All about the Technique

By Tony Kluemper 
Editor-in-Chief

The Technique is Georgia Tech’s official student newspaper. Founded in 1911, the Technique has been published weekly since then, except for a short period of time when it was published twice a week.

The Technique consists of five sections, each of which covers a different area of news. The news section, which starts on the front page, covers issues prompted by events and people in the Georgia Tech community. Administrative and faculty decisions of note or the successes and failures of student organizations, both appear in the news section.

The Opinions section is a forum for letters to the editor from students, faculty and staff members and alumni, staff editorials, full-length opinion pieces written by members of the Technique editorial board and the consensus opinion, the official position of the paper on campus issues. To compose the consensus editorial, the members of the editorial board meet for approximately one hour each week, discuss the issues in each section that most directly and attempt to form an overall opinion on them. The Opinions Editor then articulates the editorial board’s opinion in the consensus column.

Focus is a magazine-style section that provides more in-depth feature-length stories about Tech ideas, issues and individuals. The Entertainment section includes features about Tech- and Atlanta-based entertainment offerings that would appeal to students, as well as music, movie and other reviews. The Sports section covers a wide variety of Tech sports from varsity to club and intramural teams. Each section has an editor who is responsible for its content, layout, and administration.

The Technique has a general staff meeting every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in room 137 of the Student Services building. The meeting is open to people interested in writing or taking pictures for the newspaper and to those already involved. Additionally, section editors often meet with their staffs to assign and collect stories. On Wednesday nights, the editorial staff is on deadline to edit stories and design the layout for the following Friday’s paper.

Students interested in getting involved with the Technique should attend a general staff meeting or email the editor-in-chief for more information.
Technique Credo

This paper is the voice of the student body and the servant of its interests. It is the champion of all causes that will contribute to the development of the institution in numbers, influence, and character.

It has been named the Technique, a name that expresses the purpose and nature of the school and paper as well, perhaps, as it can be expressed in a word. For although we desire inspiration with school spirit, and a wealth of life and feeling for every student, yet we desire also the aim of our work and study should not be forgotten. That, with each succeeding issue, the name should become associated with the richest experiences of our college life, with our most intense efforts, and happiest accomplishments-this is the hope of the editors.

For the Technique desires intensely to serve; to express for us our wishes and needs; to increase our school spirit; encourage us in disappointment; congratulate us in success. It desires to make more efficient the management of student enterprises by offering a means of communication between the directors and the workers. It will obviate many meetings that are now necessary and make more effective those that are held.

It wishes to bring the alumni in closer contact with college like and college enterprise; to bring more quickly and solidly their support to our efforts; to make them feel themselves more intimately a part of the school.

In a word, the Technique desires to serve as a timesaver, a conserver of energy and spirit, a power behind every college movement.
Car thefts jump sharply

By Laura Masce
Senior Staff Writer

Since the beginning of 2003, Georgia Tech has witnessed a dramatic increase in the number of vehicle thefts and break-ins.

Teresa Crocker, chief of the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD), recognizes the growing problem. Between January 1 and August 18 of 2002, she notes that only “48 vehicles were stolen,” while in the same time period during 2003 “64 vehicles were stolen, which was a 33% increase.”

Howie Allen and Leslie Lange are two students who have been personally affected by the rise in vehicle crime. Allen’s car was stolen, while Lange’s car was broken into with items removed.

Allen’s car was found stripped of belongings and some parts. Lange’s possessions were found and returned, as well.

Allen’s car was parked on west campus in the Woodruff parking lot where it was stolen during spring semester. He expressed his frustrations about the lack of parking security.

“That [Woodruff] lot is a high risk area being right next to Northside Drive,” Allen stated. “There’s no security on it. They [Parking] charge a whole lot to have to park in insecure locations.”

Lange articulated similar feelings of dissatisfaction when she stated, “my car was parked on Fowler, right in front of a fraternity house, and no one saw anything. That’s not really a secluded area. I feel that if the police had driven around and made their presence known, maybe it wouldn’t have happened.”

The GTPD is taking note of the numbers of crimes and student reactions, but utilizing more patrolling policemen is not the primary means the department will be using to diminish crime rates.

“We’re not doing it [reducing crime rates] by putting officers in the lot and patrolling,” said Crocker. “It’s not happening because we are already dedicated to that and the numbers are going up, so we have to do something different.”

Crocker and the police force will be instituting a few changes, one of which is canine-trained officers. These officers will be able to utilize dogs in their investigations into vehicle crimes.

“We have two officers who are being trained as canine officers now,” said Crocker. “The main thing I think the dogs will help us with on a day to day basis is tracking these people who are coming over and taking cars.”

Besides instituting canine officers, the GTPD is also working closely with the Parking department in order to determine the best protection for vehicles, especially in the parking decks.
Bob Furniss, Director of Parking and Transportation, has been working with Crocker. One of the ideas they are considering is the use of metal grating in the parking garages.

“One idea that I have that I would like to implement is to put security screening in the decks on the first level,” said Furniss.

“A lot of the decks here on campus are wide open where people could actually walk out the sides of the deck. What I’d like to do is put some aesthetically pleasing, but secure grating in these openings,” he said.

Such grating on the first floor will seal many openings, and it “will actually limit the access and the escape routes of criminals,” said Furniss.

“This will actually make Chief Crocker’s job easier because her officers now could approach the garage at its vehicle entrances and cut off the access points right away,” said Furniss.

This idea is still in deliberation, so it will be some time before it is introduced. One of the immediate changes students will see, though, is an increase in the parking deck lighting.

“The other thing we are doing, and we are starting to do it right away, is to re-lamp the older decks,” stated Furniss.

“Right now a lot of the decks have what they call high-pressure sodium, which is yellow light. We’re hoping to change Georgia Tech’s standard to white light, which is a metal halite fixture. This is bright white light, and that ... will make the garages much brighter,” he said.

Some students have questioned why the Parking department has not simply installed security cameras into the lots. It is because cameras are extremely expensive to install and maintain, so as of right now, they will not be added.

Bob Furniss stated, however, that the new white lighting will be “preparation” for security cameras, and in the future, if cameras are installed, the lighting will already be appropriate and effective.

Parking and Police Departments are still urging students to use common sense when parking their cars. Crocker believes many of the perpetrators to be “professionals” and “repeat offenders,” who know what they are doing. She believes it is important that students take basic measures to secure vehicles.

“It’s the little simple things you can do that protects your valuables, protects your vehicle and adds to the overall security,” he said.
AA changes ticket pick-up procedure

By Stephen Baehl
Senior Staff Writer

The process by which students may obtain football tickets for the upcoming season at Tech has changed. No longer will bringing one’s student ID to the Georgia Tech Athletic Association (GTAA) ticket window the week of the game be sufficient to get a ticket.

Students must now bring their IDs to the ticket window at any time to obtain a coupon sheet. This sheet will have six vouchers, one for each home game.

Students will then bring a coupon to the ticket window the week of the game and exchange it for a ticket. The hours of the ticket window’s operation are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

In order to obtain tickets, co-op students may make a photocopy of the front and back of their cards and sign the copies, stating who will pick up their coupons.

Blocks of 11 to 300 coupons may only be turned in Monday the week of the game, and tickets shall be picked up on the subsequent Wednesday. Only the designated block leader can exchange the tickets. Guest coupons may also be available for purchase by the block leader for inclusion in the block. For away games, students may purchase tickets for the same price at which the tickets are being sold to the public.

Sold out away games will have an announced lottery for ticket sales. The price of the tickets is determined by the hosting institution. Date passes may be available for purchase starting the Monday of the week of the game for the price of an Adult ticket. Date Passes are available for $27 each to the Maryland and North Carolina games. Any questions about the new process should be directed to the Georgia Tech Athletic Association.
Woodruff re-opening delayed

By Michael Handelman

Staff Writer

Anyone who purchased a meal plan this fall quickly discovered that Woodruff Dining Hall, the traditional dining area for West Campus, was closed for renovations.

“I was surprised that [Woodruff Dining] wasn’t ready by the time school opened,” said Will Hobbs, a mechanical engineering major.

”[T]hey knew school was opening, and it still wasn’t ready,” he said.

In lieu of the dining halls, dining services now offers alternatives that include the WestSide Coffeehouse, Brittain Dining Hall, and the Student Center food court.

Todd Schram, general manager of campus dining, cites unexpected construction difficulties that pushed the work past its initial August 24th completion date.

“We knew, going into this, that it was an extremely ambitious project, it wasn’t purely cosmetic,” said Schram.

“Given that ambitious project, everything had to fall into place, and everything had to be perfect, and it just hasn’t happened that way,” he said.

All students who have a meal plan, including west campus residents, may eat at Brittain dining hall, where buffet style serving allows for ‘unlimited seconds’, However, for students who don’t want to make the trek across campus, Dining Services offers other, closer alternatives.

Breakfast meal alternatives include daily continental breakfasts at Westside Diner, with breakfast sandwiches that include Chik-Fil-A. Students may also eat at the food court, with $5.50 allowed for the meal. On weekends, the monetary amount for a food court breakfast increases to $6.50.

The WestSide Coffeehouse is the alternative lunch location. The meal plan will not cover lunch at the Food Court. Students using a meal plan are discouraged from eating there during lunch because of crowding issues. Dinner is served at the Food Court and Pizza Hut, where students will receive $6.50 to spend on their meals.

Students in most meal plans will receive the same, if not higher, dollar equivalent amount per meal in the alternative locations, as opposed to eating at Woodruff. With the ‘West Side Plan’, a meal plan for non-Freshmen Experience housing residents on west campus, the per meal cost is $6.98.

Currently, cost per meal, the total cost of the meal plan divided into the total available meals, ranges from $3.73 to $6.98.

Concern about crowding at Brittain from West Campus residents led Dining Services to place an outdoor servicing facility, serving hot dogs and
hamburgers, for students in a rush.

“Brittain has been fine in terms of lines,” said Schram.

“The student center downstairs went well. It was a steady group of people.”

Some students have expressed concern regarding Dining Service’s ability to maintain a high level of service during the construction period.

“I’ve checked out the WestSide lunch thing, and it’s pretty decent but there’s not much variety, so you wouldn’t want to eat there every day,” said Derek Cash, an aeronautical engineering major.

Although Dining Services confirmed that the current offerings at the alternative locations were not “complex”, there are plans to increase the food offerings once information on the customer counts and food preferences are more apparent.

“We are down there every day talking to [students]”, says Darcy Tice, marketing manager for Dining Services. According to Tice, most of the comments heard have been positive, with students citing WestSide dining option as being a very convenient alternative.

Some incoming freshmen are skeptical that the Woodruff Dining Hall will open on its rescheduled construction date.

"[F]rom what I’ve heard, they’re not really good on staying according to schedule,” said Dan Sankar, a freshman mechanical engineering major.

According to dining services, the renovations to Woodruff were necessary due to both the gloomy atmosphere and lack of food production space available at the existing facility.

A new tray return will be added, eliminating the necessity for students to scrape their extra food into a trash can.

“When a student has to go into a cart and slop food into a trash container, that’s probably not one of the better last experiences of any dining,” said Schram.

Other features of the new dining hall include new carpet, chairs, lighting, and paint. The food service facilities will allow made-to-order meals and display of fresh produce.

Cookies, cakes and cobblers will be available from a new bakery. Specialty foods such as Sizzlin Salads, Premier Pasta, Showtime, and Encore will provide greater variety.

In spite of the closing, many students are positive about the dining hall closing.

Others are frustrated with the inconvenience of traveling further to eat their meals.

“I had to ride my bike over to Brittain, and that was a hassle,” said Hobbs.

“I think it’s an even trade-off to eat food at the food court for now,” he said.
Ineligibilities cause shake-up

By Stephen Baehl
Senior Staff Writer

This season, Tech will be less one tennis player and 10 football players. Academic ineligibility has involuntarily sidelined a handful of student athletes, including leading rusher Tony Hollings and starting defensive end Tony Hargrove.

Reserve players Anthony Lawston, Kingi McNair and Michael Sampson will also miss this season. Other players’ names were withheld due to privacy issues.

“This is not something that should happen at Georgia Tech, one of the leading research universities in the nation,” said President Wayne Clough in a summer press release.

Clough announced June 18 that Academic Support Services would continue to help student-athletes by reporting to both the Athletic Director and the Office of the Provost. He also stated that Carole Moore, formerly the Director of Academic Services for the Athletic Association, “elected to return to a full-time academic role at Georgia Tech,” in which she now serves as special assistant to the Vice Provost.

“I’m very excited about the opportunities I’m being given under the vice provost,” said Moore. “It’s the same thing I was doing before, just in a wider venue than it was.” Moore hopes to work to improve the quality of student life around Tech, something she feels has improved during her 23 years here, but an issue that still could use work.

Col. James Stevens was asked to take over the position of Director of Academic Services. Stevens graduated from Tech in 1975 with a degree in Industrial Management, and “was a former football and baseball stand-out for Tech in the early 1970s,” said Clough. Stevens recently retired from the Air Force.

“With his military background, it goes without saying that [Stevens] will stress discipline and accountability,” said Athletic Director David Braine, “and his leadership will immediately command the respect of our student-athletes.”

“At the same time, he fully understands the challenges that Georgia Tech students face, particularly when combined with the demands of collegiate athletics,” he said.

For Stevens, involvement is key to the success of student-athletes at the Institute. He enjoys his new position, citing “good folks to work with” and the excitement of getting to know the student-athletes.

Stevens said that the department will send people to check on classes to make sure athletes are attending. Any problems will be reported to coaches, who
will then “mete out discipline,” Stevens said.

Furthermore, the Department of Academic Services mandates 10 to 12 hours a week of study hall time for freshman athletes and those who have GPA problems.

Moore said the department also makes use of special tutors for student-athletes, advisors to help them with course scheduling and special sessions to help students having difficulty with tests and/or learning disabilities. Such practices are expected to continue.

Clough also stated that he and Braine “expect better effort and performance from our student-athletes. The vast majority of our student-athletes go far above and beyond what an average student must do in pursuit of their education. But all of the support systems in the world won’t work if a student isn’t motivated to obtain an education.”

Moore told the Technique over the summer that the association offered several services to assist athletes in their academic pursuits, but a combination of management neglect, lack of student discipline and ineffective monitoring all contributed to the ineligible students.

Stevens said his main goal in his new position is to keep athletes on track to graduate in time, which by definition would maintain their academic eligibility throughout their tenure at Tech.

However, it must be noted that many athletes have no trouble maintaining a busy schedule and finding time to study. Stevens noted that athletes whose GPA exceeds 3.5 usually require no monitoring or extra help, which leaves the majority of the department’s resources for those who need them.
Old-fashioned trolley bridges Technology Square gap

A Tech Trolley driver rings the bell as he approaches Technology Square. The trolley route spans I-75/85, connecting Georgia Tech and Midtown. Buses are supplementing the trolleys until more are brought online.

By Michael Handelman

Georgia Tech’s Parking and Transportation Department recently unveiled the Tech Trolley, a new transportation system designed to provide access to Technology Square from various areas on campus. The buses began their service on August 4.

Trolley stops include the Midtown MARTA station, the Student Recreation Center and at the intersection of Ferst and Hemphill. According to the schedule posted by Parking and Transportation, the trolleys will run a ten minute loop, with 1-3 minutes between each stop. This system will run concurrently with the existing Stinger bus routes.

Some students have expressed concern of overlap between the two systems.

“I am glad Tech is getting new trolleys and buses,” said Matt Ridley, an ISyE major.

“I am a little bit concerned at having separate routes for Tech Square. It seems more logical to incorporate Tech Square into one of the existing Blue or Red routes and increase the frequency of the buses,” he said.

However according to Parking and Transportation Director Bob Furniss, the Trolley and Stinger bus system serve different needs and therefore need
“The trolleys run a very specific route to and from campus, Technology Square and the Midtown MARTA station,” said Furniss.

Current routes for both systems show an overlap between Fowler Street and the Campus Recreation Center on Ferst Drive.

Some students have experienced delays in the implementation of the new system.

“My friends and I were waiting for the trolley after hours, but we must have waited for over a half hour, maybe 45 minutes,” said CMPE major Felix Hu.

“It wasn’t until a Gold Marta Shuttle arrived that we were able to catch a ride back home,” he said.

The past reliability of on-campus transportation systems has been questioned. The most recent criticism came this summer with the release of a report commissioned by the Department of Parking and Transportation to analyze the Stinger service on campus. The report cited “numerous complaints about the level of service and a general feeling that the [Stinger] system is unreliable.”

However, a recently negotiated transportation contract with the same vendor included provisions to improve the quality and reliability of Stinger service.

Transportation systems on campus will have “improved standards and mechanisms to insure that those [new negotiated standards] are maintained,” said Furniss.

Some of these negotiated clauses include the purchase of new Stinger buses. There are also supposed to be “spare” buses in case of mechanical failure or breakdowns. Features of the new buses include capabilities for electronic tracking, including the use of Global Positioning System devices.

Parking and Transportation’s ambitious plans to improve on-campus transportation has been hampered by the late delivery of both trolleys and stingers.

Only three trolleys and four stingers have arrived; although there are no temporary replacements for the trolleys, older stinger buses are being used until all the new models arrive. Eventually, the fleet will consist of eight trolleys and ten stinger buses.

Tech is encouraging individuals in Midtown and visitors to use the trolleys, in addition to the usual passengers of students, faculty and staff.

“Anyone can get on the trolley. We do not require an I.D., so visitors to Georgia Tech and Midtown can come to Technology Square direct from the airport. They can ride MARTA and board the trolley at the Midtown station,” said Furniss in a press release.

Parking and Transportation Services hopes that students will use the trolley system as their primary transportation between the main campus and midtown campus. Overall, initial feedback received has shown that “the trolleys have been well received,” said Furniss.

Some Tech students have already begun the search for an alternative name for the trolley.

“I think they should call the Tech Trolley the M-Train,” said Psychology
major Mary Holder, citing the new location of the Dupree College of Management at Technology Square.
Policy change allows some students to exempt Regents’

By Arjun Subramanian
Contributing Writer

[Editor’s note: This article is reprinted, with modifications, from the June 27 issue of the Technique.]

The incoming class of freshmen are sure to face numerous changes in school and state policy from the classes that came before them. Although the tuition increase may be the most noticeable difference this year, students who entered any school within the University System of Georgia after the summer 2003 semester may no longer have to take the standardized Regents’ Test.

This change is a direct result of a spring Board of Regents decision to modify its policy regarding the 30-year-old Regents’ Testing Program. Under the new policy, students who match a specific cut-off based on SAT or ACT scores will be allowed to exempt the exam.

The policy now states that those who have a minimum 510 SAT verbal score or 23 ACT reading score will no longer have to pass the reading section of the Regents’ Test. According to a press release from the Board of Regents, the Board felt these standardized tests adequately represented the same testing standards as the Georgia’s Regents’ Test.

However, different standards are in place for the other section of the test. In order to exempt out of the essay portion of the test, students will have to meet certain standards on national tests that include an externally-graded writing portion. Students that have a minimum score of 650 on the English SAT II exam or a minimum score of 4 on the International Baccalaureate higher-level English exam will qualify students for essay exemption.

In addition, those incoming students who received at least a 3 on the AP test in either English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition will also not have to take the essay portion of the test.

If not eligible for the exemption, students must continue to take and pass the Regents’ Test before accumulating 45 hours of course credit. Students should be notified by email if they need to take the test.

Most notifications begin after a student has accumulated 30 hours of credit at Tech. If the test is not passed by the time one reaches 45 hours, students are then forced to take a remedial reading and writing course.

The Regents’ Test is a two-part mandatory test given to all students in the University System. It is designed to ensure students possess college-level writing and reading competency. Many in the administration feel that the new policy will remove the Regents’ Test requirement for most Georgia Tech students.
“Based on the new testing policy, over 96 percent of the Georgia Tech student community would be exempt from taking the Regents test,” said Debbie Williamson, the Associate Registrar.

Traditionally Tech’s Regents’ Test scores have outperformed the scores of most of the other members of the University System of Georgia. During the 2002-2003 testing year, over 90 percent of Tech students taking the test passed both the verbal and essay portions.
Tech leads in black engineering degrees

By Jennifer Lee
Focus Editor

According to Black Issues in Higher Education magazine’s annual college rankings report, Georgia Tech is the number one producer of African-American engineers at the bachelor’s and master’s degree levels.

This is due to several factors, one of the most important being the increased efforts by administration to recruit minority students without relying on affirmative action quotas. Jessica Gordon, a fifth-year physics major, said that she became interested in Tech when she first received a brochure from the school.

“After I applied, I started to get info from OMED about their services. I was getting calls from Tech about coming, too, so the proactive role that Tech played in recruiting people and actually getting me to know more about the school really intrigued me.”

However, as more black students come to Tech, the on-campus African-American population is also working hard to make sure that the trend continues.

One of the organizations that has played an influential role in increasing the number of black students is the Georgia Tech Chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. In addition to weekly meetings, it hosts academic retreats, study sessions, company info sessions and an annual career fair. It also sends representatives to a national convention each year.

Gordon, who has since become president of GTSBE, has witnessed the trend in the organization as well, for example, in the number of members who are dual-degree students. Tech maintains a good relationship with the historically black institutions in the Atlanta area through its dual-degree program, where students obtain an undergraduate degree in liberal arts from one of the institutions that make up the Atlanta University Center (Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Morris Brown College, Spelman College, Morehouse School of Medicine and the Interdenominational Theological Center), and then move on to obtain an undergraduate degree in engineering from Tech. It is a popular program, with more than 100 African-American students enrolled.

The difference is also one of quality, as evidenced by the freshman class. “Most of the people that have taken leadership positions within the organization were freshman last year,” says Gordon. “A lot of our students last year... did have 4.0 GPAs, and a lot more had 3.0s and above.”

She also attributes some of this success to various hands-on programs. For example, GTSBE participates in the Pre-College Initiative program, a national outreach program where college students introduce science and engineering to local schools. Currently, GTSBE does outreach at Towers
High School, Westlake High School, and Cedar Grove High School.

“If I went to high school and I remember that Georgia Tech came to my campus and told me about engineering, I’d be more inclined to apply,” says Gordon. “Quite a few students who are part of our organization were products of the PCI program.”

For some, Atlanta’s black community is another factor. Michael Johnson, a fifth-year CS major who is also a GTSBE officer, says, “Originally I was planning on doing computer engineering, so I applied to [Tech] because this is one of the top computer engineering and computer science. When it came down to it, I had family here in Atlanta.”

Gordon added, “There are people who do consider... that AUC is right around the corner, and they think about parties and the nightlife of Atlanta. Atlanta is a great city and they do have all that stuff; they do have a great African-American base in the city for us to tap into.”

Increasingly, however, for many black students it is simply Tech’s reputation for strong academic programs that draws them to the school.

One program that emphasizes a focus on academics is OMED’s Challenge Program, a five-week academic simulation where entering minority freshmen review mathematics and science concepts, as well as attend various nonacademic workshops and corporate seminars.

Says Gordon, of GTSBE membership: “I have also seen students take more pride in their work, and that’s also partly due to... the Challenge program.”

Tech is also actively recruiting at not just the high school level. Some programs geared toward undergraduate and graduate students are FOCUS, an annual event designed to attract undergraduates from around to country to Tech’s graduate programs; SURE (The Summer Undergraduate Research in Engineering/Science Program), a 10-week summer research program which pairs undergraduates with a faculty member and a graduate student mentor to undertake research projects in the College of Engineering; FACES (Facilitating Academic Careers in Engineering and Sciences). A collaborative effort of Tech’s Colleges of Engineering and Sciences and Morehouse College to increase the number of African-Americans receiving doctoral degrees and encourage them to become faculty members.

In 2001-2002, Georgia Tech awarded 125 bachelor’s degrees in engineering to African-American students (accounting for 10 percent of the total number of bachelor’s engineering degrees awarded).

Tech is unique in the undergraduate field in that it is the only university among the top five universities that does not have a predominantly black student population.
GTCN revamps cable line-up, adds forty new channels

By Arjun Subramanian
Contributing Writer

The Georgia Tech Cable Network [GTCN], has completely revamped its offering of cable channels to the student community living on campus. The new lineup offers dozens of new channels and a custom mix of content.

International students can get a taste of home from channels such as India’s ZEE TV, TV Asia, China’s CCTV and Japan’s TV Japan. In all, residents now have access to 22 International channels, making GTCN’s offering the most unique in the nation.

The lineup includes all the previous channels and 40 additional channels. From HBO to Cartoon Network, the new offering is customized to meet the needs of the Georgia Tech community and reflects the demographics of the student population. Despite the revamp, the cost to students is the same. Residents of on-campus housing pay for the service through the Housing fee, but will not face any increases due to GTCN.

This is made possible largely through switching from regular cable to Dish Networks. Dish Networks, called Direct Broadcast Satellite, bypasses traditional distribution systems. The recent entrance of DBS into the market has forced the cost of content to come down as cable companies try to compete.

“In the past, what we could offer to students was fairly limited,” said Mark Adelman, General Manager of GTCN.

“[In the past] [W]e were not able to pick and choose, and, as a result, it was severely under-serving the campus. But with the advent of DBS, not only do costs come down, the ability to customize content becomes a reality,” he said.

Despite the hype about DBS, Adelman points out that GTCN does not restrict itself to Dish Networks. The real concern, he said, is access to the right content, and if something is available on cable, GTCN is willing to purchase it.

“The reason for providing such a diverse lineup is one, for the target demographic and two, more importantly, to bring different news perspectives to the campus,” said Adelman.

In the long-term, GTCN sees itself in an advantageous position when compared to other universities across the nation. One of the main factors for this is the quality of the cable infrastructure. GTCN hopes to maintain the quality of the infrastructure in the future. Most universities have problems
with their networks, which are generally old and poorly maintained.

“There are plans to expand into the fraternities and sororities,” said Adelman, “but expanding to offer the service to all students regardless of residence location is impossible due to laws that restrict distribution rights to specific areas.”

GTCN aims to improve student life by delivering quality entertainment into every dorm room.

“Hopefully, this is a step in the right direction for improving student life on campus,” said Adelman.
Bob Furniss takes over as new Parking director

By Michael Handelman
Staff Writer

[Editor’s note: This article is reprinted, with modifications, from the May 30 issue of the Technique.]

Tech’s new director of Parking and Transportation Services has set his top priority as safety, including both the structural safety of parking facilities and life safety.

“GT Parking and Police are working collaboratively to increase patrols in all parking facilities,” said Bob Furniss, who started on May 7.

“Discussing physical upgrades and improvements that will enhance security in the decks,” said Furniss.

With the anticipated completion of Technology Square this summer, Furniss’ immediate project is preparing the approximately 1,550 new parking spaces developed with the complex. Priority for these spaces will go the tenants of the complex, while the remaining spaces will be assigned for student use.

However, with both classrooms and the bookstore now located in Midtown Atlanta, students can access a ‘trolley’ service that will shuttle them between central campus locations and Technology Square.

Some of these trolleys are equipped with a Global Positioning System that will relay the location of the trolley on an electronic message board located at the trolley stops. Implemented in August, this pilot program may expand to an entire fleet of trolleys, if successful.

Construction of new buildings and facilities on campus has recently reduced the number of surface lots. These changes are forcing Parking and Transportation Services to replace lost surface spaces with new multi-level parking structures that include a parking deck for the Campus Recreation Center and Technology Square projects.

However, these upgraded parking facilities requiring more funding for both construction and maintenance. Furniss has examined ways to increase the revenue of Parking and Transportation Services and has offered several solutions.

These ideas including charging campus departments for their use of parking facilities and lots, as opposed to their current ‘free’ use of parking spaces.

Given the current increase in parking permit rates, Furniss anticipates that fees will “rise a little bit” in the next several years to accommodate funding for the new parking facilities.

Alternative sources of income, including the development of parking decks
that include retail facilities and other businesses on the ground floor could assist in bringing in needed funds.

Furniss also recognizes the need for an evaluation of the Stinger and Stingerette campus transportation systems.

Before his arrival at Tech, an outside consultant was hired to evaluate and recommend changes to the current on-campus transportation system.

Although currently there is no timeline for implementing the recommendations of the consultant report, Furniss is confident in his ability to address the concerns of the Tech community.

“There will be significant changes in the Stinger and Stingerette services including improved schedules, dependable service, faster headways and friendlier service,” he said.

Ultimately, Furniss believes that improving these services will also reduce the demand for parking spaces on campus.

“If we provide a very timely/dependable service, then the service will be a good alternative for folks who currently have access to public transit but choose to drive personal vehicles to campus” Furniss said.

With only a few weeks on the job, the Administration has placed confidence in the ability of Furniss to address future challenges.

Rosalind Meyers, Associate VP of Auxiliary Services said, “The department has made great strides over the past few years but we know it has a way to go. He has worked with students and is familiar with the challenges of balancing student needs with the needs of faculty, staff and visitors”.

Undergraduate Student Body President Nate Watson.

“Mr. Furniss brings a great deal of experience with him to Georgia Tech. I believe that this experience will aid him in improving the parking and transportation situation at Georgia Tech in a student friendly-manner,” said Watson.

Watson is also interested in raising the quality of services provided by Parking and Transportation Services.

“With the rising price of parking passes, I believe we should also expect rising levels of service, security and flexibility,” said Watson.

Furniss expressed his desire to “tap the resource of students to get additional thoughts and ideas,” including working with Student Government to gain input.

Students interested in getting involved with Parking and Transportation issues on campus can contact Kelly Ferrell, chair of SGA’s Parking, Transportation and Facilities Committee.
Students face tuition increase

By Tim Atkins
Summer News Editor

[Editor’s note: This article is reprinted, with modifications, from the May 30 issue of the Technique.]

In the face of budget cuts from the Georgia state legislature, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has approved a 15 percent increase in tuition at Georgia’s research universities. The board also voted to increase student fees. Full-time, in-state undergraduates can expect to pay $209 more per semester. Out-of-state students will see a $987 increase. Full-time, in-state graduate students will pay $251 more per semester, while out-of-state graduate students will be charged $1004 more per semester.

Every Tech student will be pay $21 more in student fees.

Even with the hike in tuition and in student fees, Georgia Tech is still considered a bargain by both those inside and outside of Tech.

“[Georgia Tech] still [has] one of the lowest charges among our peer institutions. Georgia Tech has twenty-one designated peer institutions, and we rank as the second-least expensive. [We’re] still a great deal overall, [even] with the increase,” said Carol Payne, Georgia Tech’s bursar.

Although the non-research universities, four-year and two-year colleges received a smaller percentage increase, all college students in the University System of Georgia will be paying more to attend college next year.

Because of the state budget cuts, the four Georgia research institutions must have a larger percentage increase than the fees of non-research institutions in order to maintain current levels of programming.

Premier programs cost more to run. Therefore, a decrease in budget will require even more funds to compensate. Having the same level of programs with less money from state is not possible without the increase in tuition.

Georgia Tech students have faced annual increases in tuition in the past, although not of this magnitude. Any future increases in tuition depend heavily on how the state is doing financially, and how much the state legislature decides to budget the University System of Georgia.

“Our peer institutions traditionally have a 10—21 percent increase every single year,” said Payne.

However, the 15 percent increase will hit some students harder than others. The Bursar’s office said that the HOPE scholarship would still cover all tuition and fees as it has done in the past. For those without HOPE, the financial aid office is working to identify additional funding sources to cover the increase.

The bursar’s office maintains that they care very deeply about the students,
and that no one is thrilled about this increase.

“If students choose to go to another peer institution, they would still have to pay more there than to remain at Tech,” said Payne.
From the archives...

10 years ago: August 20, 1993 – Students began receiving new identification cards. The card would be used temporarily until the Griffin system, precursor to the Buzzcard, could be implemented campus-wide. Vandals damaged an Olympic sculpture on loan from the University of Georgia.

20 years ago: August 12, 1983-Tech hosted Simon and Garfunkel at Grant Field. To protect the field and new Astroturf, the Athletic Association installed a 94,000 square-foot tarp and prohibited food and containers of any kind. Tech received 25 percent of the profits from the concert.

30 years ago: August 17, 1973-The family of Fuller E. Callaway III donated $2.5 million for the construction of the new student athletic complex, then known as SAC-70. At the time, the donation was the largest ever given to Tech. Tech student Kem Hall won the Miss Georgia World Pageant. She was the first Tech student to be so honored.
Breaking the Bubble

Terrorists strike U.N. headquarters in Iraq

Iraq's U.N. headquarters suffered a suicide bombing attack Tuesday when a truck loaded with munitions from Saddam Hussein’s old military arsenal was detonated at the U.N. complex. The attack, considered the worst the international body has ever suffered, left at least 20 dead, including top U.N. envoy Sergio Vieira de Mello. Following the blast, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan questioned U.S. security efforts in the nation, but vowed the U.N. would stay in Iraq.

Virus epidemic spreads through cyberspace

Four different worms have caused problems on computers ranging from home PCs to corporate networks in the past week. The latest, Sobig.F, surfaced Monday in Europe and has quickly spread to several thousand computers worldwide. This comes shortly after last week’s MS Blaster worm attack, which caused many Windows-based computers to crash and led to yet another worm, Welchia, which was written to remove MS Blaster from infected computers. Welchia infected several corporate networks, including Air Canada, forcing flight delays. A circulating email claiming to patch Windows against the Blaster is said to contain a self-installing Trojan application.

Palestinian terrorists kill 20 in Israel

A suicide bombing targeting an Israeli bus killed 20 people Tuesday, including five Americans and at least five children. Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas is seeking the arrest of suspects directly involved in the attack, but will not take further action against terrorist groups without Yasser Arafat’s approval. Israel warned that peace talks could not progress unless the Palestinian government cracked down on terrorism.
News Briefs

Intramural sign-up starts Mon.

Fall Intramurals begin Sept. 2. Anyone wishing to enter a team must attend a Captain’s Meeting Monday, August 25 at 6 p.m. in Instructional Center room 103. Online registration begins Tuesday, August 26 at 8 a.m. and ends Wednesday, August 27 at 12 p.m. For additional information and eligibility requirements, visit www.campusrecreation.gatech.edu/IM.

PEDS awards Tech Square

People Educating Drivers on Safety (PEDS) named Technology Square and the Centurg project Atlanta’s most pedestrian-friendly developments in 2003. PEDS awarded Georgia Tech the Golden Show Award at a ceremony Friday night. Tech alumnus Ryan Gravel also received a Golden Shoe Award for mass-transit research that he began as a graduate student.

Research money apps due Aug. 25

Fall applications for President's Undergraduate Research Awards are due Monday, August 25. The award is intended to fund student salaries and travel expenses. Students should contact individual faculty members to set up research projects. The OUS will review applications and notify award recipients. For application instructions and forms, visit www.undergraduate research.gatech.edu.