After three days of voting, the results of the SGA undergraduate elections were announced on Wednesday, April 11. The positions of undergraduate student body president and executive vice president remain unfilled for next year pending a runoff election between the top two vote-getters in each race, due to no candidate receiving the majority vote required to win.

The presidential runoff will face off top vote-getter Mark Youngblood, who received 1792 votes, against Ana Parvatiyar, who received 1117 votes, holding off Alex Wang, who received 1032 votes. In the vice presidential runoff, Matt Peeples, leading vote-getter with 1490 votes, will be vying against George Ray, who received 1226 votes. Kyle Dreyer received the remaining 1088 votes.

The polls closed at 4 p.m. Wednesday, and Will Welch, elections committee chair and fourth-year International Affairs major, took the stage at 5:30 p.m. in the Student Center Commons stage to read the results before the crowd of students that filled the surrounding area to hear the announcement.

"The voter turnout was up by 900 over last year," Welch said.

"The credit for that really goes to the candidates for getting people to come out and vote for them. I was really pleased with what we had this year and I think it’s a good starting point for higher turnout in future years."

"We’re very excited about the turnout," Youngblood said. "Having over 4,000 votes is huge. We want to make sure there’s an equally large turnout next week and we’ll be doing everything we can to make that happen."

Voting in the runoff election will begin on Monday, April 16, and the results will be announced on Wednesday, April 18, giving the runoff candidates one additional week to make their case to the undergraduate student body about why they should get their votes. The runoff results will once again be announced at the Student Center Commons stage at 5:30 p.m. on the final day of voting.

According to Welch, the runoff candidates will be able to continue campaigning by leaving up their old signs and spending an additional $50 after having a spending limit of $250 during the initial campaign. But having to go through another week of campaigning is bitter sweet news for the runoff candidates.

"Campaigning has been hectic, but at the same time it’s really fun," Parvatiyar said. "You learn a lot, and it’s fun to get out and see what people have to say. It’s a grueling process though, but so much because of the time commitment required to win."
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Yeah, yeah, it’s really convenient having your own car on campus. But have you ever tallied up the costs? An all-zone parking permit alone is $545. But now there is Flexcar. With four low-emission, fuel-efficient vehicles conveniently parked around campus, there’s always a set of wheels available — for errands, for meetings, or just for fun. All you pay for is the time you use the car, with rates as low as $6 an hour. Gasoline, insurance, maintenance and 150 miles a day are included. Best of all, we’ve reduced the membership fee to a very affordable $35. So next semester, pocket the parking pass money, and let Flexcar be yours for hours.

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Senate passes election codes

By James Stephenson
News Editor

The Graduate Student Senate (GSS) met Tuesday. Seven bills were passed, two were postponed, and one failed.

The first bill brought before the senate was the joint allocation to GIFTED Gospel Choir. The bill had returned from conference committee where the graduates had relented on the $2,000 for the Ferst Center Rental. A motion was made to pass by unanimous acclamation, but was denied by Pelham Norville, a graduate Electrical and Chemical Engineering student, who felt that the organization had lied about the number of students who attended last year’s event. The issue was cleared up and another motion to accept by unanimous acclamation was made. This time, the motion carried and the bill passed.

The second bill brought before the senate was the resolution to amend the Graduate SGA Bylaws. The bill was postponed until next week so the senate could wait to see what the undergraduate house did.

The third bill brought before the senate was the resolution approving the new elections code for the Graduate SGA. There was a motion to accept by unanimous acclamation, but the motion failed. No discussion occurred over the bill and the bill was brought to a vote. The bill passed by 25 in favor, none opposed, and two abstentions.

The next bill was the joint allocation to Tech Beautification Day. The organization was asking for funds for the work on the beautification day. There was debate over funding a truck to take the tools from their rental location to campus and back again. The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) recommended taking the truck rental out of the bill, but the GSS went against the recommenda-

Bills passed
• Joint Allocation to GIFTED Gospel Choir
• Joint Resolution FY 2008 SAF Budget Tier I
• Joint Resolution FY 2008 SAF Budget Tier II
• Joint Allocation to Alpha Chi Sigma
• Joint Allocation to Wrestling
• Joint Allocation to Tech Beautification Day
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (A)
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (B)
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (C)

Bills failed
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (C)

Bills postponed
• Joint Allocation to Leadershape
See GSS, page 7

Senators ask questions of organizational representatives in Tuesday’s meeting. GSS passed the election codes prior to the elections.

Bills passed
• Joint Allocation to GIFTED Gospel Choir
• Resolution Approving Elections Code
• Joint Allocation to Alpha Chi Sigma
• Joint Allocation to Wrestling Club
• Joint Allocation to Tech Beautification Day
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (A)
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (B)
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (C)

Bills postponed
• Resolution to Amend Bylaws
• Joint Allocation to Leadership
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (C)

See GSS, page 7

Graduate Student Senate

Each week, elected members of the houses of the Student Government Association (SGA) meet to consider allocation bills and talk about campus issues. Here are summaries of those meetings.

Undergraduate House of Representatives

House passes rest of FY 2008 SAF Budget

By Emily Chambers
Contributing Writer

This Tuesday’s meeting of the Undergraduate House of Representatives began with the announcement that Presidential Candidate Barack Obama will be visiting campus this Saturday, April 14. The African American Student Union is coordinating the event, which will be at Yellow Jacket Park at 11 a.m.

The first bill brought before the House was the joint allocation to the GIFTED Gospel choir, which had been in committee since last week. The bill passed unanimously with 30 votes in favor. The second bill presented was the joint allocation to Alpha Chi Sigma. The club is planning a picnic for April 24. The bill passed unanimously with 30 votes in favor.

The third bill presented was the joint allocation to GT Wrestling. The club requested funding for transportation and registration fees for the national tournament this spring, as well as funding for a new coach who signed on with the team recently. The bill passed, again unanimously with 30 votes in favor.

The fourth bill presented was the joint allocation to GT Leadershape, which was postponed till next week. The fifth bill brought before the house was the joint allocation to Tech Beautification Day on April 24. The bill passed unanimously with 30 votes in favor.

See UHR, page 7

For more information on these bills, contact your representative.

Bills passed
• Joint Allocation to GIFTED Gospel Choir
• Joint Resolution FY 2008 SAF Budget Tier I
• Joint Resolution FY 2008 SAF Budget Tier II
• Joint Allocation to Alpha Chi Sigma
• Joint Allocation to Wrestling
• Joint Allocation to Tech Beautification Day
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (A)
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (B)

Bills failed
• Joint Allocation to IDSA (C)

Bills postponed
• Joint Allocation to Leadershape

See UHR, page 7

Best (and worst) of Tech is coming!

What’s great about Tech? What sucks?

Sound off! Cast your votes at WWW.NIQUE.NET by Wednesday, April 18!
Complete election results

Undergraduate House of Representatives

<table>
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AE Rep: Lisa Stuber, Michael Paczurti; MGT: Leah McCormick, Spencer Hennigar, Kevin Kung; Arch Rep: Erika Reid, John Tankard; BME: Kaitlyn Frazier, Michael Chernovski; ChBE: Jina Kang, ML Corey Meyers; CEE: Anthony Reass, Physics Sarang Shah; Co-op Fall: Hui Kwan, PFTE Anne Campeau; Co-op Spring: Ashtar Mithaiwala; CoC: Andy Jones, Andy Williamson; EAS: Sean Ryan; Econ: John Akin, Sophomore; ECE: Varun Manir; ESE: Chad Sansavera, Alfred Bird-Manu, Radhika Kumar; HTS: Clay Karwisch; INTA: Maria Petrie; LCC: Andrea Preininger.

Elections from page 1

Commitment, but because you have to spend every minute running around. I don’t think any of the candidates ever want a runoff because we’ve already been campaigning for two and a half weeks, but we’ll just keep working hard.

With four presidential candidates and three vice presidential candidates, a lack of a front-runner and the requirement to win a majority of the vote makes runoffs very common.

Three of the previous four presidential elections required runoffs to determine a winner.

“I don’t think any of the candidates ever want a runoff because we’ve already been campaigning for two and a half weeks.”

Anu Parvatiyar
SGA Presidential Candidate

“There were four very well qualified candidates and I think all of us were expecting a runoff.”

Mark Youngblood
SGA Presidential Candidate

Youngblood’s leading vote total came in spite of allegations of a forged email that he successfully defended himself against before the elections committee. After the polls opened on Monday, Youngblood’s campaign sent a mass email to thousands of undergraduate students on behalf of Youngblood’s former football teammate, star wide receiver Calvin Johnson, expressing Johnson’s support for Youngblood.

The forgery allegations arose because the majority of the emails were shown to have been sent from Youngblood’s account with the return name and address changed to Johnson’s and a temporary Gmail account created to appear to belong to him.

Youngblood said that he began sending the emails from the Gmail account but had to stop after only a couple of hundred because there was a daily limit for the number of emails that an external address may send to campus accounts.

As a result, his own personal account was used for the remaining recipients.

Youngblood was able to demonstrate that forgery was not committed because he had obtained Johnson’s oral and written permission to send the emails through another former teammate, Andrew Smith.

According to the campaign validation defense that Youngblood submitted to the elections committee, Johnson permitted his name to be used on the basis that “it didn’t require any work on his part” and “a fake return address was used so that he wouldn’t receive the responses”. Johnson was unable to be reached for comment.

Cheerleading * Dance * Buzz * Mic Man 2007-2008 Try-Outs

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There will be an audition clinic held on March 10th & March 31st

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Cheerleading, Buzz & Mic Man Try-Outs

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The Mic Man is in charge of leading the crowd. This person should be full of energy, not afraid to perform in front of a large audience and overflowing with GT Spirit. If you think you have what it takes to be the 1st Georgia Tech Mic Man, we’ll see you at Try-Outs.

More information at www.RAMBLINWRECK.com - Click the Cheerleading Link
Grad elections held next week

By James Stephenson • News Editor

While the undergraduate student body elections took place this week, graduate elections will be held this upcoming Monday through Wednesday. Unlike the undergraduate student body president and vice president elections, the graduate elections have two candidates running technically unopposed with Brock Wester for president and Karl Yerger for vice president. However, the elections will still be held as if multiple candidates were running for the positions and write-in candidates are possible.

“There will be emails going out next Monday to all graduate students with the candidates platforms that were published in last week’s paper,” said Adam Brancato, a chemical and biological engineering graduate student and graduate internal affairs committee chair.

The fact that the elections are going to be unopposed is not a new experience for the Graduate Student Senate (GSS), the last contested presidency was three years ago, while the last contested vice presidency was two years ago.

“The reason that the graduate races are usually unopposed is that there is a different experience than undergraduates. It is more like a job. To be graduate president, it will normally extend the time that the person is here by at least a year,” Brancato said.

Despite the time constraint, another reason that there are normally unopposed races is because there are few graduates interested in Student Government.

“The races also tend to be unopposed because those who are interesting in the position are usually already in the senate. Everyone knows Brock [Wester] and Karl [Yerger] and felt they would be fit for the job. There was one other potential vice-presidential candidate in Bhim Dam, who would have run had no one else stepped up to take the job,” Brancato said.

The role of the graduate advisors also comes into play when a person decides whether to run or not to run for the positions.

“We need permission from our advisors to take on a position like this,” said Ryan Bechtel, graduate student senate executive vice president.

Despite the fact that the races are usually unopposed, any graduate student is free to run in the elections. "Anyone is welcome to run. Emails are sent out to everyone. However, the pool of people who would be interested in the position tend to have already gravitated towards the senate. Also, the number of people who are willing to stay another year will normally extend the time that the person is here by at least a year,” Brancato said.

Farmer challenges election code

By James Stephenson • News Editor

Grant Farmer, an Earth and Atmospheric Science (EAS) graduate student, appealed the election code ruling that he was ineligible to run for the position of graduate student body executive vice president.

Farmer graduated from the undergraduate program in December and entered the graduate program in January. While an undergraduate, Farmer served as an undergraduate SGA representative for EAS. When he entered the graduate program, he switched from the Undergraduate House of Representatives (UHR) to the Graduate Student Senate (GSS).

Farmer is considered ineligible by the current election code because he has not been a graduate student for a full semester prior to the election.

“So I appealed the interpretation of the phrase ‘one semester prior to the election’ as being vague and that a lay person’s interpretation would be that I have been a graduate student for a full semester prior to the election,” Farmer said.

The appeal was filed as a complaint to the Graduate Judiciary Committee (GJC) in September 2005. The defendants in the complaint were Mitch Keller, graduate student body president, and Adam Brancato, graduate student body executive vice president.

The defense used the language of Article VII, Paragraph B, of the Student Constitution. The previous chair of the Internal Affairs Committee is prepared to testify along with Mr. Brancato, who was at the time a member of the committee, that the committee (1) discussed the language of Article VII, Paragraph B, (2) confirmed its intent was to require a graduate student to complete a full semester prior to the date of the election for President or Executive Vice President, and (3) clarified the language to ensure that this meaning was the only interpretation that could be made. The entire Constitution was then presented to the Graduate Student Senate and adopted in September 2005 via Bill 05G106. The revised Constitution was then reviewed and approved by the Student Activities Committee of the Academic Senate.

The GJC ruled against Farmer being an official candidate, but stated that he could still be a write-in candidate in the election.

“‘As Vice President I would ensure that organizations would be heard first and only after the bills have been considered would we conduct reports’...”

Grant Farmer
Graduate EAS Student

“Farmer decided to test the system, because he felt he was well qualified for the job as executive vice president. The defendants further rely on the most recent review processes for the Constitution.”

See Grads, page 7

Weekly Activities

DANCE LESSONS & OUTDOOR MOVIE FREE

Friday, April 13
Dance Lessons @ 7:20 p.m. on the CRC Lot
“Casino Royale” @ 8:15 p.m. on the CRC Field

CARICATURIST

Tuesday April 17
11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Student Center Commons
While you’re having lunch in the Student Center stop by for your FREE Caricaturist.

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CONCERT: "The King T.I."

Tuesday April 17
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Skiles Walkway
Concert: "The King T.I."
Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.
Yellow Jacket Park

FREE BREAK
Free food and fun for students!
Festival on Thursday, April 19
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Skiles Walkway
Concert: "The King T.I."
Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.
Yellow Jacket Park

Announcing...

STING BREAK 07
Free food and fun for students!
Festival on Thursday, April 19
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Skiles Walkway
Concert: "The King T.I."
Friday, April 20, 8:00 p.m.
Yellow Jacket Park

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Wednesday April 18
11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Student Center Commons

Yellow Jacket Park

Announcing...

STING BREAK 07
Free food and fun for students!
Festival on Thursday, April 19
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Skiles Walkway
Concert: "The King T.I."
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Phone Home for FREE CALL AT 1-877-373-3486

www.studentcenter.gatech.edu
Earth Day reaches milestone

By Corbin Pon
Staff Writer

On April 28 Tech will hold its 10th Annual Earth Day Celebration with the theme of “Make a Commitment”. A tradition that began in 1998, Tech’s Earth Day is an annual event that focuses the attention of the Tech community on the environment and increases awareness of the impact each and every one has on the health of the Earth.

The first Earth Day was orga

nized by Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin in 1970 in response to environmental degradation. The week leading up to the Earth Celebration, Tech will also hold a weeklong schedule of environmentally friendly events spearheaded by Tech’s Earth Day Planning Committee, including an appearance by Al Gore as part of the IMPACT Speaker Series.

“Our 10th Annual Earth Day Celebration is a big milestone for Tech. Our first year we had about 20 booths and this year, we are going to have over 60 booths featuring a multitude of organizations... Earth Day is an exchange of dialogue... There [will be] a wide variety of organizations, and whatever you [may be] interested in, there will be booths on that topic,” said Cindy Jackson, Earth Day Planning Committee Chair.

Beginning next Friday at 10 in the morning and running until two in the afternoon, Skiles Walkway, Yellow Jacket Park and the Camp

nale will play host to the Earth Day booths and activities. Addressing the theme of Earth Day, participants will be able to enter hourly raffle drawings by filling out a recyclable commitment card where they “Make a Commitment” to a conservation or sustainability activity for the year.

“We are going to have an office supply exchange... [this is] a good program to shift campus resources and last year 17,000 dollars worth of supplies were exchanged,” Jackson said.

Entertainment to be featured on Earth Day will include performances from Dr. Dr. Mr. MD and 4 Stone Sun, and heroes from childhood. Captain Planet and Reynard the Fox will also make appearances.

The weekleading up to Earth Day is called Think Green Week. An early highlight will be a bluegrass concert Saturday by the Cherryholmes, Hot Buttered Rum and Peachtree Station.

Hot Buttered Rum’s tour bus runs on recycled vegetable oil and biodiesel. An Inconvenient Truth will be shown Tuesday followed by a speaking appearance by Al Gore the next day and the student-run Tech Beautification Day takes place the Saturday after the Earth Day celebrations.

“This year the students really stepped to the plate. We have the See Earth, page 7

WREK creates strategic plan

By Corbin Pon
Staff Writer

WREK Radio has created a new strategic plan to guide the station from 2007 to 2010. A townhall meeting will be held at the Campanile April 17 at 11 a.m. to allow the Tech community to review and provide feedback on the plan. Feedback from 1,200 survey responses helped WREK understand their future directions when creating the new strategic plan.

Any organization needs missions and goals to work towards. Without goals, we are just an entity out there. We want to increase the value for the students at Tech,” said Bradford Petrick, WREK General Manager.

WREK has identified several core values that they recognized as being crucial to their strategic plan. The first of these is education, which is provided by giving students an opportunity to participate in the broadcasting industry and allowing students to gain experience from running a radio station. The value of service comes from WREK’s role in providing a varied offering of programming. Diversity is important to WREK, and it is committed to providing music, sports, news, educational and other broadcasts that cannot be found on mainstream radio. WREK sees the value of communication as viral by seeking to provide a conduit between the administration and the student body. There is also a core commitment to innovation, which WREK remains devoted to through its tradition of entrepreneurship. Finally they value a commitment to excellence.

“One of the good things about the strategic plan is it brings together our values... We want the document not to be a short term entity, but a document that should be used for years to come,” Petrick said.

The strategic plan outlines both WREK’s strengths and weaknesses. Strengths include being able to broadcast to most of metropolitan Atlanta, diversified and alternative programming and having 96 percent of the student body aware of WREK. They have also described weaknesses with WREK including high turnover with its staff, the need to develop more technologies and a listening audience of only 30 percent of the student body despite student awareness.

The strategic plan ends with the listing of goals WREK has outlined for the future. Some are strategies to increase listenership and become more financially independent. Others focus on technical upgrades and expansion and developing a more committed and effective WREK community. “If meetings with Public Broadcasting of Atlanta (PBA) and Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) hadn’t happened, then the strategic plan would not have happened. We wanted to model the document to the point where we could go and see where GPB or PBA can help us with the framework of the document,” Petrick said.
The eighth bill presented was also a joint allocation to the Industrial Designers Society of America. This bill was explained to be against SGA policy, as it was a request for funds to renovate or update institute property. The bill failed with two votes in favor, 25 votes against and one abstaining.

The ninth bill brought before the house was the joint resolution on the fiscal year 2008 budget for Tier I organizations. There was a motion made to increase the number of hours of the CRC to be open, as well as the pay allotment from SGA to the CRC for lifeguards. Mike Edwards from the CRC explained that while the funds were needed, they weren’t direct salaries, and the lifeguards themselves were not necessarily going to get a raise.

The motion to increase the pay allotment for lifeguards from $6 an hour to $8.50 failed, while the motion to increase the hours the CRC was open was passed. The Tier I budget passed the house unanimitously with 30 votes in favor.

With Westervan running unopposed, it is almost certain that he will win the position barring any massive amounts of write-in votes. However, there will be several issues facing Wester as soon as he enters office.

The number one issue is related to graduate student stipends. The second major issue is graduate health insurance. The third is payroll duties. This looks like it will be in place for the fall, but there will be implementation issues that Brancato (Wester) will have to deal with.

A fourth issue is ticketing for athletics, Keller said.

Despite these issues, Keller feels that Wester is up for the challenge.

“I think Brock will do a wonderful job... I look forward to seeing great things,” Mitch Keller, Graduate Student Body President, said.