OUR VIEWS: Consensus Opinion

Safety walk

As everyone has probably realized by this point, campus safety is a major concern this semester. This week, new Police Chief Teresa Crocker and President Wayne Coughlin took a walk around campus with students and other administrators to locate areas that were specific safety concerns.

This event may strike many as a publicity stunt; however, the Institute has actually allocated resources to fix the problems that were found. Over 15 new security phones have already been ordered, additional lighting is planned for dangerous areas, and cameras are going to be added to some of the campus parking decks.

These improvements will hopefully improve students’ sense of safety on campus. The expenditures for these resources show that the administration is serious about addressing campus security issues to the best of its ability.

Additionally, the walk was significant because it showcased Tech’s new police chief, demonstrating her commitment to being proactive about protecting the campus and its students. Coughlin’s participation also sends a good message to students that their safety and security is one of the Institute’s highest priorities. Ideally, events such as this that allow students and administrators to collaborate on campus safety will become the norm when dealing with this vitally important campus issue.

SGA elections

The results of the SGA runoff presidential election were surprisingly close. Because only ten votes separated the candidates, it seems that the student body is divided over the vision that SGA should follow in the upcoming year. President-elect Nate Watxson should take this division into account and be sure to include diverse visions and viewpoints in his administration.

The closeness of the election also underlines the point that every person’s vote really does count. The efforts of all the candidates for undergraduate executive positions to inform the campus about the elections resulted in high participation levels that are the envy of many other colleges and universities.

This year’s high voter turnout should also serve as encouragement to next year’s SGA representatives and officers to do their best to serve the needs of the student body and to help students connect to what SGA does. SGA should not waste this opportunity to turn the interest in the election issues to interest in the work of the Student Government.

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

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OPINIONS

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Job opportunities abound for grads

The search is on, investigating every possible lead, occasionally seeing glimpses of hope, inevitably seeing them fizzle away. They press on through the barren landscape looking for that one piece of gold.

No, this is not a story about a group of Tech students trying to survive without a high-speed Internet connection. This is a story about soon-to-be Tech alumni searching for jobs and Tech students searching for internships.

Unfortunately, there's not a lot of positive things to say for students in the job search phase of their college careers. Most of my friends will be doing engineering jobs, but not exactly the engineering jobs they'd expected. None of my friends is currently conducting an extensive feasibility study on being a food sales manager for local restaurants (she's a waitress). Another friend of mine is conducting studies on the durability of a wide range of vehicles and their ability to negotiate through confusing boundaries (they're a valet). Yet another is performing a frontline engineering position at a local landscape construction company (he's working as a laborer).

I've been poring over ways that Career Services and corporations can partner together to reach out to students, and I believe I've come up with a solution. Students at Tech don't like dealing with hundreds of job bags unless it involves setting up a local area network to play eight straight hours of Halo, so I'm not simply looking for standard summer jobs. However, I have looked outside the normal engineering boundaries.

Atlanta Braves General Manager Development Program

The General Manager Development Program prepares young leaders to direct the front office of the Atlanta Braves. The program involves rotations throughout several parts of the Braves organization, including the minor leagues, the amateur draft, free agent negotiations and salary arbitration. Program participants will rotate through assignments during their first two years and then focus on a specific need in the organization. They will be a lot of travel, and they will often need to attend baseball night games. Knowledge of the Microsoft, Office Suite and Baseball Weekly is a must.

Future Rappers of America Leadership Program (sponsored by Tha Rock)

Tha Rock is looking for the next Suge Knight, Tupac Shakur or Snoop Dogg. This program will prepare aspiring young rap artists for a future in the entertainment and music industry. Tha Rock is currently looking for bright, young and engaging entry-level professionals to join the ins and outs of the industry. Upon completion of the 18-month program, candidates will join a major artist on tour across America. Tha Rock is particularly looking for skinny, pasty, engineering students to lead Deth Row into uncharted markets.

Video Game Imagination Program (Electronic Arts)

Looking for the chance to leave your mark on the high-stakes video game industry? Now's your chance at Electronic Arts. The Imagination Program is an extensive two-year program that develops game players into leaders of the industry. Program participants will be required to play long hours of new video games, eat Cheetos, drink Red Bull and provide feedback on a large selection of games. Program participants must have a strong working knowledge of the PlayStation 2 and Xbox gaming systems.

First result of the Jake's Ice Cream Screening Lab Leadership Program

The First result of the Jake's Ice Cream Screening Lab Leadership Program is a strong knowledge of deciding whether a high-speed Internet connection should be offered at Jake's shops nationwide. Jake's is looking for chemical engineering students to conduct taste tests on new and old flavors of ice cream and other frozen desserts at our Atlanta laboratory. Candidates must not have frequent cold headaches to accept.

Hytte Resorts Scouting Program

Ever wanted to travel the globe in search of the perfect vacation destination? Then your future resides with Hytte Resorts. In the Hytte Resorts Scouting Program, you will travel to the remote areas of the globe to conduct studies on expanding Hytte and Hytte Resorts. Program participants will spend three months on location to judge the vacation potential of the immediate area.

Participants must have in-depth simulation experience, as they will be asked to live the life of a Hytte client and determine if Hytte should build a resort at the chosen location. This position requires strong analytical skills and SPF 45.

Serving Georgia Tech Since 1911
Never forget to have fun while in college

As this is my final Technique editorial, or my “Swan Song” as we here at the fine publication like to call it, I intend to use this space for two purposes. One is to enlighten those of you who are still trucking away at getting out of college, and the second is to remind my fellow Tech students that college truly can be all fun and games, but only if you let it.

Georgia Tech has been called the MIT of the South, with good reason, of course. While you might like to think otherwise, there is a need to solve heat transfer equations to identifying random nuclear compositions. The following editorial does not even the slightest allusion to any of that academic nonsense.

College (or so they tell me) is a time for academic, physical, emotional and social development. At least that is what is described in the college handbooks, guides to college life, and my personal notebook. Illuminations on College Life by Aaron Karo. The ensuing and slightly schizophrenic rant I have learned from my college experience and my advice to those who take the experience all too seriously.

From the academic standpoint, I have decided that your major during college may set you up being no more than good party conversation. Not to discredit any majors at Tech, but who honestly intends to use the spreadsheets for the rest of their life? (If it happens to be you, stop reading and go ahead and turn the page.)

In addition to the suggestions in the academic arena, some of my educated college-life advice concerns the living conditions one might face in the duration of college. If you live in a house or a large apartment during your college career, (i.e. fraternity, sorority, or with a group of friends), I would advise you to never post a note on your door asking for people to be quiet or not to bother you while you are studying.

Doing so usually brings about the exact opposite of the intended results, and you will end up going to Waffle House at 3 a.m. to cure the “study munchies,” even when everyone knows you are going to stay all day for credit. Speaking of living conditions, freshman living quarters may seem like crack-jacker boxes, but you might actually miss the camaraderie when you move into an apartment by yourself or off campus. (Or not.) I just remember that all I takes is one batch of cookies from your mom, and everybody on the hall is suddenly your best friend. So enjoy it while you are there and remember, we’re all in it together.

From the social standpoint, I highly enjoy joining a fraternity or sorority. It is a great way to make friends, meet new people, and find resources in friends you would never even think you might meet during college.

I do have to add that even though going Greek is supposed to make you a social beacon in the dark world of Tech’s social life, some of my favorite people on this campus are non-Greeks who have figured out that a social life is a definite stress reliever during its boot camp of Georgia Tech. That being said, I need to remind you that people who were once regarded as the geeks and nerds in high school are now all right. Some even might turn out to be your best friends. O’Kay, I admit it, I was a geek once.

The second point about social life is that you should go ahead and face it—email will become your second language throughout college. Every thing you need to know can be sent and received in an email. Eventually, some guy will ask you out over email (note the guy’s Please, just don’t do it) and eventually some girl will shoot you down via email (note to the girls: Let ‘em down easy, ladies.)

Also, Tech does have the innate tendency to stress students out. So I feel I should remind you that squirt guns are the epitome of stress relievers, as are silly putty, bubble wrap and shaving cream (when applied to re- creant person, placer thing.) Also, of course, naps are a notable way to shut out everything.

Heeepfully, this commentary might let those of you who are still in the college experience know for the long ponder just what you are supposed to procure from university adventure. I am not saying that you should consider Tech as a college as a joke, because it definitely isn’t, but for you hard-core academics out there, there is more to life than tomorrow’s CTS test.

Mary Alexander
PU B Grd

“D M Smith, it’s the only building I’m ever in.”

Kyle Mahan
CS Sophomore

“I’d be nice to have it in the dorsms.”

Todd Hudgens
CS Freshman

“More access points would be nice, but at this point LAW is everywhere I need it.”

Photos by Andrew Saulnier

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Photos by Andrew Saulnier
Crime on campus not taken seriously by administration

By Emily Wong
Columinate, M Usang Daily

(U-WIRE) California Poly State U. - Journals are personal diaries, sometimes veiled under lock and key. Journalism is comprised of accounts prepared for public viewing. These appear to be the two extremes of written accounts, but the reality of personal and public information interchange is increasing with weblogs, online journals available for public viewing.

Journals are now compromising the integrity of the field by creating weblogs specific to their experiences on the front lines of the war in Iraq. This is the latest controversy in the journalism field. They are called warblogs, a recent spin-off of the popular weblogs, more commonly dubbed blogs. Blogs can be found on subjects ranging from medical breakthroughs to accounts of John Doe’s love life.

Considering blogs as a media form is controversial because they don’t have to be true and can be based on personal preferences and biases. Blogs are uncensored, freedom for everyone, which may seem like the ideal new media form. However, blogs lack the research and consistency of good journalism.

This adds an extra layer of confusion to a public already inundated with web sites, TV shows, newspapers and magazines. Blogs blur the line between professionalism and personal recreation, making the two appear interchangeable.

As journalists searched for an outlet to document their war experience, they found refuge in the Internet. Warblogs gained popularity as citizens searched cyberspace for information to suppress curious anxiety from an uncertain war.

The problem is the ease with which people can associate these journalists use a personal venue for expression to the media corporations with which they are affiliated.

"Blogs don’t have to be true and can be based on personal preferences and biases."