon March 17.

Auxiliary Services is sponsoring the Impact Scholarships program for students who have had a positive effect on the Tech community. The $3,000 scholarships are awarded to full-time students in good academic standing. The deadline for applications is Feb. 23. For more information, visit www.importantstuff.gatech.edu.

ODK seeks new applicants

Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK), Tech’s premier leadership honor society, is currently seeking new members. Juniors and seniors, defined by hours earned, are encouraged to apply. Membership in ODK is based on campus leadership and exemplary character. For more information, visit www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/odk.

‘Nique wins high marks for excellence

On Saturday, the Technique placed second among Georgia college newspapers for general excellence at the annual Georgia Collegiate Press Association awards in Macon. The ‘Nique was edged out of first place by the Georgia Southern’s ‘George-Anne. The ‘Nique took first place for its news and sports sections.

In individual categories, Scott Meuleners won first place for best sports photos. Jennifer Lee took the top prize for best feature story. Jody Shaw and Ryan Pick won second place for best editorial and best sports story, respectively.
From the files of the GTPD...

LOCATION: Ferst Drive/Cherry Street/Outer Drive.  

LOCATION: Techwood Drive @ North Avenue.  
INCIDENT: Report of a hit and run accident.

LOCATION: 750 Ferst Drive/CRC.  

2/4/2004 14:00 hrs.  
LOCATION: 750 Ferst Drive/CRC.  
INCIDENT: Report of a stolen cellphone and keys.

LOCATION: 749 Fowler Street/Upper Peters.  
Senators add money for concert

By Daniel Amick
News Editor

The Graduate Student Senate approved a conference committee bill that nearly doubled funding for the Sting Break concert.

The original bill passed the Senate at $12,000, a compromise amount $3,000 less than what the Student Center Programs Council had originally requested. The Undergraduate House passed the original bill for $20,000 because organization representatives reported that $5,000 in funding had dried up. The bill then went to conference committee, where the $20,000 number prevailed.

Adam Bernstein, an event organizer, told the Senate that recent polls suggested a $20,000 "first-tier" band could draw 50 percent of the student body. Bernstein said Fuel and Third Eye Blind were examples of first-tier bands. An $12,000 "second-tier" band could draw only around 25 percent. The additional $8,000 "makes or breaks" the first-tier of bands, Bernstein said. After some debate in which a small group of senators expressed concern over the size of the increase, senators passed the allocation by a wide margin.

Graduates also passed four other bills out of conference committee. The bills were for GT Motorsports, Chess Club, the Chinese Student Friendship Association and the Chinese Student Association.

See GSS: Bills Considered page 6

Joint allocation to Georgia Tech Motorsports
Joint allocation to Georgia Tech Chess Club
Joint allocation to CSA
Joint allocation to SC Programs Council
Joint allocation to Men's Lacrosse Club
Joint allocation to Musician's Network
Joint allocation to Tech Band Club
Joint allocation to Chess Club (conference)

By Edward Tamsberg
Staff Writer

We worked hard to earn that title.

House debates merits of BuzzCard readers for organizations

By Daniel Amick
News Editor

"I think we walk a fine line between showing support for these organizations and being seen as bailing them out."

Alan Bakowski
Public Policy representative

The meeting of the Undergraduate House of Representatives had its highs and lows as new representatives and divisive topics made for long discussions Tuesday night.

In what has become something of a rare event in recent months, as soon as the House moved into old business, Ben Lawder, vice president of Campus Affairs, moved that five allocation bills be put together on a "slate" and immediately put up for a vote.

The bills comprising the slate were allocations to GT Motorsports, chess club, Chinese Student Association, Chinese Student Friendship Association and the Student Center Programs Council.

A slate is a motion in which multiple bills can be put together as one "issue" and then passed in a single vote, instead of the other bills. In spite of such odds, the slate passed the House without much opposition.

Representatives also considered a bill for joint allocation to the Tech band club. The bill asked for almost $9,000 to replace door handles and install BuzzCard readers on the Couch building for extra security and ease of entry to band members.

The Couch building is operated by the School of Architecture, which has already refused to provide any support for the BuzzCard readers. However, the club uses the Couch building to store instruments and for individual or group practice at all hours of the day.

Without BuzzCard readers, the club is faced with the situation of having only daytime access to the building with little security or paying large sums of money to have state-issued keys made for each member.

Many members of the House expressed the view that it was the College of Architecture's responsibility to pay for the improvements.

Others said they felt that while...
**Politics**

Tech students were here,” said Tim Atkins, Georgia coordinator for Kucinich’s campaign. “We were originally expecting more community people than Tech people, but it was just the opposite.”

While many came to shout their support for Kucinich, others came just to learn more about the candidates or even just to be at a political rally in a presidential election year.

These issues affect you,” fourth-year Electrical Engineering major Randall McElroy said. He said that federal government spending is increasing too rapidly and that “the money that is spent is coming from you.”

Students, he said, need to be interested in having a voice in how the government uses its money to direct our lives.

Kucinich spoke of working to get rid of the world’s nuclear weapons and making the United States more of a participant in the international community, which would include signing of Kyoto Accords.

He also focused on his view that U.S. troops need to be pulled out of Iraq immediately, leaving the U.N. to oversee the establishment of a government and the distribution of oil proceeds to Iraq.

“We need to move forward into the world courageously in a way that…works with the world to bring peace,” he said.

Such ideas attracted second-year Electrical Engineering major Manu Raghavan to the rally. “A friend of mine read that he won the Gandhi Peace Award,” he said. “I’m a big follower of Gandhi, and I’m impressed by Kucinich.”

Other students were simply glad to see some political activity on campus.

“I think it’s great to have a presidential candidate come speak at our school,” said Sheila Mahadevan, a fourth-year International Affairs-Modern Languages major. She said she’s glad for the political involvement these events promote on campus.

Another such event took place the night before the rally when a second political figure visited Tech. Former U.S. Congressman Bob Barr appeared at Monday’s meeting during his 30-year tenure working with the company. “I think that Mr. Maloney is going to do an outstanding job for us,” Meyers said, who was one of three people who interviewed Maloney for the position. “He knows the business inside and out. He has long experience in the college bookstore area.”

His first order of business will be getting things in order to receive a complete booklist for fall semester textbooks.

“Students can then reap the benefits of that, because if they get re-adoptions for textbooks they are using now, when it comes time for buy-back, we can pay them half price for those books,” Maloney said.

“It lessens the overall book bill that students have to pay. Also, it provides used books for students for the next semester. Our goal is to provide as many used books as possible for the student body.”

Meyers agreed with Maloney’s approach. “Providing students with the textbooks they need, on the shelves, on time, is our number one mission. [Maloney] and I are going to be working very closely on that to do everything we can to improve service to our students.”

Taking over a bookstore like Tech’s is not without its complications. “When you move from a smaller environment on campus to a larger store outside of campus, it does present some operational issues,” Maloney said. “I’ll be looking into those and seeing how we can improve whatever services I can to the school.”

Meyers said this year’s sales at the new location are ahead of last year’s at the old site. Both the Christmas season shopping and Custom er Appreciation Week were the best ever, she said.

“Starbucks is way beyond what we had budgeted,” Meyers said. “We budgeted Starbucks to sell about $250,000 per year and we probably will sell at least $400,000 or maybe half a million.”

Still, Maloney said, “I want to try to make [business] a lot better, a lot more appealing for folks to shop here.” Maloney added, “That all starts with communication, letting [the students] know what we have to offer.”

A husband and father of two, Maloney still commutes from Virginia and stays throughout the week in Atlanta.
With the completion of Technology Square and other new facilities, will improving student life or other student-focused issues be a larger focus?

Maintaining the quality of student life remains an ongoing goal at Tech, and there are many signs that we are making progress in that area....

A few of the most recent developments include extension of Ramblin’ Nights, the new Student Center Commons (and) Student Health Center, renovation of Couch...opening the campus “green,” enhanced student organization access to Ferst Center, the new CRC....

...the Woodruff Dining Hall renovation, Tech night at Six Flags, GT vs. BYU on the Bobby Dodd Stadium/Turner jumbotron and enhancement of student leadership program opportunities.

In addition, we have established a new $100,000 per year Student Life Fund. ...I am committed to supporting this initiative for the foreseeable future.

We recognize that there is always room for improvement, and Tech will continue to strive to provide the best educational, cultural and social environment we possibly can. Along with alumni of my generation, I can assure you that Tech is more hospitable and accommodating than when we were here.

Along with alumni of my generation, I can assure you that Tech is more hospitable and accommodating than when we were here.

Wayne Clough
Institute President
Professor Z.L. Wang, director of Georgia Tech’s Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, speaks at Wednesday’s panel discussion on research. Wang is ranked fifth in the world by the Institute of Scientific Information for the number of nanotechnology research papers he has published to date.

Sharing the little things in life

By Scott Meuleners / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

UHR from page 3 that was true, it would be wrong to penalize the band club for it and that the House, to some extent, had a responsibility to help the club in its need.

In the end, the bill narrowly passed the House by a vote of 22-21. However, the bill had been voted down nearly unanimously by the Graduate Senate, and due to the enactment ratio required ninety percent of UHR’s vote to pass both bodies, it ultimately failed.

Another bill of the night that shared similar origins was a bill for allocation to the Musician’s Network for an emergency exit sign and a BuzzCard reader at Under the Couch.

UHR was then, for the second time of the night, faced with the same issues concerning who was actually responsible for payment, and why they should have to foot the bill. However, this bill had a different fate than the previous one, and was passed by the House with little debate or struggle.

“We do believe that the Institute should fund [programs] when they can, so that kind of colors our decisions.”

Alan Bakowski
Public Policy representative

Tough issues were rampant throughout the night and representatives were also faced with moral dilemmas when the Tech men’s lacrosse club presented a retroactive bill to fund the lining of CRC fields for practice and competition purposes.

The House had seen a similar bill the previous semester for the Tech women’s lacrosse club. The organizational representatives had, at the time, made it clear that if the bill was passed then the men’s team would present their own bill later and that it would be retroactive because the fields would be lined at the same time for both clubs.

The Joint Finance Committee, a committee that reviews every bill presented for legitimacy, monetary and other matters, had recommended that the House fail the bill because it was retroactive in nature, and some representatives felt the same way.

There was also debate over whether or not the bill could be a joint bill for both the Graduate Senate and Undergraduate House. There are no graduate students in the club, nor have there ever been, but one could be a member. In the end, the majority stuck to their earlier commitment and passed the bill.
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.

**Baghdad bombings target would-be Iraqi soldiers**

Two different bombings attacked Iraqi men wanting to join the new Iraqi army both Tuesday and Wednesday. The first, a truck bomb targeting Iraqi applicants near a police station south of Baghdad, killed 55 people Tuesday. Wednesday’s attack featured a suicide car bomber killing 47 Iraqis waiting in line in front of the Iraqi Army Recruiting Center in central Baghdad.

Shortly after the second attack, the U.S. military began offering rewards for information leading to the capture of insurgents and their weaponry.

**French bill bans religious attire in classrooms**

French lawmakers Tuesday voted overwhelmingly 494-36 to ban religious attire in schools, including traditional Islamic scarves, Jewish skullcaps and large Christian crosses. The bill says that “in schools, junior high schools and high schools, signs and dress that conspicuously show the religious affiliation of students are forbid-
den.”

The bill goes to the Senate next month, where little opposition is expected. If passed, the ban is likely to take effect in September.

**Israeli crackdown leaves 15 Palestinians dead**

The bloodiest fighting in the Gaza Strip in 16 months resulted in the deaths of 15 Palestinians, while over 50 others were wounded. The fight came during an Israeli crackdown on Palestinian militants in the area. Miltiant Islamic group Hamas vowed retaliation, calling upon its cells throughout Gaza and the West Bank to attack. Such calls are usually closely followed by suicide bombings in Israel.

**Democratic presidential race leaves Clark behind**

Retired Army Gen. Wesley Clark announced Wednesday his departure from the Democratic presidential race. The decision came after Clark suffered two third-place finishes in the Tennessee and Virginia primaries.

He also earned a master’s degree in counselor education and a bachelor of arts in economics, both from the University of Florida.

Kibler has specialized in areas of academic integrity, student rights and responsibilities, and student judicial affairs. In 1997, Kibler earned a Fulbright scholarship to participate in the United States-Germany International Education Administrators Program.

Schafer serves as associate vice president and dean of students at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He earned a master’s degree in guidance and counseling and a bachelor of science in chemical engineering, both from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

As dean of students at the University of Denver, Schafer helped design a new freshman seminar program, designed a turnaround strategy for a failing department and obtained a grant to help establish a leadership program.