Hemphill speed limit reduced

The speed limit on Hemphill Avenue on campus has been reduced from 30 mph to 25 mph, effective as of the beginning of this month. Also, the speed limit on Tech-Parkway is now 30 mph.

These changes are posted in the Technique so that the GTPD can comply with a license allowing the department's operation of radar to enforce speed limits.

Tech alumnus wins WTC competition

The winning design chosen in the World Trade Center Memorial Design Competition was created by Tech graduate Michael Arad. Arad received a Master's degree in Architecture in 1999.

Arad's entry, entitled Reflecting Absence: A Memorial at the World Trade Center, was selected from among over 5,000 worldwide submissions. The design features reflecting pools and waterfalls to be placed at Ground Zero, the space formerly occupied by the Twin Towers.

"I am very honored and overwhelmed," Arad said in a press release. "I hope that I will be able to honor the memory of all those who perished, and create a place where we may all grieve and find meaning."

Student Center locks doors afterhours

By Stephen Baehl Senior Staff Writer

The Student Center has begun locking its doors each night from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. Students will have 24-hour access to the building, but only if they have their BuzzCard.

Student Center Director Rich Steele said the move had been under consideration for years. He cited students who feel uncomfortable lounging in the Student Center late at night, as in the case of one student who stayed late in the area and had a home-less person walk through asking for money.

"Our goal is still to provide a 24-hour facility, and we can ideally do that by allowing people to have BuzzCard access to the building," he said.

"Ben Roth, a second-year Biomedical Engineering major, said he agrees with the idea.

"I think that locking the Student Center should improve security — no one bar Tech students needs access to the Student Center after 11." Round-the-clock access through the building's main first and second floor entrances will still be available to any student with a BuzzCard.

Steele estimated the Georgia Tech Police Department allocated between $25,000 and $30,000 for the installation of card readers this year.

"We are very appreciative that the campus police thought this was a high-priority issue and spent the money for the card reader system," Steele said.

After some glitches in the system during testing last semester, Steele said the readers are working fine now, thus allowing the "unbelievable number of students attempting to maneuver around the bulldozers. The project began over winter break and will extend into February.

Wilcox retires; Student Affairs seeks VP

By Stephen Baehl Senior Staff Writer

Lee Wilcox officially left his position as Vice President of Student Affairs on Dec. 31, 2003, after six years in the position at Tech, and 42 years in higher education.

Wilcox came to Tech in June 1997 following a period of a decade or so where student affairs operations had languished for lack of leadership," said Presi-dent Wayne Clough. When Wil-cox first announced his retirement in April, it was really wrapping a lot of things up that he wanted to get wrapped up so they were done, and I wouldn’t have to worry about them.

"I think that locking the Student Center should improve security — no one bar Tech students needs access to the Student Center after 11." Round-the-clock access through the building's main first and second floor entrances will still be available to any student with a BuzzCard.

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The idea is that students will be able to better judge the length of time before another trolley arrives at their stop. Furniss used an example of students leaving the Dupre College of Management who would now be able to judge whether they had time to stop at Starbucks before catching a trolley.

"What they [N e x t B u s] have been doing is testing the system for the last 30 or 45 days before we actually put the system live out on Monday [Jan. 12] to the populatio- tion," Furniss said.

So far, the system "seems to be working really, really well," Furniss said, despite some small bugs.

"That’s the very first phase of this whole GPS system—locat-
From the files of the GTPD...

- **Entering auto**
  - **Date:** 1/5/2004
  - **Time:** 16:35:00 hrs.
  - **Location:** 600 block of Tech Piwy @ Wallace Street
  - **Incident:** Report that a black '02 Honda CR-V was entered and items taken and recovered

- **Concealed weapon**
  - **Date:** 1/6/2004
  - **Time:** 9:15:00 hrs.
  - **Location:** 400 Tenth Street
  - **Incident:** Subject had a firearm in a book bag

- **Information**
  - **Date:** 1/9/2004
  - **Time:** 18:41:00 hrs.
  - **Location:** 555 Eighth Street/Eighth Street Apartments
  - **Incident:** Report of unwanted email messages

- **DUI**
  - **Date:** 1/10/2004
  - **Time:** 4:03:00 hrs.
  - **Location:** Williams Street @ North Avenue
  - **Incident:** Offender arrested for following too closely and driving under the influence
Surviving heavy fire, Music Listening Room bill passes

By Edward Tannenberg Contributing Writer

Comfy, new couches will make their way to the Music Listening Room (MLR) in the Student Center sometime soon due in large part to members of the Undergraduate House of Representatives.

The allocation bill came into the house facing some heated criticism, but its supporters were steadfast and granted the entire amount of $44,540.

The arguments for and against the bill were multifaceted, making the issue highly divisive amongst members. Those opposed to the bill reminded others that the year was going to be fiscally tight with all the budget cutbacks and other organizations that would need money as well. They also pointed out the inability of the MLR to generate any kind of funds on their own for the couches and that UHR should not be made to foot the bill alone.

The Student Center divides departments up into two tiers: programming, non-revenue generating departments, and operations, revenue-generating departments. The MLR falls into the programming category and as such it is given a set budget at the beginning of every year and extra funds are very hard to come by, especially in times of fiscal crunch.

Supporters felt, on the other hand, that these reasons only better displayed the dire need that the MLR was in for funds and, seeing no other reasonable alternative for funds in the near future, believed it was the Undergraduate House’s duty to pay the bill amount.

“I think that [the MLR] is something that attracts a lot of people. It would be sad if we didn’t fund it.”

Tiffany Turner VP, Administrative Affairs

The bill’s deathblow came when the organization representative argued strongly for the bill, saying she believed the program has value for the student body beyond the proceeds donated to charity.

Despite her efforts, the bill failed by a wide margin. Another allocation bill to Women’s Awareness Month was failed at the request of the organization representative because they found alternative sources of funding.

Senators also shot down a $5,200 bill that would have funded director’s and Ferst Center for Women’s Studies among other programs. The organization representative argued strongly for the bill, saying that student government would have no way of knowing who was using the guns.

The bill failed without any “yes” votes.

Senators also cut a $13,000 allocation to the Canoe and Kayaking Club in half. The money would have funded the purchase of two racing boats. Senators agreed to fund the purchase of only one boat.

Senators also passed an allocation to AIAA Centennial of Flight.”

The allocation bill to the Chess Club was passed by one vote. However, the bill’s author, Ashley Case, claimed the measure was tabled.

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Senators also passed an allocation to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, whose members attended a November conference.

They also approved $1,200 for the purchase of a new computer and flat-screen monitor for the StuGov office.

Undergraduate representatives discuss a bill at Tuesday night’s meeting. The House approved $44,000 for Music Listening Room couches, despite fierce opposition.
Wilcox

Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs while acting as Dean of Students.

With these past experiences, she said, “I know how hard it is to sit in this seat. There’s a lot of responsibility and a lot of hopes people place on you. And I take that to heart.”

DiSabatino has had help with the additional responsibilities. “There are a lot of really good people in place,” she said. “John Stein, [Director of Student Success Programs], is helping out with seeing students individually, which is something that does take up a good portion of my Dean’s time.”

Further, Senior Associate Dean of Students Karen Boyd has taken on Wilcox’s responsibilities in the managing of the developing Student Center Commons, which is currently under construction in the old bookstore area and the Student Leadership Initiative, in both of which Boyd was already involved.

Wilcox also played a vital role in the creation and development of the Campus Recreation Center. “I’ve put more time in on SAC II than any other single thing,” Wilcox said when he announced his retirement in April. DiSabatino and the office staff will continue to provide support in that area as well.

The office is also continuing to deal with a problem that has recently been present at all levels of administration in the Institute. “The budget is the biggest concern on everyone’s mind right now,” DiSabatino said. “It is of prime importance that we look at our budget, manage the cut we just took and prepare our budget for the future for filling the position.

“I’m just interim,” DiSabatino said. “But certainly, you don’t want anything to fall through the cracks, and you want to make sure the students are served well.”

Ah, the anticipation...

The Student Center Commons takes shape. A series of problems have delayed parts of the new facility in the Mountain Building. However, according to Student Center Director Rich Steele, a recently discovered sewer problem will not add to the delays. The SCC is set to open in stages beginning next month.

Within a four-month period, they are required to turn in additional paperwork, including a current membership list consisting of at least 10 members and a specifically-tailored Constitution.

During this waiting period, the group may enjoy privileges such as reserving rooms in educational buildings or the Student Center at no cost, publicizing their organization and creating an account to house their membership dues. They may not host large-scale events until the charter has been fully approved.

Changes to the bylaws within the past year require organizations to refrain from duplicating the purpose of other established groups and to update their constitutions. Also, each group must submit a yearly officer update with the names of the new officers and their contact information. If any of these requirements, or others mentioned in the charter application process, are not met, the organization’s charter approval may be suspended or dismissed.

The number of charters viewed during the last academic year by the JCOC ranged somewhere between 40 and 50, with about 15-20 of those reviews of old charters. Ridley expects to see many more requests this year.

The slow selection of a chair and the future selection of the chair’s committee, however, have created a “backlog” of charters up for review. Ridley said he and his committee will work hard to get through all of the paperwork as fast as possible to speed up approval.

write a sliver ... nique.net/sliver

sorry for the absence of the sliver box this week...
Locked from page 1

doors to remain locked at night, yet still guarantee student access.

One important change is the increased ease with which students can use the center to study after hours.

“I like the idea,” said Laura Wood, a second-year Chemical Engineering 
major. “Sometimes I will go there to do group study, and the last time I 
was studying there, there were definitely some strange people in there.”

Second-year Aerospace Engineering 
major Daniel Cooksey said he, too, agrees with the new security 
policy. “It would be like an old school plan, because now homeless people

Trolleys from page 1

ing the vehicles and being able to identify when the next vehicle is 
going to arrive, where it is in the system.”

The trackers will offer more than a trolley’s location.

“There are buttons on the box now that will call into public safety, 
so if there’s an emergency [drivers] can dial directly into public safety.”

The GPS trackers will also pro- 
vide “a lot of data” that the depart- 
ment can use to improve efficiency, 
Furniss said.

“At some point, hopefully we’ll be able to do ridership counts auto- 
matically. We do it manually right now. [The trackers] will help us 
monitor the [trolley] system, justify its existence [and] help us make 
changes down the line.”

Reaction to the new system has been mixed. “I think I would use it if it was really cold outside and I’m in a building and want to know when it will come next, but I think for most students it’s not going to help them at all because they’re not really close to a computer,” said grad- 
uate student Jeff Gross.

“I think a GPS system is a good idea,” said fourth-year Computer

Engineering major Ben Johnson. “It may not be as practical as it’s in- 
tended to be because you actually have to have internet access, from 
what I saw,” he said.

“I think if I go here for a full five years, I would never use that [sys- 
tem],” said Robert Calhoun, a sec- 
ond-year Electrical Engineering 
major.

“I think if I go here for a full five years, I would never use that [system].”

Robert Calhoun

EE major

To respond to these concerns, Furniss said that other elements will be added over time to improve the system.

WiFi internet coverage will even- 
tually be offered at most stops. That 
way, students can use their laptop computers to monitor the website. Some liquid crystal displays will also be added over time.

“We’re going to have [liquid crys-
tal] signs at four of our key transit stops in the very near future, hope- 
fully in the next several weeks.”

These signs will show the track- 
ing data from the system. While the 
exact locations have yet to be deter- 
mined, Furniss said that they will likely be located on both sides of Atlantic Drive near the Cherry Em- 
enon building, the turnaround across from the Campus Recreation Cen- 
ter and at one of the two stops in Technology Square.

“Signs at the stations would be really nice, but I think that would also be a pretty big expense, too,” 
Johnson said.

“This is a pilot system,” Furniss said. “Over the summer, the results will be analyzed.

“If it’s working like we want it to and [NextBus] said it will, and it gives us all the program advantag- 
es that we want, then we will proba- billy expand that into the Stinger system,” Furniss said. If that hap- 
pens, LCD screens would probably be placed at most Stinger stops, along with shelters.

Money for the system came from 
Parking and Transportation’s capi- 
tal budget. Furniss did not know the exact cost because negotiations with NextBus are ongoing.

“Other than that detail, though, Steele said there would be no nota-
ble change in what students are and are not allowed to do inside the Student Center at night.

Steele said the same system will also be implemented when the Stu-
dent Center Commons opens next month.

“Our goal is still to provide a 24- 
hour facility, and we can ideally do that by allowing people to 
have BuzzCard access...”

Rich Steele

Director, Student Center

Bush calls for manned Moon, Mars missions

President Bush asked Congress Wednesday to increase NASA’s 
funding by $81 billion over the next five years. The money is 
proposed in order to allow NASA to follow a nine-page executive 
policy directive that calls for moving away from space shuttle 
missions and toward exploration of space beyond the current 300-
mile-high orbit of the space shuttles.

Bush proposed creation of a Crew Exploration Vehicle de- 
signed to carry astronauts into deep space. Such a craft might be 
ready for a moon mission between 2015 and 2020. A base could 
then be constructed on the moon for research and to serve as a 
waypoint for manned missions to Mars.

The directive could spell the end of the space shuttle, which will 
fall out of use after 2010 should the new shift in focus occur.

No. 54 of Iraq’s Most Wanted captured

Former Baath party leader Khalmi Sirhan al-Muhammad was captured Sunday in the Iraqi town of Ramadi. Army spokesperson 
Gen. Mark Kimmitt called al-Muhammad “an enabler for many of 
the resistance attacks on Iraqis as well as U.S. and coalition 
forces.” All but 1 of the 55 most wanted Iraqis have been killed or 
captured to date.

Economic rebound continues to gain steam

The Federal Reserve Wednesday indicated that the economic 
rebound that occurred in the latter half of 2003 has continued 
through this month, and appears to be gaining momentum. Most 
analysts think the current interest rates, set at a 45-year low of one 
percent, will remain at its low level to sustain a solid economic 
comeback in 2004.

Such low interest rates have been made possible by the low core 
inflation rate, up just one percent total over 2003. Also, the U.S. 
trade deficit fell to $38 billion, its lowest level in a year, thanks to 
increased exports and decreased imports. The manufacturing sec- 
tor is also seeing signs of a coming rebound, which analysts hope 
will translate into increased factory jobs.

Be in the Blueprint!
Deadline for double page spreads and group shots is January 27.

E-mail Donna at ds207@prism.gatech.edu 
for more info or to submit.
Identifying with a class proves tricky

As a PL, one of the very first activities that we’re encouraged to take to make our residence hall feel more like home is to get to know your Sophomore Class. The Sophomore Class is sort of a big deal at Tech. It’s the one class that stays together for all four years of college. You, your friends, and maybe your roommates will all be in the same classes, the same roommate, the same dorm all four years. It’s a big deal that you get to define what the Sophomore Class is, and there are always a few issues that are inevitably class-specific. Freshmen, of course, have to deal with being freshmen. I definitely went through the so-called sophomore slump, where all my friends and I seemed to be questioning our majors and future plans. And I’m sure next year, as a senior, I’ll feel closer to anyone I know that is going through the gauntlet of interviewing for a job or applying to grad school (I haven’t decided on which yet).

That’s why I think the Junior Committee took the right approach with last week’s Juniors at Junior’s Convocation. One of the most common stereotypes about Tech students who sit in their rooms doing nothing, I would say that at least 80 percent of students are involved in something that they enjoy and can identify with at Tech.

Major is another important identification which also serves to divide members of an incoming-class early on. After freshman year core curriculum, you don’t have the opportunity to be in classes with anyone outside of your major, also, you get further in your studies, your major (i.e. the people that can help you with that tough circuit home work) becomes more important. Then there’s the persistent problem of how to define your class. This is especially relevant at Tech, where a student’s undergraduate career can stretch into five or even six years and there’s a large discrepancy between a student’s year and credit hours. But—and here’s the important part—that’s not to say that the idea isn’t a worthwhile one. Even now, I will always feel a slightly closer bond to people I know who came to Tech the same year as me. Not to mention that being part of a class you’re passionate about than a member of a club you’re passionate about than a member of a class, 80 percent of whom you have never met before. Despite the common stereotype of Tech students who sit in their rooms doing nothing, I would say that at least 80 percent of students are involved in something that they enjoy and can identify with at Tech.

Junior at Junior’s is part of a recent initiative to promote a sense of “class identity” among the campus community. But at a time when improving student life is the hot thing and new student organizations are popping up all the time, do we really need more class identity? It’s easy to be dismissive or suspicious of the newly-formed Sophomore and Junior Committees, especially when the initiative began with the ideas of a small group of people and is being spearheaded by your usual campus leaders. Can these committees realistically speak for the needs of the majority of the Tech population?

In the first place, the bond of class is a somewhat superficial one. Ideally, there should be more meaningful things to define your “identity” at Tech by than your year—for example, your interests. It’s a lot more important to feel like you’re a member of a club you’re passionate about than a member of your class, 80 percent of whom you have never met before. Despite the common stereotype of Tech students who sit in their rooms doing nothing, I would say that at least 80 percent of students are involved in something that they enjoy and can identify with at Tech.

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I am a stereotypical member of the female gender about certain things in life, including the entire arena of popular sports like football and basketball. I’m what sports fanatics would call a “fair-weather” fan, supporting the team through the good times and not really caring when the scoreboard is more heavily weighted in the loss column. I’m a big Marlins fan, for example, (and have been since way back in October of 2003), since I am from South Florida and all. But Coach Paul Hewitt’s Georgia Tech basketball program has managed to change my outlook these past two seasons. With a 1-20 start to the season, making it one of the best in two decades, Tech students (including myself; were pumping, with visions of their Jackets battling for victory in the Final Four dancing in their eyes. And two weeks ago, though, the dream started to show some weaknesses as the Georgia Bulldogs beat the Ramblin’ Wreck with a heartbreaking score of 83-80 in double overtime. Since I’m no basketball expert of any means, I’m not going to even try to make up for the loss in my mind with notions of bad officiating. Instead, at the end of the game I realized that even with this loss, my fervor for supporting my team wasn’t stronger than ever. This loyalty to the team is no doubt partially due to being part of the Tech community, but is also heavily due to the admira- ble job done by the newly-created First and Ten program, the Swarm and the engaging personal- ities of the team’s players. First and Ten has made great efforts to support the basketball team by supporting the basket- ball team’s fans, through spon- sorship of the basketball Swarm, which is run by the Ramblin’ Rock Club (TAC) and other events. Hewitt has also done his part in giving back to the fans with special programs like the Greek Challenge and appearing at Thursday’s pep rally at the campanile, which was also suc- cessful in part due to the CRC. One of the best parts of be- ing in the Swarm, sitting on the risers on the court, is the prox- imity to the players and refs; you get the feeling that you have this incredible and very personal touch to the game. The camaraderie created by slinging insults at the opposing team and feel- ing the sweat fly off of players is what really makes the game. The personality of the play- ers seen on the court and the excitement of the fast-moving game they play completes the picture of understanding the popularity of Tech basketball this season. I guess our win-loss record might help too, too. With all the good things go- ing for the team, you’d think the entire school would go gaga over Tech basketball. Sure, Alexander Me- morial Coliseum has sold out for almost every home game this season, but as a witness to all those games, I can attest to the fact that all the seats were not ever full. This school has to- wards football, a program that has not been ranked in the top 25 since my freshman year (and, if I remember correctly, we weren’t ranked forever long. Does the name Tony Hollings, and the acronym ACL? strike a bell, boggles my mind. Granted, foot- ball is a much bigger, more popu- lar and historic college sport in the south, even for schools in conferences traditionally known for strong basketball like the ACC (as demonstrated the ACC’s re- cent expansion that was moti- vated mostly by football), but when another sport’s team is winning, students and alumni should rally around that success. I’m sorry to say Tech’s igno- remeots to a lot of money in the form of bought (not auctioned off) tickets isn’t always good enough—sometimes a warm body filling a seat and filling the air with your voices is just as important. I can remember em- barrassing home basketball games last season when there where as many fans from UGA as those who showed up to represent the Yellow Jackets. If Institute students manage to support the football team and through seasons that end at 7-6, then certainly they should be able to make time to represent for the 12-2 jacket cagers whose hoops happen back to Cramen’s days when the coliseum earned its name of the “Thriller Dome.” What’s worse, the two latest games resulting in tough losses away, now it is the time to get the student body to pull together behind our Yellow Jackets, to show the rest of the college sports world that we aren’t the sort of fair-weather fans that I used to be.

Now’s the time to support Jacket hoopsters

**Sexified Stud Center**
The Student Center was filled with a sexy atmosphere this week, what with the recent renovations to the post office and the main stairway outside the Campanile. The first stop on the post office floor is a definite improvement over bare concrete (and the refreshing smell of the post office and the main stairway, so that you don’t forget the fresh, hip placement of the small epiphany. Walking back to Erwin, a girlfriend and I were discussing the frustrations of meet- ing great guys who you can’t entertain ideas of involvement with for one reason or another. Sober as a nun and exhausted from what seemed an endless amount of work, I came to this conclusion:

“it’s like every good guy I meet has an asterisk next to his name, you know, like Roger Maris and the home run record. Each guy comes with these footsteps. It’s asterisk: I live in DC, or as- terisk: I have a girlfriend. Why can’t I find someone without any footnotes? I need a primary source.”

When I got home, I started to think about the whole idea of personal footnotes. Each of us possesses something that eligi- ble suitors would want to know. What would it be like to have these items on display? Are the quirks, hang-ups, vices and traits something that change based on the guy or girl who shows interest? And more importantly, would being able to see one’s footnotes change how we choose to invest our emotions?

The trouble with personal footnotes is that they’re dangerous in both quality and quantity. For some people, there would only be one footnote. But when that footnote is something like “I have a venereal disease,” rare the cure lies undiscovered in the Amazon,” it’s more than enough to scare off an interested girl.

On the other hand, some peo-

**Letter Submission Policy**
The Technique welcomes all letters to the editor and will print letters on a timely and content basis, and length. Only one submission per person will be printed in the following Friday’s issue. Any footnotes needed for dating content, and length. Only one submission per person will be printed in the following Friday’s issue. Any letter not meeting these criteria or not con- sidered by the Editorial Board of the Tech- nique to be of valid interest will not be printed. Editors reserve the right to edit for style, content, and length. Only one submission per person will be printed each term.

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**B-ball pep rally**
How great it is to see the word “pep” associated with something going on at Tech, normally known as an abyss of apathy. The orchestrating of Thursday’s pep rally in support of Yellow Jacket basketball must be ap- plauded, as should Hewitt’s par- ticipation. These sorts of unifying events should occur more often.

**More construction**
Not that disruptive construction is anything new to this campus but with the work being done on Cherry St., it has been taken upon itself to replace the back end of a Coke machine (and not dorky at all), but the random yelling has just got to go.
Every four years America airs its dirty laundry, browses for duds and collectively decides if it needs a new suit—or at least if it wants a new suit to look at. That’s right, it’s the time every few years where places like Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina flex their political muscles for the country. It’s time for a presidential election. As more and more Americans realize the calendar has turned to 2004, some of them, though still a distinct minority, will also begin to realize that an election occurs this year.

America’s first presidential test takes place Monday, and I remain unconvinced that most Tech students can name more than one of the nine democrats competing for the right to run against, and probably lose to, George W. Bush. (And they’d probably only be able name Dick Gephardt since this year marks the 32nd time he runs for office.) A quick update for those who have not given the campaign much attention: former Vermont Governor Howard Dean emerged as the front-runner due to his strong criticism of the world in Iraq and a fundraising effort that made never-before-seen use of the internet.

Since then the other candidates have tried to paint him as a left-of-center, angry governor with loose lips not fit to be president, while moderate democrats seek the heir to the Clinton legacy (the booming economy part—not the Monica part). Meanwhile Bush and Cheney raise record amounts of funds they’ll use to inundate Americans with their message in the general election portion of the program.

As self-admitted political junkies, this election strikes me differently than the other two that I can recall well. In 2000 Americans argued over surpluses and social security and the economy and education. The big policy issues were immigration and trade, and Bush lauded Mexico as our country’s most important partner. This election, however, even members of the Democratic Party argue over their foreign policy credentials, their contingency plans for Iraq and whether or not they are capacitated to head the most powerful armed forces in the world. At one time, the Democratic Party was referred to as the “mommy party” of economics and education in contrast to the Grand Old Party’s handling of “daddy” issues like defense. In the post-September 11 world, everyone tries to handle these “daddy” issues.

The tragic events of that day continue to cast their shadow on America in innumerable ways, but the best way in which we can see its presence is through the character of this election, and the way in which the debate has changed. This election will be one of orange alerts and weapons of mass destruction. Of airport security measures and the axis of evil. Of Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Iran, North Korea and so on. It is one in which Democrats may anoint a retired NATO General, and self-admitted former Republican, with no political experience as their savior and still lose a foreign policy debate to the incumbent President. Such is the nature of this contest, in which the images of terror still remain so lucid in the public memory.

For how long will this phenomenon continue? While the events can never be, and should never be, removed from the public memory, how long will they remain part of the daily consciousness of the public? Have we seen a fundamental shift in the political view of a generation, maybe even a nation, in which international affairs are more important? Or is it a temporary reaction to fear and insecurity?

As university students at an institute whose goal is to shape the future, the decision will ultimately be ours. We will determine the public memory, and, in at least one way, we already are. Michael Arad, an alumnus of the College of Architecture, recently won the competition for the right to design the memorial at New York’s World Trade Center.

“I hope that I will be able to honor the memory of all those who perished and create a place where we may all grieve and find meaning,” Arad said in regards to his plans. Though each of us must conduct our own personal grieving and find personal meaning, the meaning of the event will be determined by all of us—those of us who remember where we were on campus the day the towers fell, the Institute closed and America changed. I hope the reflections of September 11 seen in this year’s election are true images of an America, especially a young America, more interested in the world around it, and more ready to engage that world, usually peacefully, but when necessary aggressively, to shape the future. If the changes are, however, of the reactionary sort based on fear and insecurity, we’ve missed the greater meaning.
Free food promotes class identity at Junior’s

By Jennifer Lee
Focus Editor

Last Thursday seemed to be the real start of the semester as several events were held to welcome students back to Tech after the break.

One of the events wasJunior’s, sponsored by Student Government Association’s Junior Class Council. The group advertised freeJunior’s chicken tenders baskets to the first 100 people to show up, and half off the next 100.

Despite the cold night, the event, which according to the email invitation, was supposed to begin at 7 p.m., had people lining up outsideJunior’s as early as 6:30, and it took less than an hour for the food to sell out.

“We had to tell people to go home,” said Junior Class PresidentAmy Phuang, who led the planning for the event.

“By 7:10, we completely ran out of the half-off tickets,” though she added, “People still bought full price just to be in there and have fun.”

Junior’s at Junior’s highlighted a push for more class identity that has been surfacing on campus in the past few months.

Though the idea is not new, it was brought up seriously at last year’s Sophomore Summit.

“Georgia Tech gets a lot of flak for our poor ratings,” saidDarragh Wright, one of the members of the steering committee for Sophomore Summit. “It’s easier to get a sense of belonging within your class, and in turns get a sense of belonging at GT so that no one feels lost.”

Several students who attendedJunior’s at Junior’s expressed approval at the idea of something for the junior class.

“I think it’s cool,” saidJonathan Laing, an International Relations major. “After your freshman you never get to do anything with just your class...so this is kinda nice to keep the class identity alive.”

“I know several people here, a lot of people that I’ve had classes with through my freshman year and stuff, my roommate...I even met somebody new. They said ‘Ask me about Junior Com-mitee’ and walked around talking to those who attended.”

She said that she had noticed that there was a greater degree of apathy in the junior class, and as a result, “we tailored our events not to try to get people involved.”

“It was suprising to see them actually sit down and eat,” she said. “I thought they were just going to come and go.”

Another group that has come out of this initiative is Sophomore Committee—SophCom for short, which was started directly by the steering committee of Sophomore Summit. The organization is still developing, but last semester hosted a Sophomore Pecuniun that featured hot-air balloons and a cookout on the Instructional Center lawn.

“The idea for SophCom from the students emerged around the same time as a new initiative for the Office of Success Programs to begin to examine the sophomore student experience at GT,” saidAmy Stalz-er, who works in Success Programs with FASET and Freshman Council and is the advisor to SophCom.

“While we have, in the past, mainly focused on programs relaying to

SGA’s online booktrade site offers alternative to bookstore, auctions

By Shakeela Bader
Contributing Writer

As a new semester dawns and students are buying textbooks for classes, students often turn to alternative methods of buying and selling their textbooks in hopes of avoiding the overpriced offerings at the bookstore.

“Industrial Engineering junior Anita-ny Mojica said, “I sell my books back to students. I know, buy online through Amazon.com, Ecampus.com and other college textbook websites.”

Other computer-saavy students also use the Tech news-group git-ads.

However, another option that is available at SGA’s online book-trade site at http://sga.gatech.edu/booktrade. Third-year Comput-er Engineering major Shan Pesa-rus is the webmaster for the site, using his newfound computer skills by creating a mini-Ebay for trading textbooks at Georgia Tech to help alleviate the burden on students’ wallets through a book trading website.

Pesarus made the website in July of 2002, and received backing from Student Government Association (SGA) to strengthen and publicize this new way of trading books.

The website allows Georgia Tech students to trade, resell and buy the textbooks required at Georgia Tech. Pesarusaid “the website is a third party which connects people safely and quickly for book trading.”

David Busman, the chair of SGA’s Public Relations Com-

Biography group finds more than Nemo

By Grace Nam
Contributing Writer

For those who think that research is all about microscopes and Petri dishes, how does swimming among fish for nine hours a day and living in a facility that is 47 feet underwater and awkward living conditions but also got to study rich underwater life.

Last November, Professor Mark Hay of the School of Biology led a team of graduate students to the underwater laboratory Aquarius in the Florida Keys. The laboratory is government-sponsored and lends itself into a booth with six other friends, and Modern Affairs

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Hay explained, “Around the whole island nation of Jamaica, coral cover was 60 percent in the late seventies. In the early nineties it was three percent. One of the primary reasons for this was over fishing; people took most of the fish that eat seaweeds. If they are not controlled by grazers, seaweed will grow over and kill corals.”

After a significant amount of underwater observation and video taping, they found that there were three species of surgeon fish and 15 species of parrot fish that were important grazers.

The team built 32 big cages with different combination of these fish to observe the effects on coral reef growth.

“As soon as we started putting fish in [the cages], sharks started teeming them apart to get the fish out. Eleos blasted right though them like missiles. We had to repair that and figure out ways to keep the sharks from tearing them up.”

For those who think that research is all about microscopes and Petri dishes, how does swimming among fish for nine hours a day and living in a facility that is 47 feet underwater and
Computer science grows as students come in with leg-up

By Joshua Cuneo
Senior Staff Writer

There’s one in every class: the “smart guy” in the corner who starts incomprehensible dialogues with the professor and baffles the rest of the room with his amazing grasp of the curriculum.

Some of the most notorious breeding grounds for these people are the introductory computer science classes. There are so many computer literate freshmen, in fact, that many now congregate in the newly-formed CS 1321X and CS 1322X courses, diminishing the variation in computer talent within each course but highlighting the vast differences in computer literacy of Tech’s overall freshman body.

“You’d get people who had never touched a computer all the way up to people who had written books,” said Bill Leahy, a lecturer for several intro computer science courses, speaking of a time when there was no CS 1321 and 1322 a breeze for those students like Gilman and DePalma.

“The fact that sometimes some people have home computers and so we were essentially the guinea pigs…and that resulted in everybody essentially teaching themselves how to do what programming they wanted,” said Gilman. He later moved on to programming himself as a local programmer who built professional-level web pages.

“DePalma also enrolled in an AP Computer Science course in high school and said it felt more worthwhile. “Most of my actual learning came from the internet and my AP teacher,” he said.

A popular perception is that all of that experience pays off by making students like Gilman and DePalma so familiar with several programming languages as well as the installation and upkeep of servers. Like Gilman, he began playing with his mother’s Macintosh at 10 years old and quickly picked up the nuances of its operation.

“There are a lot of creative concepts that are out there that you can’t really teach yourself.”

Nick DePalma
CS junior

And all the people that you meet, especially the professors, [are] extremely smart.

The presence of students like Gilman and DePalma also provides an immediate resource for their classmates.

“The good thing about computer science is it’s applied to so many different areas that you can pick whatever you real interests are and pursue them to a degree,” said DePalma.

“Some people have home computers and the internet…[Y]ou can download Linux book, and I’m sitting here thinking that the classes have still taught me a great many things. Just having previous experience with things can really put you a step ahead,” DePalma added, “but it doesn’t really give you the rest of the story. There are a lot of creative concepts that are out there that you can’t really teach yourself as well.

“We petitioned [my high school] to make a programming class, and so we were essentially the guinea pigs…”

Justin Gilman
CS freshman

“We read through a computer manual book like some would read a fervent interest in the material. “People told me that ones and zeros make up a graphical representation…and I was just amazed that a bunch of switches could do that,” Gilman said.

Gilman and DePalma turned to books, the internet and associates for help in their endeavors, picking and choosing among the various topics according to their immediate interests.

“I actually have an uncle who graduated in CS, so he kind of led me in the direction that computers were going in at the time,” said DePalma.

DePalma and Gilman recalled their high school computer science classes and summer work experience with varying degrees of fondness.

“They pursued it, they said, due to a fervent interest in the material. “People told me that ones and zeros make up a graphical representation…and I was just amazed that a bunch of switches could do that,” Gilman said.

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freshmen, such as FASET Orientation and Psych 1000, we have a significant number of sophomores who interact with our programs whom we would like to make sure are provided for at Tech as well,” Stalzer said.

“When the students who organized SophCom brought the idea up to us, it was just perfect timing that [we] adopt them and collaborate together.”

Currently the initiative for more class identity is somewhat fractured between several groups. While freshmen have ample organizations to become involved in, the push for identity in other classes has been driven mostly by individuals—student leaders in each class that have emphasized that there are not similar opportunities for their year.

Also, the groups are not all under the same leadership. While Sophomore Committee is under Success Programs under the advisement of Stalzer, Junior Class Committee is a committee under Student Government Association.

Part of this division may be due to the fact that the committees have different ideas for what their conception of class identity means.

“I want to tackle it differently from how SophCom and the freshmen are doing it,” said Phuong. “Freshmen are trying to get freshmen involved right when they get to Tech. SophCom is still trying to get them involved, if they missed their opportunity as freshman.”

On the other hand, Phuong said, “Junior class defines itself as doing events just for the sake of doing events.”

One idea that the Junior committee have been discussing is a ring ceremony for class rings, though she said that many things are “still up in the air.”

SophCom is also planning events for the spring semester, including an event similar to Sports Orgy but only open to sophomores.

“You would have to go look and find other sophomores...there might be people you didn’t know were sophomores,” said Allison Weathers, SophComm’s current Programming Chair.

She added, “Up until our big event, we would like to do a series of small events like having trivia and a twister contest, just to put our name out there and get more sophomores involved.”

One problem that both organizations have faced is funding, due in part to the fact that sponsors are sometimes hesitant to fund events based on the somewhat nebulous definition of class identity.

The Junior Committee had wanted to have Junior’s before Thanksgiving break, but Phuong said, “We couldn’t pull funding together to get it to happen.” They were eventually able to get the $850 they needed from Parent’s Program. Phuong is also talking with Dean Gail DiSabatino, and has suggested the idea of a class fund where the money would be used only for class-specific events.

Both committees have talked about the importance of continuity. “Now it’s just more of, can we actually make it stick,” said Wright. “That’s the main challenge [we’re] facing now.”
By Kristin Noell
Contributing Writer

Many people may have a narrow view of the type of students at Tech, but some students continually amaze cynics with their well-rounded personas.

One such student is Caroline Medley, a 25-year-old Suwanee native who was crowned Miss Georgia USA 2004 on Nov. 8, 2003.

Medley’s dreams of being a pageant winner began right here at Tech, where she was “looking for my place among Georgia Tech’s world-class scholars and athletes.”

“I wanted to find my niche,” she said, and found it while reading an article in Atlanta’s Jezebel magazine about Tiffany Fallon, Miss GA USA 2001 and second runner-up to Miss USA 2001.

In reading the article, Medley learned how many opened doors and opportunities Fallon found through winning her title.

Therefore, after a little more research, Medley “soon found [her]self preparing for and pursuing [her] goal of becoming Miss GA USA.”

Medley’s pageant career actually started in high school, where she entered the school pageant during her junior year in 1995, winning the title of Miss North Gwinnett High School.

However, she first competed for the title of Miss Georgia seven years later in the 2003 pageant, where she placed in the top six before winning the crown the following year.

The competition consists of three equally weighted phases of competition, which include interview, swimsuit and evening gown. The swimsuit and evening gown segments involve modeling for the judges and audience, whereas the interview portion includes a personal one-on-one interview with each of the five judges, as well as several random on-stage questions if the delegate advances to the “top five” selection.

Medley calls the crowning moment at the Rome City Auditorium “a very thrilling yet humbling experience. It was the culmination of a year and a half of hard work, sacrifice and dedication all coming together at one moment.”

Being Miss Georgia 2004 obviously comes with responsibility. Medley served as the 2004 Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl Queen and attended all of the Peach Bowl activities and events, which included the Parade and Bowl Game on Jan. 2.

Currently, she is preparing for the Miss USA Pageant, which NBC will broadcast live in March.

If she is crowned Miss USA in March, she would then proceed to compete in the Miss Universe 2004 pageant, which will be held in Ecuador this year.

Since becoming Miss Georgia, Medley had to discontinue classes at Tech because of other hectic schedules.

However, she intends to return to Tech in the 2004-2005 academic year in order to complete the 18 remaining hours that she needs for a Bachelors of Science in Management.

Still, there’s more to Medley then defining stereotypes. She is currently serving as a classroom assistant for two second grade classes at Lynn Hall Elementary School in Gainesville, Georgia for the third year in a row.

In addition, before winning her title, she was the Internet Sales and Website Director for the southeast’s largest Mercedes-Benz retailer. She still enjoys designing websites in her free time, and actually developed her own website at www.caroline medley.com.

In addition to working for Mercedes-Benz, she has test-driven and raced new Mercedes-Benz models around the Atlanta Motor Speedway, chartered a catamaran and set sail off the coast of St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

She also takes pleasure in hitting balls at the driving range, considers herself a “free-lance” “handy-woman,” collects purses and has a passion for politics.

How does Medley keep everything together?

“Thankfully I am a very organized person, but sometimes things do tend to get a little hectic,” she said. “I just always have to keep telling myself that I can only do the best I can.”

She says that being a pageant winner has not changed how fellow Techies have treated her. “Everybody at Georgia Tech has been and still is very encouraging and supportive.”

All members of the Tech community can be proud that such a beautiful, intelligent and well-rounded woman considers herself one of us and presents a less stereotypical picture of Tech students to the rest of the world.

Let us know what you think @ opinions @technique.gatech.edu

Caroline Medley discontinued her classes at Tech when she won Miss Georgia 2004, but fully intends to return to finish her degree. Currently she is preparing for the Miss USA pageant, which takes place in March.
Books from page 9

mitten, added, "the website is meant to cut off the middleman, maximize return for selling books and minimize cost.

A student can login without a fee and indicate the book she is selling or buying. The student receives email alerts when another student is buying or selling the desired book, then both students are able to set up a meeting via email.

The main features of the website include a small image of each book, price comparison through half.com and email alerts.

A few students like Kellie Saylor, freshman Industrial Engineering major, have used the book trade website to get textbooks.

Saylor said, "I got my Linear Algebra book for eleven dollars, and I didn't have to pay shipping and handling like I have to with online websites like eBay." She said she will use the website again.

However, many Tech students are not aware of the website, though they are open to the idea of using it.

Rebecca Roach, a second-year Public Policy major, said, "I think buying and selling books is such a pain, and you get gouged by the bookstores because you get little money back."

Chemical Engineering freshman Sarah Jacoby agrees, and after learning about the website said that "it sounds interesting and I'd like to know more about it because I didn't get as much money back from the bookstores."

Nearly 3,000 students have visited the website since December 25, 2003. The number of active accounts have nearly doubled since 2002. Since 2002, $14,975 has been used in selling the books online, and 582 books are available to date.

Pesaru said "the numbers will probably increase once the site is more publicized."

Among the students in the forefront of this project is last year's Head of Campus Chair Vickie Cherry, who helped initiate the website. SGA chalked the sidewalks twice.

"I got my Linear Algebra book for eleven dollars, and I didn't have to pay shipping and handling like I have to with online websites like eBay." Kellie Saylor, Industrial Engineering freshman

Aquarius from page 9

Real life underwater was not as glamorous as Captain Nemo's luxurious one on the board of the Nautilus.

"Because of the pressure, there is a lot more oxygen per cubic centimeter of air," Hay explained. "This means that if you get a fire, things are really going to burn well. So stuff becomes flammable there that is not flammable here. The Aquarius technicians have to check everything that goes under."

Due to this fact, they could not have an open fire to cook food. The team had to eat freeze-dried food—and, of course, fishing was out of the question. The team was perpetually cold and wet because it was hard to heat the Aquarius. Everyone got blisters on their feet from scrapes with the ocean floor.

One of the more interesting experiences of living underwater 24 hours of a day was answering the call of nature.

The "outhouse" on the Aquarius consisted of a chamber filled with water, but with air trapped at the top. "You stand in there so that you can breathe, without the tank," Hay said.

"When you come out of the Aquarius with a wet suit on, the fish pay no attention to you. [But] when you come out without a wetsuit on, the fish are really interested in you. They think our wastes are like candy," Hay said with a laugh. "And they are not patient and are very hungry."

In addition, sleeping quarters were small and confined: six people had to squeeze into a tube-like room that was eight by seven feet. "It was like a tube with three bunks on each side, with barely enough space to get in between them."

"Some people talk about being claustrophobic or feeling like they are shut in, but for most of us, because this is what we want to be doing, it is almost more freeing than it is claustrophobic," said Hay. "We can spend a lot of time swimming with fish and that part is really neat."

Although it was hard work, the team was surrounded by the sublime magnificence of the ocean day and night.

"At night, one can look out through view ports and see the clouds of thousands of fish that were attracted to the lights on Aquarius."

Mark Hay, Biology professor

"At night, one can look out through view ports and see the clouds of thousands of fish that were attracted to the lights on Aquarius."

FOCUS
Stiller in a rut, but Along Came Polly

By Jason Allen
Staff Writer

After catching the ubiquitous trailer for Along Came Polly before nearly every theatrical release during the past two months, my senses told me that Universal was uber-hyped this latest effort from Ben Stiller and Jennifer Aniston in order to cover for a lousy product. Simply highlight every single gag in a winning preview and hope for the best in the January film wasteland. I was wrong.

Stiller’s straitlaced Reuben Feller never lives on the edge because, as a New York City risk analyst, he constantly calculates the odds of a

Jake’s Westside offers more than just unusual ice cream

By C. Jason Malhey
Senior Staff Writer

Jake’s Westside is the third Jake’s in Atlanta and a welcome addition to west Midtown. Located a few blocks northwest of Tech, Jake’s offers a quality student atmosphere with unique ice cream flavors, a wide range of breakfast, lunch and dinner foods, books, games, free internet and of course, caffeine.

The café and ice cream parlor is a very friendly locale with a great, laid-back environment. The development is fun, but not flashy, and feels like a back environment. The development

Along Come Polly centers around Reuben Feller (Ben Stiller) and Polly Prince (Jennifer Aniston). Feller is a risk analyst and as a result leads a rather mundane, sheltered existence. That is, of course, until Polly comes along.

See Polly, page 16

Purchase discounted Ferst Center tickets

Take advantage of the Ferst Center’s “One Day Sale” for students and staff. Students with a current BuzzCard can purchase two tickets for only $15 each. Faculty and staff receive 50 percent off any two tickets. The sale lasts from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Jan. 17.

Geek Love to play through Jan. 25

Horizon Theatre company adapts Katherine Dunn’s cult-classic novel into a stage performance of Geek Love. The show runs through Jan. 25 with riper prices ranging from $12 to $15.

Forget to make Friday night plans?

The High Museum is hosting Friday Jazz. A $15 admission price lets you into the Robinson Atrium to eat, drink and mingle among the more sophisticated in Atlanta. Of course, smooth jazz dabbles the background.

Peach drops on city, marks start of 2004

By Kathryn Shoemaker
Contributing Writer

The majority of Tech students will spend four to five years for the most part ignoring that they live in the major city of the South. In an effort to not go back on a New Year’s resolution to make the most of living in the downtown area, it was imperative to attend one of the largest events of the Atlanta winter season: the Peach Drop at Underground Atlanta.

The massive party this year hosted 145,000 people for over 16 hours of revelry. It was televised in Atlanta and even syndicated to over 50 cities across the Southeast. Besides being an event that those of us who live Tech for other less popular cities might regret missing, the Peach Drop has everything a college student could want in a party: no cover charge, live entertainment and DJs, ease of attending and lots of college and mid-twenties people from schools like Tennessee and Clemson (the Peach Bowl was the same week).

Park on East Campus, preferably ER51 (the old R01) and walk to the North Avenue Marta station. Though, late night Marta travel is usually not something that a 5’2” female should engage in, the increased police presence and the fact that 99 percent of the riders were going to the same place made for a safe ride. The ride itself was worth going out for, a medley of trendy cloths, with jeans, old football jerseys and of course the occasional plastic hat.

Underground is located at the connection of the lines, but by following the flow of the crowd, it was hard to get lost. After stepping off of the terminal, the whole street seemed to come alive with crowds of people. The main party is right by the peach, though earlier in the night the stage had the highest density.

On a normal night Underground has the reputation of a tough crowd, which is really too bad because Kenny’s Alley is awesome. Picture an indoor atrium with bars and pubs on both sides and people milling around and talking among them. This is perhaps the perfect place to wait for midnight, where the music is background noise so you can talk, but the atmosphere is full of all that is great about a low-key pub with-
catastrophe happening to him every day. Avoid sidewalk grates. They're not secure. Never eat the mixed nuts at the bar. You surely know that only one in six people wash their hands after using the restroom. The bowl of cashews you’re nursing there contains the germs of many, many, many customers who fingered through earlier. Think about that.

Reuben places every major decision he makes into a computer software program called the Riskmaster 3000. This tightly wound ball of nerves has eagerly lined up his entire existence, content to reside safely in the suburbs with his beautiful new bride, Lisa, played by Debra Messing. Reuben’s 50-year plan goes awry somewhere on day one of the marriage, when his wife is caught with her honeymoon scuba diving instructor doing the horizontal tango, swim flippers flailing about in the air.

A devastated Reuben begins to rebuild his protective bubble but eventually runs into former middle-school classmate Polly Prince, who is now a catering waitress. This spark from the past gives him hope, even if she is the total opposite of his highly structured personality, and the romantic comedy formula gradually kicks into high gear. There’s a reason it’s a formula. It works if done properly. The ensuing courtship of this onscreen pair follows the expected script arcs, but I constantly had a goofy grin on my face and often laughed out loud.

Stiller infuses insurance man Reuben with the same lovable charm he brought into other successful romantic comedies such as There’s Something About Mary and Meet the Parents. He’s mastered the well-intentioned, sad sack that you want to see succeed no matter how badly he’s screwing up dinner or getting tongue-twisted. Aniston doesn’t do much beyond channeling her free-spirit-ed Rachel Green from Friends, but apparently that gig’s worked out pretty nicely for her on NBC, and it fits perfectly here, as well.

The impressive supporting cast includes Alec Baldwin as Reuben’s blunt, insensitive boss prone to bathroom urinal pep talks. Hank Azaria turns on a hilarious English-man-gling foreign accent as the enormous buff and scantily clad islander who seduces Lisa on the beach. However, the standout Philip Seymour Hoffman steals every scene he’s in as Sandy Lyle, Reuben’s best friend and repeatedly self-described “wing-man.” Not usually one for the joker-sidekick role, Hoffman embraces every pratfall and offers wince-inducing relationship advice. He grasps for past fame as a child star and alternates his wardrobe mostly among an extensive collection of crotch-hugging sweatpants.

Polly

Stiller infuses insurance man Reuben with the same lovable charm he brought into other successful romantic comedies such as There’s Something About Mary and Meet the Parents. He’s mastered the well-intentioned, sad sack that you want to see succeed no matter how badly he’s screwing up dinner or getting tongue-twisted. Aniston doesn’t do much beyond channeling her free-spirit-ed Rachel Green from Friends, but apparently that gig’s worked out pretty nicely for her on NBC, and it fits perfectly here, as well.

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Take a date. Expect a crowd-pleasing good time.
The 1980s are back and better-sounding than ever, thanks to Virgin Records’ remastered re-releases of 12 CDs by Simple Minds. Extremely popular in Europe, Simple Minds best known in America for their song “Don’t You (Forget About Me),” featured on the soundtrack for the movie The Breakfast Club. The band was formed in the late 70s by Jim Kerr, Charlie Burchill, Tony Donald and Brian McGee. The name Simple Minds was inspired by David Bowie’s “Jean Genie.”

The band has survived over 20 years since releasing their first album, Life in a Day, in 1979 and their latest, News Lights, however, is not available as a remastered reissue. The band’s evolving sound can be heard over the 12 re-issues. The first few albums sound like kids who just discovered the synthesizer. There is a flavor of dance club music in these CDs, especially Empires and Dance. Songs are fast-paced but with better lyrics—lyrics that are sometimes so bad they have to be good.

After hearing one of their mid-80s releases, first-year Materials Science major Andrew Whitman said, “This smells like the 80s.”

This statement is the most accurate assessment of the mid-80s sound of the band. The sounds conjure images of big hair and the early days of Saved by the Bell. The band has audibly improved by this era, in which they released their hit “Don’t You (Forget About Me).”

At the year's end, Simple Minds’ sound gradually becomes more and more '90s and progressively better. With their 1998 release Neapolis, the band has much better lyrics and music. Comparing later releases with the earlier material is like watching the band grow from child to adult in the span of a few hours.

Out of the 12 re-issues, there are three worthy of recommendation. The first is Live in the City of Light. This live CD has all the band’s hit songs on it, including “Don’t You (Forget About Me)” and “Alive and Kicking.” Empires and Dance is another really solid, early release. It’s got some good synth-pop tunes with a progressive rock feel. It’s also got some nice distorted lyrics on “Twist/Run/Re-pulsion.” Lastly, Neapolis is a really great modern album with a more mainstream sound. It’s got great songs like “Superman vs. Supersoul” and “Killing Andy Warhol.” The reissues include: Life in a Day, Reel to Reel/Cacophony, Empires and Dance, Sons and Fascinations, New Gold Dream, Sparkle in the Rain, Once Upon a Time, Live in the City of Light, Street Fighting Years, Good News From the Next World and Neapolis.

“Don’t You Forget About...” Simple Minds

By Erich Hansen

The 1980s are back and better-sounding than ever, thanks to Virgin Records’ remastered re-releases of 12 CDs by Simple Minds. Extremely popular in Europe, Simple Minds best known in America for their song “Don’t You (Forget About Me),” featured on the soundtrack for the movie The Breakfast Club. The band was formed in the late 70s by Jim Kerr, Charlie Burchill, Tony Donald and Brian McGee. The name Simple Minds was inspired by David Bowie’s “Jean Genie.”

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Two Bits Man brings tidings of wisdom after fertilizing Baltimore Harbor to ring in 2004

I don’t remember where I was on New Year’s 2000. Since it wasn’t the end of the world, it just meant that pop radio would finally retire “1999” by the Artist Formerly Known as Prince (or whatever the hell he called himself in 1999). Likewise, I don’t remember where I was on New Year’s 2001, 2002 or 2003 either. Probably parties, but I’m not totally sure.

New Year’s 2004, on the other hand, is a different story. Allow your Two Bits Man to once again prove that truth is indeed stranger than fiction. After all, it’s not every day that you see a death metal band at a punk club in Baltimore with lager-than-life paper mache genitalia and condoms suspended from the ceiling with fishing line. That is how I spent New Year’s Eve this year, and that is why I won’t forget it.

The day started like any other New Year’s, other than the fact that I was in Baltimore for the first time in my entire life. What do you wanna do? Oh, I dunno. Anything should do! Obviously, we needed to change moulding was actually the corresponding wrapper to the paper mache condom we had just seen.

Two Bits Mistress said, “Ya know, I may be slightly overdressed. I think I’m the only one wearing a Nordstrom sweater.”

Don’t get the Two Bits Man wrong. I have the utmost respect for the artist who was able to so accurately able to recreate both male and female anatomy on a yard-long scale. They say that scale modeling is a delicate art, and I’m sure that it’s just as delicate when you are in fact enlarging the model instead. What a gifted artist! We were indeed awed.

Though the club was quite visually stimulating, the Two Bits Man and the Former Two Bits Mistress were still overly enthused about our surroundings. Fortunately, the Former Two Bits Mistress’s younger brother drove, so we did the obvious thing; we proceeded to get drunk. Of course, New Year’s Eve is one of those times when the partygoers’ spirits. I looked at the harbor and proposed that it was the obvious place to go, but no. “Don’t disrespect my city,” she scolded, and we hobbled about until we found a building that was still open. With a fast beeline for the crowded restroom, we waited and finally made it out at 11:57.

Midnight came, fireworks were shot and this was another year in which we were all still alive. What should you take home from this story, other than birdcage liner, of course? How about a public service announcement?

Millions will choose to drink on New Year’s Eve, but if you do, please drink responsibly, locate the bathroom before you start. This message has been paid for by your Metro Atlanta Two Bits Man, who until next week wishes you a happy 2004.
Theme Crossword: Fiscal Limitations

By Robert Zimmerman
United Features

ACROSS
1. Ledge 76. Household gods
6. Brume 77. Affleck or Kingsley
10. Long narrative 78. "N Yankee Doodle dan-
14. Cut from (with "off") 79. Patient’s problem
dy..." 80. "Mermaids" star
17. Wood for chests 81. N Naples
21. Molten material 82. N Braden
22. Asian palm 83. N Underwater plant
23. Rich, crumbly soil 84. N Lab burner
24. Woody’s son 85. Shundig
25. N arms 86. Stern vessel
26. Star of Spike Milligan 87. Sub N (in secret)
quip: 3 wds. 88. Lab compound
29. Circus family 89. Part 2 of quip: 5 wds.
31. Bark 90. Wedding announcement
32. Call for help 91. Part 3 of quip: 3 wds.
33. Looks over 92. Old Mogul capital
34. PC alternative 93. Digits
35. Part of quip: 5 wds. 94. March bird
36. Diva’s offerings 95. Enclave
38. R hustat author 96. Hippodrome
39. Person of importance 97. Diving birds
41. Affleck or Kingsley 98. Shindig
42. Newspaper 99. Shindig
53. R hustat author 100. Seed vessel
57. Diva’s offerings 102. Sub N and N
58. R hustat author 104. Sub N and N
59. Person of importance 105. Kind of triangle
60. Moos 106. R hustat author
61. Nordic airline 107. Purposeful
62. R hustat author 108. R hustat author
64. N airliner 109. N jacket
65. R hustat author 110. N jacket
66. R hustat author 111. N and N
68. N airliner 112. N jacket
70. Ate 113. Moos
71. Humdinger 114. N jacket
72. Buckle relative 115. N jacket
73. N Lazuli 116. Kind of surgeon
74. Of fleecy beasts 117. Perry’s creator
75. N Lazuli 118. Bankrupt
76. Household gods 119. Village People hit
77. Affleck or Kingsley 122. Expert
78. "N Yankee Doodle dan-
dy..." 123. Actress N Sorvino
80. "Mermaids" star 124. TV’s "Cagney & N
81. Patient’s problem 125. N Digital
82. "Mermaids" star 126. Swiftly
83. Patient’s problem 127. Resembling a wing
84. N Lazuli 128. Purposeful
85. Albanian money 129. Print measures
86. Mimicking one 130. Slumgullion
87. Grandmothers 131. Lovett or Waggoner
88. Peer Gynt’s mother 132. Hippodrome
89. Part 2 of quip: 5 wds. 133. Hip
90. Dervis remarks 134. Hip
91. Chart 135. Hip
92. Town in Maine 136. Hip
93. Derby town near London 137. Hip
94. Seven: prefix 138. Hip
95. N Naples 139. Hip
96. Underwater plant 140. Hip
97. Lab burner 141. Hip
98. More skilled 142. Hip
99. Ate 143. Hip
100. Seed vessel 144. Hip
101. Cutaneous 145. Hip
102. Sub N and N 146. Hip
103. Awn 147. Hip
104. Awn 148. Hip
105. Awn 149. Hip
106. Shot in billiards 150. Hip
107. April baby 151. Hip
108. Youths 152. Hip
109. One of the Brontes 153. Hip
110. One of the Brontes 154. Hip
111. Oo N 155. Hip
112. Lab compound 156. Hip
113. Moocher 157. Hip
114. Coup d’N 158. Hip
115. Zoomed 159. Hip

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See Solutions, page 27
Skydive from page 28

requirements testing your knowledge and safety in the air.

The principle is simple. While falling 120 mph from an altitude of about 10,500 ft., teams ranging in size from two to eight must coordi-
nate to make as many formations as possible before they have to deploy their parachutes. For every forma-
tion properly made and in ac-
cordance with the rules, the team gets a point. How-
ever, for every infrac-
tion of the rules, points are deduct-
ed. Teams have roughly 35 sec-
onds of time, ac-
counting for a safe distance from the ground, to do as
many formations as possible.

GT Inviscid, a four person team
composed of members Allison Ya-
sitis, Brian Timberlake, Craig Sell-
ars and Jonathan Bartlett, took first
place at the competition, beating
the second place team by 21 points.

“We formed GT Inviscid two
years ago with the sole purpose of
winning Collegiates. After two years
of exceptionally hard work, train-
ing and competitions, it was an amaz-
ing experience to be able to perform
so well and accomplish our goal,”
said Yasitis, president of the club.
They also posted a record for best
single round score of 24 points.

In the Sport Accuracy event, in-
dividuals try to land as close to the
center on a given target as possible
without running out of the target or
missing their mark.

Brian Timberlake won first place
while Jonathan Bartlett placed sec-
ond in the event. Overall GT took
home eight medals— five gold and
three silver.

“All of the Georgia Tech jump-
ers performed so well at Collegiates
this year. It was a very exciting com-
petition,” Timberlake said.

For more information, check out
www.cyberbizz.gatech.edu/skydive.

Lady Jackets face ACC challenges

By Kimberly Rieck
Sports Editor

After an exciting win against Flori-
da State in the ACC season opener,
the women’s basketball team next
faced No. 1 Duke at home last Thurs-
day before a crowd of over 3,800
people.

The Jackets went into the game
looking for their first 2-0 start in ACC
history and their first victory in eight games against a No. 1 team.
As Duke dominated the first half,
Tech shot 20.7 percent and had 12
turnovers in the first half. The score
at the half was 42-13. However, in the
second half, the Jackets refused
to give up and continued to battle
back. Fallon Stokes scored 16 points
for the Jackets. Duke ended up win-
nning 77-45 thanks to the offensive
plays from Alana Beard and Mu-
ique Currie.

The game was also the first time
Duke coach Gail Goestenkors faced
head coach MaChelle Joseph. While
an assistant at Purdue, Goestenkors
had recruited and coached Joseph.

“Rome wasn’t built in a day, and
Duke wasn’t built in one day ei-
er,” Joseph said. “The way I look
at it is, we have to take it one day at
a time. Our number one goal when
we started the season wasn’t to beat
Duke. Our number one goal was to
win 20 games and make the NCAA
tournament.”

After the Duke loss, the team
went on the road to Charlottesville
to face the Cavaliers.

The matchup was extremely close
with both teams shooting 39 per-
cent from the field in the game.
With the Jackets trailing from the
first half by two, the team went on a
13-1 run to go up to 41-31 mark.
However, the Cavaliers came back
with a run of their own. Stokes led
Tech with a season-high 26 points.
In the final five seconds of the
game, Virginia’s Latonya Blue hit a
pair of free throws to lead the Cavs
to a 60-59 victory over Tech. With
the loss, Tech’s record is now 10-5,
1-2 ACC.

The Jackets will continue their
pursuit for an NCAA tournament
bid and 20 wins when the team
faces Clemson at home Jan. 18.
Cagers from page 28

ly, no one player I can think of. It’s been a collective effort all season,” and Muhammad noted the improvements of point guard Jarret Jack, forward Clarence Moore and Schenscher.

Unofficial captain B.J. Elder, in addition to leadership, contributes to the tough and fierce style of play the Jackets fashion. Elder, also, has raised his field goal percentage five points from last season and his season points average to the level of Chris Bosh’s at 15.6 points per game. Although Elder has seen his shots fall less and his presence less effective the last couple games, Hewitt hasn’t lost any faith in his veteran guard, saying he’s merely in a “slump.”

The towering Schenscher has showed glimpses of greatness—topping 15 points twice and achieving his first ever double-double to go under that belt. Schenscher has become the No. 6 player in a “slump.”

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“I know this team is better than that. We’re not going to make these mistakes much longer.”

Paul Hewitt
Men’s Basketball Coach

faces in the crowd

Will Bynum
Junior-R
Basketball- Guard

Will Bynum, a transfer from Arizona, is a speedy point guard who provides energy off the bench for the Jackets. The Chicago native became eligible after fall semester and has quickly been integrated into Tech’s high flying attack. The junior played in a total of 36 games at Arizona, starting 11 of them. Before signing with Arizona during the early signing period, Bynum had actually visited Tech. His major at Tech is History, Technology and Society.

Bynum, who has had some of his best outings against top competition, has been called upon to play both guard positions for Tech.

April Johnson
Freshman-RS
Basketball- Point Guard

April Johnson, a 6-2 freshman, is one of seven players over six feet on Tech’s roster. Johnson, one of Tech’s biggest contributors off the bench, is averaging close to 20 minutes a game this season. She was class president at Jones Country High School and was named “Who’s Who Among High School Students” by Marquis’ Who’s Who. Johnson was also a three-time USA Today honorable mention All-American in high school and rated the No. 30 prospect in the nation.

Last season, Johnson was sidelined when she tore her anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee during practice. Before her injury, she had scored a season-high 14 points against Charlotte along with seven rebounds.

Lyndsay Shosho
Sophomore
Tennis

Shosho has become a solid contributor for the Jackets, after playing the No. 5 and No. 6 spots in the lineup last season. She is one of three sophomores on the team. Shosho came to Tech after having a perfect record during her high school play. Her father also played college basketball. Shosho, a New York native, is a member of the 2003 ACC Honor Roll and a Dean’s List student in Management.

She was undefeated at No. 2 singles and doubles this season up until last weekend. At the Michigan Invitational, Shosho went 2-1 in individual competition. Shosho and her teammates next travel to Minnesota at the end of January.
‘Wreck makes history with Humanitarian Bowl win

By Ryan Peck
Senior Staff Writer

In 1978, former Tech great Eddie Lee Ivery bobbed and weaved through Air Force’s defense, as well as a driving snow storm in Colorado Springs, to total a then-NCAA single game record 376 yards rushing.

Over a quarter of a century later, in frigid Boise, Idaho, Tech’s P.J. Daniels sliced and diced the Tulsa Golden Hurricane for 307 yards rushing and four touchdowns, as Tech crushed their WAC opponent 52-10 in the 2004 Humanitarian Bowl.

The only thing bluer than the sky in Boise was the aura of the Golden Hurricane’s players and fans. The sophomore Daniels wasted little time turning a contest into a laugher.

Daniels wasn’t the only Tech participant to cap a fantastic sophomore campaign with one of the most prolific single-game efforts in Tech’s illustrious football history.

Tech quarterback and ACC Rookie of the Year Reggie Ball left at halftime with a hip pointer injury. That hardly mattered, however, as Tech throw but three passes in the second half, totaling three yards.

Tech’s aggressive defense stymied a Tulsa offense that had averaged 36.7 points per game during an 8-2 stretch over its last ten games. The Golden Hurricane were held to just 10 first downs on 144 yards total offense.

Tech also harried its foes into six turnovers and sacked Tulsa quarterbacks seven times. The Jackets superior speed and athleticism on defense stuffed Tulsa’s running game for 56 yards, a new school record.

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By John Scaduto
Contributing Writer

If you were one of the many to witness Yellow Jacket volleyball first-hand, you could just tell that this year’s team was something special. Not that it was a big surprise. Tech did return all of its players from a 2002 team that won the ACC tournament and set a new school record for wins. But if one thing can bring a program crashing back to reality, it’s high expectations—and there were plenty of those surrounding O’Keefe’s squad to go around. The Jackets were ranked No. 12 in the AVCA National Preseason poll after taking the top spot in the ACC Coaches Preseason poll. Early in the season, the team responded to every expectation thrown its way—and in a resounding fashion. Through the month of October, Tech had already registered multiple ACC Player of the Week awards, garnered an AVCA National Player of the Week award and defeated four ranked opponents in the span of one week while coasting to a No. 1 seed in the ACC tournament the following month. After Tech grabbed the No. 7 seed in the NCAA tournament, the team was able to play the first and second round of the tournament at home. Tech absolutely ran over Alabama A&M and Florida Atlantic in dominating fashion using a suffocating defense and textbook offense—reminiscent of earlier times during the season. The serving and passing errors that seemed to be an early-season staple began to fade as the ladies struggled to fend off Florida State in the first round. The tournament championship would be a third showdown with Maryland—the only team that had defeated Tech during the regular season. During the match, the Jackets were plagued with poor serving and sloppy passing and failed to average their only loss of the season. The match left the Jackets with little momentum for closing out the season with a trip out west to California. The wins sent the ladies to Ho- peman to the NCAA tournament the follow- ing month. The No. 5 ranking is the highest national ranking. The No. 5 ranking is the highest rank of any team in ACC history, and the Jackets only lost five games in the process. Tech hit a relative low point in the month of November. They opened the month with the first loss of the season to ACC foe, Mary- land. While coasting to a No. 1 seed in the ACC tournament, the precision that seemed to be an early-season staple began to fade as the program this year more than any other in ACC history. As a squad, the women reached the conference had ever made it to the Elite Eight. Even though Tech lost to No. 2 Hawaii in the tournament, the Jackets put the ACC on the volleyball map. As a squad, the women reached the highest final rank in ACC history at No. 8. They set a new Tech mark for wins at 34, besting last year’s mark of 33. The squad had four all-America honorees: first-team Kele Eveland, third-team Lynnette Moster and honorable mentions Alexandra Preiss and Lauren Sauer. These four were also named to the AVCA All-Region team. The all-ACC team was also crowded with another all-America honoree Sauer and Mariisa Aston. While this was definitely a team effort, no other player personified the program this year more than setter Kele Eveland. Eveland became the first player in ACC history to be named first-team all-America. She set a new ACC assist record and made it up to fourth on the all-time NCAA assist list. Eveland led the nation in assists per game (14.93) while quarterbacking an offense that led the nation in kills per game (18.26). She also grabbed ACC Player of the Year honors. Eveland was one of seven named to the inaugural CSTV all-America squad and one of four to be nomi- nated for the Volleyball Honda Sports Award.

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by the numbers

19

Preseason ranking of the women’s track and field team by Trackwire in the first poll of the season. Future ACC opponent Miami (FL) tied with Tech at No. 19 in the poll.

300.75

Men’s diver Tony Burkhardt’s score for the three-meter board against Alabama. Burkhardt led the diving competition for the men’s team with his first-place performance. Burkhardt was also named Wendy’s Georgia Tech Student-Athlete of the Week along with women’s diver Amy Sutton, who earned third-place for the women’s team at the meet.

307

Number of rushing yards P.J. Daniels had in the Humanitarian Bowl. Daniels ran for the second highest total rushing yards in school history and four touchdowns. Tech defeated Tulsa in the bowl by a score of 52-10.

9

Number of singles matches Tech’s men’s and women’s tennis teams won at the Michigan Invitational. Overall, Tech won nine singles and eight doubles matches at the tournament. The event involved the University of Michigan, Eastern Michigan and Louisiana State.

22

Number of games out of 24 that the men’s basketball team has won before the Virginia game and Saturday’s Maryland game.

Atlanta Thrashers number challenge hint: volleyball

4

Here’s the number...what does it represent?

To enter email the Sports Editor at sports@technique.gatech.edu with the correct answer to the challenge. A winner will be selected from among the qualified entries. The winner will receive a pair of tickets to an Atlanta Thrashers home game, where admission is always $10 for a seat in the $36 section with a student ID. Visit www.atlantathrashers.com for more info on college nights.