Runoff pits Andersen against Howard
Amir captures vice presidency; Keller wins grad VP spot

By Nikhil Joshi  Staff Writer

SCA announced the preliminary results of this year’s elections Wednesday evening.

David Andersen and Andrew Howard will face off for the position of undergraduate student body president in runoff elections next week.

In a year of record voter turnout, Andersen received 1,954 of 4,511 votes (43 percent), while Howard tallied 829 (18 percent).

Voting for the runoff election will take place Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Elections Chair Chris Ran
dine said the results were “not technically official” as of Thursday morning due to investigations into reported violations in the presidential race.

Undergraduate student body president candidates David Andersen and Andrew Howard were the two top vote-getters in this week’s elections. A runoff April 18-19 will decide the race.

AA names new academic services director

By Stephen Baehl  News Editor

Phyllis LaBaw will step into the role of Associate Director of Athletics for Academic Services, according to an announcement by Director of Athletics Dave Braine Monday.

LaBaw was recruited among a pool of possible candidates to fill the position, which was left vacant the past month. She will begin her appointment at Tech by fall semester.

She joins a program that suffered from 11 player ineligibilities announced in summer 2003 in addition to NCAA violations Tech self-reported last fall. The violations involved 17 Tech players between 2000 and 2003 who were incorrectly involved 17 Tech players between 2000 and 2003 who were incorrectly.

LaBaw, who currently serves as the University of South Florida’s Associate Athletic Director for Academic Support and Student-Athlete Development, said she will start her job at Tech before fall semester.

She joins a program that suffered from 11 player ineligibilities announced in summer 2003 in addition to NCAA violations Tech self-reported last fall. The violations involved 17 Tech players between 2000 and 2003 who were incorrectly involved.

LaBaw said she plans to emphasize being communicative with everyone involved in a student-athlete’s academic performance: coaches, staff members and the students themselves. “I’m really an advocate of communication and documentation, and making it an open book on where the students stand,” she said.

She added that she is looking forward to working with the students and staff at Tech, and to taking Academic Services in the direction it needs to go. “I am a huge proponent of relationship-building,” she said. “I’ll enjoy spending time with the academic staff and I’m going to have some learning to do, also. I’m willing to work with them and see what they’d like to have change in the future.”

There are so many resources [at Tech] that we want to take advantage of,” she added.

LaBaw also plans to use her expertise and personal experience in the new position.

“I have a pretty solid academic support program in place here [at USF],” she said, “and I’m going to bring some of what has been successful here to Tech.”

“I am definitely awaiting this opportunity. I really consider it an honor.”

Phyllis LaBaw  New academic services director

GTPD kicks off crime prevention initiative

By Amanda Dugan  Staff Writer

The Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) has started issuing warnings to motorists with valuables in their vehicles as part of a new crime prevention program. The warnings are placed on vehicles in yellow parking ticket envelopes.

“The citation warns that you have valuable items in plain view,” said Carla Cook, GTPD’s Public Safety Officer.

A total of 291 potential victims were given notices in less than an hour and a half hours of officers checking vehicles. “We found items like televisions, purses, stereo, radar detectors, change, cell phones, book bags, clothing, briefcases, sunglasses and tons of CD books,” Cook said.

Theft from motor vehicles continues to be a problem with property stolen often being very costly for victims to replace. “A book of 100 CDs can cost the victim $1,000-$1,700 to replace if stolen,” Cook said.

This new effort comes after a 21.9 percent decrease in theft from motor vehicles last year. However, Cook said, “You can never be too careful. You have to protect yourself.”

Students commented on the possible confusion caused by using parking ticket envelopes in the program.
On March 31, the Georgia Tech Hotel reported a video conferencing unit was stolen. The case is active.

Employee confrontation
On March 31, a female employee in Fulmer Residence Hall reported that another female employee made threats against her.

The complainant said that when the other employee went to smoke a cigarette, she said she was going to get her at 4:30 p.m.

The employee in question stated that she did not make any threats toward the complainant. The employee had a verbal confrontation earlier that day that their supervisors had stopped.

On April 3, a male student lost his black Prada carrying case. He was not sure whether it was stolen out of Harris dorm or if he lost it when he went to dinner at KFC. The missing case was carrying a PDA and a passport. The bag is valued at $300.

Last issue’s question received 54 responses.

This week’s question:
What do you do with your used text books?
Tell us at www.nique.net

Not at all - 15%
Somewhat - 29%
Very, go vote! - 41%

From the files of the GTPD...

Campus Crime

Video conference unit stolen
On March 31, the Georgia Tech Hotel reported a video conferencing unit was stolen. The case is active.

Wallets stolen during sleep
On April 2, two Freeman Hall residents reported their wallets stolen from their room while they slept.

The missing wallets and their contents are valued at $435. Their credit and BuzzCards have been canceled.

Prada carrying case missing
On April 3, a male student lost his black Prada carrying case. He was not sure whether it was stolen out of Harris dorm or if he lost it when he went to dinner at KFC. The missing case was carrying a PDA and a passport. The bag is valued at $300.

Stolen Tech truck recovered
On March 25, a white Tech truck was stolen off of Tenth Street. On March 26, several people called asking about a Tech vehicle in an off campus apartment complex.

Upon arrival, the vehicle was found on blocks, missing all four tires and with a busted steering column.

The damaged vehicle was towed back to campus.

This week’s campus crime information written by Amanda Dugan

Technique welcomes your comments and suggestions, as well as information about errors that call for correction. Messages may be emailed to nique@gatech.edu. Letters to the editor may be directed to the same address, or to opinions@technique.gatech.edu.
Undergraduate House of Representatives

Thomas Johnson looks through information regarding one of the bills brought before UHR at its Tuesday night meeting. The undergraduates passed three bills and failed one.

Graduate Student Senate

Grads pass budget after five weeks of consideration

By Arcady Kantor
Senior Staff Writer

The Graduate Student Senate passed the fiscal year 2006 Student Activity Fee Budget in their Tuesday meeting after having postponed the bill the maximum four times. Three allocation bills were also passed.

The senators started the meeting by moving the budget bill to the top of the agenda, postponing the officer reports until after a vote was taken on the bill.

Over the course of an hour, the graduates passed a plethora of amendments.

The senators commenced the discussion by considering the position of a student assistant who would be responsible for developing and maintaining a web portal specifically dedicated to the needs and concerns of graduate students at Tech.

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) recommended removing this allocation of money from the budget; however, the graduate senate opted instead to restore the funds to the bill.

The graduates did not look favorably upon this reduction, however. Spearheaded by Priyanka Rohatgi, the current graduate coordinator, the senators expressed their opinion that the pay cut was unjustified.

“I don’t see a compelling reason for us to cut specifically this stipend,” said Kasi David, graduate student body president.

Secretary Mitch Keller also spoke in support of maintaining the current pay level for the position. He stated that the cut would “place an unnecessary burden on SGA finances.” If SGA funded Internet advertising for one organization, Oates said, it would have to provide the same kind of funding to other organizations.

However, representatives agreed that it was worth funding. Representative Stephanie Bent said, “We should award the organization for being creative in advertising.”

The house also passed a bill giving $3,106 to Technique for two new computers. An allocation to Golf Club failed because the organization came to SGA without first attempting to fundraise on its own. SGA, according to representatives, should be a last resort for funding.

See GSS, page 5

By Nikhil Joshi
Staff Writer

In its second-to-last meeting of the Spring semester, the Undergraduate House of Representatives passed a total of three bills and failed one.

Two of the three bills—different parts of joint allocations to the Turkish Student Organization—were slated together and passed. The bill allocated $337 to the organization for BuzzGammon II, an event which SGA also funded last year.

One line in the bill, which requested money for Internet advertising, generated some discussion among representatives.

Representative Hunter Oates said that he was concerned because it would “place an unnecessary burden on SGA finances.” If SGA funded Internet advertising for one organization, Oates said, it would have to provide the same kind of funding to other organizations.

However, representatives agreed that it was worth funding. Representative Stephanie Bent said, “We should award the organization for being creative in advertising.”

The house also passed a bill giving $3,306 to Technique for two new computers.

Bills passed

- Joint Fiscal Year 2006 SAF Budget
- Joint allocation to Technique
- Joint allocation to the Turkish Student Association (a) and (b)

Bills failed

- Joint allocation to the Turkish Student Association (a) and (b)
- Joint allocation to Technique
- Allocation to Golf Club

See UHR, page 8

By Stephen Mancer
STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

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STUDENT PUBLICATIONS
said be envisioned the role of the graduate coordinator as a person who fosters communication between the executive branches of graduate and undergraduate student government, enabling the two halves of SGA to work together more successfully, rather than simply as someone who attends the meetings of both graduate and undergraduate legislative bodies and reports what took place at the other meeting.

According to him, the position needs sufficient monetary reimbursement to attract the sort of candidate who would do a good job of it.

The senators also discussed raising the pay of the undergraduate treasurer to match that of the coordinator. This, however, failed to pass.

Another matter discussed by the senators concerned licensing fees for music played on the Georgia Tech Cable Network, by athletic bands at sports games, and in the music listening room.

The matter was clouded by confusion over what exactly the licensing fees applied to, with the petitioners making a variety of statements that implied the fees gave permission to students to use music in ways that, senators argued, fall under fair use regardless.

Keller and other senators called the amendment to a quick vote, speaking out against what they called the misinformation that was being propagated at the meeting, and the licensing fee was struck from the budget.

Other issues covered prior to the budget’s passage included ORGT’s rock climbing shoe funding, increases and decreases in the budgets of various clubs that were mostly related to coaching, and a budget request by the Entertainment Software Producers organization to send five students to the Electronic Entertainment Expo (E3) next year.

The three other bills passed at the meeting were an allocation to the Technique for two new computers, which passed with little discussion, and two bills requesting an allocation of funds to the Turkish Student Association to purchase equipment for and run a backgammon tournament.

These bills also passed after being amended to remove funding for a Technique advertisement, since the tournament is scheduled to take place before an ad could be published in the paper.
The Georgia General Assembly recently voted to allocate an additional $5 million towards the construction of a nanotechnology research center at Tech. This follows a $2 million allocation the Institute received last year to launch the project. The nanotechnology center will be built on the current site of the Electronics Research Building.

The $7 million committed to date is less than a 10th of the total construction cost, however. "The proposal was that the state would fund $45 million and Georgia Tech would raise $35 million for a total $80 million project," said Andrew Harris, Tech’s director of government relations.

"The state’s not going to put all of its money in until we are seen as having raised our share of the money," Harris said. The Institute had originally lined up a donor to cover its entire $35 million contribution. However, the donor, identified in the Atlanta Business Chronicle as Tech alumni Michael Levy, has not yet made the contribution.

"We really don't have a clear explanation except that he, for whatever reasons, just didn't make good on his initial commitment," Harris said.

"The last conversation [Institute President G. Wayne Clough] had with the donor, he was still saying, 'I still intend to make the gift.' But he said that a lot of times, and...in that situation you’ve got to move on," he said. "We’ve had to move ahead with our original plan, which was just to raise the money through our normal development process," Harris said.

Towards that end, the administration has approached a variety of individual donors and groups. "We’ve had meetings with at least two foundations, and we have a commitment from one foundation for $5 million," Harris said. Despite the funding issues, however, work on the project is already underway.

"The project is moving along as we speak..."

Andrew Harris
Dir., government relations

"The project is moving along as we speak because there is the $7 million that’s been authorized by the state, and we have some internal funds here already from private sources that we’re putting with those funds to move the project [forward]," Harris said. The project is currently undergoing the planning and design process. "They’re looking at the programming of the space right now, and we do have a conceptual design," Harris said.

Before realization of the design can begin, however, the future site of the building must be prepared for construction.

"There is a significant amount of site development that has to be done before construction really ever begins, because there’s got to be some demolition done," Harris said. "It is going to cost more than it would if you just had a site here... We think it may be several million dollars to do all of the site development before construction ever begins."

Harris said he hopes that construction will begin by the end of the year. The building is expected to take three years to complete.

See Nanotech, page 8
step up efforts to acquire more used books for students to buy. Their plan to get that increase in books contains two important aspects: encouraging faculty to send in book orders in advance and increasing the amount of student book buybacks.

In order to encourage more students to sell back their used books, the bookstore has begun two initiatives. One of those initiatives, a contest to see which student organization can sell back the most books, began last semester. The organization that brought in the most used books in dollar amount won a prize of $500. This semester, along with the organizational competition, there will also be a raffle prize for one lucky student who sells back his or her books. The winner of the drawing will receive free textbooks for a semester.

According to Maloney and Jon Earle, the bookstore’s textbook manager, their efforts last semester were successful. Used textbook sales for last January, $419,659, were nearly double that of January 2004, during which only $210,261 worth of used books was sold.

According to Meyers, Tech, as an engineering school, has a harder time obtaining used books from outside sources than do other schools. “If most of the required books are on subjects shared with the rest of the academic world, like history, sociology or English literature, used books are easy to find in the used book wholesale market,” Meyers said. “But when your core subjects are physics, calculus and chemistry, finding a large quantity of used books is more challenging.” Thus, the bookstore depends heavily on buying books back from students to fill their stock of used books.

In order to judge which books to buy back and how many of them they need, the bookstore relies on professors to send in their required books list for the next semester before the end of the current semester. In fact, the bookstore asked that faculty submit textbook adoption information for Fall 2005 by March 11.

As of now, not all teachers have submitted their lists, and the bookstore is still actively soliciting teachers for their textbook lists.

The importance of early faculty submissions of textbook requirements lies in the fact that the bookstore can pay students more for textbooks that they know with certainty will be used in the coming semester.

According to Maloney, books that teachers have confirmed for use in the following semester are put on a half-price list. That means when students sell their books back at the end of the semester, they will be paid half the value of a new book. In the end, Maloney said, the student only really spent $50 on a $100 book.

While the bookstore will buy back other books not confirmed by teachers, they can only pay market value for those books—usually only 10 to 30 percent of the original price of the book. The bookstore then resells used books at 75 percent of the price of a new book. This way, Maloney said, students save twice by selling back their used books.

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Safety First: A student working in a second floor lab in the UA Whitaker biomedical engineering building Tuesday morning reported accidentally opening a vial of the toxic chemical sodium cyanoborohydride to the GTPD, which then contacted Environmental Services and the Atlanta Fire Department. Several fire engines and APD cars responded to the incident. The building was evacuated by the fire department, but was reopened within the hour. No injuries were reported.

GTPD

“I’d be mad when I saw the ticket, but once I saw what it was I’d be glad,” said Jessie Spencer, a first-year Industrial Engineering major.

“Making them look like parking tickets might stress people out,” said Tim Gallagher, a first-year Aerospace Engineering major. “It would scare the crap out of me if I saw one on my car,” said Emily Taylor, a fourth-year International Affairs major.

GTPD decided to use the parking envelopes to avoid alerting potential burglars. “It’s in a parking envelope because we didn’t want to alert everyone else that it’s an easy target,” Cook said. Although using the parking envelopes may concern students, several point out the importance of crime prevention. “It is fine to tell them to be careful,” Spencer said.

Dan Brown, a first-year Aerospace Engineering major, agreed. “It doesn’t bother me, they have good intentions,” he said.

In addition to the vehicle citations, GTPD is distributing flyers reminding students to lock their doors and report suspicious activity immediately. “We walked through four residence halls and found an average of two to four room doors per floor open,” Cook said.

“We put a flyer under the doors of rooms that weren’t secure warning people to lock their doors and be on the lookout for suspicious people,” Cook said. The distributed flyer includes a cartoon of a man stealing a computer from a room that is marked not locked.
Serving it up: Thomas Gaylord, a professor in the School of ECE, helps grill hot dogs for the first annual ECE Fair on Monday. The fair provided students with the opportunity to talk to numerous ECE faculty and organizations, as well as grab some grub and win prizes.

**Nanotech** from page 6

According to Harris, this project’s funding will not compete with funding for other Tech construction projects, such as the Undergraduate Learning Center. “The Board of Regents has a majors list, which is big projects, like 10, 15, 20, 30 million dollar projects, and then they have what’s called a minors list, which are smaller projects,” he said. “We didn’t have to use one of our slots on the priority list for this project since the governor essentially made it his project.”

Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue has been an outspoken supporter of the initiative. “The governor feels like this is something that the state needs to invest in, and when we presented the whitepaper to him and outlined some of the implications and what it can do for Georgia Tech, what it can do for the state of Georgia, not only by bringing additional research dollars into the state, but what it’d mean in terms of patents, new products, new manufacturing facilities, and basically,bornm-line, jobs,” Harris said. “The governor was very excited about it.” Harris also said that the center would be a resource not only for Tech faculty, but also for researchers at Emory University, other University System of Georgia schools and local industry.

**CRC takes over tennis court funding**

By Emily Tate Contributing Writer

The Biltmore Tennis Courts on Tenth and Fowler, previously managed by the Athletic Association (AA), are now under the management of the CRC. This change in management is a result of a budget crunch at the AA, which could no longer afford the costs associated with the tennis facilities.

SGA decided to intervene when they heard news that the tennis courts might be shut down due to financial reasons. Student demand was strong enough to prompt action to keep the courts open.

“We have about 10 to 20 people reserving the courts each night,” said Kirk McQueen, CRC facilities manager, on the popularity of the outdoor tennis courts.

“Due to a large amount of student feedback, we decided to ask the CRC to help keep the facilities open,” said David Andersen, chair of SGA’s Joint Finance Committee (JFC).

Together, SGA, the CRC and the AA worked together to come up with a solution to the financial problems associated with keeping the tennis courts open. The CRC has taken over the responsibility of hiring staff and funding the general maintenance of the facilities, thus alleviating the AA of its financial burden.

“We were losing around $50,000 per year,” said Mollie Simmons Mayfield, associate director of Athletics. She added that this figure includes features not available anymore in the facilities, such as locker room access and longer hours.

Another change in the facility is that access is only given to students, whereas before it was granted to faculty and staff as well as the surrounding community. The reduction in costs at the court has allowed the CRC to pick up funding it.

“The Athletic Association still owns the facility; we just fund it,” said Mike Edwards, CRC director.

Edwards added that the CRC will be paying $7,000 for the remainder of the semester and that the outdoor tennis courts have already been figured into next fall’s budget request that the CRC submitted to SGA.

Further reductions were made to the courts’ hours of operation in order to make them more affordable. McQueen said that the courts had been kept open even during times when they were not reserved.

The CRC has thus decided to cut operating hours in an attempt to more accurately meet student and faculty usage levels. The courts are now restricted to being open from 6 a.m. until 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and 12 noon until 9 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. As before, however, the courts will be closed to general use when the tennis team needs them.

**UHR** from page 3

of Campus Affairs, said that the annual Campus Safety Walk will take place at 7 p.m. on the coming Monday.

Because of concerns with safety on campus, Johnson said, “areas of high crime” will be identified for students.
Elections from page 1

However, at the time of the announcement, he said none of the two leading candidates had violations still pending against them. The candidates are busy making preparations for the runoff election next week.

"There's a lot of work to be done, but it's not something that can't be done," Howard said.

"We are down by a lot, but this has been done before. We have good ideas and goals that are accomplishable; the main challenge will be getting people out there to vote," Howard said.

Andersen was not available for comment Wednesday night.

In the undergraduate vice presidential race, Sarita Amir won with 2,365 votes, which translated to 52 percent of the vote in that race. On the graduate side, Mitch Keller tallied 274 votes to Adam Brancato's 169, winning the vice presidential race.

Kase David, who ran unopposed, will serve a second term as graduate student body president. Voter turnout for the undergraduate race was 42 percent, topping last year's total of 3,311 votes and setting a new record. About 10 percent of the graduate population voted.

Patrick Cook, chair of SGA's Public Relations, said that increased publicity played a role in convincing the student body to vote.

"We had a lot more publicity of the election this year from SGA committees and from the candidates themselves," Cook said. "We had a lot more candidates this year [than in previous years], and they did a good job of influencing students to get out there and vote."

The total number of votes jumped by nearly 1,000 Wednesday morning after SGA sent out an email to the student body at 10:10 a.m. asking students to vote, saying, "it only takes a second." In the email, SGA also reminded students that "Georgia Tech competes regionally and within the ACC to have the highest voter turnout."

Cook said, "We sent out two emails this year, whereas last year we only sent one [that is usually sent] at the beginning of the campaign period."

Rankine said that the campaign process went well, except for several violations of the Elections Code resulting in minor reprisals. Another violation is still pending because the accuser did not show up to a meeting with the committee. Also, Rankine said that "some campaign finance reports are being looked into for possible discrepancies."

The first of the two issues already discussed by the committee concerned the use of chalk on sidewalks for campaigning.

"The part of the Elections Code regarding this issue is not very clear. The statements in this section could be taken differently by different candidates, and the candidate [who was responsible for the violation] misread it," Rankine said.

The candidate was not punished for the violation. If the committee allowed candidates to use sidewalks to campaign, Rankine said, it would defeat the purpose of setting limits on campaigning by other methods.

"I would like to see this issue being addressed by next year's committee," Rankine said. "Our intent is to promote elections of a higher caliber. We are trying to keep it civil by setting limits on campaigning..."

Chris Rankine Elections chair

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Breaking the Bubble

A lot of things went on outside the bubble of Tech in the past week. Here are a few important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

Rudolph pleads guilty to Olympic bombing

Eric Rudolph released a statement this week after pleading guilty on Wednesday to four bombings that took place in Atlanta and Birmingham between 1996 and 1998.

Altogether, two people have died as a result of these bombings, while 150 were injured.

Rudolph pleaded guilty as part of a plea bargain to avoid the death penalty. He also disclosed the location of his 250-pound dynamite cache in the mountains of North Carolina, where he had been hiding prior to his arrest in May 2003.

Rudolph will serve four consecutive life sentences with no possibility of parole.

Tensions rise between China and Japan

Tensions between Japan and China are high in the aftermath of a weekend of anti-Japanese protests in Beijing. Protesters attacked the Japanese Embassy as well as various Japanese businesses.

The protests were largely sparked by anger over the approval of new Japanese textbooks that allegedly gloss over Japan's role in World War II.

A Japanese decision to explore opportunities for offshore drilling in a disputed area of the East China Sea has caused increased strain on relations between the two countries, as Japanese officials press for formal apologies from the Chinese government about the protests.

On the flip side, Chinese oil companies have already begun exploratory work in the disputed area, and the Beijing protests sparked anti-Chinese protests in Tokyo.

Wisconsin moves to allow feral cat hunting

The Wisconsin Conservation Congress, an advisory organization for the state's Department of Natural Resources, voted to recommend the legalization of feral cat hunting in the state on Monday.

According to Minnesota Public Radio (MPR), Wisconsin is home to approximately 1.4 million feral cats. This population is responsible for the death of 47 to 139 million songbirds every year, according to www.cnn.com.

The harm to the state's fauna and the problems related to cat starvation are some of the motivations behind the recommendation.

Feral cat hunting is already legal in Minnesota and South Dakota, but statistics regarding the effect of the hunts on local cat populations in these states are sparse.

The leading expert on the feral cat population, University of Wisconsin-Madison wildlife ecology professor Stanley Temple, said he could not predict the effect of any legalization.

MPR reported that he has received several death threats as a result of the proposal.

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