**OUR VIEWS** Consensus Opinion

**Technique’s wish list**

While we had a great break from school and received lots of presents, there are a few that Santa Claus did not deliver. This year, maybe these campus and community wishes will come true. We’d love to get:

- Better teaching and quality of instruction
- Professors who follow the honor code by making word available
- Campus fountains that always have water in them
- A pub or coffeeshouse on campus open past 5:00 p.m.
- Mature students who don’t spend their time destroying parking gates every Friday night
- New light bulbs in light posts and signs
- A non-controversial SGA election season
- Grass to replace the mud behind the Love building
- A student-friendly plan for utilizing the space left by the bookstore’s upcoming move
- Less rejection when we try to shoot pictures for Buzz Around the Campus
- Next year’s National Football Championship
- A Tech presence in this year’s March Madness

‘Thank You’ notes

On the other hand, there were plenty of changes that affected campus in a positive manner during the past year. We are most gracious for:

- Stronger parking enforcement
- Reliable Stingers that run in both directions
- A library open 24 hours a day
- Student Center Food Court renovations
- Improvements in flowers and landscaping
- The administrative decision that let us keep Napster
- Web based e-mail we can check from off-campus sites
- Beating UGA (again!)

Consensus editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board, but not necessarily the opinions of individual editors.

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**YOUR VIEWS** Letters to the Editor

**Stop striving for purely objective thinking**

Despite our SAT scores, U.S. News ranking, and regional reputation, our Institute currently lacks the very most important aspect of any school of higher education: soundness of thought.

It seems that the most current intellectual fad—pragmatism—has swept away our concern for truth. Perhaps we have not yet graduated from our historical roots as a practical trade school.

Among the more obvious philosophical blunders that are promulgated on campus is the myth of ideological neutrality. When some students offer perspectives on morality, justice, or the nature of reality, they are scolded and told that their ideological bias—religious, geographic, cultural, or otherwise—prevents them from being able to reason “objectively.” Instead, they are instructed, atheistic human reason (read: science) is humanity’s “objective” source of truth. (My, how dogmatic you are about your skepticism...)

Though it is intellectually fashionable to think in such a manner, it is also philosophically suicidal and characteristically duplicitous to continue with such ignorance. It is impossible to think rationally without assuming certain things about reality, and those who personally claim ideological neutrality fool only themselves.

Surprisingly, people all over campus are assuming the uniformity of natural laws, the existence of logic, the presence of moral principles, the dignity of human life, and the intelligibility of human experience—all of which are not only philosophically unjustified for the atheist, but are in fact borrowed from the Christian worldview that does account for such things.

The juvenile nature of “neutral” thought is further illustrated by the manner in which most intellectuals...

See Object, page 11

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**Send us letters to the Editor!**

We need you to write letters to the editor. Can’t come up with your own ideas? Here a few suggestions:

- Parking
- Dining services
- Stinger
- Classes and profs
- Bookstore
- Housing

Submit letters under 400 words via e-mail to editor@technique.gatech.edu. All submissions must be received by Wednesday at 8:00 a.m. to be considered for that week’s issue.
Traveling abroad means hearing American stereotypes

After a year in Australia, "loud, stupid American" labeling seems to true in contrast to other's laid back attitudes, especially if you try driving the speed limit on the connector.

"I asked an Australian friend what they thought of Americans. The response was 'loud, obnoxious... overly confident.'" - Kristi Odom

Assistant Photography Editor

It’s a strange experience looking at Americans from the outside. I have been living in Australia for over a year, and it’s the longest time I’ve ever lived outside the US, among others in- sults. I guess I never really heard any insults about the way of life here in the US, but I always heard of Americans so these stereotypes nev- er crossed my mind before. They all seemed harmless, but when I started asking all the stereotypes that I did encounter.

For the most part I wasn’t judged; people would make comments about the things they knew about Americans. I guess I never really heard of the words "people have changed" or "you Americans can’t even elect a president." Australians seemed to me to be very blunt people; they will say any- thing that comes to mind, especially when you ask them about the way they see Americans. I guess being over there at a time where it took us a bit of adjustment to get used to the culture, they didn’t help. I heard "you Ameri- cans can’t even elect a president" on more than one occasion.

I asked an Australian friend what they thought of Americans. The re- sponse was "loud, obnoxious... overly

confident. That’s in general. There are the odd ones that I know that are much the same as Australians." Then I asked what the Australians where like, and he said, "friendly, quiet, laid-back, you know what we are like." The insults that my friend listed about Americans were the same stereotypes that study abroad warned me about.

In an article for one of the Uni- versity of New South Wales stu- dent newspapers, there was a story about "laid-back, lazy Australians". I remember reading a line that read something like "I would sug- gest that many Americans do not act like Ameri- cans." I heard a story about a friend of mine who is American you probably don’t know about Canada." If I ever heard anything stupid, the constant response was, "right, you Americans are from Afghanistan.

From my general observations I have noticed that American do lack knowledge of other countries. We have a ton of knowledge about our own country and about other con-try ourselves, but we barely know anything about the countries them- selves. The Australians seem to know less about their own country but more about the rest of the world.

Lots of criticism came from the feeling of superiority that a lot of Ameri- cans have when looking at the other countries. How can one have a feeling of superiority when they know little to nothing about anything outside the US? You can’t form a compar- ison if you know nothing about any- thing but yourself. If you think that "you Americans know nothing about what you know about other countries.

I don’t mean to generalize, but more explain some of the interest- ing viewpoints I came across. I no- ticed for the first time after I came back here that we Americans have a very laid back attitude. They are not trying to get to the top and make a lot of money. They usually want to have enough cash to be comfortable, and go to the pub with their mates. They put more into living a comfortable life then living one with a lot of success and mon- ey. Priorities are different, it is not what you make but how you live it.

You can find many people that are looking at the other countries and enjoying their own lives. For the most part the Australians don’t make a show about themselves. They don’t mind about "how not to act so Ameri- can" if you are from a different country. The Australians are not all the same. The stereotypes that I did encounter.

I noticed for the most part that Australian people were happy and enjoying their own lives. For the most part the Australians don’t make a show about themselves. They don’t mind about "how not to act so Ameri- can" if you are from a different country. The Australians are not all the same. The stereotypes that I did encounter.

In Australia, "loud, stupid American" labeling seems to true in contrast to other's laid back attitudes, especially if you try driving the speed limit on the connector.

"Safe and low risk life makes boring. We have to realize that asking someone [or being asked] out is not something... scary." - Christina Freymann

Advertising Manager

Is casual dating possible at Tech, or only relationships?

Despite the famous, or infamous, Institute ratio, many people are either in relationships or never date. Despite the famous, or infamous, Institute ratio, many people are either in relationships or only relationships. Is casual dating possible at Tech, or only relationships?

Derek Haynes, Joseph Jeong, Jon Kuo, Mary Man, Brian Oatman, Dan Wade Burch, Darkroom Mgr. Alan Back, Bobby Bowman, Kit Francis, Joseph Jeong, Jon Kuo, Mary Man, Brian Oatman, Dan

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begin with the Enlightenment assumption that unaided human reason is the highest authority in order to "objectively" (and circularly) concludes that the Christian view of divine authority is incorrect and that human reason is the highest authority.

It is imperative that you learn to recognize and question the bias that underlies most of your daily teaching and thinking. Help return intellectual soundness to our school by demolishing the myth of ideological neutrality and instead corporately seeking the most credible bias from which we should begin our thinking. Only then can we establish a true university atmosphere that brings unity of thought amidst a diversity of ideas.

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