Black Greek groups gain momentum

By Carmen Jackson
Campus Life Staff Newbie

What makes Black Greek Letter Organizations (BGLO) unique from other Greek organizations on campus? Two reasons: their membership and their history.

The formation of the BGLO was a rallying bond to the inequality of college life in the United States, when black students were not welcomed into the standing Greek community.

Another key difference between BGLO and other Greek organizations is the amount and selection of members. Each group has their own membership intake, which is selected by the national organization. Some of the requirements consist of an application, resume, and letter of intent. Leadership in both academics and the community must be demonstrated.

There are seven Black Greek Letter Organizations represented on the Georgia Tech campus. They are Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

The selection process is strict,” said Tiffany Maussey of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. “There aren’t many of us walking around, so it is very important that each and every member is the ‘cream of the crop.’

Many of the BGLO members hold offices in various campus organizations and are very involved with campus life and these same black Greeks on campus organize and host multiple activities throughout the school year.

Despite the activity of their members, many leaders of these organizations feel the main problem with the unfamiliarity with these organizations is a result of the lack of respect from the Georgia Tech community.

“There is a lack of respect because of the lack of knowledge,” said Maussey.

Throughout campus, many students notice the vast numbers of members in each Greek organization.

However, many are unaware of the publicity or rankings that Black Greek Letter Organizations receive on campus. Part of the reason for the lack of publicity is the lack of BGLO houses in Greekrow. Space to store valuable records from graduated members is not available to BGLOs.

Commenting on the lack of recognition, Michael Gyamfi of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. said, “These actions hinder a lot of the groups who put on twice as many events as the other Greek groups but with fewer members. There are even some BGLO groups who have won chapter of the year in their respective region yet that is not publicized among the Georgia Tech community.”

DeQuay Allen, a representative from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. said, “Whenever committees are formed to make rules of the game with the unfamiliarity with these organizations and was allowed to participate in the creation of the rules of the game.”

Members of Black Greek Letter Organizations on campus participate in a variety of social and leadership activities, but are still seeking respect from the community.

SGA Elections

By Andrew Santelli
Wants to work for The Mouse

As it is now time to elect new leadership for the Student Government Association to serve next year, it is important for all students to know the election regulations. This way they can make a more informed decision and be aware of what to do if one encounters an infraction.

The SGA has many rules and regulations for SGA elections, aimed at ensuring fairness and a level playing field.

These rules range in scope from campaign financing to rules on electronic campaigning, to even the distance away from voting locations where campaigning can occur (which, by the way, is fifty feet).

In terms of campaigning, the rules are very clear on what is and what is not campaigning, and where campaigning can occur.

Campaigning is defined generally as the distribution of information about a particular candidate and his/her position. Some of the most pertinent rules have to do with distribution of material in living areas, which state that posters may not be displayed against the will of room residents.

Candidates may not campaign door-to-door without approval of the living area’s governmental coordinator or Department of Housing or another organization). Residents do have the option of displaying a sign on their door which reads “No Campaigning.”

The “Technique and SGA offices are no campaign zones.”

Guidelines for this year’s SGA campaign level the playing field

By Matt Nugent
Campus Life Staff

“How many sidewalk pedestrians know that walking down a slope can burn your legs more than walking up it? I look at the rest of my crew, we have come to depend on each other to get us through this. Tom has the cooking gear, Kate the community carp. We had 20 pounds of extra water on his back in addition to his normal pack weight because there is no stream at our destination camp tonight. These are not my classmates anymore,” one outdoor recreation Georgia Tech (ORGT) hiker described a recent trip.

ORGT claims that you can have better gear makes for an easier experience however can take the qualification course and forego the learning courses if they feel they are capable.

Both men and women are encouraged to join up. Currently there is about a 1:5 ratio of men to women on any given trip so women who are interested don’t have to worry about being the only female on a trip.

Beyond the beginner courses and the qualification trip, a hiker is ready to take on any trek the group takes.

The regular trips tend to be smaller, mostly under 10 people, but this is desirable from an environmental standpoint.

See ORGT. page 14

Ice in the deep south

Jamie and Shawn shine as some of the stars of this year’s Club Ice Hockey team.

By Robert Hill
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
In their steps to gain respect on campus, the Black Greek Letter Organizations of Georgia Tech are in the process of unifying with the National Panhellenic Council as of this year.

"Georgia Tech is taking steps in the right direction to create a conducive environment for all Greeks to thrive, and once this is done respect will be a reciprocal quality that all Greeks on campus can share," said Damian Taylor of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. "With the unification of the BGLO under the NPHC umbrella and the eventual formation of the Greek governing body, all Greek voices on campus will be heard and will be able to work together on an equal playing field."

In efforts to bring cohesiveness among the distinct Greek communities on campus, the Georgia Tech chapter of Lambda Chi has invited Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. to join them in a mixer.

"This is exciting because this event will act as a stepping stone to improving relations between BGLO and other Greeks on campus," said Massey.

From the borrowed traditions of ancient Egyptian culture and the roots of stepping derived from an African ritual of expression, BGLO is working strenuously to solve the unrevealed mysteries of their organizations.

This spring is filled with events that each BGLO is sponsoring to promote their respective groups and to fellowship with the Georgia Tech community, many of which are open to anyone interested.

To learn more about Black Greek life, visit organizations Web sites by starting at http://www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/bso.

A fewer number of campers leave less of an impact on the land. Most hikes take place within a two-hour drive of Atlanta.

Some common destinations are the Cohuttas, the Chattooga trail, and the Appalachian Trail. But when longer breaks come around, trips have been scheduled for places like Arizona, Idaho, Colorado, and the Great Smokey Mountains in North Carolina.

In fact a trip back to Arizona has been scheduled for the break between this semester and the upcoming summer semester.

"It's a good place to meet people to hang out with," says John Hoyt, a trip leader with the backpacking group. "It's a great community for people into outdoor sports." Joel Ledenham points out more of the relaxation aspects of hiking through the woods, "To move quietly among the trees, deep in the forest in imitation of the ways of Nature…this is the beauty of the sport," he says. "There are few things as calming as the crunch of the trail under your boot and the whisper of the breeze through the trees overhead."

Thomas Sokol and Jason Beebe both commented on the adventure aspects of sustaining yourself in the woods. Both recalled several trips where things had gone seriously wrong such as the crew getting lost, lack of food and supplies, threatening weather and then they remarked on the satisfying sense of accomplishment at overcoming these situations.

Beebe said, "The most amazing part was that we never stopped enjoying ourselves. Nobody was complaining or moaning, everyone was awesome."

To learn more about backpacking with ORGT, visit their Web site at http://www.orgt.gatech.edu. There are meetings every Monday at 6 p.m. in the ORGT building.

Elections by any student on campus, but are most likely submitted by candidates or campaign staff members, as their degree of familiarity with election codes is much higher than that of an average student, and "they can spot an infraction more easily," according to Michael DeNicola, who is the current chair of the Elections Committee.

To submit an infraction one must fill out an "Election Code Violation Affidavit," which is available through the SGA office in the Student Services building, or online in the candidates’ application packet, found at http://sga.gatech.edu. This packet is also the source for Tech students to access the text of the elections code, so they can more accurately note violations.

Although these long rules may seem unnecessary to some, the rules are of utmost importance so a fair election may be held.
Faces at Georgia Tech

- Profile on Jamie Ledyard & Shawn Montague -

By Julia Trapold

Like sexy hockey players

If you have never attended a Georgia Tech Ice Hockey game, you are missing out on a lot of excitement. Too bad you will have to wait until next year to catch another game.

The GT Club Ice Hockey team wrapped up their 2000-2001 season on March 3 by placing third in the National Division III Hockey Tournament. They ended their season with a record of 26-6-0, placing them first in the nation after the regular season, a repeat of their performance last year.

Two of Tech’s key players, defensemen Jamie Ledyard and forward Shawn Montague, were named to the first team all-tournament. Only six players from the eight teams in the tournament were chosen to comprise this all-star team.

“After the national tournament, the coaches vote on the best players of the tournament,” Jamie said. “There is a first team all-tournament and a second team all-tournament.”

“It basically means that they pick the three best forwards, the best two defensemen, and the best goalie in the tournament out of all eight teams that were invited,” said Shawn.

Teams came from all over the country to Atlanta to participate in the national tournament at the beginning of March. They included Georgetown, University of Florida, South Dakota State, South Florida, Indiana (PA), Butler University, and the champions, Wyoming. Before their appearance in the nationals, Tech placed second in the College Hockey South playoffs, after losing 3-2 in overtime to South Florida.

“We lost to Wyoming 5-3 in the semifinals of the national tournament,” said Shawn, “but we did avenge our loss to South Florida by beating them 1-0 in the consolation game for third place.”

This is the second time Shawn has made the first team all-tournament, and the first time Jamie has received the honor.

Both Jamie and Shawn also made the College Hockey South All-Star team this year, which is the all-star team for their league.

“I knocked a Georgia player through the wall and out of the rink during one game.”

Jamie Ledyard

Hockey Club Team Member

Jamie has had 16 goals and eight assists, which totals 64 points.

“Whoa!”

Jamie has made the first team all-tournament both of his three years.

“I started playing hockey around four years old and played all through middle school on both the school team and a travel team,” he said. “Then I played at Kent, a boarding school in Connecticut. My whole family played hockey, so I was pretty much raised with it.”

Shawn is a third year Industrial Engineering major from Bowie, Maryland. Like Jamie, Shawn played hockey throughout his childhood and at boarding school.

“I went away to boarding school in Rhode Island when I was 14 to try and get some exposure at a top-ranked high school and to get a better education,” said Shawn, who attended Portsmouth Abbey Prep School. “I received a scholarship from the College of Holy Cross, which is a Division I school, but its engineering program was not nearly as prestigious as Georgia Tech’s. I decided to take the safe route and go to a school where I could succeed academically as well continue to play a sport I love at a very competitive level.”

Shawn has led the team in goals, assists, and total points all three years he has played. This year he made 30 goals and 34 assists, which totals 64 points.

He has been the captain since his second season, and he was also named team MVP his first two years on the team. This year’s MVP will be announced at the awards banquet in several weeks.

Back up Shawn on defense, Jamie also has had his fair share of success on the ice. This season he had 16 goals and eight assists, which is exceptional as a defenseman. He towers over the other players at 6 foot 5 inches, so it is easy to understand how he brings down the opposing players.

“I knocked a Georgia player through the wall and out of the rink during one game,” Jamie said. He also scored on the University of Florida goalie with a slap shot from behind the far blue line, which is on the opposite side of the ice.

Ice hockey at Tech is a currently a club sport, although some hope it will turn into a varsity sport. “I think that it could turn into a varsity sport, but not while I am at Tech,” said Jamie. “I am happy with it as a club sport, but it would be nice to get more recognition on campus.”

Shawn agrees. “I definitely see it happening within the next five to ten years,” he said. “We are receiving much more publicity than we have in the past, and the fan turnout has increased dramatically.”

Jamie has high hopes for his remaining years on the team. “Our team should really be good next year because we only lost one key player this year, and we are supposed to have some new players coming in,” he said. “I hope to win the national tournament before I graduate.”

Jamie and Shawn have played hockey since their childhood, and are two of the stars that contributed to the success of the GT Hockey Team.

For more information (and to see a video of Jamie knocking a Georgia player through the wall), visit http://www.gthockey.com.
I'm definitely not going to Winter Buzz. It sucks, dressing up sucks, lack of boys in my life sucks...

**Question of the week**

“Who would be the best Student Body President?”

Eddie Murphy  
ChE Senior  
“We have a Student Body President?”

Lee Cure  
ME Senior  
“Chip and Dale Rescue Rangers.”

Jessica Kirk  
ISyE Sophomore  
“George P. Burdell.”

Megan Kirk  
ISyE Sophomore  
“Buzz.”

**Eddie Murphy**  
ChE Senior

**Lee Cure**  
ME Senior

**Jessica Kirk**  
ISyE Sophomore

**Megan Kirk**  
ISyE Sophomore

Feature and photos by Andrew Santelli, Sarah Graybeal, and Jen Hinkel

La da da da da. I’m definitely not going to Winter Buzz. It sucks, dressing up sucks, lack of boys in my life sucks...
**Campus briefs**

**Georgia Tech Honors Scholar applications available**

Applications to be a 2001 Georgia Tech Honors Scholar are now available. Eligibility for this award includes being a full time student with at least a 3.2 cumulative GPA. All recognized students will receive guaranteed priority selection for on campus housing and priority class registration. For more information, email Billiee Pendleton-Parker at billiee.pendletonparker@oars.gatech.edu. Please visit [http://www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/sga](http://www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/sga) to download the application. This application is due to the office of the Student Government Association, located on the first floor of the Student Services Building, on Monday, March 19, 2001 by 5 p.m.

**Student Government application deadline extended**

The application deadline for Student Government Associations elections has been extended to March 19, 2001. Applications are available at [http://sga.gatech.edu](http://sga.gatech.edu) or in the SGA office, Suite 131 of the Student Services Building. Every candidate must attend one of the two mandatory information sessions, which will be held on March 19 and 20 (time TBA). If you have any questions, e-mail Georgia Braxton at gw3@prism.gatech.edu or stop by the SGA office.

**Annual Greek Chic Fashion Show coming to Ferst**

The twentieth annual Greek Chic Fashion Show will be held on Monday, March 19, at 8 p.m. in the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts. The event is sponsored by Georgia Tech Panhellenic and benefits the American Cancer Society. Actor/Comedian Rob Cleveland will host the event. The show includes six fashion scenes, ranging from swim wear to formal wear, and features members of the campus fraternities and sororities. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased at the door or in advance from sorority members.

**Sailing club teaches introductory sailing course**

The sailing club is teaching an introductory course which will cover parts of the boat, how to rig and sail a boat, right-of-way rules, and more. The cost is $45 for students and $65 for faculty and alumni and includes a one semester membership in the GT Sailing Club. E-mail Philip Timm at gte955k@prism.gatech.edu for more information.