

BATTING PRACTICE

Jackets wind up for summer baseball: 10 players were picked in the MLB draft, while others head to summer leagues. Page 15

SMITH STUNNING AT EDDIE'S ATTIC

Renowned alt-country star Mindy Smith's breathy vocals and acoustic guitar playing delighted the full house at Eddie's Attic last Thursday night. Page 10



Music's Day of Silence

New CRB ruling, anti-piracy law threaten internet radio stations

By Aileen Li
Staff Writer

Three days ago, the only sound being broadcast over radio stations across the Web was the faint hum of static. June 26 marked a day of protest, the Day of Silence.

Organized by Radio and Internet Newsletter Publisher Kurt Hanson, the protest was aimed at a new ruling by the Copyright Royalty Board (CRB), a part of the Library of Congress. This ruling changes how internet broadcasters pay for royalties from a per-song to a per-listener rate and raises base fees for each station that a broadcaster manages. These high fees threaten to put many internet radio stations out of business.

Hence, stations broadcast the Day of Silence to illustrate what could happen when the ruling goes into effect.

Internet radio has already been suffering under the PERFORM (Platform Equality and Remedies for Rights Holders in Music) Act of 2006. The law requires satellite, cable and internet broadcasters to stream music only in formats that use DRM (Digital Rights Management) technology, designed to prevent music theft.

Critics have been decrying the law as unfair. According to the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), webcasters that want to transmit major label music are entitled to do so under the Copyright Act. As long as they follow the rules and pay a royalty, webcasters can play whatever music they like, using whatever streaming format they like.

The Copyright Act forbids webcasters from helping their listeners record webcasts, and requires them to use DRM only if the webcast format includes DRM.

In order to restrict webcast recording, the PERFORM Act forces internet stations to use DRM-friendly file formats instead of letting them choose their own.

According to the EFF, it's the non-DRM formats that have allowed innovative technologies like Streamripper and Radio-Lover to evolve to meet the home recording demands of music fans. Most DRM formats also involve the payment of licensing fees, and many internet radio stations have already felt the financial strain of trying to rework their technologies.

"For everyone else, we'll get government-mandated technology decisions in radio and on the Web. We'll get cheap, open

source innovation locked out of media devices," said Daniel O'Brien, EFF activism coordinator.

To put it plainly, by trying to protect music from piracy, the PERFORM Act restricts the format webcasters and radio stations use, which could possibly lead to more expensive streaming and less product available to the public.

However, according to a news release by Senator Feinstein (D-Cal.), who co-sponsored the bill, the PERFORM Act would create rate parity in that all cable, satellite and internet companies would be subject to the same rates, and

it would establish content protection, distinguishing between the right to perform and the right to distribute. For example, it would be allowable for a listener to automatically record a station from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., but he would not be allowed to record songs only by a certain artist.

Senator Feinstein also believes that the new, DRM-supporting form of music delivery system would be beneficial for both consumers and record companies.

Although Tech's Office of Legal Affairs has made no comment regarding the PERFORM Act, students around campus

have agreed that decreasing music streaming or making it more expensive would not be a good idea.

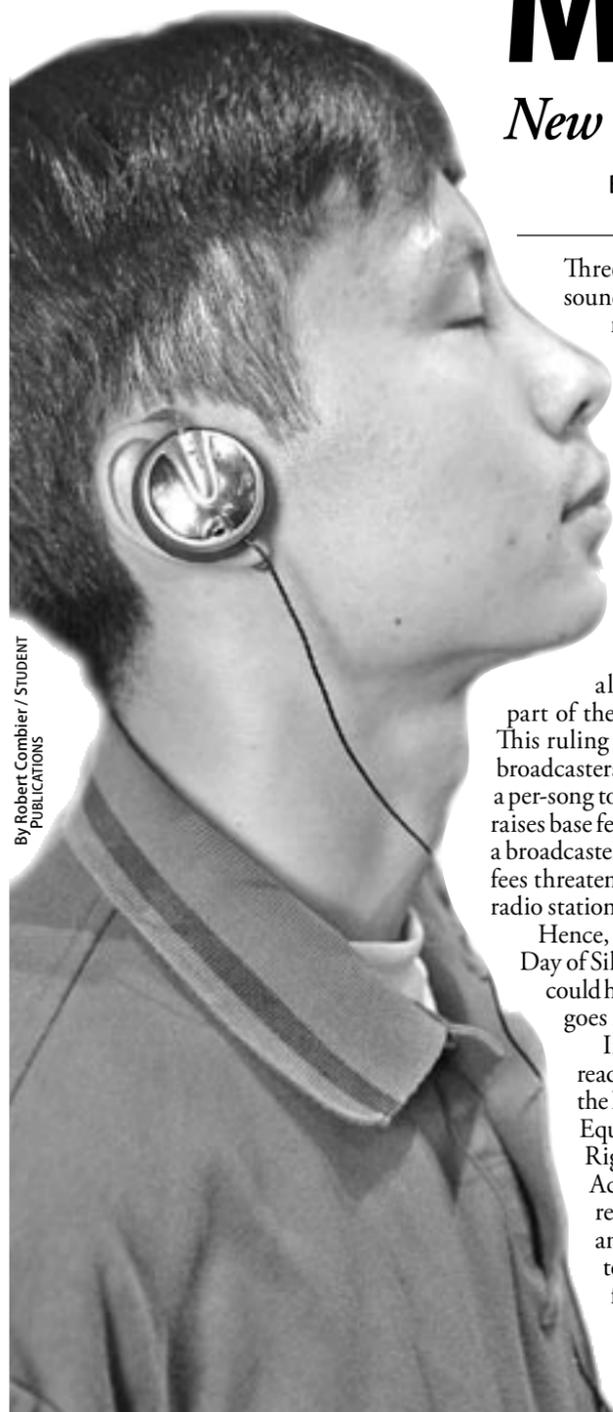
"If I can't find songs to download, I'd always find them streaming online, so I can check them out whenever I want to. If online streaming weren't available or if I had to pay to listen to music online, I would rather choose to not stream," said Alice Chan, a second-year Biomedical Engineering major.

Other students have said that although they don't like the idea of expensive online streaming, they would pay the price for music if need be.

"As a poor college student, of course I'd want to go the free way. But if I'm not given the option of free streaming, I guess I have to pay if I want to listen to music. It's like if you can't get your hands on free new movies, then you'd have to go to the theater," said Dina Dunn, a second-year Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering major.

However, if the current CRB ruling holds, there may not be any streaming music available online. The ruling is set to go into effect in less than a month, July 15. Another bill, the Internet Radio Equality Act, was introduced earlier this year in an effort to overturn the CRB's royalty hikes, but Congress has yet to vote on it.

If nothing changes, there may be many more days of silence ahead for those who love internet radio.



By Robert Combier / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Tech Treks offers Alaskan adventure to new freshmen

By Levi Kafka
Contributing Writer

This summer, Outdoor Recreation at Georgia Tech (ORGT) will lead 12 incoming freshmen on a 14-day adventure through south central Alaska. The trip will include travel on the "Denali Star" of the Alaska railroad, sea kayaking, a visit to Kenai Fjord National Park and over four days of backpacking in Denali National Park.

There's more to this Alaskan adventure than just roughing it in the great outdoors, however. Other planned activities include doing yoga in the backcountry, reading John Krakauer's *Into the Wild* and various group-building activities.

Participants will pay 1800 dollars each for this unique experience. A small subsidy has been provided by the ORGT Endowment to keep this price below 2000 dollars.

This Yukon freshman orientation has been organized with the support of Success Programs/FASET and the Campus Recreation Center (CRC).

"Wilderness adventure orientation programs have been very popular at...colleges for decades. Over the

last decade, more and more universities have added these programs," said Matt Marcus, outdoor recreation coordinator.

Named Tech Treks Alaska, this program follows the inaugural year of Tech Treks. Tech Treks Southeast will continue the original Tech Treks

"Wilderness adventure orientation programs have been very popular at...colleges for decades."

**Matt Marcus
Recreation Coordinator**

program, taking roughly 30 incoming freshmen whitewater rafting on the Oconee August 25.

Tech Treks Alaska will be guided by Marcus and CRC Assistant Director of Outdoor Recreation Leigh Jackson-Magennis, with the aid of two other professional outdoors people. The travelers will also solicit

the aid of Kenai Fjord Tours and Seaside Adventure Eco Tours for specialized activities.

Marcus said that some of Tech Treks' greater goals were having fun, bonding with fellow students and learning how to succeed at Tech from upper-class students.

"Tech Treks was started to fill a niche that was not being met at Tech currently," Marcus said.

When asked about the possibility of similar trips for older students, Marcus replied that "it is the goal of ORGT to begin to develop fantastic epic trips for other students, faculty and staff in the future. The ORGT Endowment was given with that goal in mind. It is expected that the first 'big trips' will begin this coming school year."

"I wish they'd had that program ten years ago," said John Hoyt, an Electrical and Computer Engineering alumnus who remains active in ORGT.

On the other hand, Paul Von der Porten, a fourth-year Aerospace Engineering major, was puzzled by the prospect of the trips. "It sounds like fun, but I'm not sure how it would help with engineering," Von der Porten said.



Photo courtesy of Chris Kelly / ckdake.com

Tech Treks Alaska will take 12 incoming freshmen on an adventure orientation, where they can enjoy fun activities like canoeing.

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important graduation information at:

www.gatech.edu/commencement



SUMMER COMMENCEMENT

**Saturday, August 4, 2007
Alexander Memorial
Coliseum**

**Undergraduate
ceremony
9:00 AM–11:00 AM**

**Master's and PhD
ceremony
3:00 PM–5:00 PM**

Don't forget to register to attend the ceremony by August 1. Registration must be completed at <https://oscar.gatech.edu> on the degree candidate information page.



**Georgia Institute
of Technology**

Ramblin' Wreck drives on

Iconic car rambles forth as part of history despite recent fender-bender

Extra! Extra!



Left: Buzz drives a small Wreck in the 2005 mini 500. Right: Cheerleaders join Wreck on football field in 1963.



By Andrew Guyton
Staff Writer

Tech's mechanical mascot is no mere vehicle. The Ramblin' Wreck, a 1930 Ford Model A, is a piece of history and an icon for the Yellow Jackets. That said, many Jacket fans don't know much, if any, of the details or history behind the beloved vehicle, which leads the football team onto the field for every game and serves as a symbol of Tech's industrial roots.

In 1916, Tech's Dean of Men Floyd Field purchased his first car, a 1914 Ford Model T. Field drove the



By Brian Casey / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Today's Wreck rambles on in Tech gold and white.

extensively to and from class from 1916 to 1929; he even drove this first car as far as California to attend academic seminars. The vehicle was metallic black, and had a mysterious black box fastened to its rear. Initially dubbed "Floyd's Flubber," his car became known as the "Ramblin' Reck."

Eventually, Field felt limited by his Model T and discarded it (much to students' disappointment) in favor of a newer model in 1928. To commemorate his former Model T, Field started an "Old Ford Race" from Atlanta to Athens in 1929 that was nicknamed the "Flying Flivver Race." However, Tech administration deemed the

unsafe for students in 1932. A more peaceful parade of contraptions was organized by the relatively new Yellow Jacket Club in an event known as the Wreck Parade. Established

in 1930, the Yellow Jacket Club would later change its name to the Ramblin' Reck Club (RRC) in 1945.

In the 1950s, Dean of Student Affairs Jim Dull noticed Tech students' fascination with classic cars. At that time, fraternities each had house Ramblin' Wrecks to display

In 1963, Tennessee Volunteer fans...painted [the Wreck] orange. In 1968, the Wreck swerved to avoid a drunken student after a pep rally and hit a telephone pole.

their school spirit; in fact, it was a campus rite for a student to own a Wreck of some sort. Consequently, Dull decided the school needed an official Ramblin' Wreck.

Dull searched across the country for the perfect Wreck, even using newspaper ads and radio commercials to find an appropriate vehicle.

In autumn of 1960, Jim Dull found the car he had been looking for right outside his apartment

in Towers Hall. It was a Ford Model A owned by Ted Johnson, Atlanta's chief Delta Airlines pilot. Johnson had purchased the scrapped car from a junkyard in 1956 and restored it with his son Craig in 1958. On May 26, 1961, the Athletic Association purchased the car for 1,000 dollars; the next day, students from the RRC picked it up.

On Sept. 30, 1961, the Ramblin' Wreck was driven onto Grant Field for the first time before a game against Rice University, and the RRC president explained the car's story in front of 43,501 fans. The Wreck saw its first away game on Nov. 18, 1961. In 1987, the Alumni Association gave the car to the Institute for free, and in 1992, Dean Dull retired, leaving the Wreck under the exclusive care of the Ramblin' Reck Club.

Aside from the recent accident, the Wreck has had a few other incidents as well. In 1962, Tennessee Volunteer fans broke into the Wreck's storage area in Neyland Stadium and painted it orange. In 1968, the Wreck swerved to avoid a drunken student after a pep rally and hit a telephone pole. That same

year, an angry Auburn fan shot the Wreck's radiator with a rifle after the Jackets won a game against Auburn.

The Wreck has been to 290 consecutive home football games and numerous cities in 12 states and Washington, D.C. Since the Wreck drove onto the field Sept. 30, 1961, Tech football has gone 184-102-4 at home. The car has also had a few facelifts since its acquisition from Ted Johnson. In 1982, Hapeville Ford Plant Manager and Tech alum Pete George completed notable restoration work on the Wreck, which was followed by more work in 2000 by the RRC.

The Wreck's driver is elected by the RRC every November. There have been 42 Reck Drivers since 1961 out of over 100,000 Tech graduates.

To put Tech's automotive mascot in perspective, remember that UGA is on its sixth (non-human) mascot. Tech is still on its first, or second if you count Floyd Field's Model T. It will take far more than a fender bender to unmake the legacy that is our beloved Ramblin' Wreck.

DramaTech Theatre



RUMORS

June : 22-23
27-30
July : 5-7

\$5 Students
\$8 Faculty/Staff
\$10 General

by: Neil Simon

Directed by: Kimberly Jürgen