On the road to San Antonio
Final Four fever peaks as Yellow Jackets head for showdown with OSU

By Kimberly Riech
Sports Editor

When the Jackets came back to campus Sunday night after their Elite Eight win in St. Lou-
is, they found a jubilant mob of over 750 fans waiting for them. As the pop band broke into song, the team signed autographs and posed for pictures with the excited fans anxious to meet the team that has earned Tech its first Final Four appearance since 1990. The team clinched a spot in San Antonio by defeating the No. 4 seed Kansas in overtime, 79-77.

“I am extremely proud of this group of young men and Coach Hewitt for overcoming the extremely difficult challenges of the season. Of course, it also shows that if we thought we would finish seventh or eighth [in the ACC], the spirit of the Georgia Tech fan,” Institute President Wayne Clough said.

By Tuesday, Barnes & Noble at Technology Square had sold over 3,000 Final Four commemorative t-shirts, not to mention hats and other Tech paraphernalia, online and through its main store. Despite the fact that San An-
tonio was one that modifies stipend levels and met with past Student Center Directors and worried about the budget to work its way through a conference committee before the end of the semester.

“Tough as it may be for us right now, I feel good,” said Phuong about the election. “But it’s still not over yet, so we need to keep pushing hard to ensure high voter turnout.”

HOPE fee, book funding safe from cuts, for now

By Stephen Baehl
Senior Staff Writer

Despite rumors earlier in the year, HOPE scholars will not see cuts in funding for books and mandatory fees—at least, not yet. “We may have dodged a bullet this year with reduction to the HOPE program,” said Marie Mont, Director of Student Financial Planning and Services, “but many people and most experts are saying that inevitably there will have to be changes.”

The state House and Senate both passed bills that would maintain HOPE funding for books and mandatory fees for at least next year: House Bill 1325 and Senate Bill 471.

According to Andrew Harris, Director of Government Relations for Tech, both bills have a built-in trigger to match each year’s HOPE funding to scholarship revenues; when revenues dip, the amount of funding will decrease for that year.

The two bills have some differences that will be worked out in conference committee before passing the legislature. This legislation runs counter to some recommendations given by a commission that was formed by the state legislature. The commission examined the scholarship’s problems and originally recommend-
ed several ways to cut funding from the scholarship in order to meet money constraints.

“Some of those recommendations were what I call administrative,” Harris said. Such things, he said, include increasing the number of check-ups on students’ GPAs and changing state residency requirements. The administrative changes are, for the most part, reflected in legislation. But these were small money-sav-
ing items in comparison to the main problem, Harris said. “The center-piece of their recommendation was basically eliminating books and mandatory fees from the HOPE program...and that’s where the real cost savings would come in.”

However, this last item is what

FUel to play at Sting Break 2004

Fuel and Bubba Sparxxx will play to packed Tech student crowds Thursday, April 8, at 7 p.m. The free concert comes as part of the protruding of a Shenanigans’ Sting Break festival. Doors open at 6 p.m. The festival itself will take place the same day from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. It will feature activities such as wax hand creation, candy art, a gyroscope and other carnival games. Mime, jugglers and other performers will be present, and corn dogs, cotton candy, soft pretzels, popcorn and snow cones will be available.

Groups collect books for Africa

MOVE is sponsoring Georgia Tech’s partnership with Campus Community outreach and Books for Africa to donate textbooks to help promote education and literacy in the third world countries in Afri-
ca, where the ratio of students to books is one to two. The drive aims to collect unwanted books from students during the week of April 26-30. A complete listing of loca-
tions of the drop bins can be found at www.move.gatech.edu.
We want your opinions!

Let us know what you think about the paper.

E-mail opinions to technique@gatech.edu
By Edward Tamsberg
Staff Writer

By Daniel Amick
improper use of activity fee money
Organization.
ternational Affairs Graduate
week an allocation funding
day. Graduate President vetoed
Senate refuses to overturn veto

Senate refuses to overturn veto
By Daniel Amick
News Editor

Graduate senators failed to
overide a presidential veto Tues-
day. Graduate President vetoed
last week an allocation funding
trip to a conference by the In-
association and approved three other
chartering requests.

By Stephen Marek/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Joint allocation to Campus Recreation Ben Lawder passed
Allocation to IAESTE Hunter Oates passed
Joint chartering of Christian Student Organization Matt Ridley passed
Joint chartering of the Triathalon Club Matt Ridley passed
Joint chartering of Bioinformatics Students Assoc. Matt Ridley passed
Joint allocation to Lambda Delta Rho Saira Amir passed

Joint allocation to Campus Recreation Andy Demaio passed
Joint allocation to Tech Beautification Day Alan Michaels passed
Joint allocation to SGA Alan Michaels passed
Allocation to Campus Recreation Ben Lawder passed
Allocation to Lambda Delta Rho Hunter Oates passed

By Stephen Marek/STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Daniel Hegemen looks over a bill at a recent UHR meeting. Tuesday, representatives
passed through a long list of bills before turning to the Activity Fee Budget.

UHR: Bills Considered

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GSS: Bills Considered

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Final Four from page 1

tonio is over 16 hours away by car, a number of students camped out Monday night for $180 student ticket requests to the event.

"We want you to be here next Tuesday when we get back with the championship." Paul Hewitt Head basketball coach

mock nor Smith had been told the amendment was being presented before the House meeting. The amendment reduced stipends for two of the three SCPC officers from around $2,000 to $1,000. The cuts will affect current office holders because SCPC positions run for fiscal years. "[That] is going to be an unpleasant surprise [for them]" Smith said. He said he thought it was hard for SGA to evaluate the work office holders do because from his perspective "they didn't do any sort of investigation on what student leaders do across the board."

In light of how late the budget controversy landed a few weeks before the discovery.

Office couldn't meet the demand for tickets from the general public. "[The demand] was immense. We took in over 48,000 plus individual ticket requests from over 800 individuals. We had to cut down an awful lot," McLaren said. "We were only able to offer it to our [Alexander-Tharpe Fund] members."

Alexander-Tharpe Fund is a scholarship fund for student athletes, and contributors receive points for donating that give them priority for tickets to certain athletic events. The Jackets will face second-seeded Oklahoma State tomorrow at 9:18 p.m. EST. The organizers of Tech's Relay for Life event will also broadcast the game live at the CRC field during their annual event.

The national championship game will be broadcast Monday on CBS beginning at 9:18 p.m. EST. "We want you to be here next Tuesday when we get back with the championship," Hewitt told the crowd Sunday.

We'd like to hear from you. Write us a letter. opinions@technique.gatech.edu

A lot of things went on outside of the bubble of Georgia Tech this week. Below are summaries of a few of the important events taking place throughout the nation and the world.

Bush allows Rice to testify before 9/11 Commission

As pressure from critics mounted, the Bush administration decided over the weekend to allow National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice to speak before the 9/11 inquiry panel in public and under oath. The decision marks a major shift in policy. Previously, the White House insisted that allowing Rice to testify would undermine the president's authority. The panel agreed to the request that if Rice speaks no other White House aides would be asked to appear publicly before the commission. Her testimony could begin as early as next week.

Stewart still fighting decision, claims unfair trial

Lawyers for Martha Stewart filed for a new trial Wednesday. They claim one juror concealed his previous experiences and lied on a selection questionnaire concerning his opinions on the nature of the trial.

The legal team first became aware of the supposed misrepresenting juror immediately after the trial. Chappell Hartridge, the juror in question, reportedly made comments to the media questioning a prior personal motivation to ensure the conviction of Stewart.

Mars: a great place to visit, but don't breathe deeply

Three independent research teams have concluded that methane is present on the Red Planet. The finding is causing a buzz in the scientific community because there are two possible explanations for its existence: either it was caused by previous life on Mars, or, the more likely scenario, the methane is attributable to geological change. NASA’s Mars Exploration Rovers Spirit and Opportunity landed a few weeks before the discovery.

Breaking the Bubble
due to things like more students continued to increase,” Harris said, “some of the people in the House and Senate decided, ‘Well, maybe we don’t really have to eliminate these things right now.’”

He said the debate turned into a political issue. Republicans, he said, favored cutting the funding more along the lines of the commission’s recommendations, since revenues for the program are still projected to stop meeting its needs in the near future. Democrats favored a continuation of funding.

“There was a lot of sentiment in the legislature that there was no reason to take this funding from students if there was no need to,” Harris said.

What emerged was the addition of the funding trigger in the bill. The initial problem of funding the scholarship, whose revenues come from the state lottery, became clear amidst the state’s other budget woes.

“Georgia’s has the most successful lottery of any state in history,” Harris said. After revenue generated by that lottery climbed each year for several years, it has finally leveled off.

“The expenditures for HOPE continued to increase,” Harris said, due to things like more students qualifying for it and the legislature expanding its scope. He said analysts projected imminent budget problems for the program, though, which led to the creation of the committee who put forth the initial proposal.

Problems are still expected to arise, and Mons said the Office of Financial Aid would work to communicate upcoming changes with students. She also said students need to be watchful for possible upcoming changes and be prepared for them.

“Students need to start planning for an alternative,” she said. She encouraged anyone that runs into trouble or thinks they might to apply for financial aid.

The deadline, she said, is May 1, and when selecting recipients, “We look at the students who apply on time first,” Mons said.

She said some students might have to take out student loans. Governor Sonny Perdue had last year proposed a different solution to the entire problem—one that Harris said received a lot of support from students he has spoken with.

Perdue then suggested a minimum SAT requirement for HOPE. However, analysts found that this action would reduce the number of African Americans receiving the scholarship by 60 percent, Harris said. The bill lost support.

“We may have dodged a bullet this year with reduction to the HOPE program.”

Marie Mons
Dir., Financial Aid

“Students need to start planning for what specifically was responsible for what specifically was constituted a violation to the code,” Bakowski said.

By Chihoon Shin / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Committee determined that an email sent by an agent of Phuong’s campaign, either with or without her knowledge, was a violation of elections code guidelines.

The email was sent Monday to a list of addresses obtained from GT Night at Six Flags and featured Phuong’s name prominently in a discussion about the planned follow-up to last year’s student life event. The end of the email encourages students to vote in the upcoming election and provides links to do so.

“If I didn’t do as much as I would have liked, I was very busy.” Still, he said, “I really enjoyed the chance to think more about what student government should do.”

Other positions elected included representatives for all majors and classes. The top vote-getters of each class’s representative pool will become their respective class’s presidents.

Next year’s Senior Class President is Eleanor Baccay, who won 465 votes. Future Junior Class President Andrew Howard earned 502 votes, and Tiffany Schoenhoff, who got 489 votes, will be Sophomore Class President. Patrick Cook received 241 votes to become next year’s Freshman Class President.