OPINIONS
Technique • Friday, November 16, 2001

OUR VIEWS Consensus Opinion
Put permits online

Many freshmen are facing much harder schedules for the upcoming spring semester than they had anticipated. A large number of them were unable to register for humanities and social science courses, leaving them no choice but to add more math and science classes to their schedules.

Although there is the option to request permits or overloads for many of these classes, more and more students are finding these alternatives frustrating and unreliable, while administrators complain that too many students are coming to them at once begging for the same overloads and permits.

This entire process could be made simpler by implementing an online system for all permit and overload requests. A computer could easily and quickly process all permit and overload requests and assign them to classes according to eligibility and qualifications. If this were the case the whole registration process would be greatly improved. In the beginning of Phase I registration students could register for their major classes and all general courses. Then, in the second half of Phase I registration, permit requests could be looked at and administrators could make the decision to either complete the classes that already exist by adding students who have requested permits or add more sections of the most sought after courses.

The simplest and most obvious solution to this continuing problem is communication. If students want to take a class that is not required for their major, they should put in a permit request before registration starts so that the process is not as hectic and stressful. In this way administrators will be able to more closely evaluate requests and give the students who need certain classes most the opportunity to add them to their schedules.

Feed foreign students

It appears as though Tech’s international students won’t have much to be thankful for this Thanksgiving. Most of them will be staying on campus for the holiday, but as it stands now there will be no way for them to get food during the other part of the four-day holiday.

While there is an existing program trying to encourage international students to go home with students who live nearby and the Catholic Center continues to offer its annual Thanksgiving Day Feast, these two programs will only feed students on Thanksgiving Day. International students are essentially on their own for the other three days. The dining halls will be closed for the entire holiday, and no employees will be around to take these students to grocery stores or any other food places. Most of these students do not have any other means of transportation. If any of them hope to have food during the break they must plan in advance to get a ride to the store.

There are several solutions to this problem. One of the dining halls could be opened for a limited number of hours each day during the break, or dining services could prepare a number of simple ‘to go’ meals for these students to pick up each day. A Stinger could also be run to a grocery store one or more days during the holiday. No matter what the solution, something should be done to make sure that the students who must stay here over the holidays do not feel isolated.

Consensus editorials reflect the majority opinion of the Editorial Board of the Technique, but not necessarily the opinions of individual editors.

Quote of the week:
“Not at my back I always hear Time’s winged chariot hurrying near.” —Andrew Marvell

New ticket policy shows GTAA’s laziness

This is in response to the second change that has taken place in two years to Georgia Tech’s basketball student ticket policy.
I am curious as to the real reason the Georgia Tech Athletic Association (GTAA) Ticket Office chose to avoid responsibility by making a first-come, first-serve ticketing policy before the actual game. Do they really believe that less organization and planning will lead to higher attendance?
I will be less likely to waste my time walking to Alexander Memorial Coliseum knowing the possibility that I may get turned away. In my opinion, having to arrive up wards of an hour before tip-off will also decrease attendance. In my mind, the only justification for this unstable plan revolves around GTAA’s lack of planning. Even though Just-A-Ticket went out of business, there’s always the system that was in place before the online method was used last year.
GTAA’s decision to deny itself assistance from SGA is equally confusing as well as frustrating. I’ve noticed this firsthand through the experience of block seating for the past two years, first when SGA ran things, as compared to this season in which GTAA has struggled to effectively run the ticket distribution independently.
This year procedures are simplified across the board, but sometimes this is for GTAA’s own selfish goals due to lack of resources or motivation. In more cases than not, the oversimplification breaks down the overall process, making the students suffer as a result of the laziness of the GTAA.
The claim that the GTAA wants student tickets to be hard to get is a total scapegoat. Why would anyone wish upon their own student body the difficulty to attain something that the students are forced to
The Auburn chapters of both of these fraternities have been suspended by their national headquarters. Two opposing members of Delta Sigma Phi were expelled. Auburn itself has temporarily suspended both of these fraternities and is waiting for the results of an investigation before it takes any other actions.

The Auburn chapters of both of these fraternities have been suspended by their national headquarters. Two opposing members of Delta Sigma Phi were expelled. Auburn itself has temporarily suspended both of these fraternities and is waiting for the results of an investigation before it takes any other actions.

The Auburn chapters of both of these fraternities have been suspended by their national headquarters. Two opposing members of Delta Sigma Phi were expelled. Auburn itself has temporarily suspended both of these fraternities and is waiting for the results of an investigation before it takes any other actions.

The Auburn chapters of both of these fraternities have been suspended by their national headquarters. Two opposing members of Delta Sigma Phi were expelled. Auburn itself has temporarily suspended both of these fraternities and is waiting for the results of an investigation before it takes any other actions.

The Auburn chapters of both of these fraternities have been suspended by their national headquarters. Two opposing members of Delta Sigma Phi were expelled. Auburn itself has temporarily suspended both of these fraternities and is waiting for the results of an investigation before it takes any other actions.
Techs and the City: Upcoming holidays are a good time to volunteer

By Jen Hinkel

I’ve seen Christmas decorations at CVS and Publix. The semester has flown by, and suddenly, the holidays are upon us. Starting with Thanksgiving, we will fall into a downward spiral of sanity that makes us crazy by mid-December, and despite our annual pledges to get everything finished early, to find a simpler state of mind, and to remember the “spirit of the season,” we’ll probably forget those promises by the first of December.

This year, I’m taking a revisionist approach to Thanksgiving. Giving thanks as we gather around tables piled high with turkey, fried osha, and pumpkin pie holds meaning for our families, but Thanksgiving should not be a holiday for only the comfortable and well-fed. Instead of simply giving thanks, we need to constantly be giving so that the less fortunate can also be thankful. We should celebrate Thanksgiving, but as college students, we’re pressed for time, broke, and stressed out. What can we really give? We may not have money; with job losses and economic downturn, we have even less than usual. But we do have ample opportunity to give, and if we will commit ourselves, we have the time. For organizations that require volunteers to be at least 18 or 21 years old, college students may be their best hope for help.

Moreover, in keeping with the collegiate mindset that we benefit from the richness of our environment, we should feel obligated to volunteer and give philanthropically to those who live in underprivileged environments. Conveniently, opportunities for giving abound in Downtown, and with all of your free time next week from Wednesday classes your profs will probably cancel (or the ones you’ll skip anyway), you’ll need a productive outlet for the energy you usually expend trying to pay attention in that dreadfully boring lecture.

Our gifts might not be monetary, but we can certainly give some of our time and effort. Plus, everyone knows how productive engineers can be. Any organization will be proud to have some of our valuable time. As an added benefit, we’ll get the satisfaction of helping others and have the chance to develop our community connections.

If you’re a neophyte volunteer, the Hands on Atlanta Web site (http://handsonatlanta.com) and the Student Center’s MOVE office can start you off with a number of resources. For those seeking programs specifically geared towards Thanksgiving, Atlanta offers numerous opportunities to lend a hand.

The Fulton Family & Children Services Food and Gift sorting is one such seasonal operation. It needs volunteers to prepare Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets on November 17, 20-21, and various days in December. (404-699-6387) If you have time tomorrow, Operation Street Harvest Holiday Parties needs volunteers in Decatur to serve a meal to women and children from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (404-241-0072). Many Tech students participate with Project Open Hand, an Atlanta initiative that prepares and delivers meals to people living with AIDS and other medical conditions. This week, they will need volunteers to prepare and deliver Thanksgiving meals. (404-872-2707 x 118)

On Wednesday, CHRIS Homes, a system of group homes for children and young adults who have been abused or neglected, will need volunteers over the age of 21 to help residents 17 to 21 years of age prepare and serve Thanksgiving dinner. (404-486-9034) Volunteering to help our peers could take us from our comfort zone, but it could also enrich us with a profound experience. Even more holiday-specific volunteering activities will need participants in early December. And as people concentrate on donating their time and energy to hunger and food agencies, they might forget that the number of depressed people in this country skyrocketing around the holiday season each year.

Therefore, nursing home residents and those living in shelters might want nothing more than a friendly visit when they have no family around during the holidays. Home construction organizations such as Habitat for Humanity will need volunteers to build houses before the coldest winter months. With the recent economic downturn, agencies that help with job training and interviewing skills may be scrambling to find work for those entering the workforce.

This Thanksgiving, start giving, and let the thanks that you receive be your reward. Just think of the warm, fuzzy feeling you’ll have as “Ramble” plays next Saturday, perhaps being forced to cut class, to ensure a spot into certain games. Is this what the GTAA wants to encourage? Would that prove fan loyalty? That’s the message being sent to the ticket office not make it ‘hard’ enough.

Currently, camping out for big games occurs at night in anticipation of the distribution of the following morning. The new revised plan would require waiting in line all day, perhaps being forced to cut class, to ensure a spot into certain games.

Is this what the GTAA wants to encourage? Would that prove fan loyalty? That’s the message being sent.

Peace is not the answer

Daniel Uhlig ponders the consequences of the war against terror, but the only option we have is to terminate the perpetrators of the 9-11 atrocities with extreme prejudice. If we were to listen to the problems they have with this fine nation and attempt to solve them in a peaceful manner, we would send the message to other belligerent states that murdering U.S. citizens on U.S. soil is a viable way of opening a forum for discussion.

We would never see the end of terrorist attacks upon our land.

Britton Carter
gte861m@prism.gatech.edu

GTAA

from page 6

pay for as part of their tuition? Is going out of your way to make a trip to the ticket office not make it ‘hard’ enough?

Currently, camping out for big games occurs at night in anticipation of the distribution of the following morning. The new revised plan would require waiting in line all day, perhaps being forced to cut class, to ensure a spot into certain games.

Is this what the GTAA wants to encourage? Would that prove fan loyalty? That’s the message being sent.

Shane Bailey
gte694e@prism.gatech.edu
**Question of the Week**

“What do you think should be done about seniors who are two hours or less shy of graduating?”

- **Jason Ward**
  
  CP Grad
  
  “If it is due to conversion, the administration should take that into consideration.”

- **Aman Soloman**
  
  BioChem Junior
  
  “They should either allow them to take the classes for free or let them graduate.”

- **Kristie Groover**
  
  CS Senior
  
  “They should let them override the system and graduate early.”

- **Tim Maher**
  
  ARCH Freshman
  
  “They should graduate with recognition, but they should promise they will finish.”

- **Kelly Miller**
  
  Math Junior
  
  “If they’ve completed all their requirements I’d let them go.”

- **Chris Moore**
  
  CompE Freshman
  
  “I’d have to take it on a case-by-case basis.”

- **Grace Kwon**
  
  IE Senior
  
  “If they were two hours short I would let them graduate.”

- **Vincent Chan**
  
  CS Freshman
  
  “I’m sure they worked their schedule around when they thought they would graduate.”

- **Aman Soloman**
  
  BioChem Junior
  
  “They should let them override the system and graduate early.”

Feature and Photos by Andrew Saulters
Behind the Buying Binge

Auto Sales Soar on Mix Of Deals, Patriotism, Seize-the-Day Spirits

Traffic Patterns

The death of American Airlines Flight 587 is a new jolt to the airline industry just as it was beginning to return to the air. U.S. monthly passenger boardings, in millions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Boardings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Air Transport Association

The French court's ruling had alarmed free-speech groups because the Nazi uniform law was a sale of racist materials. The French groups that brought the initial case may appeal.

Club Med Closes Some Resorts

Club Med, which was losing ground to rivals even before this fall's travel slump, has closed seven resorts and plans to close eight more for at least several months.

After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, winter bookings at Club Med plummeted at various villages from 15% to 50%. The company was already being hurt by competition from builders, more up-market resorts, often right next to Club Med's ag- ing villages. And cruise lines are offering similar all-inclusive vacations at sharply discounted rates. Now Club Med, with 120 resorts, faces perhaps its most severe fi- nancial problems since its launch in 1950.

Clear Channel Plans Online Music Sales

Radio giant Clear Channel Communications Inc. will offer online music subscriptions through its station Web sites in five cities, creating what eventually could be a revenue stream to help American.

What’s News

In Business and Finance

IPO Activity

Picks Up

Sputtered by a rebounding stock market and pent-up demand, the IPO dance card is as full as it has been in months.

Nine initial public offerings of stock came to market from Oct. 1 through the end of last week, and more are in the works through December, making this the high-
est-volume quarter for IPOs this year, a data company Thomson Fi-
nancial said. An IPO is a com-
pany's first sale of stock to the pub- lic. Only 14 deals were completed in the third quarter, the fewest in a quarter since 1996.

Analysts see the return of the IPO business as a sign of confi- dence in the stock market's re-
bound from its mid-September lows. Many companies that have been quiet about going pub-
ic have been waiting in the wings for months, and the fact they are striking now means they don't think recent gains will soon fizzle.

Some long-dormant IPO filings are being resuscitated. Von-
zon Wireless said last week that it hopes to have a public offering in the first half of 2002 in a deal roughly estimated at $5 billion.

Businesses Delay Projects and Hiring

In the wake of the Sept. 11 at- tacks, many companies are putting off spinoffs, product orders, hiring decisions, real-estate projects and other important initiatives.

In early October, more than a quarter of finance chiefs said they were postponing capital expenditures as a result of the attacks, according to a survey by Financial Executives International and Iowa State University’s Paga School of Business. Las Vegas resorts and casino Mandalay Bay pushed back completion of a big ex-pansion by six months to January 2001.

Yahoo Wins Round In French Dispute

A U.S. court ruled that Yahoo! Inc. doesn’t have to comply with a French court’s order that the com-
pany block French users from ac-
cessing Nazi-related materials on its Web site, a decision seen by many as an important victory for free speech on the Internet.

Clear Channel Plans Online Music Sales

Radio giant Clear Channel Communications Inc. will offer online music subscriptions through its station Web sites in five cities, creating what eventually could be a revenue stream to help American.

A successful future starts with The Wall Street Journal.

You won’t find a better resource than The Journal for news and industry trends that can help you prepare for everything from life after college to your next spring break.

A student subscription to The Wall Street Journal includes both the print and online (WSJ.com) editions. So, you can be sure that you’ll receive the most up-to-date news as well as special tools to help you plan your career.

With The Journal you'll get:

Knowledge and insight on how textbook theories work in the real world

Customizable news when and how you want it

Briefing Books and 30-day archives — great for company research and interview preparation

Summaries of the day’s top news stories

Small Business Suite — tips and tools for starting your own business

For more information about special subscription rates for students, call 1-800-973-8602 or visit info.wsj.com/students

The Wall Street Journal Campus Edition

©2001 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
Hottest Gear On Campus? Books

Behind the Buying Binge

Hottest Gear On Campus? Books

By Gordon Fairclough

Here's a novel audience for the book business: college students.

After a decade in which reading was considered about as hip as the Bee Gees, the under-$5 set is now buying books for leisure reading at three times the rate of the overall market. Young readers—even teens—are flocking to surprisingly hefty titles, from Jane Austen to memoirist Dave Eggers, whose prose some critics have compared to James Joyce's.

Bookstores across the country report jumps of 20% to 75% in young readers even better: Ford sold 102,000 F-series pickups, focusing on the benefits of the plan will give buyers "peace of mind." It wasn't so long ago that the MP3 generation could scarcely be bothered to crack a book. Colleges saw a 50% drop in literature majors between 1992 and 1997, as Gen-Xers swung to Hollywood tie-ins. Obses-

siveness about college admissions

has also helped, with kids trying harder to at least appear well-read. But perhaps the biggest change is in the readers themselves: This generation is more earning, more studious and, well, nerder than its predecessors. "It's a backlash against MTV culture," says sociologist William Strauss, author of a recent book about the post-Generation-X set.

It wasn't so long ago that the MP3 generation could scarcely be bothered to crack a book. Colleges saw a 50% drop in literature majors between 1992 and 1997, as Gen-Xers turned to the Web. But now that so many dot-com fantasies have gone bust, geek chic has had to find new outlets.

"This generation has far more patience, is much more open to art and culture than any I've seen," says Alison Reid, owner of Diesel Bookstore, in Oakland, Calif. Her fastest twentysomething seller this week: "An Invisible Sign of My Own," by Aimee Bender.

Of course, not all the new read-

ers are Susan Sontag-in-training. Many are making a fashion statement of sorts, carrying around tatted copies of "in" books—"not necessarily to read, but to be part of a scene," says Jeremy Ellis, a manager at Austin's Book People.

And in some ways, all of this is changing not just readerships but the book business itself. Some publishers say that as the book busi-

ness becomes more glamorous and celebrity-centered, it is starting to look more like rock 'n' roll. Last month, Grove/Atlantic signed a 17-year-old to write a novel about a ficion-

alized designer drug. Says Mor-

gan Entrench, publisher and presi-

dent there: "We're all just looking for the newest, freshest voices."

Behind the Buying Binge

Continued from Previous Page

stallments, with no interest. Indus-

try veterans say they can't remem-

ber the last time Detroit offered 0%

 financing deals this widely. The deals are giving cars like the Chevrolet Corvette a big boost. General Motors rarely discounts this ultra-macho coupe, so when the company included it in its new financing deals last month, sales jumped more than 46%. "If you weren't going to buy a Corvette in October," said GM sales analyst Sholnn Freeman, "you don't know when you were going to buy one."

Remember the mounting back-

lash against SUVs? Well, forget it. SUV sales actually doubled from last October for some popular sport-utility vehicles, while others gained nearly as much. It's easy to see why, with Americans worried more about safety and security, and also planning more road trips instead of flights. Trucks fared even better: Ford sold 102,000 F-series pickups in October, the first time a pickup truck has passed the 100,000-a-month mark. The deals were so good, in fact, that Ford's pickups were the biggest-selling vehicle of any kind for the month.

Detroit's Big Three complain that financing deals are draining their bottom lines, and that they'll last only a few more weeks. But Ford and GM both say discounts are likely to continue in a different form. And Chrysler is already of-

fering buyers a free seven-year, or 100,000-mile, warranty that covers the engine and transmission. In touting the warranty, the company has made some not-so-subtle refer-

ences to Sept. 11, suggesting its plan will give buyers "peace of mind."

"We're trying to get people back focusing on the benefits of the product rather than the size of the deal," says Chrysler marketing chief James Schirver.

By Wall Street Journal staff reporters Shoshon Freeman, Karen Lundegaard, Jonathan Welsh and Daniel Costello.

Amtrak May Face Revamping

An independent oversight com-

mission, concluding that Amtrak won't meet a congressional dead-

line to operate without federal sub-

sidies by the end of 2002, began a possible revamping of the nation's intercity passenger-train system.

The decision, reached Friday by the Amtrak Reform Council in a 6-to-5 vote, said Amtrak as cur-

rently structured and funded is "not capable of delivering the im-

provements in passenger rail serv-

ice that are needed." The council there: "We're all just looking for the newest, freshest voices."

What's News—
In Business and Finance

Continued from Previous Page

what happens to the system. The deci-

sion won't affect Amtrak's train service for the foreseeable future, Amtrak said.

Palm Loses CEO, Plans New Ads

Carl Yankowski, Palm Inc.'s embattled chief executive, re-

signed from the maker of hand-

held computers following a tumultu-

uous year of slowing sales and mounting losses.

The once-highflying company has been hit by the tech slowdown and the fumbled introduction of a new product line earlier this year. To revive sales heading into the holiday season, Palm is returning to television this week with an ad-

vertising campaign that could make or break its holiday season.

Odds & Ends

In a sign of the limited market for direct online car sales, CarsDi-

rect.com Inc. is launching a serv-

ice to allow consumers to buy cars through dealers instead of directly from the company....Billionaire Warren Buffett said he and others in the insurance industry made a "huge mistake" by not anticipating the need to collect extra premiums for terrorist acts....Smack Down: World Wrestling Federation Inc.'s president resigned and the com-

pany cut 5% of its work force amid declining ratings for most of its shows.

How to contact us:
CampusEdition@wsj.com
Series-improvement techniques then enable us to cover the range $0 \leq R \leq \infty$. A limited result regarding bifurcations is noted. Finally, for $R \to \infty$ with $A$ fixed, we propose a self-consistent boundary-layer theory which extends previous approximate work. The results obtained by these different methods of solution are in good agreement with each other and with experiments.