Hazing earns Chi Phi suspension

By Tony Klaumper
Assistant News Editor

For the second time in three years, the Dean of Students’ office has ordered the suspension of one of Tech’s Greek organizations. The brothers of Chi Phi fraternity have been suspended for at least two years effective immediately, according to Vice President of Student Services Lee Wilcox.

The investigation of Chi Phi began last month after the Dean’s office received reports of alleged violations of hazing and alcohol policies by the brothers. Once the office received the reports they proceeded to conduct an investigation into the truth behind the matter.

The allegations investigated were in a wide range of categories. “The allegations were in several categories,” said Wilcox. “Probably the two biggest categories were hazing, and there were multiple examples of hazing, and then alcohol violations and there were multiple violations there as well.”

According to Wilcox, the Interfraternity Council (IFC) then became involved because of the seriousness of the alleged issues. “Because of the seriousness of these charges and the potential that a chapter could be suspended, it went to IFC Judicial Board, which is a board totally composed of students,” said Wilcox. “Allegations the IFC-J Board found numerosities of various IFC, IFC and Student Code of Conduct policies.”

Sam Riesenberg, chairman of the J-Board, said that the allegations resulted from events that took place within the past six months. “There were approximately 43 charges involving hazing or alcohol over the last four months, starting around November or December from the point of the judicial hearing,” said Riesenberg.

The J-Board then held a hearing in the matter during which representatives from Chi Phi were able to present their side of the case. “They could either admit responsibility or deny it,” said Wilcox. “For me, all of the charges against them, the fraternity acknowledged responsibility.”

At the completion of the hearing, the See Hazing, page 4

Parking registration kicks off, rates to increase

By Judy Shaw
News Editor

Parking registration kicked off on Monday with a number of surprises for members of the Tech community hoping to garner a coveted on-campus parking place. The online registration system, which debuted last year, returns with even more options and information. These additions also accompany increased rates for parking, which may surprise some current customers.

So far the online system itself seems to be running just as smoothly as it did last year.

“We had a little glitch Tuesday morning where people couldn’t log in, but fifteen minutes later, we were right back up again,” said Rodney Weis, Director of Parking and Transportation.

According to Weis, the University of Georgia recently moved to an online parking registration system. When the system opened, over 2,000 students logged in during the first eight minutes, which caused the server to collapse. No such problems are expected here at Tech, where the system should only improve, according to parking officials.

Weis, along with Parking Systems Analyst Peter Lange, added a number of new features to the registration webpage. First, students, faculty and staff who apply for permits will have the option to select up to six different choices for permit locations.

If the student currently has a parking permit on campus, the sixth choice will be a default choice into the current permit location.

“Students did not know for sure whether they were going to live on east or west campus, so now they can request permits on both sides of campus,” said Weis.

Students and other permit-seekers will also find pages of charts and statistics at their disposal. For example, a student can look at a chart on one section of the webpage to see what lots open up the quickest. He or she can also pull up statistics from last year’s wait list to see how each lot opened up.

According to these statistics, over 6,000 customers, most of them students, were moved off of the various lots last year.

According to Weis and Lange, they hope that this information will allow students, especially those applying for a permit for the first time, to make good choices and set realistic expectations regarding parking registration. Both believe that students applying for a permit for the first time should not expect to get one. Neither the order in which people apply nor their year in school at Tech bear any weight on the selection process. Priority is awarded to all current permit holders first, and then new applicants are added into the system.

See Parking, page 6
Last issue’s poll garnered 57 responses to the question: “Do you think Tech should offer benefits to domestic partners?”

- Yes, as soon as possible. (13%)
- No, not in any circumstance. (72%)
- Maybe, if domestic partners are clearly defined. (15%)

This week’s poll is about drop day. Do you think the Institute should move drop day to the eighth week or keep it where it is? Tell us what you think at www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/technique.

From the archives...

The Nique’s top stories from:

10 years ago: April 24, 1992—The Department of Housing announced the beginning of the Freshman Experience program. The program, which was set to begin during fall semester 2000, is centered around helping freshman adjust to college in hopes of improving Tech’s retention rate.

20 years ago: April 23, 1982—The Tech track team took two individual first place honors at the ACC championships held in Virginia. Sprinter Jeff Larkin and hurdler Raymond Stiles both finished in first place with the team finishing fifth.

30 years ago: April 28, 1972—Due to cuts in the legislative budget awarded to Tech, it was announced that the office of Undergraduate Division was being eliminated. President Petit also hoped to cut our $50,000 of Tech’s $300,000 phone bill. The Registrar’s office announced that pass/fail courses would be offered for the first time during summer quarter.


**TBD motion ruled out of order**

By Judy Shaw  
News Editor

The buzz before the Graduate Student Senate meeting centered on the Tech Beautification Day bill that was failed by the Senate but passed by the Undergraduate House of Representatives. A number of senators were upset that the House passed the bill despite the fact that no senators voted for it.

The TBD bill provided funding for a post-service carnival event that many senators felt was not vital to the successful operation of the community service day itself. In fact, the original vote on the bill in the Senate was 0-18-2.

Electrical and Computer Engineering Senator Leandro Barajas motioned to reconsider the bill. Though at the time the vote on the bill was pending a review by the Undergraduate Judiciary Committee, Barajas wanted the Senate to act to ensure that TBD would not receive the funding.

"There is still some chance that this organization could get the money, and I don't like that," said Barajas.

In addition to moving to reconsider, Barajas suggested that the bill total be lowered to one dollar and passed by the Senate. If passed in a different form than the one passed by the House, the bill would go to a conference committee, and when brought up again, could be failed by the Senate once more.

Vice President Camille Foster-Lonon quickly ruled the Barajas motion out of order. According to a stipulation in Robert’s Rule of Order, a motion for a reconsideration must be made within 24 hours after the bill is originally considered. Since Barajas’ motion came a week later, it was not appropriate according to the rules.

In a somewhat short meeting that ended when the Senate lost quorum, the body did approve an allocation to Freshmen Council for SAC Attack. It also failed a bill to provide funding for award display cases for the President’s Council. The House failed the same bill last week, though in the Senate it received.

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**UHR supports move of drop day**

By Judy Shaw  
News Editor

The Undergraduate House of Representatives ended its 2001-2002 session with a marathon session that saw extensive debate on a number of bills and some representatives giving their final farewells to the body.

Debate kicked off early in the meeting when Chris Kavanaugh’s bill to approve new Justices for the Undergraduate Judiciary Cabinet came before the House. The bill asked that Daniel Crook be named the new Chief Justice, and Jeremy Talley, Don Smith, Jeff Rosenfeld, Babak Banajamali, Melanie Stouk, Dag Alemayehu and Siddharth Easwar be appointed as members of the board. In questioning, some of the representatives felt that the candidates did not adequately understand the issues of the UJC. Though the bill passed, it was not approved my unanimous acclamation as many expected.

Another bill that some expected would easily pass the House met some opposition as well. A resolution on drop day authored by Scott Fletcher was approved by the House, but only after extensive debate on the issue. The resolution asks members of the faculty to consider moving drop day further into the semester—from the fifth week to at least the eighth week. Currently the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee is considering a change concerning Drop Day.

Senior Representative Jason Fowler started the fireworks by stating he was “strongly against” the measure.

“While we let some students withdraw and would cause massive grade inflation that would reflect poorly on the Institute,” said Fowler.

Junior Class Representative Tiffany Massey offered a counterpoint to Fowler’s argument. She noted that Tech’s early drop day causes problems for Tech students who cross-register at other institutions and for students who cross-register at Tech. Be-
Hazing from page 1

J-Board makes a finding of the facts and also develops a recommendation for sanctions against the organization. According to Wilcox, the recommendations made by the J-Board in this case were far reaching. They [the J-board] recommended to the Dean of Students’ office that the fraternity be suspended immediately through the spring of 2004, said Wilcox. They also listed a number of other recommendations for sanctioning.

These other recommendations dealt with the stipulations for the process Chi Phi must go through when they attempt to come back on campus. “The recommendation of the Judicial Board at the time was for notification of the sanctions to the Brotherhood office. After the recommendations of the J-Board were approved, the students’ office then decided whether to accept or not the recommendations made by the J-Board,” said Wilcox.

Since Wilcox rejected their appeal, Chi Phi now has no choice but to face the suspension punishment. According to the official recommendation from the IFC J-Board, Chi Phi must “remove any letters or marks identifying the house as Chi Phi immediately.” In addition, the brothers of Chi Phi must move out of the house by May 30 in order to comply with the sanctions. “I do believe that they deserved it because of some of these issues were brought up a couple of years ago, and they told us they were going to fix them and their alumni and national office were aware of some of these problems and they didn’t get the job done,” said Riesenberg.

The fact that the violations created a dangerous situation for many of the pledges was justification for the suspension according to Wilcox. “There were some situations where their pledge class was at serious risk of harm,” said Wilcox. Wilcox also feels that this suspension could have an effect on the perception of the Greek system as a whole. “Georgia Tech cannot tolerate that and so they must be suspended for two years. But it just hurts when a chapter of what I think is an outstanding system does this sort of thing,” said Wilcox. “It reflects on the whole system unfortunately and adds to the perception that the Greeks aren’t responsible, when for the most part they are.”

Chi Phi is not the first fraternity to be suspended off campus in recent years. Delta Sigma Phi, Zeta Beta Tau, and Sigma Alpha Epilon have all been suspended within the past five years and many view these suspensions as greatly affecting the Greek image on campus. However, Riesenberg feels that the way the Greek system is handling these cases is showing the campus that these acts are not acceptable. “I think it’s really in-line with what we are already doing,” said Riesenberg.

“While they were doing a lot of things that they knew were wrong and they went ahead and did them anyway. This decision is basically the Greek system saying we don’t really approve of that.”

Wilcox is hopeful that Chi Phi will have a successful return in two years. “Hopefully when Chi Phi returns it will be a very positive member of our Greek community.”

Sanctions Against Chi Phi Fraternity

- The Omega chapter of Chi Phi fraternity is suspended from campus immediately and is not allowed to resume operations until Fall 2004.
- The suspension includes any and all kind of organizational activity.
- The brothers must vacate the house by May 30, 2002. Any occupancy of the chapter house after this date will be considered a group activity.
- All current members of the fraternity become Alumni immediately.
- Any pledge or associate member of Chi Phi at this time may choose to affiliate with Chi Phi at the end of the suspension or any other fraternity.
- All violations of the sanctions will result in loss of privilege to present a re-colonization plan in spring 2004.
- If no violations are recorded, a re-colonization plan can be presented in spring 2004. If the plan is approved by IFC and Georgia Tech the re-colonization could begin during Fall semester 2004.
- The re-colonization plan must address the following:
  - The names and addresses of ten alumni who are willing to serve as advisors. A plan for the training of these advisors and a communication system to ensure that Tech is aware of the alumni advisors’ activities.
  - A comprehensive alcohol management plan.
  - A syllabus of a new member education program from pledging through initiation.
  - A comprehensive scholarship program.
  - For any housing facility operated by the fraternity, a House Director must be employed by the house corporation of the fraternity.
  - All debts to the Interfraternity Council must be paid in full.
  - Any other sanctions as may be imposed by the administration to help bring this chapter back to one of excellence.

Rankings from page 1

while each of its programs moved up in rankings this year. Though Tech officials appreciate the high marks they received from U.S. News, they also acknowledge that the rankings do not tell the entire story of a graduate—or undergraduate—program. In an appearance earlier this semester, Clough openly criticized the magazine’s ranking system, noting that there is an inherent bias against public schools like Georgia Tech. Given the imperfection of the system, he still seems to take pride in the repeated performance of the Institute.

While the rankings always move slightly from year to year, it’s important to keep an eye on the trends,” said Clough.
Tech MEs sail to $15,000 victory

By Tony Klaenper
Assistant News Editor

A group of Mechanical Engineering students recently ended the day $15,000 richer after finishing first in the Energy Challenge 2002 competition on April 6. The event, which took place on Lake Lanier, involved six other teams from engineering schools across the country and centered around the building of sailboats made entirely of paper materials.

Energy Challenge 2002 is an annual event sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, and the Institute of Paper Science and Technology. The event is designed to increase interest in science and engineering as well as promoting the awareness of energy efficiency.

The Tech team, which consisted of ME majors Gonzalo Stabile and Yianni Ellis as well as Philip Timm, who navigated the sailboat, finished ahead of both Miami University of Ohio and the University of Maine, who finished second and third respectively.

Although this was not the first time Tech has entered a team in the competition, this year's competition marked the first time that a team from Tech has finished on top in the annual competition.

This is not the first time Tech has competed in the Energy Challenge competition,” said Timm. “Tech competed two years ago in the Energy Challenge 2000 by designing an all-paper board. “Our emphasis on researching, designing, and constructing the board was the one that won the competition.”

Once the first design was complete, the team tested the boat on Lake Lanier. “After testing it at Lake Lanier, we went back and made some modifications to the fins and our waterproofing,” said Timm. “One month later we finished our second board, which was the one that won the competition.”

According to Stabile, the one of the team’s objectives was to make the boat recyclable. “Our emphasis was to design a sailboat that was 100 percent recyclable and make it environmentally sound as possible,” said Stabile.

The sailboat used by the Tech team was a product of numerous paper materials used in everyday life. The base of the vessel was made from cardboard, similar to the product used in grocery bags and cardboard boxes. Inside the sailboat are cardboard tubes that are often used for mailing.

Although this was not the first time Tech has entered a team in the competition, this year’s competition marked the first time that a team from Tech has finished on top in the annual competition.

According to Timm, who has been wind surfing for over two years, the final paper structure handled well. “During the race, I sailed it just as hard as I would sail a normal board,” said Timm. “It performed the same, so in my mind it was the same.”

The team will receive about half of the monetary award which will be given in the form of scholarships. The rest of the money goes to the Tech chapter of TAPPI.
Presidents’ Council honors student orgs

By Judy Shaw
News Editor

Presidents’ Council Governing Board held its annual Burdell’s Best Awards banquet on Tuesday evening in the Student Center Ballroom. At the event, PCGB honored a number of student organizations for their work and activities throughout the school year.

One of the highlights of the evening was the Best Joint Activity award, which went to two organizations. One of the winners was Alpha Phi Omega, one of Tech’s service fraternities, which headed the organization of a fundraiser for the American Red Cross shortly after the September 11 attacks. The event, called “25 by the 21st,” raised over the $25,000 goal before the group’s September 21 target. The other winner was the Filipino Students Association, which organized an activity to increase communication among the various Asian student groups.

FreshGA, a division of the Student Government Association in only its second year of existence, took first place in the Best Activity category. The freshmen group organized an event called “Total Tech Trivia” earlier this semester. The evening event brought together students and faculty to compete in teams in a trivia contest at Junior’s Grill in an attempt to improve relations between students and faculty.

The Ramblin’ Reck Club earned Most Creative Fundraiser for its event that allowed alumni an opportunity to buy a piece of the old wreck to pay for the car to be refurbished. Burdell’s Best has been an annual event since its creation in 1996. More information is online at www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/pres-council.

Burdell’s Best Award Winners

Most Improved Organization “Technique”
Best New Organization Women’s Gymnastics Team
Best Short-Term Project MOVIE
Best Ongoing Project Musician’s Network
Best Activity FreshGA
Outstanding Campus Impact Student Foundation
Best Internet Presence College Democrats
Most Creative Fundraiser Ramblin’ Reck Club
Outstanding Advisor Allie Brubaker
Most Organizational Spirit Teambuzz
President’s Pick American Society of Mechanical Engineering

Parking from page 1

“The day you apply has no bearing on whether or not you are going to get a permit; it’s all driven by your class status,” said Weis.

He also noted that first-time applicants can use the available statistics and charts to choose a few options where they have better chances of obtaining a permit—in addition to the highly-sought central and residential lots.

Some of the parking zones on campus experience greater turnover than others. These lots have a higher probability of opening up for students with low priority, like first-time applicants.

Both noted the importance of registering and getting in the system no matter what. Students can apply for a permit, receive one and then decide not to take it.

In addition to the registration features, parking customers will probably notice the new rates; this year there are only two price brackets to choose from, and both are higher than in previous years. By 2005, all campus permits will cost the same amount—$500.

“The good news is that we’ll actually gain some spaces,” said Weis. The rate increase is necessary, however, to allow Parking to pay for the decks it has built in recent years.

“When we started building garages, we went through and did financial projections, and this is what we have to do in order just to meet our debt allocations on garages,” said Weis.

Since fiscal year 2000 Parking’s garage-related debts have grown from $990,000 to $4.2 million for fiscal year 2005. Since the total budget of the department rounds out near $5.5 million, the debts had to be recovered from parking fees.

“There was a lot of discussion about ‘why should I pay as much for A16 as somebody else has to pay for P07?’ Most people are starting to understand that the garages are not self-supporting; it’s a system. So the spaces out in A16 are subsidizing the people who are parking in the State Street Deck,” said Weis.

According to Weis, if the department did not subsidize garage spaces, those parkers would have to pay, at a minimum $100 a month.

“We understand it’s more painful for some people, but it’s a lot less than the other option. Plus down the road, as we lose these surface spaces, we need to have this system subsidized,” said Weis.

Tech lost a number of such surface spaces—ground-level parking lots and street-side parking—to construction this year. If plans continue with projects like the Greek Area Sector Plan and the Klaus Advanced Computing Technology facility, even more surface spaces will disappear.

Parking hopes to include a small deck along with the Klaus building project, and eventually, Weis hopes to look at planning other decks after 2005.

“We would hope that the increases would just be inflationary after 2005.”

Rodney Weis
Director of Parking and Transportation

Parking Priority

1. Current Parking Permit Holders who request the same parking zone
2. Faculty and Staff
3. Graduate students who are already permit holders
4. Graduate students who are applying for parking for the first time
5. Undergraduate students who are already permit holders but are requesting a new parking zone
6. Undergraduate students who are applying for parking for the first time
7. Any student who applies for parking after the June 30 deadline

If a current permit holder does not receive the zone requested, they will automatically receive a permit for the parking zone they currently hold a permit for.
**UHR** from page 3

cause of rules and regulations, students must drop any classes by whichever drop day comes first.

Biology Representative Brad Bolton agreed.

"Other institutions have later their drop days, and I think we need to follow suit," said Bolton.

SGA Advisor and Dean of Students Gail DiSabito urged the representatives to consider that mid-term grade reports recently created by the faculty. According to DiSabito, many faculty members do not want mid-term grade reports to become a reason for a student to drop a class.

The representatives voted to endorse the proposal.

In addition to debate on drop day, the representatives extensively discussed a funding request from the Scuba Jackets. The group wanted funds to replace equipment that past club leaders had not properly maintained. This request upset a number of representatives, including Fowler, who joked that the club should be renamed the "Snorkel Jackets."

"I think there are some serious shenanigans going on here. I will entertain a motion to buy them snorkels," said Fowler.

Fowler’s joking tactics proved ineffective, however, as the House passed the bill as one of its last actions, though it did accept the Joint Finance Committee recommendation that severely cut the allocation.

The House’s final action was a motion—not in bill form—to grant permission to the Joint Campus Organizations Committee to approve charters during the summer when the House does not meet. The House gave JCOC that power, but only for the summer.

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**Spring Semester 2002 Final Exam Schedule**

<table>
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<th>Class Meeting Time</th>
<th>Exam Period</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>Mon</td>
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<td>4/29</td>
<td>11:30 - 2:20</td>
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<td>4/29</td>
<td>2:50 - 5:40</td>
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<td>Fri</td>
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</table>

**PERIOD FOR CONFLICTS**

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**EXAMINATIONS FOR COURSES SCHEDULED DURING EVENING HOURS (5 p.m. or later):** Examinations for courses scheduled during the evening hours will be conducted either during the regular evening class hours during the period April 29 to May 3 or during the examination period for a daytime section of the course if one is available and the instructor approves.

**EXAMINATIONS FOR CLASSES MEETING A STAGGERED SCHEDULE:** Examinations for classes meeting a staggered schedule should use the examination period for the days of the week that the majority of course meets. Should the exam period be changed to the period for the other days, then it will be the responsibility of the instructor making the change to accommodate all conflicts created.

**EXAM CONFLICT:** If three examinations are scheduled in one day, the examination for the middle period will be rescheduled to the conflict period or to another period mutually agreed on by the instructor and the student. Should the exam period be changed to the period for the other days, then it will be the responsibility of the instructor making the change to accommodate all conflicts created.