Many people would agree that the golden days of music have passed. It is pure industry now—a gangster churning machine pulling in new talent, or lack thereof, and spit- ting it out with a glossy sheen, but nothing more. All the while the ex- ecutives in the upper echelon grow fatter and fatter on the profits. Medu Records, a recent startup by a group of Georgia Tech grad- uates, wishes to change that. Its co-founder and C.E.O., Hon- neil Nelson, sat down with the Techniquenews give an inside look at the new company.

The name of the firm is taken from the Egyptian word, "medew netch- et," or good speech. The basic premise is that your words must match your ac- tions and be good and true. “That’s the thinking that Medu is built on: speech ought to have value,” said Nelson. “You should be saying something when you’re saying some- thing.”

For us, we think that music should not just be for music’s sake. I am not one to believe in art for art’s sake. I believe that music should be something when you’re say- ing something. Honneil Nelson, Co-founder/Co-owner of Medu Records

Medu Records has two focus art- icles, fostering talent, and researching in- dustry trends. Medu Records have two focus art- icles, fostering talent, and researching in- dustry trends. Medu has that kind of talent,” said Nel- son. “This girl can sing an entire song from her album is due out this sum- mer.”

Several years later, Nelson met Frank Graham for the first time in a Morris Brown dorm room. Graham, a New York na- tive, was show- ing off his adeptness to en- gineer hip-hop. “I said, ‘Hey, you know you’re good enough to do your own speech.”

Before that, Nelson met Andre Moore, a Fall 2002 Georgia Tech graduate. He expressed interest in the entreprenuership side of the music busi- ness. Andre Moore and Frank Graham are dedicated to giving back to the community through their company. Andre Moore and Frank Graham are dedicated to giving back to the community through their company.

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After that I said ‘Let’s start working on this.’ And so he started writing his lyrics down and...last year we got together and started working on it officially.”

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I believe that music should be what it was intended to be originally, which is to inspire people.”

Honneil Nelson Co-founder, Medu Records

For me, a new [artist] has to have, obviously, the basics: charis- ma and talent.” He explained that there are many artists in the busi- ness that have those qualities.

Nelson desires another key fac- tor. “I’m looking for substance in my art and artists,” he said. He sees music as a powerful form of expres- sion with the potential to surpass language barriers and influence the entire globe. People anywhere in the world can identify Michael Jackson or Britney Spears. The ques- tion remains, is the world better because of that?

Nelson wants Medu and its art- ists to be able to send the right mes- sage to people. “We’re big on sub- stance and we’re big on character, and we’re big on people having com-
FrEsmHMen by Billy Aslaner

WILL WORK FOR FOOD

WILL INTEGRATE FOR TEXT BOOK
By Joey Katzen
Staff Writer

As the play unfolds, Kip reenters the drama of the Falls, and we learn that every character in the play (husband up on his offer to husband his wife, wife, suicidal drunkard, six-character swing, and the husband-wife pair) is inextricably related to each other by a DickENSian string of fate-linked events covering the last several years. In an attempt to help each other through their problems, the characters take one another out to dinner in pairs to three different restaurants, forming, undoubtly, the most inventive and humorous pretext of the performance. Each group eats at a different restaurant and is served by a DickENSian string of fate-linked events covering the last several years.

Wonder from page 19

they more than happily have taken Cass’ husband up on his offer to find her a wonderful life.

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The performance gets going to a rocky start, the result of a heraldry written script, but it picks up toward the end of the first half, keeping its viewers in a state of heightened amusement for the remainder of the show. Patterson takes off with her role as Cass, utilizing her myriad of emotions and methods of changing scenes, each a waitress in the respective restaurant.

In the end, as the play appears to wrap, several twists occur, leaving the audience searching their heads, but nonetheless chuckling and generally pleased with the overall experience.

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Freshman students mingle at formal

By Ron Henry
Contributing Writer

Two students dance the night away at the Freshman Organizations Formed. The evening was considered a success by the participants.

Two students dance the night away at the Freshman Organizations Formed. The evening was considered a success by the participants.

Even the freshmen can go out for a night on the town. On Friday, Jan. 24, the Student Success Center hosted the first ever Freshman Organizations Formal. Running from 8 p.m. until midnight that night, the formal let freshmen from the four different freshmen-only organizations dance the night away.

The four freshmen groups that attended the grand ball were Freshman Council, Freshman Advisory Board, FreshShGA and Lambda Delta Rho. Each member attending was required to take a member from a different group so that the freshmen could mingle amongst separate groups.

It became a great way for the organizations to mesh by providing a social forum for the members that could (the advisors of these groups hope) blossom into a more promising relationship for the campus and the community.

“I think that there were a lot of positives,” said Andrea Inguanti, a Sophomore Advisor with FreshShGA, “and we hope that next year’s advisors will continue the event.”

Along with Inguanti, Darragh Wright from Freshman Council and Abigail Hung from Freshman Advis-

ory Board helped organize the event.

The idea originated in FreshShGA last year, and was picked up by the three advisors during the fall semester. The formal itself materialized early this semester when SGA granted the three organizations $900 and RHA sponsored the event for $100. All of this money was put towards the decoration of the Student Success Center, and refreshments for the members.

The advisors expressed that their expectations for the event were far exceeded by the positive feedback that they received from everyone who was involved. Somewhere around 200 people attended—over 70 percent of those invited from the different groups.

Dani Pallo, a member of Freshman Advisory Board, said, “How could you not have a good time? It was all the hottest freshmen, good music, and yummy cream puff!”

The reason for the event was simply to show the freshmen a good time and create personal bonds for the future. It is the belief of the creators of the dance that starting those relationships now can lead to more opportunities for these freshmen in their future years at Tech.

“As freshmen, you have the opportunity to join many different organizations, whereas if you wait until sophomore year, many opportunities have passed you by,” said Inguanti.

Now that a night of dancing and fun has passed these freshmen by, perhaps they will seize their own opportunities and go start dances of their own.

Medu is like a child for us. And, as you know, Jamaica has a lot of development issues, and poverty is very big there.”

The pair dedicated two weeks to visiting schools on the island. They taught lessons and worked to inspire the students. “We went and spent…a large sum of money…on books and pencils, [etc.].”

“To see the smile on their face, like ‘Wow, really? Thank you’…that, to me, was an accomplishment, even though we haven’t sold one record yet.”

Currently the company, along with its partners, is working on the Media Lecture Series and Entrepreneurship Challenge. This includes a four-month set of visits to high schools across the southeastern states. “We’re going there not only just to perform and to market our artists and our company, but also to inspire the students there to achieve their goals,” said Nelson.

Each session will culminate with a contest to present the best business plan by the end of August. “Medu Records will assist the winner in bringing the plan to fruition,” read a recent press release. The company will also offer internships to those interested.

Nelson desires to start the student’s minds churning about the real world. He wants them to realize that there are opportunities out there for them to do what they want to do. They could even start their own business where their passion dwells. “If you really love skateboarding, start your own company—if you really love music…do a promotion team for your city.”

To many this may not sound like a successful record label yet, in terms of profits. Still, Nelson said that the company “…is still a profit enterprise…just that one that equally committed to social responsibility.”

H i s c r i t e r i o n f o r s u c c e s s i s n o t o n l y p r o f i t , b u t i n c l u d e s a d m i r i n g g o a l s c h a n g e t h e w o r l d. “A big part of our commitment and our business model is community development and social responsibility.”

Nelson, a May 2001 graduate, majored in Industrial Engineering. He is currently employed as a logistics engineer with The Home Depot.

“I definitely think I got my fair share of business and finance courses at Georgia Tech.”

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Now that a night of dancing and fun has passed these freshmen by, perhaps they will seize their own opportunities and go start dances of their own.
So, it’s two hours before Two Bits is due to my editor, and I am sitting here on my couch. iBook in front of me, the floor in front of said sofa covered in about twelve books from the GSU library, and I am frantic. Why the tardiness on Two Bits? Why the overabundance of library checkout? It would seem as though I lucked into taking all of the research paper classes this semester. Somehow, I find myself writing more papers this semester than I have written total in the preceding five years of college. I realize that most of you will probably write fewer than five papers in your entire time at Ma Tech, but nonetheless, I want to share with you the fool proof Two Bits Method for writing a paper. I am so sure you the fool proof Two Bits Method for writing a paper. I am so sure.

The Earl (488 Flat Shoals Ave.)
2/13 Billy Lee Riley
2/12 Slackdaddy/Mother Jackson
2/8 Nine Pound Hammer/Rocket 350
1/31 Bitch and Special Guests
www.starbar.net
(404) 681-9018

2/13 Marathon I/Melaphyre/Tahir
2/11 The Queers/Teen Idols/Armstrong
2/7 A Fistful of DJs/Cody ChesnuTT
2/6 Bangs/The Moto-Litas/The Black Kites
www.echostatic.com/echolounge
(404) 681-3600

2/18 The Juliana Theory
2/14 Erykah Badu
www.atlantaconcerts.com/tabernacle.asp
(404) 233-7699
Roxy Theatre (3110 Roswell Rd.)

2/7 Yonder Mountain String Band
2/4 Cross Canadian Ragweed/Blue Merle
2/3 Jack Ingram
2/1 Seven Sharp Nine/Acres
1/31 Mandorico/Squat
www.smithsoldebar.com
(404) 875-1522

2/19 Homegrown/Riddlin
2/15 Long Beach Short Bus
2/14 Nile
2/2 Malevolent Creation/Bloodlet/Reflux
www.masq.com
(404) 577-2007

2/2 The Shipping News/Centre./Earlimart
2/7 Metroscene/3d5spd/Snowglobe
2/6 I Almost Saw God in the Metro
2/31 Five-Eight

ENTERTAINMENT • Friday, January 31, 2003 • 23
First Miss Asian Atlanta pageant takes over Ferst Center

By Vivian Vakili
Contributing Writer

“We hope this pageant marks the beginning of Atlanta’s tradition to recognize and award women synonymous with achievement, scholarship and essence,” reads the purpose statement for the 2003 Miss Asian Atlanta Pageant. Organized by Tech’s Chinese Student Association, this year was the pageant’s first.

Contestants were required to be between 18 and 24 years old, enrolled in a college or university within Georgia, unmarried, and of at least 50 percent Asian blood. Of the initial pool of applicants, 20 were selected to participate in the pageant process. December marked the beginning of rehearsals, and the girls continued preparations through Jan. 24, the day of the pageant.

As in comparable national pageants, preparations required the participants to constantly work together. One of these collaborative efforts was a choreographed hip-hop dance performed on pageant night.

When thinking of pageants, many people are bombarded with thoughts of excessively primped women in expensive dresses sporting huge fake smiles. The thought of pleasing a panel of judges may seem a bit average at first, but other than that, I believe the top ten finalists all did the best they could under pressure.”

Maniquis, who said she had never participated in a pageant before, admitted to having been very nervous, and that she had never even sung before an audience previously. She said she also had to work on speaking slowly as she felt the urge to speak very quickly during rehearsals. Finally, describing the dynamic between the girls, she responded, “The dynamic was support. Lots and lots of support and an unexpected comfortableness.”

Virginia Maniquis
Miss Asian Atlanta winner

“We were all on the same page. We are women who wanted a lot out of life and simultaneously tried to give a lot to those around us.”

By Tim Cailloux / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Several contestants in the Miss Asian Atlanta pageant accept their awards and wait for the winner to be crowned last Friday at the Ferst Center.