The West Side Diner may offer new services in a new atmosphere.

CAMPUS LIFE page 7

Was *Pearl Harbor* the bomb? Read the review of the summer's biggest film thus far.

ENTERTAINMENT page 9

'T'-thieves could face expulsion

By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

By Marques McMillan / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Last Monday students stole a 'T' from the north side of Tech Tower (left). This Tuesday morning Facilities workers climbed atop the tower to replace the 'T' and repair damages (above). Though the 'T' was recovered, a new one can cost near $2,700.

By Nasir Barday
Senior News Staff

Some traditions die hard. Last Monday, at least three students attempted to steal the 'T' facing Tenth Street from the north side of Tech Tower. Apparently, the students tripped an alarm in attempting to remove the 'T,' which notified the Georgia Tech Police Department and forced the students to abandon their quest.

"The officers responded to the alarm and found one person," said Jack Vickery, Chief of Georgia Tech Police. According to the incident report filed, that person was rising sophomore Kelly Davis, a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

"Following up, there appear to be at least two other people involved," said Vickery, referring to Beta Theta Pi members James Henderson and David Moeller. The two appeared later at the police station and, according to the filed incident report, "stated they were accomplices in attempting to steal the 'T' off of the Tech Tower."

According to the report, the officers who responded to the incident also "impounded Mr. Henderson's vehicle, which was running and parked, at the corner of Cherry Street and Ferst Drive."

"Based on what we know at this time, they were probably going to use the car to take the 'T' wherever they were going to take it. But I suspect that when the alarm activated, they abandoned the effort," said Vickery.

The students actually removed the 'T' from its mount atop the tower, but were unable to lower it to the ground and transport it before the authorities arrived. This attempt is the first in several years that has actually resulted in the apprehension of the 'T'-nappers. In 1997, a group of individuals removed the 'T' and transported it off-campus and were caught, but since that date GTPD had no suspects in 'T'-nappings until this incident.

In fall of 1999, President Clough submitted a letter to the Tech community in the *Technique*. In it he stated, "I am notifying the campus commu-

Hightower plans draw local heat

By Tyrus Gailey
News Staff

The demolition of the Hightower Textile Engineering building is awaiting final approval from Governor Roy Barnes. Though rejection from the Governor is unlikely, the Atlanta Preservation Society has placed its support behind Senior Georgia Tech Architecture Professor Robert Craig in his opposition to the plan. The APC recently included Hightower on its 2001 list of Atlanta's most endangered historic buildings.

"The purpose of this list is to call attention to buildings that are valuable to the city—both aesthetically and historically, and to showcase that these are valuable things that may be lost," said APC Executive Director Boyd Coons.

"We would like to work towards coming up with solutions for these buildings so that they can be adapted in ways that would be contributory to the present and to the future."

According to Coons, the "type of threat" against the building and its significance were the two considerations for selection.

"It's an example of an institution riding rough-shoed over history and preservation. This is a modernist building—It's a cutting edge artistic statement. Those buildings are the material evidence of that way of thinking and living—that way of building a city," said Coons.

Paris Prize winner Paul Heffernan designed Hightower, which was constructed in 1949. In January, the school held a public hearing regarding Hightower. Professor Robert Craig spoke and emphasized the importance of Heffernan's legacy to Atlanta's architectural makeup.

"Heffernan curtailed his practice and devoted himself almost exclusively to teaching, serving as director of the architecture school from '56 to '76. Georgia Tech architecture students of the period would graduate from this school and build modern Atlanta," said Craig in his testimony.

The Hightower lot will become the site of the Undergraduate Learning Center and campus green space.

"The Master Plan is what's driving this. One of their major goals, as far as this particular property is concerned, is the expansion of campus open space and enhance-

Chancellor Portch tenures resignation

By Jody Shaw
News Editor

Any Tech student who suffered through the confusion of semester conversion was impacted by Chancellor Stephen Portch. In early May, this man, who led the University System of Georgia (USG) through semester conversion and a number of other new initiatives, stepped down from his position as Chancellor.

"History will judge Chancellor Portch very well. He made major changes that are going to substantially improve the quality of education in Georgia," President G. Wayne Clough said.

"Twenty or thirty years from now the payoff will still be coming from those decisions, and you have to give Chancellor Portch credit for those kind of directions and initiatives."

Portch has served as Chancellor since 1994 when he was recruited by then Governor Zell Miller. When he came on board, Portch pledged himself to at-most a seven year term, and lived up to that promise.

"This month is the month for commencements," Portch said in his farewell. "It's time for me to graduate, finally."

Portch's resignation goes in effect as soon as the Board of Regents hires someone to fill his position. They are in the midst of conducting a national search for a chief administrator. Many feel that Portch will be a difficult Chancellor to replace. During his seven year tenure, Portch was an activist Chancellor who instituted a variety of reforms.

"I don't know that enough people realize all that Stephen Portch has done for Georgia as Chancellor. Our colleges and universities have grown in size, stature, and reputation—drawing students from throughout the state and nation," Governor Roy Barnes said.

Portch increased the salaries of professors and administrators

Chameau begins reign as provost today

By Daniel Uhlig / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

President Clough selected Jean Lou Chameau, former Dean of Engineering, as the new Provost.

By Mary DeCamp
Senior News Staff

Starting today Georgia Tech has a new Provost.

Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, former Dean of the College of Engineering was selected over one month ago to take charge of this position, which oversees all academic affairs at the Institute.

"While my career has carried me around the world, my dedication to Georgia Tech has been a constant," said Chameau.

"I'm honored to succeed Mike Thomas and relish the opportu-nity to help lead this university into a new century…. This university has so much potential for national and international leadership, and I look forward to helping to shape that potential in years to come."

President G. Wayne Clough selected Chameau over three other finalists that the search committee recommended. The other candidates included: Elisabeth Pate-Cornell, a chaired professor at Stanford University's department of Management Science and Engineering; Duncan Moore, former Associate Director for Technology in the White House Office of Technology policy in the Clinton administration; and Gary Schuster, Dean of the College of Sciences at Tech.

"At the end of it all, the conclusion was that we had four good candidates, and Dr. Chameau was strongly supported by the process. So when it came to me the decision was not a difficult decision," said Clough.

"He has not only succeeded at other schools but he has done very well here at Georgia Tech in a range of positions. He brought a wealth of background and experience, including being a school chair…and he certainly did an excellent job as Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies, which is a very good position. And then he was Dean of Engineering. You could not ask for three better successive appointments for someone to be prepared for this position." Dr. Chameau sees this new position as a challenge that he is looking forward to taking on.

"I have been at Georgia Tech

Obituary Mollie Newton

Georgia Tech recently lost a member of its community when Mollie Eileen Newton, 21, passed away on Wednesday May 16. Mollie was a senior Economics major who was scheduled to graduate in December of this year. She grew up in Peachtree City, just south of Atlanta, where she graduated from McIntosh High School.

Mollie was returning from her job at the State Capitol when her car flipped over in a one car accident on Georgia Highway 74 in Tyrone.

Mollie interned at the Capitol during last year's Georgia General Assembly and she was working for the Georgia Pharmacy Association performing research and lobbying for its bills in the legislature at the time of her death. She was traveling from the Capitol to her Peachtree City home when the accident occurred.

Mollie was active on-campus in a variety of organizations. She served as a coxswain for the Georgia Tech rowing team. Mollie was active in the Tech athletic program in other capacities as well, serving as a member of Solid Gold, the athletic recruiting program, and as a bat girl for the Tech baseball team.

Mollie also worked for the Housing department as a Peer Leader in the Freshman experience program and was an active member of the Christian Campus Fellowship.

At home Mollie was a member of Providence United Methodist Church. While there Mollie enjoyed singing and performing missionary work. She went on a number of church trips to Appalachia to build homes and facilities for the underprivileged.

Mollie is survived by her sisters Katie Newton of Peachtree City and Elizabeth Warfield of Birmingham, Alabama; her parents Mike and Katherine Newton; and her paternal grandparents Billy and Votie Newton of Dothan, Alabama.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like contributions to be made to the Georgia Tech crew team. Donations can be sent to the Georgia Tech Foundation, 225 North Avenue N.W., Atlanta, Georgia, 30332-0220.

Mollie's memory will be honored by the school in this fall's "When the Whistle Blows," a ceremony that honors deceased members of the Tech community.

The Technique *hopes to properly honor the memory of members of the Tech community who pass away with obituaries.*

Technique Online Voice Your Opinion!

If you visit the *Technique*'s website at www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/technique, you will notice a few changes the entire website has been redesigned with you, the reader in mind. The site is, in our opinion, more user-friendly and visually attractive.

We want reading the *Technique* to be an interactive experience, so each week we will conduct a news related online poll and run the results in the next issue. This week's topic is the theft of the 'T.' What do you think is a suitable punishment? Expulsion? Suspension? Nothing at all? Let us know!

Portch

in the University System.

He launched GALILEO, the online statewide electronic library system of the USG and secured funding to speed capital construction projects at a number of state institutions.

Portch also appointed 23 presidents, including Tech's President Clough, who was Portch's first appointment.

Academically, Portch raised the average SAT scores of entering freshmen to 1021, which exceeds the national average, while lowering the number of students who need remedial classes and toughening admissions standards to require Georgia high school students to take more core classes like math and science.

He increased funding for research initiatives and helped land both Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia in the top twenty public universities in the nation according to *U.S. News and World Report.*

Despite these accomplishments, Portch has been criticized by some for trying to do too much too fast.

"People in the Chancellor's position are always a little bit controversial because they have to make decisions that affect 34 institutions that have different dimensions, di-

APC

ment of the landscape character of the campus itself. It will be a place where people can get together and talk," said Ronald LeRoy, Facilities Project Manager.

"The board of regents is very strict in how they deal with this process. Nothing has been in the dark—we realize [Hightower] is a unique building in itself, but we do have several examples of that style on campus," says LeRoy.

Despite the observed diligence in the bureaucratic steps, APC Director Coons accuses the school of

"History will judge Chancellor Portch very well. He made major changes to substantially improve the quality of education."

G. Wayne Clough
President

rections, strategies, and strengths. Inevitably there are places where you can say 'I wish he'd done this,' or 'I wish he'd done that,' but overall, history will judge Stephen Portch very, very positively," Clough said.

Georgia legislators and other have also been critical of Portch's semester conversion, which cost the state more money than was initially estimated. It also profoundly affected the way Tech and institutions of higher education around the state structure and operate themselves.

"One can argue whether that was positive or negative," Clough said.

"I don't have any particular difficulty with it. I have been at institutions that love semesters, and I have been at institutions that love quarters. I have taught on both systems, and there are great schools operating on both systems. You can do well in terms of learning and creating knowledge on both systems."

"It's an example of an institution riding rough-shoed over history and preservation."

Boyd Coons
Atlanta Preservation Center

simply "going through the motions" and not truly considering the importance of Hightower.

"If [Tech] wants to live in a vacuum, this is exactly the sort of ac-

Despite his critics, Portch has garnered national recognition for his work in Georgia. He gives credit for the success during his administration to members of the Board of Regents and the faculty, staff, and administration of the individual colleges and universities of the USG. Over 30,000 employees work in the USG.

"I haven't taught a single student in the System; I haven't provided any services to students; I haven't built a single building; I haven't cleaned a room nor mowed a lawn nor served a hamburger," said Portch.

Portch plans to take educational leave for a year. During the year he will consult and provide advise to the Board of Regents and spend more time on his farm in Newnan. He has not ruled out writing or a return to higher education in some capacity.

tion it should take—where it does not consider how it fits into the overall big picture," said Coons.

It is probably too late to save Hightower according to LeRoy.

"[The Governor] is the final say. So once he makes that statement and signs the paperwork, it's a done deal. We did have that open period. It was published in legal documents —it was published in the newspaper. Now we're sitting here in the middle of May and now all of a sudden there is concern-—it's a little strange. We didn't have to have a public hearing, but we did. We are not in an adversarial role, we just take and execute the plan."

Chameau from page 3

for almost 10 years. I have worked primarily with the College of Engineering. This position will allow me to get involved with many other programs and to expand my horizons," said Dr. Chameau.

According to Chameau, one of his main goals going in to this job is to make the Institute the best that it can be for students, faculty, staff, and everyone that is a part of the Tech community. He is focused on Tech's future and reputation both at home and abroad.

"This is an exciting time for Georgia Tech. It has changed dramatically over the past 20 years, and I think that it will be changing dramatically over the next few years as well. We have truly outstanding students, and I am looking forward to having the chance to interact with a broad spectrum of students," Chameau said.

Clough expressed his confidences in Chameau's ability to develop new programs, work with students, and balance the issues of teaching and research that students sometimes see in conflict with one another.

"You have someone who brings a level of administrative experience that is rare. From the student point of view, I think Dr. Chameau was always known as a great teacher—a person who had serious concerns about students," said Clough.

"Although it is not obvious sometimes to some of our undergraduate students, he is working a series of major initiatives to improve the undergraduate learning experience at Tech and Engineering."

Dr. Chameau sees the quality of all programs here at Tech increasing dramatically over the next few years, as well as the education experience becoming as good as it can be.

"Georgia Tech has intelligent and outstanding students and faculty members that come up with wonderful ideas for new programs. I will constantly strive to promote that kind of environment and help to support it, to find resources and ideas that will help new programs happen," Chameau said.

Chameau obtained his undergraduate mechanical engineering degree from L 'Ecole Nationale Superieure des Arts et Metiers and an undergraduate economics degree from La Sorbonne in Paris. He then attended Stanford University to receive his graduate education in civil engineering and completed his Master's and Ph.D. degrees in 1977 and 1980, respectively.

He came to Tech from Purdue University in 1991 as Director of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

As Dean of the College of Engineering he has led educational and research programs in nine engineering fields, all of which have gained national recognition. He has also helped to make Georgia Tech a worldwide leader in sustainability, among many other accomplishments. Dr. Chameau has been an important part of the Tech community for nearly a decade, and he will continue to foster a challenging and creative environment as Tech's new Provost.

Campus Architecture Hightower Building

By Bill Allen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Atlanta Preservation Center named the Hightower building as one of the ten most endangered historic buildings. According to Tech architecture professor Robert Craig and others, Hightower, which dates back to 1949, is one of the finest examples of early modern period architecture in the south.

'T' from page 1

nity that Georgia Tech is opposed to the practice of stealing the 'T' from the Tower. Legal authorities have confirmed that anyone either caught in the act of stealing the 'T' or identified after the fact based on evidence, is subject to prosecution for vandalism under criminal law. Anyone involved in attempting to steal the 'T' will also be subject to Institute penalties up to and including expulsion."

The students are still in the midst of the Tech judicial process. Each individual is investigated by Karen Boyd, Senior Associate Dean of Students. Each student is then offered the option of taking an administrative hearing, which allows Boyd to determine the sanction, or taking his or her case to the Undergraduate Judiciary Cabinet. The UJC is a board of students that makes a formal recommendation of sanctions to Boyd. Because of the summer break, however, many members of the Cabinet are unavailable to hear

the case until later in the summer, which has created a stall in the normal discipline process.

Davis and Moeller were unavailable for comment, and Henderson declined comment pending the results of the investigation.

According to Vickery, there are a number of security systems protecting the 'T' that notified the police about the incident.

"The one that was breached apparently was a fiber loop that runs through the letters. Fiber is commonly used in security systems," said Vickery.

Vickery explained that the fiber security system involves passing a beam of light through fiber optic cable, and if the beam of light is interrupted, it activates the alarm system.

Once the security of the letters on Tech Tower has been breached, the security system audibly notifies the possible perpetrators rather than activating a "silent alarm".

"There is a horn that goes off, [and] there's a voice message. The purpose is that it's more important to get folks to stop than to keep it silent and hope we'll apprehend them," said Vickery.

> "The 'T' is important, but the real concern is if somebody falls and breaks a neck and gets seriously injured"
>
> **Jack Vickery**
> Chief of Police

The practice is in place to prevent students from injury, not arrest them.

"You hope that if they enter one of the earlier detection points that they'll abandon the effort before anything else happens. The 'T' is important, but the real concern we have is if somebody falls and breaks

a neck and gets seriously injured."

In an effort to make planned attempts obsolete, the GTPD keeps the security system dynamic.

"We've changed the alarm systems, the number of detection points, and the location of the detection points a number of times over the years," said Vickery.

"The alterations that have been made at times have added to the systems ability to detect an earlier and earlier attempt to reach up there," Vickery said.

Vickery concedes, however, that no security system is perfect, no matter how dynamic. "For every security measure there is a countermeasure. There's nothing that provides absolute protection."

The protection of the 'T' is not what worries Vickery the most when students attempt to steal it.

"It's much more serious for the potential of personal injury of the students that try it, and certainly, it is also serious in the damage that it does."

According to Warren Page, di-

rector of Georgia Tech Facilities, the cost of replacing the 'T' alone after the most recent attempt cost the Institute $2,700. This figure excludes time spent repairing damages caused in an attempt to take the 'T', which sometimes dwarf those of even the 'T' itself.

Georgia Tech pays even more for the costs surrounding the 'T's replacement.

"It is costly for the Institute to have to put that back up there. Not counting the time it takes for everybody involved in trying to prevent, identify and deal with the issue.

"What needs to change is not the alarm system, not the security system, but the basic culture that says that somehow, this is an acceptable practice. This has the potential of, some day, turning into a very deadly event," said Vickery.

"Stealing the 'T' is one thing," said Boyd, who deals with student disciplinary issues, including attempts to steal the 'T'.

"I don't want to have to deal with a dead student."