Clough: tuition may have to rise

“...it would be very difficult for me to say definitively that the board will do X or Y. I think it’s possible that the board might do something to address this problem. The board could consider a tuition increase to offset the budget shortfall...”

Student commits suicide in Brown

“Eleisha Spencer died Wednesday morning at 6 a.m. from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Spencer lived in Brown Dorm on East Campus. She was a sophomore majoring in Chemical Engineering. Dean of Students Office personnel are offering grief counseling. The Counseling Center is located on the second floor of the Student Services Building.”

Five thousand turn out for Six Flags

“...the night before, I had a blast, said first-year Management major Neela Balkisson. "It was very memorable." SGA worked to improve this year’s Tech Night by remediating the problems from its first year. Last year, student groups met for hours after the park closed at midnight waiting for busses to take them back to campus.”

Tech self-reports NCAA violations

“...The internal review the Institute sent to the NCAA last week. Two of the students named in the report, a football player and a track athlete, are currently enrolled. Ten of the athletes in the report were football players, three ran in men’s track, three in women’s track and one was in women’s swimming. According to Director of Athletics Dave Braine, the audit of the past five years’ player eligibilities began last summer when a new employee from another school in Tech’s academic advising office pointed out there was a possible problem with its interpretation of the rules. When we found out about the concern, we chose on our own to investigate every player in all sports...”
From the files of the GTPD...

Crime Reports

Controlled substances

Location: North Avenue
Incident: Offender arrested for the possession of a controlled substance.

9/5/2004 1:41:00 hrs.
Location: 875 Curran Street
Incident: Report of public drunkenness and criminal trespass.

Traffic accident

9/1/2004 11:36:00 hrs.
Location: 182 Fifth Street
Incident: Report of a hit and run accident.

Location: Hemphil Avenue, 8th St.
Incident: Report of a two vehicle accident.

The Technique welcomes your comments and suggestions, as well as information about errors that call for correction. Messages may be emailed to nique@gatech.edu. Letters to the editor may be directed to the same address, or to opinions@technique.gatech.edu.
UHR approves Women’s Lacrosse bill requests

By Arcady Kantor
Staff Writer

The Undergraduate House of Representatives passed two bills allocating over $7,000 to the Women’s Lacrosse Club on Tuesday night. The versions of the bills passed at the meeting were significantly cut back from the organization’s original requests.

One of the bills, presented by organization representative Jennifer Crews, was a basic budget request to help fund the club’s operating expenses. The club representative cited a period of officer transition last year as the reason it failed to submit a budget request on time.

The original bill requested $6,255 to cover expenses such as referee and trainer costs, as well as an advertisement in the Blueprint.

The representatives chose to follow the decision of the Graduate Student Senate to not cover those costs, noting referee and trainer pay came out of student dues in the past. The advertisement was also struck down because the representatives felt the club had already achieved sufficient popularity.

Also removed from the bill was an $850 allocation for the national championship because SGA only funds up to three tournaments and the organization requested funding for four. The national championship was cut, as the team would need to win a certain number of games in order to be eligible for it. Representatives said the club would be able to ask for funding for this tournament if the team qualified.

See UHR, page 7

Grads approve overdue budget allocation bill

By Stephen Baehl
News Editor

The Graduate Student Senate met Tuesday morning to consider a bill that amounted to a delayed budget request for the Women’s Lacrosse Club.

Organization representative Jennifer Crews said the team missed last school year’s budget submission deadline due to a change in leadership. The club received about $7,000 from last year’s SGA budget, according to Crews.

This request, totaling $6,255, covered annual expenses like general equipment, things normally requested in year-end budgets. As such, JFC chair David Andersen gave a set of recommendations assuming the bill was a budget request.

“The grad students considered the bill largely as a budget request that would take money from accounts typically used for the year’s budget requests. The senators cut some funds from the bill, including a request for national championship expenses. JCC chair Ed Greco said the cut would be prudent, "as they haven’t even made it to the national championship yet."

The team also submitted a more typical bill requesting funding for a set of 50 uniforms. The senators reduced the number to 35 to match team sign-up estimates, making the bill total $2,450 before passage.

Come write for us! Weekly meetings on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. in Room 137 of the Flag Building.

New Joint Finance Committee (JFC) members are sworn in at Tuesday night’s meeting of the Undergraduate House of Representatives. UHR also considered two bills on the Women’s Lacrosse Club.

### Bills considered by both houses of the Student Government Association

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<td>Joint allocation to Women’s Lacrosse Club</td>
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<td>Appointments of Joint Finance Committee members</td>
<td>Amy Phuong</td>
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### Graduate Student Senate

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<td>Appointments of Joint Finance Committee members</td>
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Alpha Xi builds new house

Alpha Xi, Tech’s oldest sorority, is currently raising funds to build a new house, projected to reach completion by January 2005. Until the new housing project is complete, Alpha Xi stands as the only sorority without its own house. The sisters have long resided in the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house.

Alpha Xi members hope that the new structure will help Alpha Xi remain a competitive sorority on Tech’s campus. Holding 28 residents, the new building is projected to have 10,480 square feet of living space. This includes a dining room, study room, a commercial kitchen, and sleeping and bathing areas. Brick and stucco will frame the exterior of the house.

Projected to cost $1.4 million in total, the house will be funded by both donations and a long-term loan. Members have already raised roughly $200,000 in donations through alumni and other sources. Alpha Xi obtained the land from the Georgia Board of Regents, who will rent the land to the sorority for $1 per year for the next 40 years.

Architect Janice Wittschiebe designed the house. Wittschiebe is an Alpha Xi alum with over 20 years of experience in architecture.

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) of the executive branch of SGA is responsible for recommending amounts of fund allocation, based on the year's budget, to undergraduate and graduate organizations, who then decide the final amount. According to David Andersen, chair of the JFC, the committee faced a considerable challenge in managing the accounts for fiscal year 2004-2005.

Totals are in for the 2004-2005 SGA budget, and the amount of available funds has dropped by $553,034.

This translates into less funding for student organizations, a concern among many student leaders seeking financial support from SGA.

Abishek Shah, President of the India Club, heads one of the organizations that did not receive as much funding allocated to it as it had hoped for.

“We are the largest cultural organization on campus. We were given about $1,000 as compared to about $4,000 last year,” Shah said.

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) of the executive branch of SGA is responsible for recommending amounts of fund allocation, based on the year's budget, to undergraduate and graduate organizations, who then decide the final amount. According to David Andersen, chair of the JFC, the committee faced a considerable challenge in managing the accounts for fiscal year 2004-2005.

Funds in all four accounts—undergraduate, graduate, prior year, and capital outlay—totaled $553,034. This number is 95.71 percent of last year's total. The prior year and capital outlay accounts, designated for the purchase of equipment used by undergraduate and graduate organizations, lost the greatest proportion in fund allocations; their funds added up to 96.6 percent and 89.3 percent of last year's, respectively.

“JFC is facing a challenge this year in that our account totals are lower... than they were last year.”

David Andersen
JFC chair

The drop in funds, according to Andersen and Ambika Bumb, undergraduate SGA treasurer, was due largely in part to the renovation of the CRC.
Administrators worked to fix communication problems last year

Ineligibilities
Continued from page 1

who had played in the past five years,” said Institute President Wayne Clough in an email statement. As such, Tech examined 864 cases, of which 17 were found to be problematic. The discoveries, which resulted from a yearlong examination, led to Tech’s report to the NCAA.

Clough said the eligibility questions relate to a single-term issue for the players named, not to their entire career.

All problems reported were found to have taken place between 2000 and 2003, prior to last year’s change in the athletic advisement process. The report included possible self-imposed sanctions.

Braine said he is unsure of what the NCAA’s response will be. It could determine that the report is sufficient and its penalties satisfactory, or it could impose penalties of its own.

According to Braine, 94 cases of this sort have come to the NCAA’s attention over the past five years. Of these, only six were found to be non-secondary, or more serious, in nature. If the NCAA finds that Tech’s violations are non-secondary, it could require NCAA representatives to examine the ineligibilities.

Current students in report

Athletes named in the report do not know they were named, and, according to Braine, they will not know.

He said due to the Buckley Amendment and federal privacy laws, the students’ names are not releasable.

The exception to the students themselves knowing about their ineligibility would be the two currently enrolled student-athletes named in the report, due to the re-certification process necessitated by this discovery.

“Two are student-athletes that are still enrolled that are caught up in this,” Braine said. “One of them is a football player. We explained to the NCAA what happened, the student-athlete did what he had to do to get the correct paperwork done, and he was re-certified within two days by the NCAA.”

“So,” Braine said, “it’s not like it’s a major problem. It’s just a matter of doing the paperwork.”

There is also a track athlete whose eligibility came into question, but that student will not participate until this winter at the earliest. Braine said the paperwork to reinstate eligibility in that case will be done, as well.

The bulk of the report’s repercussions stem from the past ineligible athletes allowed to play since the 2000-2001 school year.

A misinterpretation

According to Braine and Clough, much of the ineligibility problem resulted from a misinterpretation of an NCAA rule. The difference between an acceptable credit and applicable credit came up in several of the cases where students did not properly qualify for academic eligibility.

“What is applicable and what is acceptable are two different things,” Braine said. “If a student-athlete had not declared a major, then certain electives could have counted.

In most of the ineligibility situations, Braine said, “an elective was used that wasn’t accepted by the major, or during the transition from the quarter to semester system, the [student-athlete] did not ask for permission to use it.”

That permission is given a lot of times, he added.

Braine said the students did not know to do this in these instances. “What is the cause for them not knowing? I can’t answer that question.”

Other problems, however, resulted from improper review rather than misinterpretations. According to Braine, one improperly certified student-athlete lacked the proper number of credit hours for a term.

Letters of reprimand have been sent to staff involved in the issue, according to the Sept. 3 edition of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

“Departments know around campus that our athletes need to be treated like every other student.”

Jennifer Condaras
Director of compliance

Improving the process

Tech has worked to fix problems with its advising system for student-athletes so no more of these cases fall through the cracks.

“We’ve changed the way we certify eligibility now,” Braine said. “We honestly feel, after speaking to the persons involved, that it was honestly a misinterpretation,” she said.

Lack of communication

Condaras cited a lack of communication causing much of the difficulty. Not only were students sometimes unaware of an unacceptable course, but those involved in the certification process were not aware of some problems. They sometimes counted courses toward eligibility that should not have been.

For example, Condaras said a D grade in a course might not have been acceptable to the department in which it was earned, but communication channels between the Athletic Association and individual departmental advisors did not provide this information.

Students who had such grade problems might themselves have been unaware that the grades were an issue in that department, she said. As such, not only were some courses improperly reported as acceptable with regards to the grade made and credit earned, but students lacked the knowledge to do anything to rectify the situation.

Such remedies could include appealing the grade or attempting to get an exception, Condaras said.

“I know that students all over campus have the opportunity to discuss with the professor or department the opportunity to allow that grade to be accepted,” she said. “You never know what the department would have said.”

Condaras emphasized, however, that students would have to pursue any such course of action on their own, as athletes are not to be treated differently from other students.

“Department know around campus that our athletes need to be treated like every other student.”

The registrar, the academic advisor, the director of compliance and the NCAA faculty representative all are involved in the certification process.

“It starts in academics, but everybody else has a chance to catch it also,” Braine said.

In fact, Braine added, “It was the Academic Advising Office that brought it to our attention that we could have a problem…. So give them credit.”

Braine added, “I need to point out that every person thought that they were doing it right.”

But everyone working on the process separately led to problems—problems administrators aimed to address with improved communication in the advising process.

“Based on past experience,” Clough said, “we are sure that upwards of 10 of these [students] would have been eligible based on a simple appeal to the academic unit…. The appeals are done all the time for students in general as well as student-athletes.”

That correction would have left seven improperly certified players.

Clough said, “If you are down to six or seven players over five years, that is a pretty small error rate.”
Research lab planned for old Facilities building

By Haining Yu
Assistant News Editor

The Facilities Department is moving its operations to make room for the construction of a new research laboratory building. The location currently occupied by King Facilities Building, just down the street from the Parker Petit Biotechnology Building, will eventually be home to a new research laboratory building jointly operated by the College of Science and College of Engineering.

The Molecular Science and Engineering building will be used jointly by the College of Science and College of Engineering as a shared complex between the two colleges. Research to be conducted in the new facilities will include nanotube research, fatigue and fracture research, and ceramic and materials processing research. The Molecular Science and Engineering Building will provide an interdisciplinary environment for scientists and engineers to conduct projects examining materials at the atomic and molecular levels. The new facility could aid in Tech’s development of biomaterials for artificial tissues, advanced materials for faster computers and electronic communications, and lightweight materials for more efficient planes.

According to Fred Dolder, senior project manager in the Design and Construction division of the Facilities Department, the building is “in the design and development stage now. The design effort should conclude late this year, early next year,” and possible activity might commence as early as the end of this semester. A design firm and a construction manager have already been selected and contract documents are being finalized. Slated at an impressive 275,000 square feet in size, the building will be roughly the size of the Earth Science and Technology Building built in 2003. The project budget for the building is $60,000,000.

Since the labs will be built on an existing site, “there’s a lot of preparatory work that comes with the demolition of the old building,” Dolder said.

Safety issues need to be addressed properly before any construction begins. Dolder said to look for “some activity visible later this fall and certainly early next year.”
**Facilities** from page 6

"It is going to be a significant structure," Dolder said. Interior design on the building will be done with the same philosophy as the current biomedic al buildings, creating comfortable common areas with lively decor.

The moving process for the Facilities Department is going on a step-by-step basis, said Frank Lamia, the Interim Construction Program Administrator. "We moved in phases so not to disrupt the whole operation," he said, "it went pretty smoothly and we did it in stages so that we wouldn't shut down entirely."

Only minor modifications were made to the OHR building in order to facilitate the move, through the former ORGT space in the O'Keefe Gym had to be modified to a greater extent.

Facilities is also occupying the Alexander Memorial Coliseum Annex, formerly occupied by WREK studios. "This may be a temporary location" for Facilities, Lamia said, so as little changes as possible were made to the space. Future plans for another move, though, have yet to be finalized.

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**UHR** from page 3

Public Policy representative Alex Suarez asked why the club needed separate funding to stripe the CRC field rather than sharing the stripes used by the men. Crews explained that the stripes used by the men were inappropriate for the women's club.

The bill, having been amended to a sum of $4,705 as a result of the cuts, was passed by a wide margin.

"We do," she said. "Inappropriate for the women's club."

Currently the team has roughly 25 jerseys and a similar number of skirts. The club also only has one set of uniforms, matching the number of members currently in the club and bringing the total cost to $2,450, before passing it.

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**House** from page 4

**House** from page 4

years of experience in architecture and design.

When complete, the new location for Alpha Xi will stand on the corner of 6th Street and Techwood. This is a prime location on campus, as the plot of land rests among other Greek houses and Technology Square.

Alumnae appear enthusiastic about the new house, donating money and openly praising Alpha Xi's endeavor in architecture. Alumnae get to request that certain rooms be named for them or for a person of their choice.

Said '82 graduate Susan Fulton Nicholson, "I love that the chapter has stayed so strong. We need to make sure their housing stays competitive so the next 20 years are just as successful."

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**College of Computing streamlines curriculum**

By Joshua Gunero Senior Staff Writer

Computer Science majors dreading their turn at the infamous CS 2130: Languages and Translation—often touted as one of the most difficult courses at Tech—may breathe a sigh of relief. In a move designed to improve student understanding of computer hardware fundamentals, the College of Computing has dropped both CS 2130 and its precursor, ECE 2030: Introduction to Computer Engineering, from its program and replaced them with CS 2110: Computer Organization and Programming.

This new class guides students through the basics of computer hardware, starting with transistors and logic gates and continuing up the hierarchy to assemble language and C programming. Compilers and the language translation process—traditionally the second half of the CS 2130 curriculum—have been moved to one of the two new 3000-level courses that have been split from the former theory course, which has also been dropped.

"There was a lot of concern that the 2130 class in particular had too much material, and the students were finding it...[difficult] to assimilate that much," said Merrick Furst, a professor in the College of Computing and the associate dean for undergraduate programming and faculty development.

"We had some issues with 2130," said Bill Leahy, a lecturer for the College of Computing and a former CS 2130 teacher. "For one thing, we were introducing...the whole translation process, and we thought perhaps it was really a little bit too early in the four years. We would be better off [introducing it] later on. We also recognized that...[Computer Engineers] were taking 2130 for the C language programming, not so much for the translation process."

The School of Electrical and Computer Engineering has decreed Computer Engineering majors, who were required to take CS 2130, will not be required to take CS 2110. They will instead be exposed to this material within the ECE courses. Computer Engineering majors will still be required to take ECE 2030 as well.

According to Leahy, the new course will also help solve the problem of CS majors who might take ECE 2030, CS 2130, and the follow-up course—CS 2200: Systems and Networking—several semesters apart.

"[The students] may come into 2200 much later on, and so by the time they come...they don't have a complete [skill set in C]," said Kishore Ramachandran, a professor

See CoC, page 8
Budget from page 4

The CRC is a Tier I organization, and student organizations are considered to be Tier III. According to JPC policy, higher-tier organizations are given higher priority.

"The CRC asked for a large increase last year, and there is not as much money left over to allocate to the other organizations," Andersen said. "We tried to allocate funds as fairly as possible and to be consistent."

Bumb added, "The offices in the Student Center Commons – Tier II organizations – also requested large amounts of funding to finance their moves."

Leaders around campus have mixed feelings about SGA’s fiscal strategy. Shah said, "I understand that a large portion of the budget was allocated to the CRC. But how can SGA justify spending on bills like $2,875 – a sign for their office?"

Parag Gajarawala, President of the Men’s Ultimate Club Team, said, that the club’s “budget this year was dropped from about $2,500 to $600. I understand that they made cuts to all Tier III organi-

"I think SGA has done its best to meet the needs of organizations…" Wuwei Liang Badminton Club president

ations, but I wasn’t satisfied with the way they went about it."

Other student organization leaders were pleased with the allocations. Wuwei Liang, president of the Badminton Club, said, "As a new student organization, we’re glad that we received a budget from SGA. I think SGA has done its best to meet the needs of organizations with a reduced budget."

SGA Undergraduate President Amy Phuong offered her opinion on the 2004-2005 budget. "Although we have less money this year than last," she said, "our funds are not at an all-time low. Spending will be tighter than last year, but we will still be able to allocate funds to organizations that need them the most."

Both Andersen and Bumb said it is important for student organizations to find methods of acquiring funds themselves. Bumb said that the organizations should use SGA as a "last resort, after trying to raise funds themselves."

"I encourage organizations to fundraise," Andersen said. "Fundraising can be very effective – it helps to relieve the burden on SGA’s budgeting and bill allocation process."

Six Flags from page 1

summer and enlisted the help of volunteers to help with everything from handing out flyers to selling T-shirts. SGA issued time tickets to students for the Stingers to ensure that there was a steady flow of students going from campus to the park and back. Double the number of Stingers were used as well as several coach buses provided by Parking.

In addition, SGA and Six Flags signed a contract stipulating that all the rides would run at maximum capacity.

Six Flags made sure that the contract was upheld and tried to limit wait times. SGA also kept tabs on the lines.

"We kept Six Flags and their staff in check by … checking that the lines weren’t too long."

Amy Phuong Undergraduate president

Undecided Engineering major Kevin Lorincz said, "We got more than our 12 dollars worth," said another student.