Taking down the Tigers! Men’s Lacrosse defeats #15 ranked Auburn.

Making paper airplane? Tech students place in national paper gliding competition.

**SPORTS** page 29

**FOCUS** page 13

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**Board of Regents approves new major**

By Tony Kluemper

News Editor

In an attempt to greater diversify the majors available at Tech, the Board of Regents approved a new joint degree at its April meeting. The new degree will combine the School of Modern Language and the School of Economics. According to Phil McKnight, professor and chair of Modern Language, the degree will offer students a choice of four different language concentrations: French, German, Japanese, and Spanish.

This new degree is driven by the impact of globalization and the need for organizations to have employees who understand different cultures. See Major, page 4

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By Daniel Amick

Assistant News Editor

**SARS scare cancels Asia trips**

Uncertainty and concern over Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) has forced Georgia Tech to cancel two summer study abroad programs. Both programs involved travel to China or Southeast Asia, where SARS originated, and where the disease has hit hardest. An Industrial Engineering program involving ten weeks of study in Hong Kong and Singapore was cancelled April 3.

“We were all set to go,” said Professor Chen Zhou, head of the IE program. “We had bought the tickets and everything. People were feeling really excited.” Hong Kong and Singapore are global centers for international trade and logistics, the perfect laboratories for industrial engineers. Unfortunately, both cities are also at heart of the SARS outbreak. Since November, the virus has killed 66 people in Hong Kong and 12 in Singapore.

At first, Zhou was reluctant to cancel the program completely. He explored the possibility of studying at Mexico’s Monterrey Tech, but there was not enough time to create a new program from the ground up. Zhou, in consultation with another professor and the Office of International Education (OIE), decided cancellation was the best option. He said SARS should be taken seriously because much about the disease is unknown.

“I understand that common flu is a bigger killer than SARS… but at least it’s more understood. There are ways to deal with it. But with SARS we don’t know how to deal with it. People put on masks. Does that have any effect? Nobody knows,” said Professor Zhou.

“I was upset at first, because I thought SARS would maybe go away,” said Frankstone, a student who had signed up for the program. However, Frankstone said that he understands the cancellation.

“I think, overall, [those in charge of the program] made the right decision, even though

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Wilcox announces December retirement plans

By Stephen Bashl

Copy Editor

After 42 years of service in higher education, the past six of which have been at Tech, Vice President of Student Affairs Lee Wilcox will retire this December.

Despite the fact that, as Wilcox said, “Working in student affairs really keeps you young,” he felt it was time to retire. “I wanted to enjoy recreation and travel while I still could,” he said.

Wilcox came to Tech in June 1997 following “a period of a decade or so where our student affairs operations had languished for lack of leadership,” said President Wayne Clough.

“Lee has been a tireless advocate and leader of student affairs,” said Undergraduate SGA Executive Vice President Nate Watson. “He faithfully worked to help the student body on numerous issues, from the Student Bill of Rights to the Academic Life fund.”

Wilcox oversaw many other improvements to student life at Tech, as well. According to Clough’s email announcing Wilcox’s retirement, “New activities included the major grant obtained for Georgia Tech to undertake GRAM, a high-risk drinking, Georgia Tech’s first Women’s Resource Center, Ramblin’ Nights, the When the Whistle Blows Ceremony, and a broadened academic integrity initiative.”

Most notable, however, is the role in the conception and development of SACII. “[It]’ve put more time in on SACII than any other single thing,” said Wilcox.

Wilcox also worked on the Student Leadership Initiative, improv- ing diversity at Tech, and, on the whole, “trying to promote a sense of community; in other words, trying to make Georgia Tech a better place to live, a better place to work, a better place to study,” said Wilcox.

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**BuzzCard maker silences student opinions**

By Tim Cailloux

Senior News Photographer

As a computer security conference last weekend, Billy Hoffman, a fourth year CS major, planned to present his research on Campus-Wide, the network the BuzzCard system uses. Hoffman began researching ways the system could be circumnavigated nearly two years ago. His research led to the discovery that it is possible to fool the system into thinking that a real BuzzCard was used when in fact, one was not. This flaw would, for example, allow someone to get free laundry service. When the number of sexual assaults on campus increased, Hoffman started investigating how the system could be used to gain unauthorized access to dorms and other buildings.

Early Saturday morning, Blackboard Inc., the company that sells CampusWide to Tech, served Hoffman with a temporary restraining order that kept him from giving his presentation.

Hoffman planned to present information on the network protocol used by the BuzzCard readers and demonstrate his version of a reader that could be used to fool the network. The potential to hack an original reader connected to the BuzzCard network.

Along with Virgil Griffith, an Alabama University at New College student, Hoffman explored the protocol used by BuzzCard readers to see how it worked and what information was being transmitted. The readers send all data to the central server via a special computer interface. Under Sean’s Accandle, the Ninth

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**Woodystock to rock April 19**

The eighth incarnation of Woodystock will be held Saturday, April 19, from 1 p.m. until dark in the FE commons on East Campus. The event will feature three local Tech bands, including Weberdog, Woodystock regulars. 

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**Tech to celebrate 2003 Earth Day**

An Earth Day celebration will be held at the Campanile April 25 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The celebration will feature live entertainment, alternative fuel vehicles, a side walk chalk contest and in-line skating. The Nike Reuse-a-Shoe program will also be present. Nike will collect 5,000 old sneakers and use the material to make Georgia Tech a basketball court or athletic field.

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**Finals, Midnight Breakfast return**

Dead Week begins Monday, April 21. Finals week begins April 28. The finals schedule is posted on our campus wide. 

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By Scott Meederen / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

College Republicans chair Alexander Brunk voices his opinion at a war in Iraq teach-in last Friday. The College Republicans chair Alexander Brunk voices his opinion at a war in Iraq teach-in last Friday. The College Republicans chair Alexander Brunk voices his opinion at a war in Iraq teach-in last Friday. The event, sponsored by Amnesty International and the Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility, featured speakers including President Clough, students and others members of the Atlanta community.

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**Sharing Opinions on the War in Iraq**

By Jim Oldfield

Senior News Editor

“Watching people grow through their Georgia Tech experience and knowing that I played some small part in that is great.” Lee Wilcox

Vice President of Student Affairs

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Last issue’s poll garnered 49 responses to the question: “What is the most important step administrators should take to improve safety on campus?”

Technique Online

Voice Your Opinion!

This week’s poll question relates to the student accused of hacking the BuzzCard. Should Billy Hoffman be punished for his actions? Tell us what you think at www.cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/technique.

From the archives...

10 years ago: April 23, 1993—The Office of Information Technology announced that Georgia Tech may soon require all students to own their own PC. Budget shortfalls made the option appealing to administrators because it would allow them to eliminate all computer clusters on campus.

20 years ago: April 22, 1983—A lab on the fourth floor of the Physics Building was damaged when a high pressure reaction vessel ruptured. The vessel contained clay and heavy water at a temperature of 500 degrees Centigrade and a pressure of 30,000 pounds per square inch when it exploded.

30 years ago: April 20, 1973—A safety valve released a massive amount of steam in Harris dorm. A consensus editorial called students who repeatedly vandalized the steam compressor in front of Tech Tower hypocrites. The vandals were upset that money had been spent to salvage the compressor instead of paying for lighting and sidewalks around campus.

Feeling like you need to vent? How about a change of scenery? The Tech can be a great place to study or relax. Who knows, you might even find a quiet spot to read a book or catch up on some work. And don’t forget to check out the various eateries nearby for a quick snack or meal. Whatever your needs, the Tech has you covered.
Senate takes final immigration vote
By Tony Kluemper
News Editor

After over two months of debate, the Graduate Senate finally put the international student immigration resolution to rest Tuesday by passing a graduate only version. Ironically, the final bill passed without any discussion.

The graduate resolution came after the Undergraduate House voted to reconsider the joint resolution at their meeting last week. This decision prompted former Graduate President Alan Michaels to propose that the senate resubmit the resolution approved by the conference committee as a graduate-only motion.

“Basically it will be the same resolution as we approved before, but everywhere that it said ‘Student Government,’ it will now say ‘Graduate Student Senate,’” said Michaels.

The proposal by Michaels and the resolution passed unanimously.

With the first four bills on the agenda tabled, the meeting looked to be a quick one. However, the graduates ended up debating many allocation bills which were originally slated to be discussed at next week’s meeting.

Some of the bills discussed caused considerable amount of debate surrounding the requested funds. One of these was an allocation from Sports Riders, an organization that received its charter earlier this semester. “Right now every time we have to get our bikes fixed, we have to take them to a professional even if we know how to do it ourselves,” said the Sports Riders president. “Therefore, we are requesting money for tools so that we can do it ourselves.”

Immediately many senators were worried about where the tools would be stored. “It doesn’t sound like there’s a good accountability for the tools,” said CSE Senator Roy Furchak.

After nearly 20 minutes of debate from both sides, the vote was called and the bill passed.

A joint resolution was approved by the Graduate Student Senate Tuesday night. Watson will replace Tiffany Massey as student body president next year.
it was a hard one to make,” he said. As SARS cases began to pop up in other Asian cities, Georgia Tech decided to cancel a second program. The eight-week International Affairs program focusing on political economy in Beijing, Shanghai and other Chinese cities was cancelled Monday.

Program director Dr. Fei-Ling Wang said cancellation was “a huge disappointment” and “truly saddening,” but “I do understand the rationale.”

“I was hoping, until the bitter end, that the powers that be would choose to continue the program,” said would-be participant David Mardis. “Deep down, I knew that SARS is pretty serious stuff, and that the program was going to be cancelled.”

“I feel sorry about the cancellation,” said fifth year HTS major Daniel Kim. “I really wanted to go to China.”

Third year Psychology major April McGill said she was and still is upset over the cancellation.

“I feel that the SARS epidemic was greatly overblown by the media, and I would have gone on the trip despite the SARS threat,” she said. McGill and the others are now left without plans this summer. Some are trying to enroll in other study abroad programs. Some plan to take summer courses at Tech. Wang said every effort was being made to minimize the financial loss to the students. Each student will receive a full refund for everything except airline tickets, even if some of their money had already been spent to pay for things like housing and classrooms. Wang said the China program and the School of International Affairs will bear the burden of the costs.

“The refund policy is as fair as it can be,” said McGill. “I am very happy with the [refund] policy,” said Mardis. He said that Tech’s decision to refund even already-spent money “was a very clear move.”

Both study abroad programs are expected to return next summer.

“Hopefully, we’ll come back, resume and be stronger,” said Wang. SARS first appeared in China’s Guangdong province in November 2002. Since that time, about 3,400 people have been infected worldwide. About 150 people have died. Scientists are unsure what causes the disease, but suspect a type of coronavirus. So far, there is no vaccine or treatment for SARS.

“I was hoping, until the bitter end, that the powers that be would choose to continue the program.”

David Mardis
INTA/ECON major

Wilcox

from page 1

to minimize the ‘we-they’ attitude,” he added.

In order to get more students involved in campus, Wilcox also strengthened support of student organizations, encouraged extracurricular activity participation through the leadership initiative, and worked to hire people skilled in increasing student involvement.

Wilcox said he loved working with students. “Watching people grow and develop through their Georgia Tech experience and knowing the Global Economics/Modern Languages degree will have the same success experienced by the International Affairs/Modern Languages degree introduced three years ago. That major has grown from four students in the beginning to over a hundred today.

The similarities between the two joint majors don’t end with Knight’s expectations. In fact, the curriculum for the new program will be designed much like the other joint degree. Both programs are designed to be flexible, with students completing 24 hours of language electives in a language of their choice, as well as six other electives in the field.

The first participants in the new major are expected to graduate in 2005.

“[Wilcox] restored the credibility of the student affairs division.”

Wayne Clough
Institute President
BuzzCard

Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that reverse-engineering of a device to learn how it works is generally fair use and does not violate copyright law that would otherwise protect the source code and firmware of the device. The court filings allege that Hoffman opened secured access panels to monitor the inner workings of the CampusWide network, an activity that would not be considered part of normal reverse-engineering.

Hoffman and Griffith published the results of their research in the Spring 2002 issue of 2600, Hacker Quarterly. Their investigation led to the discovery that information transmitted contained the BuzzCard number and possibly other personal data.

The attack, known as a "man in the middle attack," would allow someone to monitor data going back and forth, collect otherwise private information, or even send false information to the BuzzCard readers or to the BuzzCard database.

Institute Communications and Public Affairs (ICPA) Executive Director Bob Harty, speaking for the BuzzCard Center, said that Hoffman contacted them last year after his article was published concerning the security issues he found with the BuzzCard. However, an independent audit of Tech’s information security was performed as a result of the recent break-in to the Fent Center’s credit card server. The report looked favorably upon Tech’s overall security.

Harty commented that the BuzzCard Center is “continually looking to keep the system secure” and that “they take information security really seriously.” Harty said that there is only so much the BuzzCard Center can do, however.

“If you pry open the cover of an ATM or take a hammer to it, you can get money from it.” He also said that the BuzzCard Center “has been proactive, regardless of what [Hoffman] has or has not discovered.”

John Hall, a fourth year CS major who attended the same computer security conference that Hoffman did, said “the BuzzCard network has many vulnerabilities that are demonstrably exploitable. Rather than fix the problem, Blackboard has chosen to sweep this issue under the rug.”

Michael Stanton, Director of Corporate Communications for Blackboard, said that Hoffman made a physical, not software, attack. “It’s absolutely not an issue [to Blackboard]. It’s an issue of getting into hardware.”

Blackboard’s restraining order came about because Hoffman obtained “illegal access [to the hardware]” and then created a how-to on how to take apart the system, said Stanton. Blackboard sought the restraining order “to stop him on presenting information that defrauds Georgia Tech and harms the intellectual property of Blackboard.” He added that the boxes should be more tightly secured.

In addition, when DramaTech sought a reader for patrons to pay for admission with the BuzzCard during the recent performance of Guys and Dolls, they were unable to obtain one. Many within DramaTech feel that since Hoffman is president of DramaTech and will continue to serve as production manager next year, the BuzzCard Center was hesitant to deliver a reader to DramaTech. Patrons could only pay with cash or check at the performances.

People were turned away because they couldn’t pay with a BuzzCard,” said Marketing Director Adam Johnson.

Hoffman, under terms of his gag order, could not comment.

North Korea caves, agrees to multilateral talks

In an apparent vindication of the Bush administration’s hard-line approach, North Korea agreed this week to talks with the both the United States and China. North Korean leader Kim Jung Il had threatened war if the U.S. did not agree to bilateral talks. Bush refused. Tensions have been high since October, when North Korea admitted that it had a clandestine nuclear weapons program.

Chirac, France try to mend fences with U.S.

French President Jacques Chirac called President Bush Tuesday in what appears to be an attempt to repair tattered U.S.-French relations. In the 20-minute telephone conversation, Chirac pledged to act “pragmatically and on a case-by-case basis” in the future. Anti-French sentiment erupted in the United States after Chirac rallied European governments to oppose the war in Iraq.

Baseball fan attacks umpire at Royals game

An unidentified fan attacked umpire Laz Diaz at Tuesday night’s Kansas City Royals game. Diaz, a former Marine, was not injured. The fan will be charged with a misdemeanor or a felony. Last year, Royals coach Tom Gambos was attacked by two fans.

Palestinian hijacker captured in Iraq

Abu Abbas, a Palestinian man convicted in the 1985 hijacking of the Italian passenger liner Achille Lauro, was captured in Iraq this week. Italy convicted Abbas in 1986 and is now seeking his extradition. The Palestinian Authority said that Abbas’s arrest violates the 1993 Oslo Peace Accords. President Bush mentioned Abbas in October 2002 as he outlined the case against Saddam Hussein.