Students hoping to get in an early workout Wednesday morning were surprised to find the Campus Recreation Center (CRC) temporarily closed because of a sprinkler flooding a basketball court late Tuesday night. “[Tuesday] night somewhere around 10:30 or 11:00 p.m. someone kicked a basketball in the gymnasium and knocked off a sprinkler head. Water started pouring out and blanketed the northwest portion of the wood floor with a tremendous amount of water. At that point the fire alarm went off and we evacuated the CRC,” Edwards said.

Once the alarm went off the Georgia Tech Police Department, Atlanta Fire Department and Facilities responded to turn off the water and check the building. Edwards said that it took approximately 20 to 30 minutes from when the sprinkler went off for it to be turned off. “They got here pretty quickly. [The damage] could have been a lot worse,” Edwards said. However, the damage was not limited to the basketball court as water leaked through to the aquatic center.

“Once the water started getting through the wood floor it reached a gap between the concrete floor and the wood. The water then found cracks in the concrete that is the roof to the aquatic center and water started pouring down,” Edwards said.

A damaged sprinkler caused basketball court six to flood Tuesday evening and the CRC to temporarily close until 4 p.m. Wednesday.

Musician’s Network seeks tier II status

By James Stephenson

The Musicians Network, the organization that runs Under the Couch (UTC), is seeking to change its organizational status from tier III to tier II.

“We are now a tier III organization,” said Kevin DeMarco, a third-year Electrical and Chemical Engineering major and president of Musician’s Network. “However, tier III organizations are usually organizations that only serve people in their club. Tier II organizations are more for clubs that go out and serve all Tech students.”

“The tier system is a priority system of funding for organizations on campus,” said Micah Lucas, vice president of Finance and chair of the Joint Finance Committee for the Student Government Association (SGA). “Tier I organizations serve all students and are given the highest priority in funding, such as the CRC. Tier II organizations are expected to impact a majority of students on campus and are second in line for funding.”

The Musicians Network provides a variety of services on campus, according to Lucas. “We teach live sound. We have really good equipment that we rent out for free. It only costs eight dollars per hour for a sound person,” DeMarco said.

“Almost every [show at Under the Couch] is free to students with BuzzCards.”

Kevin DeMarco
President, Musician’s Network

Under the Couch has an average of three to five shows every month. “Almost every [show] is free to students with BuzzCards,” DeMarco said.

In addition to shows and equipment rental, Musician’s Network hosts weekly events and rents out the space for rehearsals and Greek events. “Tuesday we have our open mic night, and Thursday we have break dancing meet at the space. We also rent out our space to bands who have members who are part of Musician’s Network,” DeMarco said. “Not only is the Musician’s Network free to students, it is free to students.”

Police continue search for missing student

By Amanda Dugan

As of Wednesday night, the Atlanta Police Department (APD) continues to seek information on the whereabouts of Daniel Compton, a fourth-year Computer Science major. Compton went missing in Buckhead on the night of Feb. 17 and may be driving a silver Honda Civic with Texas license plate number 09CKVX.

“I last saw him at Moon Dogs leaving the bar at approximately 1:30 a.m. Friday. I saw him leave alone. I might have been the last person that saw him in person. I know he did return safely to his apartment after Moon Dogs, according to surveillance video,” said Lydia Sherwin, a fourth-year Industrial and Systems Engineering student and friend of Compton.

Compton’s father has hired a private investigator and the APD have been questioning his friends to try to find out more information.

“We are just hoping he returns safely, and we don’t really know what is going on,” Sherwin said.

“I really hope Dan’s okay and that there’s a good outcome to all of this,” said Beaz Kassian, a fourth-year Computer Science major and a friend of Compton.

A $10,000 reward has been offered for any information related to the case. Anyone with information is asked to contact Investigator Mike Loy in the Missing Persons Unit of the APD at 404-885-4255.

College of Management names Salbu next dean

By Kristin Noell

Tech announced Monday, Feb. 28 that Steven Salbu will become the next Stephen P. Zelnak Dean of the College of Management, effective July 1, 2006. He will replace Terry C. Blum, who announced last July that she would be stepping down from the deanship effective June 30, 2006.

Salbu, currently the associate dean for the graduate program at the McConnell School of Business at the University of Texas, received his bachelor’s degree in psychology from Hofstra University in 1977 and master’s degree from Dartmouth College. He also holds a master’s and Ph.D. from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a law degree from the College of William and Mary. He has extensive administrative experience from various positions he has held at the University of Texas.

Salbu currently works at the University of Texas.

The College of Management will host a lecture by Ronald J. Alsop, news editor and senior writer at the Wall Street Journal, March 8. The lecture is scheduled to begin at 4:30 p.m. Alsop, who was the editor of the Wall Street Journal Guide to the Top Business Schools in 2003 and 2004, will be discussing his recent book, The $18 Immobile Laws of Corporate Reputation: Creating, Protecting & Repairing Your Most Valuable Asset, in the first floor atrium in the College of Management building.

A book signing at Barnes & Noble in Tech Square will follow the lecture.

Management hosts Alsop lecture

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GTRI helps public communications

The Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) is helping the Georgia Office of Homeland Security/Georgi a Emergency Management Agency (OHSA/GEMA) implement a communications system that will allow public safety agencies statewide to more easily communicate.

The project, aimed to ensure interoperability among devices and communications systems, has been funded by the Department of Homeland Security.

The new system will use voice over internet protocol technology to route radios calls between potentially incompatible systems.

In addition to assisting with the technological efforts, GTRI will be helping develop operating procedures for the new systems.

Relax a little: Kristie Deliso, a first-year Chemical Engineering major, gets a massage in the Music Listening Room during the Student Center Programs Council’s Music and Massage event.
The I-House is a place to:
- promote cultural exchange and awareness
- contribute to a healthy and dynamic living community
- explore the global dynamics of politics, current events, economics, and culture

See the World without leaving GT!
UHR fails Mars Society allocation

By James Stephenson
Staff Writer

The Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) passed four bills and failed one during their Tuesday meeting.

The first bill brought before the House was an allocation to CultureTech. The bill had been tabled last week and supports the CultureTech multicultural night, which is normally held in the First Center.

Due to a possible change in venue, the graduates had un-itemized the bill and given blanket funding for the amount requested. The bill was amended to match the graduate changes and passed.

The second bill brought before the House was an allocation to the Mars Society. The bill was sent to a conference committee over a $15 discrepancy. The bill returned in a conference committee over a $15 discrepancy. The bill was returned in a conference committee over a $15 discrepancy. The bill was amended and passed.

The last bill brought before the House was an allocation to the Parachute Club. The organization asked for funding to replace aging equipment. The lifespan of most equipment is 10 to 12 years, and the equipment being used by the club was 14 years old. The age of the equipment is a potential safety risk for those involved in the activity. The JFC recommended funding the bill and it passed.

An allocation for the Tech Paintball Organization was next to be brought before the House. The organization requested funding to attend their national championships in Dallas, Texas this April. The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) recommended reducing the travel funding because of a discrepancy in mileage. The bill was amended and passed.

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David Andersen, undergraduate student body president, also reported that student government elections will begin when students return from spring break.

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You will interview people.
You will watch movies.
You will listen to cd’s.
You will attend sporting events.
You will write stories.
You will photograph stuff.

You will join.

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For more information: tamara.solomon@dopp.gatech.edu

Graduate Student Senate

At Tuesday's Graduate Student Senate (GSS) meeting, a total of four bills were passed. Mitch Keller, graduate vice president, presented several bills for mandatory graduate student health insurance. The bills were brought before the Senate in order to address the needs of graduate students and promote academic integrity and ethical behavior.

The meeting began with a special speaker from the honor advisory council. The speaker addressed the need for increased awareness of the council and its mission, which is to promote academic integrity and ethical behavior, not merely to police students.

The speaker said that the Academic Honor Advisory Council is composed almost entirely of undergraduate students and encourages graduate and international students to apply for positions on the council. Applications are due March 9. More information on the application process can be found at www.honor.gatech.edu/hac/join.html.

In addition to making a recruitment push for the advisory council, the speaker called the senators' attention to Honor Awareness Week, which starts March 27.

Early this week, Tech officials selected a bid and signed an insurance contract with The Parachute Club. The organization asked for funding to replace aging equipment. The lifespan of most equipment is 10 to 12 years, and the equipment being used by the club was 14 years old. The age of the equipment is a potential safety risk for those involved in the activity. The JFC recommended funding the bill and it passed.

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As per the new contract with Pearce and Pearce, yearly premiums for all students will be set at $810. This is a decrease for U.S. citizens, and an increase for international students. According to Keller, the price increase for international students is rather insignificant, being roughly commensurate to inflation. Officials are attempting to make it possible for insurance payments to be made via monthly payroll deduction rather than lump sums charged as Bursar fees at the beginning of each semester.

According to the new contract with Pearce and Pearce, all graduate assistants and international students will be required to carry health insurance, but these students will be

See GSS, page 4

Graduate Student Senate

By Heather Hubble
Contributing Writer

Mitch Keller, graduate vice president, called the GSS meeting to order. The senators passed four bills during their Tuesday meeting.

Bills passed
- Joint Allocation to Parachute Club
- Joint Allocation to CultureTech
- Joint Allocation to Painting Organization

Bills failed
- Joint Allocation to Mars Society

You will eat pizza.
You will interview people.
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- Joint Allocation to CultureTech
- Joint Allocation to Mars Society

Graduate Student Senate

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Copyright violation policy changes

By Ranganath Venkataraman
Staff Writer

Faced with an increasing volume of complaints from the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), the Office of Information Technology (OIT) Information Security Directorate has adopted a new policy of retaliation towards individuals who are caught with copyright infringement in an effort to discourage students from using illegal peer-to-peer (P2P) services to download and share files.

Under the new penalty system, which started at the beginning of fall semester, OIT uses ResNet to disable a student’s Internet connection if found responsible for copyright infringement. The connection is restored after the student completes the required penalty procedures, which are based on the number of times that he or she has been caught.

According to Herbert Baines, director of OIT Information Security, this new penalty procedure removes the enormous people-time that was involved.

“As throughout the year we get copyright complaints from the RIAA, MPAA and other organizations representing artists and movie theater companies,” Baines said, “there used to be a lot of people-time involved with chasing the notices, along with a statement that he has removed the copyright information from the system. The ResNet connection is then restored. “We rely on students to give us valid information that they’ve removed infringement material.”

Herbert Baines
Director of OIT Information Security

So we automated the first part of this process.”

Artef first instance of copyright infringement, the student is placed in limbo on ResNet. This is the state that all residents find their computers in at the start of the semester.

All the student has to do here is to scan himself out of limbo and then send the results of the scan to OIT.

“We rely on students to give us valid information that they’ve removed infringement material.”

Herbert Baines
Director of OIT Information Security

Students who are directed to Student Integrity are issued any number of sanctions in the Student Code of Conduct, according to Ericka McGarity, assistant dean of students and director of Student Integrity.

“If students are found responsible for copyright infringement, they may face any of the...standing sanctions outlined in the Student Code of Conduct,” McGarity said. “There will also be an educational component and the removal of the content in question.”

Network access is restored after sanctions are issued.

While the new three-step penalty procedure was designed to ensure that students cease to illegally download and share files, Baines pointed out that it relies heavily on the honor system.

“At no time is anyone from OIT going to check if copyright info is removed,” Baines said. “We’re really relying on students to do the right thing.”

See OIT, page 7
Faculty approve new programs

By Jenny Zhang
Copy Editor

A joint spring meeting of the General Faculty, General Faculty Assembly and Academic Senate was held at the Global Learning Center on Friday to discuss new directions for the Institute.

President Wayne Clough opened the meeting. Clough said that funding for the upcoming academic year looks positive despite deep proposed cuts, as Governor Purdue has made recommendations to support some of Tech’s project proposals. He also announced new universities for the System of Georgia Chancellor, Errol B. Davis Jr., will visit Tech May 2 as part of his tour of the system’s 35 campuses.

Clough closed with remarks about Tech’s new Aerospace Engineering major, being named to USA Today’s 2006 College Academic All-Star First Team.

Anderson Smith, vice provost for Undergraduate Studies and Academic Affairs, presented a proposal to create the Post-Doctoral Faculty of the Practice. “This would be a non-tenured faculty position [designed to] bring...emerging leaders...to government and academia who have contributed greatly to their fields,” Anderson Smith said.

Although a timetable for repairs was unavailable at press time, the damage was limited to the one basketball court and the concrete underneath it.

“Basketball court six will be out of commission for a while and we don’t know when it will be ready,” Smith said. “The insurance company has been great and Facilities has been great. Right now the objective is to pull up the floor and begin repairs on the aquatic center. We are hoping to start Saturday. We will have to make adjustments on who has access to the pool and when based on them getting that done,” he said.

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.

Basketball costs $3.8 billion in lost wages

Chandler, Gray & Christmas, a Chicago company that tracks issues in the workplace, has estimated businesses could lose as much as $3.8 billion in wages paid to unproductive workers during the March Madness NCAA basketball tournament.

The firm generated its results by compiling wage data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and internet tracking information from Hotwire about how much time employees spent on ESPN.com during last year’s tournament. Fans spend triple 1.5 hours of the weekday following tournament results on daily basis could cost companies $3.8 billion in productivity.

While most companies have computer-usage policies prohibiting the use of company resources for non-business purposes, enforcement is usually insufficiently lax to allow people to sneak a peek at the scores, the Boston Globe reports.

Dead cat causes alarm over spread of bird flu

A dead cat found on the Baltic island of Rugen has prompted four European nations to impose restrictions on the movement of felines and growing concerns over the spread of bird flu, the Times of London reports.

The island has had more than 100 wild birds died of the deadly H5N1 virus strain in the past weeks.

Experts believe the animal fell ill from eating an infected bird. The discovery of the cat alarmed pet owners in many European nations, and Germany announced that cats residing in bird-flu affected zones must be kept indoors.

Owners were encouraged to monitor their pets for a variety of symptoms, including diarrhea, abnormal fatigue and fever. According to the Times, a federal crisis group formed to address bird flu outbreaks had decided not to vaccinate domestic cats.

While cats are capable of passing the virus among one another, there are no known cases of a cat passing the virus to a human.

EU gives emergency funds to Palestine

The European Union has agreed to give $143 million in emergency funds to the Palestinian Authority, which is facing a financial crisis due to termination of aid as a result of the Hamas election victory in January, CNN.com reports.

Hamas, which is identified as a terrorist organization by both the United States and the European Union, is currently in the process of setting up a new government in Palestine but has seen several setbacks in the first month since its victory. Israel has terminated payment of tax funds to the Palestinian Authority and the United States has asked for $50 million which had donated in aid to be returned before new Hamas prime minister is sworn in.

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SPRING BREAK HOT SPOT

Panama City Beach has been a Spring Break hot spot for as long as most Spring Breakers can remember. The Sandpiper-Beacon Beach Resort has been at the forefront of Spring Break activities in Panama City Beach since 1990.

The hotel offers guests from its on-site party atmosphere and on-site resort accommodations, beach and pool, Spring Breakers plenty to do without ever leaving the resort. DJ’s and party bands have been playing the hottest dance mixes since 1995 and the Sandpiper has been host to many other top DJ’s including DJ Skibbble. The Sandpiper-Beacon brings the party to you – no driving necessary.

MTV’s The Real World was at the Sandpiper in 2005 with MJ and Robin as special guests at an Axe/Stuff Magazine Beach Party. They sponsored a model search, party, and a swim suit competition. Alloy Marketing has also brought in model search, along with Classmates USA’s calendar model search. Spring Breakers can expect plenty more of the same this year with bikini and wet t-shirt/wet jockey shorts contests daily and nightly.

The Sandpiper is never short on big-time entertainment, hosting such acts as Bob Marley’s Waiters, Tone Loc and other major acts. Tentatively scheduled for this year are the Black Eyed Peas performing on the beach behind the Sandpiper Beach during Jay Leno’s show. Metro Nightclub is a Spring Break sponsor giving away swimsuits and the Corona Beach Volleyball Tournament is scheduled to take place behind the Sandpiper this year. There will be entertainment all day and all night at the hotel throughout spring break.

Visit www.sandpiperbeach.com to see what’s on tap for Spring Break 2006 at the Sandpiper Beach Beacon Resort in beautiful Panama City Beach, Florida or call the resort at 800-488-8828.

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**UTC** from page 1

work providing services to students, but the current leadership of the Musician's Network is working to repair its image that was damaged in past years.

"Back in 1999 UTC got really huge in Atlanta and had some huge shows. Off-campus people brought alcohol and started fights. Some people in the administration in the past thought we were a bunch of punks, and we are trying to change that," DeMarco said.

The change has been noticed on campus, particularly in the Music Department.

"Most definitely there’s been a shift in our perception of what goes on at UTC," said Chris Moore, assistant professor in the Music Department. "There would be days where we would come in the morning and the whole back lot would be littered with beer bottles, syringes and all kinds of crazy stuff down there. That has been reduced greatly."

The Musician’s Network is currently in the process of adding more security to UTC. "We’re setting up security and web cameras and we’re rekeying all of the doors to keep track of keys," DeMarco said. "We’re also setting up contracts for all performers and people who rent equipment to protect ourselves legally."

Sororities and fraternities can still use the space for free but are not required to pay for security. "Two security officers are required, as we’ve had problems with past fights," DeMarco said.

Under the Couch also has an impact on the rest of the Music Department, according to Moore. "I know the impact that [UTC] has on the students I teach who use that facility. They do shows where they don’t charge for the space, which is good for the Music Department because we can use that space to do smaller chamber concerts down there," Moore said.

DeMarco and Moore said that the Music Department and UTC worked together to define quiet hours for the space. "The room above UTC is the band rehearsal room. If we’re... trying to play Mozart with the orchestra and they are playing speed metal downstairs it just doesn’t work out. They’ve been very cooperative about working out quiet hours," Moore said.

The Musician’s Network recently received funding from SGA to replace foam that they discovered was against fire code. While they do currently receiving funding from SGA, the Musician’s Network feels they cannot receive enough under their current organizational status.

"We need money in order to bring shows to Tech students that they are going to like," DeMarco said. "We can’t tell bands we’ll give them 90 percent of the door. We have to have money up front."

Past bands that have played UTC include Jimmy Eat World, New Found Glory, Dashboard Confessional and Thursday.

DeMarco said that the Musician’s Network feels that this is their best chance to move up in status.

"This would probably be one of the best semesters to become tier II because a lot of SGA knows who we are," DeMarco said. "I definitely think the perception of UTC on campus is changing. We have support from a lot of people at SGA."

"I feel they have a good argument for becoming a tier II organization," Lucas said. "All they have to do is submit a proposal to the Joint Finance Committee for review. The JFC will then make a recommendation to the rest of the SGA."

"I can see how it is such a huge draw and how [the Musician’s Network] can have a huge impact on campus," Moore said.
When students have attempted to abuse the honor system in the past it appears to be only a matter of time before they are caught again.

“As times we see students saying they’ve removed the files, but they’ve really moved the files to a non-shared folder,” Baines said. “However, some time later, it migrates back and the student is in trouble again.”

Previous years have seen OIT issue warnings and content removal requests by email on the first offense and then request meetings on the second offense. However these methods were plagued by lethargy and manual labor.

“We didn’t automatically put systems in limbo or disable them” Baines said. “It was all manual. When we did ask you to come and see OIT it took a very long time.”

The response time of OIT to RIAA and MPAA depended greatly on the time taken by the students to reply to OIT.

“RIAA and MPAA really look at our response times and if it takes a student a month to come and see us before we can respond to complaining organizations that gives a very negative view on our dealings with copyright infringements” Baines said. “We want to show them that we take this very seriously.”

Baines also pointed out that the southeast regions generally looked to Tech as a leader in technology and that illegal activity wouldn’t help the image of the Institute. “It would hurt Tech’s image to be portrayed in such a light, that we are facilitating this illegal activity” Baines said.

The policy revisions also come in light of the recent waves of lawsuits filed by the RIAA against college students throughout the country who used the u2hub program to download music and movies at unprecedented speeds often exceeding one megabyte a second.

While all Tech students opted for out-of-court settlements Baines has advice for active and potentially active file sharers who still linked out there.

“When it comes to lawsuits, two years ago, they were directed at students with two or more copyright infringements,” Baines said. “Now, even with your first infringement, you can be sued.”

Although not every student notified is sued, all file sharers are liable to be targeted. Baines also said that students should know organizations have representatives on the networks.

“They hire people to go to news groups and internet relay chat (IRC) channels. They are paid spies to take a look at how you’re downloading, what type of information’s being downloaded,” Baines said.

According to Baines, the three most popular file sharing programs—which captured students were found to be using—were Bit Torrent, Kazaa and eDonkey.

While students lauded the new process as an innovative step in the fight against illegal downloads some felt that file sharers would press on with their activities until they were caught with their first or second offense.

“I don’t think it will deter them because there’s always ways around it,” said Mateo Garcia, a second-year Applied Physics major. “Other people on campus will always do it before we can respond to complaints.”

“RIAA and MPAA really look at the size of the faculty is fairly small compared to most leading colleges of management. ‘It is a very competitive market for top faculty resources, it’s hard to grow because it is a small pool,’ he said.

Salbu, who has received several students saying awards, has not decided whether he will teach as part of his new position.

“For me it’s not the several hours in the classroom that you have to be there, but there may be a problem with the travel schedule. If there is any way to do it, I would love to teach one class a year. If it turns out not feasible and realistic, then I will miss teaching very much. There is not better way to know students than through the classroom. [Teaching] gives a real boost to developing relationships with students,” Salbu said.

In addition to a commitment to sustainability and international education, Salbu said that he hopes the energy he will bring to his new job will be rewarding for students.

“Something that I think is important for students is someone who has a lot of energy and enthusiasm, and that is something I will bring to my role at Tech,” Salbu said. “I see Tech as a great institution that is poised to reach the very top and that is an exciting place to be.”