TECHTOPICS
Georgia Tech Alumni Association
Spring 2006

CENTURY of SINGING
GLEE CLUB
CELEBRATING CENTENNIAL
QuickRead

14 Century of Singing

This ain’t your daddy’s Glee Club — or your granddaddy’s. On the cover, choral activities director Jerry Ulrich gets the guys in tune for an April 3 concert at Spivey Hall that will officially launch the Georgia Tech Glee Club’s centennial celebration. Crooning are, front row left to right, Tony Le, Joshua Lannu and Evan Moon and, back row, Christopher Smith and Colin Ake. Cover photo by Gary Meek

12 Up to the Challenge

Ronald Yancey applied to Tech three times before he was admitted. He struggled to succeed at the Institute and help desegregate Atlanta’s lunch counters — and become Georgia Tech’s first African-American graduate.

19 New Orleans Renewal

President Wayne Clough is heading a national committee charged with reviewing the work of agencies investigating the levee and floodwall failures in New Orleans during the onslaught of Hurricane Katrina.

22 Evolution Clocks

Georgia Tech scientists have attracted a barrel of media attention around the world with their research findings that suggest chimpanzees are more similar to human beings than they are to great apes.

24 Manners Matter

Do you get a second chance to make a first impression? Not in a job interview, says Marge Dussich, who teaches Tech students how to mind their p’s and q’s — and pass the peas.

27 Giving Back

Alumni Stephen Zelnak and Warren Batts have given seven-figure gifts to Georgia Tech to establish a dean’s chair, renovate and expand a practice gym and bring vital new technologies to the marketplace.

31 Restored Glory

Although some folks in Washington, Ga., thought it was impossible, Mike Todd and his wife restored the 17-room, full-service Fitzpatrick Hotel to its past splendor in just 18 months.

33 Purpose-driven Career

Molly Schreck travels around the country helping perform acts of kindness as a producer of the A&E reality series “Random I.”

43 Illness Forces Braine to Resign

After nearly nine years in the job, athletics director Dave Braine announced that Crohn’s disease was forcing him to step down, a move that initiated a national search to find a successor.

47 Networking Opportunities

An improved job market and bright outlook have many companies recruiting more aggressively. That’s good news for job seekers who attend the 23rd Annual Alumni Career Conference April 12.

Departments

7 Mail Call
9 Alumni House
12 Living History
19 The Hill
24 Student Life
27 Giving Back
29 Bookmark
31 Burdell & Friends
43 Yellow Jackets
47 Real World
Greetings Cheer Troops

More than 450 Georgia Tech alumni, faculty, parents, students and staff sent holiday messages to Tech military personnel serving overseas. E-mails from as far as Australia and Mexico were collected, according to Amy Lancaster, Parents Program manager at the Alumni Association, who organized the effort.

“Our Web department built the site so the Tech community could submit online holiday greetings to our alumni deployed overseas,” she said. “The response was great. We made a 34-page book of greetings and sent copies to our Yellow Jackets serving around the world.”

The project was advertised in the campus newspaper and the electronic newsletters BUZZwords and ParentNews. “We even found it promoted on a Georgia Tech sports blog,” Lancaster said.

Each alumnus was sent a package containing a bound book of online greetings, handmade cards from both the Alpha Chi Omega sorority and a third-grade class at Friendship Elementary School and editions of the Technique and TECH TOPICS.

Among the letters in the packet was one from Susan Sappington of Marietta, Ga., who wrote, “The Christmas my late husband, Michael Lake Sappington, IE 70, was flying F-14s over North Vietnam was quite a memorable one. You will also have such a holiday this year. Be assured there are many Georgia Tech friends cheering for your safety and well-being. You make all of us so deeply proud of your continued brave work.”

The letters elicited favorable responses from alumni serving overseas, among them:

I RECEIVED A CARE package from the Georgia Tech Alumni Association here in Camp Striker, Baghdad, Iraq. Great stuff. It is really appreciated. I especially enjoyed the cards and the copy of the Technique.

LT. COL. ANDREW S. RING, ME 89
Baghdad, Iraq

I WANTED TO thank Amy Lancaster and the Alumni Association staff for organizing the campaign to deliver holiday cards and letters from Georgia Tech alumni and friends to deployed service members overseas. The dozens of heartfelt wishes and copies of the Technique, Alumni Magazine and TECH TOPICS brought a great deal of warmth to an otherwise cold, lonely holiday here in Korea.

Thank you. I hope this is a Tech holiday tradition that continues as long as we have men and women serving on the fringes of freedom’s frontier.

LT. COL. TOM FOHLZ, EE 84
Seoul, Korea

I WISH TO THANK Amy Lancaster and the Alumni Association staff for organizing the campaign to deliver holiday cards and letters from Georgia Tech alumni and friends to deployed service members overseas. The dozens of heartfelt wishes and copies of the Technique, Alumni Magazine and TECH TOPICS brought a great deal of warmth to an otherwise cold, lonely holiday here in Korea.

Thank you. I hope this is a Tech holiday tradition that continues as long as we have men and women serving on the fringes of freedom’s frontier.

LT. COL. TOM FOHLZ, EE 84
Seoul, Korea

ARMY 1st LT. Mac Bryan, IE 02, thought some of his fellow 82nd Airborne Division soldiers stationed with him in Iraq were playing a practical joke when they reported a vehicle with Georgia Tech and Alpha Delta Pi decals was stopped at a checkpoint. A stunned Bryan had his photograph taken after recognizing that the 1994 Jeep Cherokee had belonged to a friend, doctoral student Tracey King, Mgt 02. King also was surprised when she saw the photo of Bryan and her old Jeep posted on an Internet message board. She last saw the Jeep when it was being towed away after an accident that badly damaged the SUV in 2001.

Business Week magazine’s Jan. 23 issue featured a cover story titled “Why Math Will Rock Your World.” It’s a fascinating look into how math is being utilized today in ways that have never been considered before.

One of these new ways is in attempting to model human behavior so that marketers can find better, more effective ways to utilize their marketing investments. John Wanamaker (1838-1922) is generally recognized as the father of the department store. He had a couple of notable quotes that you’ll recognize.

First and perhaps most famous is “the customer is always right.” Wanamaker also said, “Half the money I spend on advertising is wasted; the trouble is, I don’t know which half.”

Mathematicians are working with other professionals at companies like Google, Yahoo and IBM in efforts to learn “which half.”

There’s plenty of data for the number crunchers to study. Modern day databases hold remarkable information about all of us. Using algorithms built to assess our tendencies gives insight into behaviors. Some math pioneers are even finding ways to translate language into math and thus build models to deliver appropriate information to those interested.

The article goes further and provides a sidebar about the math that “you need to know.” When I showed this to my high school freshman daughter, Jennifer, she looked at me like I was ill and walked away. iPod in hand.

Front and center in the sidebar was calculus. Of course all Tech alumni have some knowledge of the subject. The article states: “To sidestep calculus is to lose an edge in the 21st century job market, including many of the most lucrative.”

I’ve been in the for-profit and nonprofit worlds for 25 years now. Can’t say I’ve ever used calculus. It did challenge my mind though, and I believe that it helped to make me a better thinker. And maybe that’s the lesson as much as anything.

Joseph P. Irwin
President
Georgia Tech Alumni Association
Thanks for the Thanks

President’s Scholars have been writing thank you notes to the Roll Call donors, who have been expressing their pleasure and surprise at receiving personal letters from students.

“As you have come to realize, once affiliated with the great institution of Georgia Tech you become even more blessed with a sense of pride and enthusiasm resulting from exposure through friendships and travel,” Terrell Sovey, IE 52, wrote to industrial engineering student Tara Hedinger after receiving her letter.

“I have been so blessed and wanted to give back to Tech, sounds like the process will continue through time as talented as you. Your enthusiasm and involvement will be an asset to Tech for years to come,” Sovey told her.

Randi McDow, director of the President’s Scholars Program, said more than 2,100 letters were written by Tech scholarship recipients. Although some students were sharing messages they received with McDow’s office and with Gerri Elder, Alumni Association manager of donor relations, the number of responses was not tracked.

Hedinger also received a response from Justin Bonaman, IE 96, who wrote, “Thank you so much for your detailed Alumni Association card. I was also very involved in campus organizations as a student and truly enjoyed the experience. It will really help you when you go to interview for jobs and as an alumni. I was impressed that you took so much time to put the extra detail in your card.”

One of the alumni’s President George Ray heard from was Hoke Smart, HTS 00, who wrote, “I am delighted to know that a fellow HTS student is receiving part of my contribution. Georgia Tech was a profound piece of my life. ‘I want you to remember the great confidence you will gain by walking across that stage and being banded your rolled-up treasure tied with the Old Gold ribbon,” Smart said. ‘Employers down the road will set you apart from other candidates simply because your degree says Georgia Institute of Technology on it.”

Colin Wright, EE 94, wrote to mechanical engineering student Lana Tucker, “I just wanted to thank you for your nice note regarding my Roll Call contribution. It was nice to get the personal connection from someone helped by my donation.”

Industrial and systems engineering student Kristine Johnson heard from Dana Bolsstad, IE 91, MS Mgt 95, who said, “It’s nice to put a real face to the donations I make to the school. I do so happily because Tech made a real impact on my life.

“I can’t point to any one thing in particular that sticks out from my experiences at Tech, but it gave me a unique perspective on a lot of different things way beyond what my engineering curriculum taught me. From your note, I gather that your broad experience at Tech will also serve you well. I admire your drive,” Bolsstad wrote.

Johnson also received a reply from Richard Lackey, IE 69, who wrote, “Thanks so much for your personal note to me concerning the Roll Call. It took time and thought — two things that are in great demand at Tech and not a lot of extra to go around. So I count your note as a very valuable commodity.

‘Thank you for choosing Tech. Your success will be thanks enough for my dollars and don’t forget to reinvest, as you wish to do, in those coming behind you,” Lackey wrote.

Math major Laura Stetz thanked Bill Anderson, EE 70, PhD 79. He replied, “It is good to hear that alumni support for the school is really helping someone. In the 35 years I’ve been giving to Roll Call, yours is the first card I’ve ever received from a student. If you’re trying to make us feel important, then you succeeded.”

President’s Scholar Amanda Virgis wrote to a fellow band member. The 1951 Tech graduate, who preferred to remain an anonymous donor, wrote, “We were a pretty poor band in 1947. We had no money, no uniforms and few instruments. In the fall of 1947, we played Alabama at home. Alabama was known for having the ‘million dollar band’ — and they looked it.”

‘Ben Sisk, our part-time band director, had the band dress in jeans and plaid shirts. We formed a farm wagon and marched on the field at halftime playing ‘Farmer in the Dell.’ Sisk got called into the president’s office the following Monday, was told not to embarrass the school again and given $10,000 for new uniforms — a vast sum of money in 1947,” he said.

Through the letter-writing project, public policy student Sara Amir, vice president of the Student Government Association, was able to connect with Emil Runge, IE 94.

“I was SGA vice president as well, though over a decade ago,” Runge wrote. “I thought your note suggested that you are interested in politics. I currently serve as communications director for the Democratic Party of Georgia. I wanted to know if you would like to chat sometime about what you are looking to do after graduation.”

Heartwarming Article

The Winter 2005 TECH TOPICS was wonderful. The article about Jeffery Jones was very heartwarming and it brought tears to my eyes. Thanks, Jeffery, for helping the victims of Katrina. Also, the article “Hurricane Aftermath” was an incredible story of wonderful Tech students helping people one-on-one. Thanks for letting us know what has been done.

Jody Sloan, MS CP’79, Tucker, Ga.
**ENERGY CRISIS: ‘WHAT’S REALLY BEING DONE?’**

**Networking Event Fuels Oil Production Eruption**

By John Dunn

Thirty years ago, complained an alumnus to the laughter of the crowded ballroom at the Capital City Country Club in Atlanta, the oil crisis of the 1970s created chaos at the gas pumps and severely infringed on his dating. Now the oil crisis is once again creating havoc in his life, he lamented to a panel of experts discussing energy and the economy at a Georgia Tech Alumni Network event.

“What’s really being done and why haven’t we done these things during the last 30 years?” he asked.

Sam Shelton, a mechanical engineering professor at Tech and a member of the panel, fielded the question and remarked that the country is boosting development of ethanol.

“It’s all about economics it seems,” Shelton said concerning production of the alternative fuel. “Are we willing to put our future on our ability to get oil from an unstable region of the world?”

The alumnus interrupted.

“But we’re still talking about oil,” he said. “Thirty years ago we were talking about alternatives to oil. What’s out there that’s not oil?”

“Nuclear,” an alumnus in the audience called out.

A crowd of about 120 attended the Jan. 31 energy discussion, sponsored by Flag Bank and Morgan Keegan. Joseph W. Evans, IM 71, chair and CEO of Flag Financial Corp., introduced the panel. The Alumni Association has made the event available by podcast.

Joining Shelton on the energy panel was Donald Ratajczak, a nationally renowned economist and consultant with Morgan Keegan & Co., and Michael Drickamer, the company’s vice president for equity research. Jeff Dickerson, president of Dickerson Communications, was moderator.

Donald Ratajczak, left, looks on as Sam Shelton expresses his concern about America’s dependency on foreign oil. “We’re currently importing 60 or 65 percent of our oil.”

Hurricane Katrina accelerated America’s crisis, Ratajczak said, cutting out 28 percent of the oil supply and 15 percent of the supply of natural gas.

“Oil has been our fail-safe mechanism. It’s no longer there and that’s the big problem,” Shelton observed. “Everyone in the world is running wild regarding oil production. The difference between the situations today with the situation in the 1970s, when I got into the energy area is the oil production capability in the Middle East and OPEC. Today there is a geological limitation. It’s going to be very difficult for us to drill our way out of this.”

Shelton said the United States peaked in its oil production in 1970.

“One country after another every year is peaking in its oil production,” he said. “At some point the whole world will peak in its oil production. That’s just a geological fact. Some people say we are peaking now. Some people say we’ll peak in 2020 or 2030. It’s the technological challenge we’re facing in the next decade or two.

“We’re going to do everything we can,” he said. “We’re currently importing about 60 or 65 percent of our oil from some very unstable regions.

America’s transportation needs depend on liquid fuel, Shelton added. The development of ethanol is one of the few liquid fuel alternatives to oil — “about the only one we can use in our current infrastructure.”

Ethanol can be produced from corn and also from excess pulpwood from Southern pine trees, he said.

One alumnus asked about coal gasification.

The Southern Co. is building a $557 million coal gasification plant in Orange County, Fla., of which the Department of Energy is contributing $235 million, Shelton answered. It is part of DOE’s $5 billion, 10-year Clean Coal Power Initiative that also includes construction of coal gasification plants in New Mexico, Minnesota and Texas.

Another alumnus proposed that the country aggressively pursue an energy program to wean the United States from foreign oil, making it a national priority similar to President John F. Kennedy’s race to the moon.

“Oil is cheap — it’s cheaper than bottled water,” a member of the audience said. “Why does our government not impose a tax on gasoline? I don’t understand why we’re paying all this money to the Middle East when we could be paying it to ourselves.”

Ratajczak offered, “I really do believe we need a windfall profits tax that a person can earn back by spending on increased capital exploration for production.”

Dickerson replied, “Oil is cheaper than bottled water. That’s an interesting observation.”

**Recipients of Gold & White Honors Announced**

The roster of Georgia Tech alumni and supporters who will be saluted during the Gold & White Honors celebration March 16 includes researchers, philanthropists and business leaders.

The Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Charlie Brown, BC 62, a leader in community development in metro Atlanta; Ben Dyer, IE 70, co-founder of Peachtree Software and a general partner of Cordova Intellimedia Ventures; Glen Robinson, Phys 48, MS Phys 50, a researcher who chipped in $100 to form Scientific-Atlanta and became its CEO; and AI West, AE 64, who transformed a computer game into a $600 million-a-year business.

The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor bestowed by the Alumni Association for a lifetime of leadership, achievement and service to Georgia Tech and the community.

The Dean Griffin Community Service Award will be presented to Bill Todd, IM 71, president and CEO of the Georgia Cancer Coalition, the first president of the Georgia Research Alliance and the Alumni Association’s vice chair of Roll Call. Christopher Klaus, Cls 96, will be named the Outstanding Young Alumnus. The founder and chief technology officer of Internet Security Systems gave Georgia Tech one of the largest gifts in its history—$15 million for the construction of the Christopher W. Klaus Advanced Computing Building.

The designation of honorary alumnus will be presented to Jean Duke, wife of Paul A. Duke Sr., ME 45, IE 46; Aaron King, team dentist for the Georgia Tech athletics program for 40 years; and Bob Thompson, Tech’s senior vice president for administration and finance.

The Gold & White Honors gala will be at the Atlanta History Center.
Young Alumni Ready for Action, Adventure

By Neil B. McGahee

If you got out of Georgia Tech in the last 10 years, you may be facing an active spring.

“The Young Alumni Council is sponsoring events throughout the spring including cooking classes, brewery tours, white-water rafting and a golf tournament,” said council chair Tony Chan, IE 94, MBA 98.

“We have been working extremely hard coming up with new ideas for young alumni,” Chan added.

Chan said other plans include a young alumni mentoring program, a community service project and an outreach program to attract new graduates.

“The mentoring program is particularly exciting,” Chan said. “We are pairing our young alumni with other alums based on interests and skill sets. The focus is career-driven, but we want to take it further and focus on interests, lifestyles and meeting personal goals. We tried a pilot project last fall and it was very successful.”

Chan said the council plans to offer the mentoring program in April.

The Atlanta Brewing Company opens its doors Feb. 23 for the Young Alumni brewery tour and reception. Seasonal beers, appetizers and a tour of the brewery are offered for $22.

On March 26, the King Plow Arts Center at 887 W. Marietta St. in Atlanta will be the site of a cooking class focusing on “Bold American” hors d’oeuvres. Cost of the class, which will run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., is $60 and includes the hors d’oeuvres prepared and a glass of wine.

The Young Alumni golf tournament, co-sponsored by the North Metro Georgia Tech Club, will be held at Stone Mountain on May 20.

For those who prefer fast-paced action, the council is taking a wet and wild ride on June 26 through the rapids of the Ocoee River, the venue for the kayak competition at the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games.

For more information on these events or to become involved in the council, contact Chan at tony_s_chan@hotmail.com or Young Alumni program manager Allison Sapp at allison.sapp@alumni.gatech.edu.

Trustee Nominations

Alumni Association welcomes candidates for board

Nominations are being solicited for trustees to serve on the Georgia Tech Alumni Association Board of Trustees for terms beginning July 1.

Nominees must meet two conditions:
• Be an alumnus of Georgia Tech.
• Have a significant record of supporting Georgia Tech through a variety of activities.

A nominating committee comprised of the current Alumni Association chair and the past three chairs will convene in March to review all candidates and propose a final list of nominees. A ballot will be published in the Summer issue of TECH TOPICS. Alumni are invited to submit nominations by filling out the form below. Self-nominations are accepted. Please include a resume or biosketch and a photograph.

Deadline for nominations is March 9.

Nomination Form:

Nominee: __________________________ Class/degree: ______________
Phones: Home (______) Work (______)
Home address: __________________________ City: __________ State: __________ ZIP: __________
E-mail: __________________________
Company: __________________________ Title: __________________
Nominated by: __________________________ Class/degree: ______________
Phones: Home (______) Work (______)
Home address: __________________________ City: __________ State: __________ ZIP: __________

Mail To: Trustee Nominations
Georgia Tech Alumni Association
Attn: Jolie Rosenberg
190 North Ave. NW
Atlanta, GA 30313

Publications Receive Awards From Education Council

The Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine received a Grand Award and an Award of Excellence and TECH TOPICS won an Award of Excellence from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education District III.

The Alumni Magazine received the Grand Award in the general news story or series category for “Viewing Cancer in a New Light,” a 24-page special section that appeared in the Winter 2005 edition.

Managing editor Kimberly Link-Wills received an Award of Excellence in the feature writing category for the Fall 2005 Alumni Magazine cover story “The Road Less Traveled,” which chronicled the Appalachian Trail journey of Gene Epsy.

TECH TOPICS received an Award of Excellence from CASE for its 2005 issues.

The awards were presented during the 2006 CASE District III conference in Nashville, Tenn., in February.

The Georgia Tech Research Institute received two CASE awards. John Toon, Research News and Publications Office manager, won the Grand Award for speech writing.

The speech, “Innovation in Our Future: The Challenges Ahead,” was written for Wayne Hodges, vice provost for Economic Development and Technology Ventures, and delivered at a national meeting of electric membership cooperatives.

GTRI also received a Special Merit Award for media relations projects for the ULTRA AP (armored patrol) vehicle.

TECH TOPICS and the Alumni Magazine are produced quarterly by the Alumni Association’s Communications office.
Wittschiebe Saluted at Women’s Leadership Conference

By Kimberly Link-Wills

Entertainment attorney Deborah Wagnon said it took “sheer gut fortitude” for her to make it through Georgia Tech in the 1970s.

Wagnon, IM 76, was a keynote speaker for the Women’s Leadership Conference at which Janice Wittschiebe, Arch 78, M Arch 80, was rewarded for her fortitude and contributions to the Georgia Tech community with the Outstanding Alumna Award.

Also honored were Bonnie Heck, outstanding faculty; Cindy Jordin and Janice P. Rogers, outstanding staff; Shannon Watt, outstanding graduate student; and Elizabeth Solomon, outstanding undergraduate.

“Awaken Your Passion, Reinvent Your Future” was the theme for the mid-November student-organized conference, which included an evening reception featuring food with a Spanish flair and flamenco dancing. “Ole,” called out Wittschiebe, chairman-elect of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, as she made her way to the podium to accept the award from Marilyn Somers, director of the Living History program.

“Her contributions to the Tech community are enormous,” Somers said of Wittschiebe, the first female to chair the Georgia Tech Advisory Board and the second woman tapped to lead the Alumni Association.

Wittschiebe not only survived the male-dominated classrooms at Tech, she went on to succeed in business as a principal in Richard + Wittschiebe Architects of Atlanta.

Wagnon said she survived the “shark-infested Hollywood waters for 20 years” as an entertainment attorney before packing her briefcase for Nashville, Tenn., and then Savannah, Ga. Her list of clients includes such names as Reba McEntire, Olivia Newton-John, Travis Tritt and Shakira.

“Imagine my relief when I saw your theme, ‘Awaken Your Passion, Reinvent Your Future,’” said Wagnon, who explained that she has learned to listen to her inner voice.

“When the truth is unveiled to you, you’ll know it. Go wisely, thoughtfully and strategically with your truth,” Wagnon said.

She decided to follow her passion after the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001, and enrolled at Goddard College in Vermont to feed what she called her “starving soul.” Wagnon has since earned a master’s degree in fine arts and penned a novel.

Wagnon also fed an internal need to become a mother and adopted a baby girl in Guatemala. “I can’t remember what it was like without her,” she said.

She advised the conference attendees not to focus on the finishing line of their careers and of their lives.

“The race is never over,” Wagnon said. “There is no maintaining the status quo in a moving world.

“All of us are unfinished stone.”

New Orleans, New Facility on Trustee Reunion Agenda

A hard look at the reality of New Orleans’ future, a glimpse back at a golden venture by the Georgia Tech Foundation and a here-and-now tour of the state-of-the-art Food Processing Technology Building topped the agenda during the January reunion of former Alumni Association trustees.

The rebuilding of New Orleans is more than a matter of bricks and mortar — it’s also fraught with potential legal liabilities to contractors and corporations relocating in the city while it is vulnerable to hurricanes.

Joseph Hughes, chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, has toured New Orleans and said the devastation was “staggering.” (See “New Orleans Renewal” on Page 19.)

John B. Carter Jr., IE 69, president of the Georgia Tech Foundation, told the former trustees about the triumph of the Technology Square campus expansion and the “unqualified success” of the hotel there.

The purpose of the Georgia Tech Hotel was to support the Institute and make the facility available to the campus community and not necessarily to make money, Carter said.

“We’re not in the hotel business,” he explained. “We don’t have the expertise on staff to hire chefs and housekeeping staff, purchase food and supplies, set room rates, conduct marketing and all the things associated with running a hotel.”

Instead, the Foundation signed a 30-year lease agreement with McLean, Va.-based Crestline Hotels and Resorts to operate and manage the facility.

“They have run the hotel very well over the past two years and were profitable in the very first full year, which is highly unusual in the hotel business,” Carter said.

Trustees took a bus ride to the North Avenue Research Area to tour the Food Processing Technology Division facility. The division, a research unit of the Georgia Tech Research Institute, is dedicated to the development of new and emerging technologies for the food processing industry. The building houses 36,154 square feet of laboratory and office space. GT
For Ronald L. Yancey, the challenge of Georgia Tech wasn’t just the rigorous curriculum or the long hours studying but the empty circle of chairs that usually surrounded him in class — literally and metaphorically.

Not by choice, he performed his lab work alone and completed tests in ink to preserve and protect his answers. He studied at the Tech library between classes but at night preferred the security of the library at the Atlanta University Center.

He received a few phone threats during his three years at Tech — and sometimes words of encouragement from other students — but for the most part, Yancey’s interaction with fellow Tech students was marked by purposeful indifference.

As the first black student to graduate from Georgia Tech, where he received an electrical engineering degree in 1965, Yancey set a courageous example for all minority students who would follow him. It wasn’t easy, but he harbors no regrets or bitterness.

“I tried to take a positive look at it and say, ‘These are good people here. They don’t mean me any harm. They were raised a different way; they were raised to believe a certain thing.'” he said.

Born in Atlanta to a part-time beautician and a postman who also owned a shoe repair shop, Yancey was the second youngest of nine children. He credits his parents with his drive to succeed in school.

“I loved school,” he said. “I like to read. I love books — still do.

“We all were expected to do our best and going to college was a part of that,” he continued. “There was no way to take control of your future without going to college. Education was the key.”

After graduating from Booker T. Washington High School in 1960 with a total of 50 A’s and 10 B’s, Yancey mailed applications to Georgia Tech, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Morehouse College. He received no response from Tech and, deciding to stay close to home, accepted Morehouse’s admission offer. He chose a dual major of math and physics as preparatory for the engineering degree he was determined to earn.

Toward the end of his freshman year, Yancey applied to Georgia Tech once again. This time he received a response — a rejection letter — and he made plans to return to Morehouse in the fall.

During his sophomore year at Morehouse, Yancey became active in the campaign to desegregate lunch counters and facilities in downtown Atlanta.

The group, headquartered at the Atlanta University Center, was called the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights, Yancey recalled. Led by local civil rights leaders such as Lonnie King and the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy, its members picketed downtown businesses and sat at “whites-only” lunch counters.

“We would go from one lunch counter to another,” he said. “We felt like it had to be done, and we were right there to do it.”

In March 1962, Yancey applied once again to Georgia Tech, asking for reconsideration of his application from the year before. He was admitted as a transfer student for the upcoming fall semester.

“We had to sign a pledge that we would be nonviolent,” he added. “If you wanted to go and demonstrate, you had to sign a pledge that no matter what happened, you would not strike back. That was required.”

When protesters threatened to organize a boycott during the 1961 Christmas shopping season, “the merchants downtown were terrified — Rich’s in particular,” Yancey said.

“They were leading the merchants to come to some agreement,” he said, noting that Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen, Com 33, also played a pivotal role in resolving the issue peacefully. “They asked us if we would call off the demonstrations until they could get their own act together and try to get agreements from the other merchants to desegregate.”

All sides honored their commitments, and the peaceful desegregation of downtown Atlanta still stands as one of the city’s finest moments.

“It was good experience,” Yancey said. “We felt like it had to be done, and we were right there to do it.”

In March 1962, Yancey applied once again to Georgia Tech, asking for reconsideration of his application from the year before. He was admitted as a transfer student for the upcoming fall semester.
In the meantime, Tech had been integrated seven months earlier when Ford Greene, Ralph Long Jr. and Lawrence Williams were admitted as entering freshmen. President Edwin Harrison, recognizing the inevitability of integration, was determined to accomplish the change without the violence by white students and the attendant publicity that had marked integration at the University of Georgia. None of those first three black students would graduate, however.

A week before Yancey was to begin classes at Tech, he received a phone call from Dean of Students Jim Dull asking him to drop by campus for a candid talk. “He gave me a tour of the campus,” Yancey recalled. “He gave me a general feel for what to expect when I got on campus. He told me that he would act on my behalf and said, ‘I will do whatever I can to help you.’”

If or when Yancey wanted to attend an athletic event, Dull suggested that he be notified in advance of the young man’s expected arrival time and point of entry so protection could be provided at the gates.

“He said, ‘There will be members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation attending classes, unspokenly in order to provide the necessary support and perspective he needed to pursue as a Georgia Tech student. Yancey admits there was a time when he was almost ready to quit. It came during his junior year, he said. He had missed two homework assignments in one of his classes, and the pressure — both academic and social — was forcing Yancey to re-evaluate his choices.

“Why am I doing this? Why am I going through all of this?” he recalled asking himself. As he was leaving the class, the professor invited him into his office for a short talk. Yancey remembers the gist of the lecture: “Do you feel the enormity of what you’re doing here? You know there are a lot of people that are counting on you. There are people here on campus who support you, and there are people on campus who want to see you succeed, whether you know it or not.”

“‘You’re about to let them down if you don’t really get serious and start pressing this — no matter what it takes to finish.’”

“That,” Yancey smiled, “was the biggest lift I got.”

GT
FeatureStory

Century of Singing

By Kimberly Link-Wills

It is unclear when a group of Tech men first harmonized and called themselves a glee club, but it is accepted that the singers represent the Institute’s oldest student organization.

“The Glee Club was first started in 1906 and was composed of some eight or 10 men who would gather every afternoon under the Academic Building and practice,” the Technique reported in an Oct. 9, 1917, article introducing new students to campus customs and clubs.

“Two years later the faculty recognized the organization as a valuable one and began to take an interest in it, but no definite steps were taken toward its improvement,” the article continued.

“Every year, however, it improved little by little and in 1914, under the direction of Mr. J.C. Wardwell, the first big performance and road trip was made.”

Tech student Michael Rohling, who received a grant to research the Glee Club for the Alumni Association’s Living History department, found an Atlanta Constitution article dated June 20, 1907, that recorded the group’s roots a bit differently:

“One of the great social organizations that helps to make the thorny path at Tech tread easier is a musical club organized last February under the suggestive title of the Tech Glee Club.

“Many a dull hour has taken on a different air out on the campus at the instigation of this musical organization and many a fair maiden’s heart has beat the faster as she caught the notes of three troubadours as they played in the moonlight under her balcony window,” the Constitution said.

“The membership of this club is as follows: Lowndes C. Connally of Atlanta; R.J. Theisong of Florida; G.W.H. Cheney of Rome; George A. Hendrie of Atlanta; C.L. Emerson of Atlanta; W.J.N. Garrett of Richmond, Va.; Marshal Johnson and Hunter Muse of Atlanta.”

The vocalists of today’s Georgia Tech Glee Club, which has traveled around the world on military transport planes, been surrounded by screaming girls and even referred to themselves as “heckuva engineers” to appease Ed Sullivan. After traversing through what Ulrich calls “hills and valleys,” the male chorus is marking a century of melody making.

“Among the numerous things affected by the war and changes which have taken place due to it is the discontinuation of the Glee Club,” a Dec. 4, 1917, Technique article said. “This will be the first time in the last eight or 10 years that Tech has not had a Glee Club and everyone will miss going to the performances and hearing them practice every week over at the Y. The Glee Club is only one of the many pleasures that we are having to cut out this year due to the sacrifices made necessary by the war.”

While the young men were silenced, the campus welcomed the Wesleyan Glee Club for an appearance trumpeted with a huge front page photograph and April 2, 1918, Technique article that said, “Oh, boys, the girls are coming, in large numbers too, and are going to take Tech by storm. The 40 charming nightingales … will be ready to render their most attractive program at the Tech YMCA.”

The Technique took note of the Tech singers’ resurgence on Nov. 26, 1920, with the statement, “Even the Glee Club has come to life and begins to display signs of progressiveness.”

By October 1924, the club was so popular that it drew about 200 voices to the fall try-outs, according to the student newspaper. “Seventy-five survivors, according to the student paper, were silenced, the campus welcomed the Wesleyan Glee Club for an appearance trumpeted with a huge front page photograph and April 2, 1918, Technique article that said, “Oh, boys, the girls are coming, in large numbers too, and are going to take Tech by storm. The 40 charming nightingales … will be ready to render their most attractive program at the Tech YMCA.”

The Glee Club served as the ensemble-in-residence for the four-day Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities in January.

The Hawaiian holiday is just the latest high point in the storied history of the Georgia Tech Glee Club, which has traveled around the world on military transport planes, been surrounded by screaming girls and even referred to themselves as “heckuva engineers” to appease Ed Sullivan. After traversing through what Ulrich calls “hills and valleys,” the male chorus is marking a century of melody making.

Reggae, rap, hip-hop, hymns — the Glee Club performs them all with panache. Director Jerry Ulrich, top, and the club, which includes members, clockwise from middle, Christopher Smith, Tony Le, Joshua Lannu, Colin Ake and Evan Moon, also are technologically savvy. Check out www.gleeclub.gatech.edu for upcoming concert details.

Club don’t really care when the first song was sung. Director Jerry Ulrich said they already have taken on a different air out on the campus at the instigation of this musical organization and many a fair maiden’s heart has beat the faster as she caught the notes of three troubadours as they played in the moonlight under her balcony window,” the Constitution said.

The membership of this club is as follows: Lowndes C. Connally of Atlanta; R.J. Theisong of Florida; G.W.H. Cheney of Rome; George A. Hendrie of Atlanta; C.L. Emerson of Atlanta; W.J.N. Garrett of Richmond, Va.; Marshal Johnson and Hunter Muse of Atlanta.”

The vocalists of today’s Georgia Tech Glee
The Georgia Tech Glee Club welcomed alumni singers to join them on the football field for the performance of the national anthem before the Homecoming game in October.

In 1926, the club broadcast on WGST radio three times and staged shows throughout the state. A March 19, 1926, review of one tour stop said, “Shorty Wiggins’ act, which consists of a sort of Charleston clog, was the hit of the show, he being called back for encores so many times that he was completely exhausted and had to be helped off the stage.”

Glee Club news routinely made the front page of the Technique. On Oct. 14, 1927, the selection of 35 singers made the front page alongside another headline: “Thousands greet Lindbergh on Grant Field.”

And then came one of the “valleys” Ulrich described. A paragraph in the Oct. 11, 1929, edition of the Technique said, “The school’s Glee Club organization disbanded two years ago, but the student body has for more than a year been insistent upon its reorganization.”

It did regroup but may have still been singing in the cellar. On Oct. 30, 1931, read: “Glee Club will be discontinued for ensuing year.”

The Depression years were followed by another war. It wasn’t until after World War II drew to a close that the Glee Club enjoyed one of its most popular and wide-reaching eras as military transports flew the Tech men around the world.

An Associated Press story dated Dec. 19, 1949, from Frankfurt related that 27 men of the Glee Club “and a blonde” had landed there for a three-week tour of Germany, Austria and Great Britain.

“The singers, with Norma Jane Rader Johnson as soprano soloist, will present service-men with a program including Western songs, spirituals and tunes from current Broadway successes,” the article, which appeared in the Atlanta Journal, said. It went on to say that “in London, doubts were expressed that King George and Queen Elizabeth could arrange to hear the Georgia Tech Glee Club on its singing and flying tour of Europe.”

The conclusion of one such world tour resulted in a January 1951 headline in the Atlanta Constitution: “Tech Glee Club returns from 7,525-mile jaunt.”

A photograph showed Glee Club singers Hal Graham, Paul Garnett and Jack Moss kissing the ground after their return to Georgian soil. The accompanying story documented the journey by Air Force transport plane of 23 Glee Club members who performed at military bases in Newfoundland, Labrador, Greenland and Bermuda. Also on the bill was the “eye-easy Georgette Trio from the University of Georgia.”

John Hunsinger, IE 54, MS IE 55, traveled to Korea and Japan for a two-month summer trip in the early 1950s that was coordinated by director Walter Herbert with the USO. Hunsinger also was a football player at Tech and was only able to sing on tour because the trip took place during the off-season. According to Hunsinger, it was coach Bobby Dodd who suggested that he try out for the Glee Club in the first place.
“He’d call you over during practice and you’d think you were going to get chewed out for something you did in Saturday’s game,” Hunsinger said, expressing the relief he felt when all Dodd asked him to do was sing.

In 1953, Ed Sullivan’s “Toast of the Town” attracted an estimated 30 million television viewers. The 50 Glee Club members auditioned for 28 seats on the train that would take them to New York. Three songs were planned — “Ramblin’ Wreck,” “There’s Nothin’ Like a Dame” and the alma mater. Sullivan went beyond insisting that the men sing that they were “heckuva engineers,” according to the Technique. “The club sang ‘Dames’ at rehearsal and brought down the house, only to have Sullivan give it the axe.”

Dick Lord, IM 57, auditioned for the Glee Club after that trip to New York. Today he sings with a barbershop quartet and was recently given a piece of music to learn. It was a song with which he was quite familiar — “There is Nothin’ Like a Dame.”

As a Glee Club singer Lord had the opportunity to meet a lot of “dames.” “Girls were a real rarity at Tech then, you understand,” he said. “We had a reciprocal agreement with the Brenau College chorus. The girls would come and sing at our concert on campus every year and we would go to theirs.

“They had a lot of pretty young things. I made some good friends up there,” Lord said with a booming baritone laugh. “That was a big deal for us to go up to Brenau every year. That and a few girls at Agnes Scott was about all the females we could find.”

Lord returned to campus during Homecoming in October to share with Ulrich a 1953 78-rpm album of the Glee Club and Georgia Tech band playing together and separately. The music department has since preserved the recording on CD.

He said his best memories are of taking the stage at the Fox Theatre every year for the Glee Club’s annual concert there. “And because we all had tuxedos we would usher for the opera at the Fox. It was a good chance to see some opera and go backstage and meet the stars.”

In addition to meeting the celebrities of the day, the young men witnessed history. The Glee Club was on the sidelines on Jan. 2, 1956, the day Pitt’s Bobby Grier became the first African-American to play in the Sugar Bowl, a game Tech won 7-0.

Jim Moore, BS 58, Arch 59, was among the Glee Club singers at that bowl game in New Orleans. He also was one of the vocalists who enjoyed national celebrity as a member of The Techniques.

The quartet — tenor Chuck Poston, lead Buddy Funk, baritone Mike Tierney and bass Moore — had a hit record in the fall of 1957. The 45-rpm “Hey Little Girl” sold more than 250,000 copies, enough to earn an invitation to perform on “American Bandstand.”

“It was around this time that graduation and military service had split the group and made it inactive. So with two of the original members and two substitutes — Jim Tinney became top tenor and Jim Falin became baritone — the quartet went to Philadelphia to become famous,” Moore said.

In those days Dick Clark’s dance show was televised live from Philadelphia every weekday afternoon. “It was a thrill for us,” Moore said. “There were lines of people outside and screaming girls.”

From Philadelphia The Techniques traveled to Brooklyn, where the quartet appeared for a week on stage in disc jockey Peter Tripp’s “Hit Makers of 1957.”

“We released two more records and recorded another, but we didn’t have another hit. That was the end of The Techniques,” Moore said.

It wasn’t the end of the Georgia Tech Glee Club, which appeared on “The Ed Sullivan Show” two more times, including a June 22, 1969, episode that featured comedians Flip Wilson and Jackie Mason.

In the early 1970s, the Georgia Tech Glee Club became the Georgia Tech Men’s Glee Club after the emergence of a women’s counterpart, according to Ulrich, who said the two groups “morphed” into the Georgia Tech Chorale.

The women’s club eventually was dissolved and, for a time, the men’s group disappeared as well. Lord
The Glee Club sang for its supper — and airfare to the West Coast — in the AirTran Airways concourse at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta in December. The airline hired the singers to help put travelers in the holiday spirit.

Recalled coming to campus in the ’80s and finding the Glee Club “about dead. There just wasn’t much going on.” And according to the Technique in a February 2000 article, the Men’s Glee Club “did not return until Dr. (Bill) Caldwell brought it back in 1998.”

Ulrich came to Tech from the New York performing arts school of “Fame” fame to replace Caldwell as director of choral activities in 2003.

“When I came, 13 guys tried out and two couldn’t match a pitch,” Ulrich said, noting the Glee Club now is 60 voices strong.

“The Glee Club has been dormant, but not for long,” Ulrich said. “It has gone through hills and valleys. I would say singing ‘Ramblin’ Wreck’ on Sunset Beach in Hawaii was a peak.”

The Glee Club sang for its supper — and for plane tickets to help get 20 singers to Hawaii. Over the holidays, the club performed for AirTran passengers in a concourse at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport and at two company holiday parties in exchange for airfare to the West Coast.

The club, which has changed its name back to the original Georgia Tech Glee Club, is in rehearsals for a concert at Spivey Hall, an April 3 event at the Clayton State University theater in Morrow, Ga., that will mark the official launch of the centennial season.

“The sky is the limit. It’s a blast,” said Ulrich, who admitted some trepidation over his decision to lead technical-minded students in the art of singing. “They are extraordinarily creative. They’re doing some of their own arrangements now. They are so bright and so talented and very entrepreneurial. They take something and just run with it.”

The Georgia Tech Alumni Association presents an evening edition of...

Women on Wednesdays
A unique series created by alumnae for alumnae

Networking for Success
Presented by Nadia Bilchik

Nadia Bilchik, a highly acclaimed international correspondent for CNN International and CNN Airport Network, has been inspiring individuals personally and professionally for more than 15 years. She has served as a keynote speaker, trainer, and consultant to world-renowned figures and corporations, including former President Nelson Mandela, Meryl Streep, Accenture, Deloitte, and Virgin Atlantic. Join us for this very special Women on Wednesdays evening event as Nadia shares with us her experiences and advice on successful networking!

Wednesday, April 26, 2006
103 West, 103 West Paces Ferry Road
6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Check-in and Cash Bar
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Presentation and Q&A
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Networking Reception with Cash Bar and Passed Hors doeuvres

Registration: $25 per person

RSVP by April 19 at gtalumni.org/WOW

Don’t miss this opportunity to make valuable networking connections with other women graduates of Georgia Tech!
New Orleans Renewal

President Clough, Tech faculty and students continue Gulf Coast aid

President Wayne Clough led the first meeting of the National Academies/National Research Council’s 16-member Committee on New Orleans Regional Hurricane Protection Projects in mid-January, when the group had the opportunity to tour the areas hardest hit during the 2005 hurricane season and inspect levee and floodwall failures.

In a letter to the committee members, Clough wrote that he first toured the devastated region by helicopter in November. “The flood damage is extensive and reaches over a wide area. There are no easy solutions and there is much emotion associated with the possible outcomes,” he said.

Clough said the committee’s primary focus will be to review the work being conducted by the Interagency Performance Evaluation Task Force, led by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with a team from the American Society of Civil Engineers that is investigating the design capacity of the hurricane protection system, forces exerted against the system and the factors that resulted in the breaching of levees and floodwalls.

After graduating from Tech, Clough, CE 63, MS CE 65, went to work on flood protection issues in the Mississippi River Basin for the Corps of Engineers. “I know the history of these projects and relate closely to their importance to the people living there,” he said.

Clough is joined on the hurricane committee by professionals engineers and academics from institutions around the country, including MIT, Georgetown University and the California Institute of Technology.

“It is now time for Georgia Tech to do what we can with our special expertise to help in the very large effort to rebuild,” Clough said. “As president I hope to represent Georgia Tech and its commitment to work on these issues until they are resolved."

Joseph Hughes, chair of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, told former trustees of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association that Clough is “arguably the most visible civil engineer in academia today. When you talk about giants, he is at the head of the list.”

Hughes, who toured the devastated region with Clough, asserted that it will be years before New Orleans is protected from a hurricane of Katrina’s strength.

“We can build things that would protect New Orleans in the future. I will probably be long since retired before they’re done,” Hughes said during the trustees reunion at the Alumni/Faculty House in January. “We’ve got a period of 30-ish years, even if we’re aggressive, when it’s not protected.”

He called the damage in New Orleans alone “absolutely staggering. There’s nothing that was on television or that I can show you that comes close to expressing the extent of damage that took place.”

Hughes recalled seeing a sea of 40,000 to 50,000 refrigerators that had been removed from homes. “Everything in those refrigerators is now becoming a biological hazard,” he said. “There has never been a bigger solid waste problem in the United States.”

At the request of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Georgia Tech Research Institute is evaluating the feasibility of using its plasma furnace system to dispose of the tremendous volume of debris in the Gulf Coast region.

Other civil and environmental engineering professors and their research teams also have been working in the hard-hit areas.

Professor Glenn Rix is determining the link between physical damage from Hurricane Katrina and the operational capacity and recovery of Gulf Coast ports. Professor David Frost is analyzing wind and storm surge damage data to help define a zone that is potentially subject to certain types of damage.

In addition, associate professor Reggie Des Roches gathered data on damage inflicted on bridges and the transportation network that could help improve infrastructure design and rehabilitation.

Over winter break, 46 Tech students and three staff members spent five days in Mobile, Ala., helping residents clean up their flood-damaged homes.

The Tech chapter of Engineering Students Without Borders and the Office of Community Service contacted government agencies and nonprofit organizations to determine where their help was most needed.

The students tore out sheetrock, removed mold, installed drywall and painted. To help them prepare for the trip, GTRI conducted a training session that included information on potential health and safety hazards involved with the relief work.

Sarah Brackmann, assistant director of student involvement for the Office of Community Service, said the need for assistance remains.

“We want to do future trips over the spring and summer,” Brackmann said. “That will be when we can really get to rebuilding the infrastructure in the affected areas.”

President Clough, below left, toured hurricane-devastated areas around New Orleans by helicopter and on the ground. He has been named chairman of a national committee studying factors that resulted in the breaching of levees and floodwalls.

President Wayne Clough, Tech faculty and students continue Gulf Coast aid.

By Kimberly Link-Wills
Georgia Tech in January began moving dirt at the site of the former Neely Nuclear Research Center for construction of an $84 million nanotechnology center — one of the Institute’s top budget priorities now before the state Legislature.

“We’ve already received state money for the design and some site development,” said Andrew Harris, a special assistant to President Wayne Clough. “We’ve been anticipating the final installment of this money for the last couple of years.”

Gov. Sonny Perdue included the final payment of $38 million as the state’s share for the center in his budget now before the General Assembly. The state committed a total of $45 million to build the center. The Legislature will make its budget allocations in late March or early April when the session ends.

“Two years ago the governor and the Legislature put $2 million in the budget for planning to get the ball rolling and last year they awarded $5 million for additional planning, design and some of the site development,” said Harris, director of Government Relations. Tech is committed to raise $39 million in private funds for the center.

“Actually, we’re probably going to raise another $50 million in addition to that,” Harris said. “Tech is going to put in nearly $100 million before the nanotechnology research center is completed.”

Clough said the center will allow Tech to be “among the early pacemakers” on the frontier of nanotechnology research.

“This will provide our researchers and our research partners working in both organic and inorganic applications of nanotechnology to have a facility second to none worldwide,” Clough said.

When it is built, not all of the center’s square footage will be completely finished, Harris said.

“We’re going to finish some of that square footage as we need it over the next few years when we have additional researchers. When you do a building like this, you need to be sure it’s big enough. We’re building it so we can expand,” Harris said.

“The design has been completed. Actually, they’re moving earth right now,” Harris said. “This will be the first nanotechnology research center in the Southeast.”

The center would ensure that Tech is a pre-eminent, national leader in nanotechnology research. Harris said the center received aggressive support from House members Richard Royal, IE 62, and Ron Forster, MS PubPol 04, and state Senators John W Grant III, IE 72, and Chip Rogers, Mgt 91.

Another Tech priority for this legislative session is $55 million in full-formula funding, which Perdue recommended in the total of more than $1 billion proposed to support full-formula funding system-wide.

“That’s our bread and butter,” Harris said. “Full-formula funding is our basic state funding for our faculty, operations and maintenance. The formula is based on enrollment. If enrollment increases, then the formula funding increases.”

Tech’s $55 million funding formula increase includes $31.4 million for enrollment growth, $6.3 million for maintenance and operation of new facilities, $5.4 million for increased energy costs and $12.1 million for increased fringe benefit costs, owing mostly to increased health care costs.

A third priority not included in the governor’s budget recommendation is $4.9 million for renovation of the old civil engineering building on Bobby Dodd Way.

“It means we’ve got to go to work and try to get the General Assembly to support it. We’re asking the House and Senate Appropriations Committee to add that to the fiscal year 07 budget,” Harris said.

When it is built, not all of the center’s square footage will be completely finished, Harris said.

“We’re going to finish some of that square footage as we need it over the next few years when we have additional researchers. When you do a building like this, you need to be sure it’s big enough. We’re building it so we can expand,” Harris said.

“The design has been completed. Actually, they’re moving earth right now,” Harris said. “This will be the first nanotechnology research center in the Southeast.”

The center would ensure that Tech is a pre-eminent, national leader in nanotechnology research. Harris said the center received aggressive support from House members Richard Royal, IE 62, and Ron Forster, MS PubPol 04, and state Senators John W Grant III, IE 72, and Chip Rogers, Mgt 91.

Another Tech priority for this legislative session is $55 million in full-formula funding, which Perdue recommended in the total of more than $1 billion proposed to support full-formula funding system-wide.

“That’s our bread and butter,” Harris said. “Full-formula funding is our basic state funding for our faculty, operations and maintenance. The formula is based on enrollment. If enrollment increases, then the formula funding increases.”

Tech’s $55 million funding formula increase includes $31.4 million for enrollment growth, $6.3 million for maintenance and operation of new facilities, $5.4 million for increased energy costs and $12.1 million for increased fringe benefit costs, owing mostly to increased health care costs.

A third priority not included in the governor’s budget recommendation is $4.9 million for renovation of the old civil engineering building on Bobby Dodd Way.

“It means we’ve got to go to work and try to get the General Assembly to support it. We’re asking the House and Senate Appropriations Committee to add that to the fiscal year 07 budget,” Harris said.
Global Strategy
Georgia Tech partners with India, Shanghai Jiao Tong University

Two Georgia Tech schools have formed partnerships with China’s Shanghai Jiao Tong University, which has awarded an honorary doctorate to Tech President Wayne Clough.

Georgia Tech and about 20 other American universities also have signed an agreement to collaborate with India on higher education and research. The pact with India, signed in December, is intended to make it possible for professors in the United States to teach and conduct research at colleges and universities in India via that country’s educational satellite and an electronic-learning system. Participating U.S. universities include Harvard University, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Yale University and the University of Texas.

In October the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering formed a partnership with Shanghai Jiao Tong University to establish a Sino-U.S. Global Logistics Institute.

The School of Electrical and Computer Engineering established a dual master’s degree program with the university in December. The partnership allows students admitted to the two-year program to study at either SJTU or Georgia Tech’s campus. It establishes a summer exchange program for students attending Tech and SJTU.

“We are very pleased with the relationship we are developing with Shanghai Jiao Tong University, which includes aspects of research, student exchange and joint programs of study,” Clough said.

“Shanghai is a dynamic city of 18 million people that serves as a key economic engine for China. Shanghai Jiao Tong University is a high-quality institution with strong leadership and plans for the future. The timing is right for this partnership.”

ISyE’s Global Logistics Institute with SJTU is modeled after The Logistics Institute-Asia Pacific, a partnership between Tech and the National University of Singapore.

“The focus of the institute will be the Shanghai region of China,” said Chelsea C. White, the H. Milton and Carolyn Stewart chair of Tech’s School of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

White and Charles Liotta, vice president of research and dean of graduate studies, were joined by Georgia economic development officials at the ceremony inaugurating the program with SJTU in October.

“The programs being developed in Shanghai and Singapore are part of an overall strategy to foster Georgia Tech’s evolution toward an international technological university that encourages its students to experience cultures from around the world while pursuing their disciplines,” Liotta said.

During the next few years, Tech may expand its degree partnership program modeled after TLI-Asia Pacific with some other top universities, Liotta said.

Students completing an 18-month TLI-Asia Pacific program earn dual master’s degrees from Tech and NUS.

FOCUS Program Helps Attract Minority Graduate Students

By Rashida Syed

Nearly 300 minority college students participated in the 15th annual FOCUS program at Georgia Tech, a four-day event promoting the Institute’s graduate program held in conjunction with the observance of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Commissioner Michael Thurmond of the Georgia Department of Labor was among the keynote speakers. The prospective students also met with faculty and graduate students and visited classrooms, labs and Atlanta historical and cultural sites.

Tech ranks first in the number of bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in engineering awarded to African-Americans, a fact that President Wayne Clough attributes, in part, to the success of the FOCUS program. “Georgia Tech is committed to celebrating diversity, and the FOCUS program has made an important contribution to our ability to attract minority students,” Clough said. “Diverse Issues in Higher Education recently recognized Georgia Tech as the nation’s leader in graduating African-American engineers at all three degree levels — and not for the first time. FOCUS is an important part of that success.”

FOCUS was started in 1991 to help expose qualified minority college students to Tech’s graduate programs. Robert Haley, special assistant to the president, founded FOCUS to meet the goal of increasing the Institute’s minority graduation rates and to place a special emphasis on encouraging minorities to pursue advanced degrees no matter which institution they chose to attend.

Clough said he is particularly pleased with the precedent that FOCUS has set for other universities. “I am proud of the work that Robert Haley and his staff have done to make FOCUS what it is today. This program has become a model that other institutions want to emulate.”

Haley is looking ahead. “Going forward, I think the charge is to continue the leadership that we have established and build on a very successful program so that we can maintain that leadership as we move into the next 15 years. “My responsibility now is to focus on growing the program. The key is not to grow it incrementally by individual numbers but to really grow it significantly, and I think the way to do that is to concentrate on the historically black colleges and universities for African-American students in all disciplines.”

The increasing number of universities that now have a program like FOCUS reflects the ongoing effort of businesses to increase diversity in the workplace, he said.

As the U.S. population shifts and companies begin to conduct more business internationally, diversity is a benefit that industry can’t ignore, Haley said, and universities play a big role in increasing diversity in industry.

“We must ensure going into the future that we continue to emphasize advanced degrees in all disciplines,” he said. “We have to have a diverse work force that mirrors the consumer. The leading companies will be the ones that have a diverse work force, that really concentrate on diversity. That will be what defines them.”

Rashida Syed is a writer for Institute Communications and Public Affairs.
Tech Times Evolution Clocks of Man, Chimp

By David Terraso

G eoorgia Tech scientists found that the rate of molecular evolution of chimpanzees is closer to that of humans than it is to other apes.

Appearing in the Jan. 23 issue of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, biologists Soonj Yi reported that the rate of human and chimp molecular evolution — changes that occur over time at the genetic level — is much slower than that of gorillas and orangutans, with the evolution of humans being the slowest of all.

As species branch off along evolutionary lines, important genetic traits, like the rate of molecular evolution, also begin to diverge. They found that the speed of this molecular clock in humans and chimps is so similar it suggests that certain human-specific traits, like generation time, began to evolve 1 million years ago — very recently in terms of evolution. The amount of time between parents and offspring is longer in humans than apes.

Since a long generation time is closely correlated with the evolution of a big brain, it also suggests that developmental changes specific to humans also may have evolved very recently.

In a large-scale genetic analysis of about 63 million base pairs of DNA, the scientists studied the rate at which the base pairs that define the differences between species were incorrectly paired due to errors in the genetic encoding process, an occurrence known as substitution.

“[For the first time, we’ve shown that the difference in the rate of molecular evolution between humans and chimpanzees is very small, but significant, suggesting that the evolution of human-specific life history traits is very recent],” said Yi.

Most biologists believe that humans and chimpanzees had a common ancestor before the evolutionary lines diverged between 5 million and 7 million years ago. According to the analysis, 1 million years ago the molecular clock in the line that became modern humans began to slow down.

Today, the human molecular clock is only 3 percent slower than the molecular clock of the chimp, while it has slowed down 11 percent from the gorilla’s molecular clock.

This slowdown in the molecular clock correlates with a longer generation time because substitutions need to be passed to the next generation in order to have any lasting effect on the species.

“A long generation time is an important trait that separates humans from their evolutionary relatives,” said Navin Elango, graduate student in the School of Biology and first author of the research paper. “We used to think that apes shared one generation time, but that’s not true. There’s a lot more variation. In our study, we found that the chimpanzee’s generation time is a lot closer to that of humans than it is to other apes.”

The results also confirm that there is very little difference in the alignable regions of the human and chimp genomes. Taken together, the study’s findings suggest that humans and chimps are more closely related to each other than the chimps are to the other great apes.

“It is my view that we can say that this study provides further support for the hypothesis that humans and chimpanzees should be in one genus, rather than two different genera because we not only share extremely similar genomes, we share similar generation time,” said Yi.

Even though the 63 million base pairs they studied is a large sample, it’s still a small part of the genome, Yi said. “If we look at the whole genome, maybe it’s a different story, but there is evidence in the fossil record that this change in generation time occurred very recently, so the genetic evidence and the fossil data seem to fit together quite well so far.”

David Terraso is a writer for Institute Communications and Public Affairs.

Faculty Recognition

Biology Eminent Scholar

Renowned scientist Jeffrey Skolnick has joined the Tech faculty as the Georgia Research Alliance eminent scholar in computational systems biology. He previously directed the University of Buffalo Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics.

Skolnick brought with him 19 research scientists and technicians and more than $1 million in federal funding, primarily from the National Institutes of Health.

“The has relationships with pharmaceutical and technology companies, holds three patents, has developed and licensed software to biotech companies and has founded an early-stage structural proteomics company. This is the mix of entrepreneurialism and scholarly acumen we seek in our scholars,” GRA president Michael Cassidy, MS TASP ’87, said.

Leader at Lorraine

Yves Berthelot, a professor in the School of Mechanical Engineering, has been named director of Georgia Tech Lorraine. He replaces Hans Puttgren, who retired after leading the Metz, France, campus since its founding.

“GTL offers some extraordinary challenges and opportunities for Georgia Tech’s faculty and students through innovative academic programs, collaborative international research programs and trans-Atlantic economic development,” said Berthelot, a native of France who joined the Georgia Tech faculty in 1985.

While Berthelot is based at Lorraine, Steven McLaughlin, a professor in the School of Electrical and Computing Engineering, will serve in Atlanta as deputy director of Georgia Tech Lorraine.

Fullbright Winners

Georgia Tech faculty members Stuart Goldberg, David Goldsman and Fei-Ling Wang won grants to lecture and research at overseas universities through the Fullbright Scholar Program, and Carol Colatrelle was named a Fullbright New Century Scholar.

Goldberg, an assistant professor in the School of Modern Languages, is at the Russian State Humanities University. Goldsman, a professor in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering, is at Bogazici University in Turkey. Wang, an associate professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs, is at Yonsei University in Korea.

Colatrelle, a professor in the School of Literature, Communication and Culture, is collaborating on “Higher Education in the 21st Century: Global Challenge and National Response.”

Medal of Honor

Jim Meindl, director of the Microelectronics Research Center and the Joseph M. Pettit chair and professor of microsystems in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has been named the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ recipient of the Medal of Honor.

The IEEE’s highest award is given to individuals who have demonstrated technological pre-eminence in the field. Meindl’s citation notes his “pioneering contributions to microelectronics, including low-power, biomedical, physical limits and on-chip interconnect networks.”

IEEE Fellows

Georgia Tech professors Ye Geoffrey Li, Gary May, Steven McLaughlin and Madhavan Swaminathan have been named fellows of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers for their extraordinary records of accomplishment.

Li, an associate professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, was elected for his contributions to signal processing for wireless communications.

May, the Steve W. Chaddick chair in electrical and computer engineering, was selected for his work in semiconductor manufacturing and engineering education.

McLaughlin, the Ken Byers professor in electrical and computer engineering, was named a fellow for his contributions to information theory and applications to digital recording technology.

Swaminathan, deputy director of the Packaging Research Center at Tech, was elected for his contributions in design tools and methodologies and electromagnetic interference control for power delivery in digital and mixed-use systems.

Aerospace Professorship

Mark Costello, MS AE ’89, PhD ’92, has been named the Sikorsky associate professor in rotorcraft technology in the School of Aerospace Engineering.

He has been on the faculties at Oregon State University and the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and worked as a research engineer at Boeing and at the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

Costello will serve as the associate director of the Georgia Tech Center of Excellence in Rotorcraft Technology.
MANNERS MATTER

Career Services provides etiquette advice on shaking and saluting

By Kimberly Link-Wills

First impressions are never more important than during job interviews.

“You have seven seconds to make a first impression, whether good or bad,” Marge Dussich, assistant director of Career Services, told Tech students during a business etiquette seminar, an information-loaded program offered once each semester.

Arrive five to 10 minutes early for an interview, she advised, and decline a cup of coffee or glass of water while waiting. “It’s a spill waiting to happen.”

Dussich said eye contact is essential, but don’t invade the interviewer’s personal space and stare him down. Stand an arm’s length away. Carry a portfolio in the left hand so the right remains free for handshaking. When shaking, use a firm grasp and one or two pumps of the hand.

Stand up — and sit up — straight. Dussich said good posture exudes high energy and confidence, while stooped shoulders project negativity and laziness.

Good hygiene is a given, but even a deodorant-wearing interviewee will reek of a lack of business sense if he or she is wearing ill-fitting or revealing clothing. As for jangling jewelry, forget about it.

Interviews conducted over lunch can be daunting, particularly when the table is set with a menagerie of glasses and utensils. Dussich handed out a place setting quiz — which fork is for which course, which glass is for which kind of wine.

To avoid confusion about where the bread plate is, Dussich recited a simple tip: “liquids right, solids left.”

She said the lunch meeting guest shakes hands first with the person who made the appointment or is the most senior in rank; waits to take a seat at the table until instructed where to sit; and does not summon the waitstaff for any reason.

“When everyone is seated, place the napkin on your lap with the crease toward you,” Dussich said, adding that it is key not to begin eating until the entire party is served — unless the host tells guests to commence.

Don’t order the most expensive item on the menu. Don’t order the least expensive either, she said. “As a rule of thumb, go for the midrange meal or follow the host’s recommendation.”

Dussich said if a napkin or utensil falls on the floor, leave it and get another when the server comes to the table. If a diner must get up during the meal, that person should leave only between courses and put the napkin on the chair or to the left of the place setting.

Food is passed to the right after first being offered to the person on the immediate left. Never serve yourself first, Dussich instructed, adding that bread and rolls should be eaten by breaking off bite-size pieces and buttering them individu-ally.

Pass salt and pepper together, but don’t season food without tasting it first to avoid being labeled as a person who makes “ rash decisions,” Dussich said.

Open sugar packets three-fourths across and when emptied place them on the saucer or under the rim of the bread plate. Never use more than two sugar packets. “Otherwise you may appear excessive. You’re being observed,” she said, noting that one should not make a lot of racket when stirring sugar into coffee. “Give it a couple of stirs and let it go.”

The lunch guest also should not appear to be starving for a job. “Always leave a piece or two of something on your plate,” Dussich said. When everyone at the table is finished eating, the napkin should be set to the right of the place setting.

Finally, she offered advice on how to behave once in the work force and listed workplace taboos, which include interrupting, swearing and telling off-color jokes.

“Limit the sharing of personal problems,” Dussich added. “Keep those at home.”

Marshall Scholar Aims to ‘Translate Basic Science to Clinical Applications’

By David Terrasco

As the only 2006 Marshall Scholar from a Georgia public university, Ryan Haynes will get the chance to sharpen his business skills at the University of Cambridge later this year as he pursues a master’s degree in nanotechnology. Haynes is using a software program that renders the brain’s cerebral cortex as a sphere, allowing doctors to measure the thickness of the cortex in various patient groups.

“We’re trying to figure out what the normal thickness is and then measure children who have frontal lobe epilepsy, figure out what atrophy occurs in what area and correlate that with cognitive tests to see if there is a certain area of the brain that’s more affected than others,” he said.
NASA administrator Michael D. Griffin, keynote speaker for the fall commencement graduate ceremony, said America is “at the cusp of a new age of exploration, one that will take robot pathfinders and pioneering astronauts to the moon, Mars and beyond.”

“I’m confident that over the course of your career you will have opportunities to tackle some of the most rewarding challenges one could imagine. We are undertaking a sustainable, long-term, multigenerational program that will enable human beings to see and do things that have never been seen and done before,” Griffin said.

“If I were graduating from Georgia Tech today, I would want to work in the space business because that is where some of the most exciting action will be in the coming decades.”

The Institute awarded 1,350 bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees during the two commencement ceremonies Dec. 17. Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin delivered the address to undergraduates. Georgia Tech Alumni Association chairman J. William Goodhew III, IM 61, welcomed the newest graduates into the fold.

World leadership “requires the foresight to invest in the cutting edge of science and technology,” Griffin said. “Throughout NASA’s history, our agency has shown the ability to implement large-scale engineering projects and to conduct our systems engineering work in ways not previously thought possible.

“But what we have ahead of us represents a challenge significantly greater than when we first went to the moon. With that challenge we will need bright young computer programmers, engineers and scientists who can make their mark on the space program,” he said.

“I know that there are some of you who are like me and simply can’t wait to get started.”

Graduates Embark on Journeys of Opportunities, Challenges
Entrepreneurial Effort

Warren L. Batt, EE 61, retired chairman of Premark International in Chicago and Tupperware Corp. in Orlando, Fla., has awarded $1 million to begin endowment of a Georgia Tech program known as TIGER that brings vital new technologies to the marketplace.

TIGER, an acronym for Technology Innovation: Generating Economic Results, is a collaboration between Tech’s Colleges of Management, Engineering and Sciences and Emory University’s law school.

“In a very short time, TIGER has amassed an extremely impressive track record for commercializing important new technologies,” Batt said. “Our commitment to the program is designed to expand the number of graduate students participating in TIGER, thereby expanding the number of new products coming to the marketplace — products that vastly improve the quality of human life. I can’t think of a better use for these funds.”

Marie Thursby is TIGER executive director and professor of strategic management in the College of Management. The highly competitive, two-year program includes seven student teams formed around the research interests of doctoral students. Participants take three core courses together and meet regularly to work on other assignments to solve the problems of bringing products to market. The program is similar to one Thursby started at Purdue University before coming to Tech.

One four-member team is researching commercialization of a technology in its early stages developed by Jeffrey Gross, a doctoral student in biomedical engineering, to improve diabetes treatment.

“The main obstacles to commercializing research are rarely the technology, but issues at the interface of business and legal issues with capturing value from the technology,” Thursby said.

“There are four times as many PhD students interested in the program than there are funded slots,” Thursby said. “This wonderful gift from Warren Batt will allow us to bring more students to work on these critical issues.”

TIGER has won a number of honors, including recognition as 2005 National Model Specialty Program in Entrepreneurship from the U.S. Association for Small Business and Entrepreneurship and Students for Free Enterprise.

The program was created in 2002, mostly funded by a five-year, $2.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation, including support from the Alan and Mildred Peterson Foundation, Georgia Tech Presidential Fellowships, the Hal and John Smith Chair and the National Collegiate Investors and Innovators Alliance.

ORGT Resource Center Honors Templeton

The Outdoor Recreation Resource Center has been named for alumnus Miller Templeton, retired director of the Office of International Education at Georgia Tech.

Templeton, Phys 61, MS NS 63, played a role in establishing and developing ORGT, which was founded in the 1970s. Templeton was recognized for his contributions as a founder and advocate during the dedication ceremony in September.

David D. Flanagan, IE 76, president of Elm Street Development Co. in McLean, Va., made a seven-figure gift to support Georgia Tech and name the center for Templeton.

Flanagan and dedication speaker H. Bryon “Bob” Gaar, CE 78, both praised Templeton as a “passionate advocate” for ORGT and “a tireless mentor and friend to the many students who participated in the program over the years.”

Miller Templeton was a founder of ORGT in the 1970s.
Curator Tells Story of Shutze Art Collection

The coffee-table book “Philip Trammell Shutze: Atlanta Classicist, Connoisseur and Collector” is subtitled “The Story of a Collection” and was written by Atlanta History Center curator Rebecca B. Moore, who cataloged the more than 1,000 pieces of furniture, silver, ceramics, glass and paintings collected by Shutze, Arch 12, and given to the Atlanta Historical Society upon his death.

Shutze stipulated in his will that the collection be displayed at the Swan House, which he designed for Edward and Emily Inman. The Swan House, completed in 1928, has been owned by the Atlanta Historical Society since 1966.

“Swan House, Atlanta’s landmark residence, is generally regarded as Shutze’s finest work,” Moore wrote. “Shutze drew upon English and Italian architecture, often consulting the photographs and drawings from the many scrapbooks he compiled in his travels abroad.”

Hailed as the “greatest living classical architect” by Classical America in 1977, Shutze was a native of Columbus, Ga., who earned a full scholarship to Tech in 1908 and was in the first class of architecture graduates.

In 1981, Tech architecture students created the Philip Trammell Shutze Alumni Award and presented the first medal to Shutze himself, who died a year later at age 92. The alumni medal was designed by Julian Harris, Arch 28, who received the award the following year.

Shutze didn’t start collecting seriously until he was in his 60s, according to Moore. “He did not have a curator. He did not drive a car or travel extensively, yet he amassed a collection of icons of 18th- and early 19th-century decorative arts. In his two-bedroom apartment on Peachtree Street, Shutze’s collection covered the walls and filled his custom paneling and cabinets. He used them every day; they were the furnishings for his home. There were boxes under his bed, in the oven and in the bathtub. His blue and white Canton ware, which he used as his ‘everyday china,’ was stacked on open shelves in his kitchen.”

In 2000 the Shutze collection was put in storage during restoration of the Swan House. The release of the book coincided with the fall opening of the new permanent Shutze exhibit on the terrace level.

Art Collection

Story of Shutze
Curator Tells

Philip Shutze was hailed as the “greatest living classical architect.”

in his kitchen.

in the bathtub.

in the oven and

His blue and white Canton ware, which he used as his ‘everyday china,’ was stacked on open shelves in his kitchen.

in 2000 the Shutze collection was put in storage during restoration of the Swan House. The release of the book coincided with the fall opening of the new permanent Shutze exhibit on the terrace level.

in his kitchen.

in the bathtub.

in the oven and

His blue and white Canton ware, which he used as his ‘everyday china,’ was stacked on open shelves in his kitchen.

in 2000 the Shutze collection was put in storage during restoration of the Swan House. The release of the book coincided with the fall opening of the new permanent Shutze exhibit on the terrace level.
Restored GLORY

Renovated hotel thrives in rural Washington, Ga.

By Maria M. Lameiras

The Fitzpatrick Hotel has defied the odds. Twice. Despite naysayers, brothers Thomas and John Fitzpatrick built the “magnificent” Fitzpatrick Hotel on the square in downtown Washington, Ga., in 1908 to serve travelers brought into town by mule-drawn trolleys from the train depot.

The hotel prospered during its prime, but later fell into disrepair. In June 2004, Mike Todd, ChE 87, and his wife, Christy, reopened the Fitzpatrick Hotel, having painstakingly restored it to its original splendor over a period of 18 months. The refurbished structure contains all of the original brick and much of the original wood and interior structures and is furnished with period antiques, many of them provided by local residents Jenna and William Pope.

Some in Washington did not believe the hotel could be restored, much less returned to its original use, after 50 years of neglect during which part of the structure collapsed and large cottonwood trees grew up through the interior, Todd said.

Although some people thought it was an impossible task, alumnus Mike Todd and his wife, Christy, restored the Fitzpatrick Hotel in Washington, Ga., to its past splendor in just 18 months. They were committed to maintaining the historic character, and the refurbished Fitzpatrick Hotel contains all the original brick and much of the original wood.

Mike Todd, ChE 87, opens the doors of the 17-room Fitzpatrick Hotel to guests from around the country.

Todd admitted having the same doubts about the rural town of less than 5,000, located 115 miles east of Atlanta. At Carter’s request, Todd and his wife traveled to Washington to see the rundown hotel, harboring little hope of finding a suitable commercial project to tackle.

“Jim Carter called and said he found a building we might want to see. We went down to see it on a Friday evening with no intent of buying it,” Todd said. Todd, who worked as a chemical engineer for more than 14 years before he and his wife began purchasing and restoring historic homes in his hometown of Athens, Ga. The Fitzpatrick project is the couple’s first foray into restoration of a commercial property.

In just 18 months after opening, the 17-room hotel reached “break-even” status, justifying the outlay the Todds and their partners, friend James Carter and Christy Todd’s father, Amit Mehta, invested to bring it back from near destruction.

Thanks to the Internet and his wife’s marketing skills, Todd said guests visit from all over the United States. In addition to the guest rooms, the hotel has a full-service restaurant, a ballroom and three retail spaces on the ground floor. More than two dozen wedding parties were booked in 2005 and the hotel was booked solid the week of the Masters golf tournament in Augusta 50 miles away.

According to the hotel’s Web site, www.thefitzpatrickhotel.com, citizens of Washington had doubts about the feasibility of the hotel from the beginning. In an advertisement run in the Washington Chronicle on Nov. 14, 1899, the Fitzpatrick brothers made it clear that the hotel was thriving — “We were told time and time again that Washington was dead, that we could do no business. Was your prediction correct? No! A thousand times no! Our three large stores are always crowded. We are doing twice the business we anticipated.”
Burdell & Friends

Todd said, “We felt it was too small an area, but when we saw it, we knew it was a wonderful building. It was in really bad shape, but it was beautiful. We had done so much historic renovation we knew what could be done with it.

“We didn’t intend to be in the hotel business. Our focus has been on saving historic properties and restoring them to their original intent,” Todd said, adding that all of the partners are very “hands on” in the running of the hotel. “We have three employees. Christy and I work on Friday and Saturday. Christy’s father works on Monday and Mr. Carter takes nights two to three days a week.” Although he could have made the property into a bed-and-breakfast, Todd wanted to avoid that label.

“We are a full-service hotel. If you come in at midnight, there’s someone at the front desk to check you in. That’s hard to do with just 17 rooms, but we always try to cater to our guests. We are seeing a lot of repeat business and word-of-mouth has been our best marketing,” Todd said.

The partners are planning an annex to the hotel in a historic bank building a few blocks from the Fitzpatrick.

“The bank was built in 1914 and the first floor has been occupied continuously. There has been office space on the second and third floors, but we will be able to put in 12 to 13 guest rooms with little to no changes other than adding the bathrooms,” Todd said. “We’ve purchased a large safe to put in the lobby. We are trying to maintain the bank lobby feel on the first floor instead of trying to hide the original character of the bank.” They anticipate opening the annex in mid-2007.

Todd said the hotel has thrived because of tremendous local support.

“Many of the rooms in the Fitzpatrick Hotel are furnished with period antiques, some of which were provided by a local couple.

The Fitzpatrick succeeds because of the people in Washington. They love the building, they love their downtown. The city leaders, the people, the businesses, they are all working in the same direction and that is the reason we can be successful even though we are in a town of only 5,000 people.”

Host Your Next Event at the Alumni House

Tradition Versatility Elegance Convenience

Georgia Tech Alumni
House Event Space
190 North Ave. | Atlanta, GA 30313 | 404.894.2591 | gtaalumni.org/house
**The Ramblin’ Roll**

**1960s**

Donald C. Huff, CE 66, acting director of the Economic Development Administration’s Atlanta office, received the Silver Medal Award for Leadership from the U.S. Department of Commerce for his role in prompt deployment of economic recovery teams responding to a series of hurricanes that ravaged Florida in 2004.

Terrell Parrish, CE 65, of Clemson, S.C., has joined the National Council of Examiners and Surveyors as a development engineer for national exams. Parrish previously worked at the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in Charleston, S.C., as a design engineer and project manager.

Roland M. Toups, ME 60, MS ME 61, of Baton Rouge, La., was re-elected to an unprecedented third term as chairman of the Louisiana State Board of Regents for Higher Education. Toups is CEO of Turner Industries in Baton Rouge. He received the Dean Griffin Community Service Award in 2004 and serves on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board.

**1970s**

Mike Anderson, IE 79, of Atlanta, was named vice president of corporate services at Georgia Power Co. Anderson will oversee the corporate safety and health, corporate and regional facilities, fleet operations and labor relations departments. He serves on the boards of the Alexander-Tharpe Fund and the Regional Atlanta Civic League and has served on the Eisenhower Consortium on Science and Technology, 100 Black Men of Atlanta, Georgia Association of Black Elected Officials Corporate Roundtable, Atlanta Area Council of Boy Scouts of America, Southern Coalition for Advanced Transportation and Optimist International.

**Purpose-driven Career**

Alumna produces ‘Random’ acts of kindness on reality show

By Brad Dixon

For Molly Schreck, Mgt 00, practicing random acts of kindness isn’t just a nice thing to do. It’s also her television career. She works both in front of the camera and behind the scenes as a producer of “Random 1,” a reality TV series in which two men drive around the country in an old pickup truck looking for down-on-their-luck strangers to help. Schreck and two other producers appear in supporting roles, following behind in an RV to track down resources needed by the people they encounter.

Schreck said “Random 1,” which debuted on the cable channel A&E in November and airs at 11 p.m. Fridays, is more real and grittier than similarly themed programs that carefully screen candidates to find charity recipients with whom audiences can easily sympathize.

“We go into a city cold and walk up to people cold,” she said, noting that they help individuals others might give wide berth to, such as a homeless alcoholic requiring rehabilitation, a street musician with a broken keyboard, an ex-stripper seeking legitimate modeling work, a mentally challenged man wanting his first date and a 300-pound man needing a paid gym membership.

“Random 1” doesn’t give away money. Instead, the team stages impromptu fundraisers, searches out community assistance and generally asks lots of favors. The show’s financial philosophy initially stemmed from not having much money to share.

“It stayed that way because we found it to be the best way to do things,” Schreck said. “It shows viewers that you don’t need a ton of money to help people, that you could do this tomorrow if you wanted to.”

Schreck, who shortened her surname from Schrecengost for professional use, has found great personal satisfaction from her role on the show and learned how to work past her judgments about people.

“It’s an amazing experience to help an individual,” said the 27-year-old, whose parents raised her to always leave things better than she found them. “Once you fully immerse yourself in it, you realize that there’s no other way to live your life.”

Her path to this road show began during college when she took some acting classes, realizing that she could feed her interests in entertainment and business. An internship with a local production company brought her to a major television conference, where she met budding filmmaker John Chester. He had already been fulfilling the “Random 1” philanthropic mission with buddy Andre Miller, a fitness trainer, for years before any cameras filmed them.

Sold on the idea that their good deeds would make a great film project and be meaningful work, Schreck relocated from Atlanta to Baltimore, where she first worked with Chester as an associate producer of “The Euphoria Project,” a documentary about the pursuit of happiness.

They filmed the 10-episode first season of “Random 1,” which concluded Jan. 27, during a five-week trek through six states. The show garnered good reviews and ratings and great response from viewers on its Web site, www.random1.com. Schreck said.

“We’ve gotten hundreds of responses, saying not just, ‘I liked the show,’ but ‘I liked your show, it made me feel differently about the world and here’s what I’m doing about it.’”

Schreck doesn’t know yet whether A&E is renewing the show. Whatever the outcome, she is confident that the “Random 1” concept will live on and she’s committed to remaining a part of it, even though the unpredictable, unstructured nature of the television business is sometimes difficult for a self-confessed creature of habit.

She signed up to attend a health food cooking school in New York during the production break. “If I can get this background with natural foods, I would have something else to offer ‘Random 1,’” she said, explaining that many of the people they help appear nutritionally deficient.

Schreck, whose favorite TV programs are cooking shows, said she enjoys the business side of her job much more than the on-camera part. In addition to helping locate resources for the needy, her duties include working with accountants and lawyers, supervising the show’s merchandising and finding inexpensive, often gritty music to complement the hard-luck tales on screen.

She said her Georgia Tech education was great preparation for all of it. “Tech taught me that you not only have to work hard, you also have to work smart.”

Brad Dixon is assistant director of communications for the College of Management.
Alumni Among State’s Most Influential Citizens

Ten alumni have been named among the “100 Most Influential Georgians” by Georgia Trend magazine.

The magazine filled the roster with “individuals who wield influence in business, government, politics, public policy, education, the judiciary and other areas that impact every aspect of every Georgian’s daily life.”

Georgia Trend also gave the magazine’s reasons for choosing each influential person to the list. Tech alumni are:

- Sally Bethea, MS CP 80, executive director of Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, who, “after 11 years of tireless work cleaning up the Chattahoochee, has helped lessen the doom along the river, which provides water to 70 percent of the population of the metropolitan Atlanta area.”
- Michael Cassidy, MS TASP 87, president and CEO of the Georgia Research Alliance, which has invested $440 million to recruit top researchers in advanced communications, computing and biosciences over the past 15 years. So far, 51 world-class scientists have come to Georgia as GRA eminent scholars, bringing more than $2 billion in federal funds and investment capital, creating more than 4,000 jobs and 125 new companies.
- Wayne Clough, CE 63, MS CE 65, president of Georgia Tech, “ranked by U.S. News & World Report again this year as one of the nation’s top public universities. Georgia Tech continues to prosper under Clough’s leadership. He was named last year to the National Science Board by President Bush and recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineers for his lifetime contributions to education.”
- Sam Griffin, IM 58, editor and publisher of the Bainbridge, Ga., Post-Searchlight and “southwest Georgia’s steadfast defender of open records and freedom of information.” An award-winning columnist, Griffin assails “government secrecy through editorials and litigation.”

- Jack Guynn, MS IM 70, the president and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta whose role includes “setting monetary policy, bank supervision and regulation and managing the nationwide payments systems. Guynn forecasts ongoing growth of GDP, employment and income despite the devastating economic effects of the Gulf Coast hurricanes.”
- Jim Lienitz, IM 65, Georgia’s first chief operating officer, “whose tasks include staff management and developing career paths as part of Gov. Perdue’s blueprint for a ‘customer-friendly’ state government. Lienitz, who retired as president of Bank of America’s mid-South division in 2000, formerly chaired The Carter Center’s Board of Councilors.”
- Joe Rogers Jr., IM 68, chairman and CEO of Waffle House, which has “nearly 1,500 restaurants in 25 states — and a track record of quick response to natural disasters. Rogers, a hands-on kind of manager, was in Gulfport, Miss., the day after Hurricane Katrina hit.”
- Julian Saul, IM 62, president of Shaw Industries Inc., which “manufactures enough carpet each year to wrap a 6-foot-wide swath around the equator seven times. Saul, who is active in a number of civic endeavors, is a board member for the Dalton United Way and founded that organization’s Toccoa Valley Society for individuals who contribute at least $10,000 annually.”
- William J. Todd, IM 71, whose job as president and CEO of the Georgia Cancer Coalition is to “raise awareness and funding to fight cancer in Georgia, where 35,000 new cases are diagnosed each year. The coalition, created in 2001 by Gov. Roy Barnes, is halfway through its 10-year plan to raise $1 billion. Todd would like to increase the private contribution to the program as the GCC tries to expand research and treatments.”
- Sam Williams, EE 68, the president of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, “focused on developing new business in targeted industry clusters, such as biosciences, telecommunications, computer software and services. Williams is a master of forging partnerships and bringing diverse leadership together to address issues such as public transit, education, cleaner water, arts and culture.”

**1980s**

- Rodney Bogue, BC 88, and his wife, Sandy, announce the birth of a son, Reagan Jimmie, on Oct. 4. Reagan joins his sister, Riley, at the family home in Warner Robins, Ga. The family was the subject of a story about their open adoption of Riley in the Feb. 7 issue of Woman’s World magazine. Bogue is general manager of fabrication for SteelSouth Metal Buildings Inc. in Warner Robins.
- Brad Douglas, IM 86, was appointed assistant commissioner for procurement by Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue. He is charged with streamlining and modernizing state procurement functions, an initiative anticipated to save $135 million by 2009.
- Kevin Feckoury, IM 83, and his wife, Deana, of Alpharetta, Ga., announce the adoption of their daughter, Claire Elizabeth, on Oct. 22. Feckoury is an account executive with Aspect Software in Duluth, Ga.
- Franklin Harris, Biol 89, Mgt 87, was promoted to managing director and head of the Financial Sponsors Group at Miller Buckfire Co., an independent investment bank. After graduating from Tech, he earned an MBA from Harvard Business School.
- Craig M. Harvey, IE 85, and his wife, Dawn, announce the birth of a son, Bret. Austin, on Sept. 26, one day after the family returned home after the Hurricane Rita evacuation. Bret joins his sister, Brynne, and two brothers, Jacob and Callan “Cal,” at their home in Houston. Harvey joined Lockheed Martin in August as a human factors design engineer at the Johnson Space Center.
- Andrew Kurdila, PhD 88, was named the W. Martin Johnson professor of mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech on Nov. 7. Kurdila joined the faculty in 2005 and is renowned for his work in dynamical systems.
Tranquil Soul Music

Alumnus Stanton Lanier composes instrumental melodies

By Maria M. Lameiras

If it hadn’t been for The Weather Channel, Stanton Lanier might never have made it to the piano recording studio at George Lucas’ Skywalker Sound last summer.

In October, Lanier released his fourth independent CD of instrumental piano pieces, “The Voice,” which was produced by Grammy Award-winning producer Will Ackerman and recorded at Skywalker Sound in California.

Named one of “Ten Independent Artists You Should Know” by Christianity Today.com in 2003, Lanier, Chem 86, has played piano since he was 6 years old.

“I wanted to quit when I was 11 because I was into basketball and other things and I thought piano was sissy, but my mom didn’t let me quit. She kept me at it,” Lanier said, adding that he began composing in high school — “mostly love songs for a junior-year girlfriend.”

At Tech, Lanier took a break from composing because of his busy academic schedule, but kept his fingers limber at pianos he discovered around campus, including an old upright in the lobby of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity house, where he was a brother.

“In 1997, my first child was born and I wrote a song called ‘So Many Gifts’ about all of the gifts I had received in my life from my birth through my son’s birth,” he said. “In the summer of 1999, I felt a real stirring to what my sense of purpose was. I had written all this music over the years, but I had never invested in recording it. In January 2000, I bought a synthesizer and a computer I could use to record music in a home studio.

“At the same time I started sampling instrumental music and I felt the inspiration to try to create instrumental melodies for the first time. What was unique was that I would take my inspiration from scriptures or Bible verses that held meaning in my life at that time. It is like the piano is singing the verse or expressing the theme of that verse.”

After writing his first instrumental piece in May 2000, Lanier began composing about one a month and performing them at his church.

“People started to ask, ‘When are you going to do a CD?’ It became a self-fulfilling thing at that point. By Christmas 2001, I had composed 10 pieces and I self-produced a digital recording of pieces called ‘Walk in the Light.’ I gave it to the people on our Christmas card list, to clients and coworkers and friends. We ended up giving a couple hundred copies out,” Lanier said.

As those copies began circulating, people began asking for CDs they could give as gifts and Lanier eventually gave out several hundred.

Over the next year, he wrote 10 more pieces and by Christmas 2002, he had produced a second CD, “Still Waters,” and created a Web site, www.stantonlanier.com, to promote and distribute his music. One of the CDs ended up in the hands of a woman who shared it with her husband, who worked at The Weather Channel.

“He gave it to the people who are in charge of the music on the channel. In February and April of 2003, two pieces on ‘Still Waters’ were played on The Weather Channel during the ‘Local on the 8c forecast,’ Lanier said.

As a result of those broadcasts, Lanier received CD orders from people in 30 states.

“People would e-mail stories about what the music meant in their lives. A 23-year-old man in Connecticut who was in the hospital due to a car accident and had been burned badly said the music gave him hope to make it through each day,” Lanier said. “It’s very humbling to feel like you are making a difference in the lives of other people.”

In April 2004, Lanier produced his third CD, “Draw Near,” and the next month left his job as a financial planner to devote himself full time to music through his nonprofit organization, Music to Light the World.

When he began composing for his fourth CD, Lanier sought to move his music to the next step and contacted Ackerman, who received a Grammy Award for best new age album in 2004.

“This was my first time out of my basement studio. I wanted to get more creative input and have someone who could coach me with my composing,” said Lanier, who agreed to record at Skywalker Sound after Ackerman told him it had the best piano studio in the country. “I’d been building credibility for my music little by little, but this was a huge leap to have Will Ackerman producing and to record at Skywalker Sound.”

Within a month of the release of “The Voice,” nearly 1,000 copies had sold through the Web site. E-mails pour in from around the world.

“Instrumental music doesn’t have a language barrier. If people love the piano and want peaceful, beautiful music to help them relax or reflect, then that’s that,” Lanier said.

Another alumnus, Dan Alexander, announced the birth of his son Braden James on June 6. He joins brothers Ryan at home in Florence, Ky. Dan is a packaging engineer at Procter & Gamble. Heather is a full-time mother.

Brian Barker, EE 96, was promoted to major in the Air Force and transferred to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Barker, his wife, Mary Beth, and their daughter, Kate, live in Loveland, Ohio, and are expecting another child in May.

JASON BARNES, Econ 94, was elected as a partner at Patton Boggs law firm. He and his wife, Jennifer, live in Dallas.

MELISSA BARRONTON, TE 97, received a master’s in secondary mathematics education from Georgia State University in August. She teaches math at East Coweta High School in Coweta County, Ga., and lives in Sharpsburg, Ga.

KIM OLIVER BE, Mgt 97, and her husband, Chuck, announce the birth of their first child, daughter Lucy Hope, on Dec. 8. Kim is a full-time mother. The family lives in Atlanta.

JEFF M. BRANDON, IE 97, and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of a son, Thomas
Martin, on Sept. 7. He joins sister Bethany and brothers Joshua and Timothy at home in Newnan, Ga. Brandon is a financial specialist for Wells Fargo & Co. in Newnan.

Aimee Cardoza, IntA 97, and Brian Cardoza, IE 96, of Fayetteville, Ga., announce the birth of a son, Anderson Michael, on Nov. 28. Brian is president and CEO of the Fayette County Development Authority and Aimee is director of Outbound Marketing and Courtroom Connect.

Greg Chalker, ChE 96, and his wife, Tami, announce the birth of a son, Davis Gregory, on Nov. 25. Davis joins sister Mallory Rachel at the family’s home near Richmond, Va. Chalker is a group manager at CapitalOne Financial Corp.

Uyen Chapman, Mgt 97, and Leann Chapman, IE 97, of Alpharetta, Ga., announce the birth of a daughter, Elizabeth Autumn, on Feb. 3, 2005. Leann is a database engineer at careerbuilder.com and Uyen is a full-time mother.

Joel Brian Derry, ChE 96, is quality manager at Faulk and Foster Real Estate, which performs site acquisition and preperl and construction management services in the telecommunications industry. He and his wife, Maggi, son Fenner and daughter Georgia Blanche live in Monroe, La.

Cam Cannon Erion, AE 91, and Brad Erion, AE 90, of Muskegon, Mich., announce the birth of a son, Andrew Christian, on March 8, 2005. Brad is materials and machining manager for Hayes-Limmert. Cam is pursuing a master’s at Grand Valley State University.

Eric Ferguson, CS 90, an Air Force lieutenant colonel, has been named commander of the 78th Communications Squadron at Robins Air Force Base in Warner Robins, Ga. The squadron provides information technology support and communications for nearly 25,000 base personnel. He is currently assigned to the Pentagon and will assume his new command this summer. He and his wife, Sonja, live in Alexandria, Va.

Bryan Fiole, Mgt 99, and Eva Shen, Mgt 00, of Atlanta, were married July 9. Bryan is a software analyst at Media Ocean and Eva is a developer at The Home Depot corporate office.

Mike Garrett, IE 96, and his wife, Suzanne, announce the birth of a son, Tyler, in February 2005. Tyler joins twins Camden and Austin, 3, at the family’s home in Rome, Ga.

Ashley Sedki Goodrich, Mgt 94, and Steve Goodrich, MS Mgt 98, announce the birth of a son, William Collier, on Oct. 11. Steve is senior manager of EarthLink’s channel sales. The couple are writing a book, “Best Hikes with Dogs — Georgia and South Carolina.”

Brian James Gray, EE 90, was promoted to operations manager for Northrop Grumman’s CDC Programs. He and his wife, Lesley Peterson Gray, EE 91, live in Peachtree Corners, Ga., with their daughters, Julie Ann and Ashley.

Todd Ham, CS 94, was a co-recipient of the Geospatial Intelligence Achievement Award presented by the U.S. Geospatial Intelligence Foundation for helping pio- neer a means of real-time access of gigabyte-size data sets using limited communications links from operational military theaters. Ham is a systems engineer and lives in Alexandria, Va.

Valori Skipper Harris, HTS 97, Mgt 99, and Jon H. Harris, BC 97, of Grayson, Ga., announce the birth of a daughter, Emma Grace, on Nov. 7. Jon is preconstruction manager for New South Construction in Atlanta and Valori is executive director of the Georgia Home Furnishings Association.

W. Hobson Hogan, Esq’96, and his wife, Fancy, of Chapel Hill, N.C., announce the birth of their first child, Nicholas, in January. Hobson received an MBA from the University of North Carolina in 2001 and is an investment associate for FMI, a Raleigh, N.C., consulting firm.

Patrick Inglett, Biol 97, and Kantika Sharma were married last March. Patrick, a University of Florida post-doctoral associate, will receive his doctorate in soil and water science in May.

Hoon G. Kang, MBA 91, of Atlanta, was elected to partnership in KPMG, an audit, tax and advisory firm. Additionally he serves as lead partner of the firm’s Korean practice. Kang is a CPA in Georgia and California and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Amanda Smith Martin, Mgt 99, and Timothy Martin, ME 00, of Lilburn, Ga., announce the birth of their first child, Emily Elizabeth, on Aug. 31. Amanda is a full-time mother. Timothy is a project manager for Clyde Bergemann.

Jill Hoffmaster O’Keefe, ME 99, MS ME 00, and Bobby O’Keefe, IntA 00, announce the birth of a son, Sean Ellis, on Oct. 16. They live at Laughlin Air Force Base in Texas, where Bobby is an Air Force captain. Jill is a full-time mother.

Jeffrey Osterlund, MS AE 98, won the NASA Space Flight Awareness Astronaut Personal Achievement Award in August. The award is given to individuals for outstanding efforts toward the success of human space flight missions.

Greg Ramsey, ChE 96, of Marietta, Ga., married Dana Michelle Hix on Oct. 8. He is an engineer with McGee Partners Inc. The Ramseys live in Smyrna, Ga.

Holly Richards, ChE 98, and Keith Stanton, ChE 98, announce the birth of a son, Jack Robert, on Aug. 10. Jack joins sister Sydney, 2, at the family’s home in Baton Rouge, La. Keith is a process engineer for Air Products and Chemicals and Holly teaches high school physics.

Alice Torres Roby, Chem 99, and Darrin Roby, CE 00, of Sugar Hill, Ga., announce the birth of a daughter, Erin McKenna, on Sept. 18. Alice is a chemist at Metametrix in Norcross, Ga., and Darrin is a project manager at Osbourne and Associates in Roswell, Ga.

Karli Silley, EE 95, of Nashville, Tenn., married Elizabeth Gernert June 4. Silley is a neurosurgeon.


Renee Johnson Smith, Mgt 96, and Stan W. Smith, Text 95, announce the birth of a son, Samuel Joseph, on May 20. Samuel joins his brother, Hunter, 5, at the family’s home in Loganville, Ga. Stan is operations manager for Mallen Industries in Norcross, Ga. Renee is a full-time mother and working on her doctorate.

Matthew Stewart, ChE 99, and his wife, Stephanie, announce the birth of a son, Harrison Luke, on Sept. 13. Harrison joins his brother, Jake, 2, at the family’s home in Savannah, Ga. Stewart is a production engineer with Englehard Corp.

Matt Stone, IE 97, and his wife, Kristen, announce the birth of their first child, Bryce Matthew, on July 2. Stone is a plant manager. The family lives in Simpsonville, S.C.

Clint Richard Thompson, IE 92, and Anita Burson were married March 12, 2005, in Carrollton, Ga.

Betty Tong, ME 93, MS ME 95, completed training in general surgery at Johns Hopkins Hospital in July and returned to Duke University in Durham, N.C., to continue training in cardiothoracic surgery.

Richard M. Wells, MBA 94, was elected to partnership in KPMG, an audit, tax and advisory firm. Wells is a CPA and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Georgia Society of Certified Public Accountants. He and his wife, Stephanie E. Wells, Mgt 94, live in Atlanta.

Marc T. Williamson, EE 95, and his wife, Stacey, of Atlanta, announce the birth of son Andrew Dyson on Jan. 6. Williamson works in Tech’s information technology department.
John T. Wood, Arch '94, was named an associate at CMH Architects, a Birmingham, Ala., design firm that focuses on retail, office, hospitality and education architectural design. Wood, his wife, Chere, and son Nicholas live in Birmingham.

Jennifer Stoudt Woodson, ChE '99, a chemical engineer with Imerys, and her husband, Damon, of Macon, Ga., announce the birth of daughter, Persephone Kathleen, on Sept. 1. Allen Zachry, CE '99, and his wife, Jenny, of Park City, Utah, announce the birth of their first child, Zoe Isabelle, on Sept. 30. Zachry is a structural engineer with Summit Engineering Group.

2000s

Heather Greenlee Alexander, IE '00, and Dan Alexander, ChE '98, announce the birth of a son, Braden James, on June 6. Braden joins brother Ryan at the family’s home in Florence, Ky. Heather is a full-time mother and Dan is a packaging engineer at Procter & Gamble. 

Guillermo Barrios, MBA '03, and Gina Maleusa, MBA '03, of Atlanta, announce the birth of a daughter, Nicole Marie, on Sept. 2. Guillermo is operations risk monitor for SunTrust Bank. Gina is a CitiGroup quality manager.

Elena Trebits Berry, IE '00, and Matt Berry, CE '00, of Marietta, Ga., announce the birth of their first child, Nathan Andrew, on Oct. 4. Matt is a project manager for Winter Construction and Elena is the director of compliance for GMAC Insurance.

Karen Souther Brandstetter, IE '01, and Benjamin B. Brandstetter, CE '00, of Hebron, Ky., announce the birth of son Adam Lawrence on Oct. 9. Karen is a full-time mother and Benjamin is director of transportation at Brandstetter Carroll Inc.

Paul J. Carman, ME '01, was commissioned a naval officer candidate school at Pensacola, Fla., on Nov. 22. 

Natanya Civial, Chem 00, received her PhD in biochemistry from the University of Illinois in October. She is a development editor at John Wiley & Sons in New York City and lives in West New York, N.J.

Jason Civial, JD '00, MS HCL '02, married Catherine Nelson in December. 

Margaret Ashton Cook, Biol '01, and Johnson H. Cook, Mgt '02, of Mableton, Ga., announce the birth of a son, Michael Timothy, on Dec. 5. Margaret is a physical therapist at Wellstar Cobb Hospital in Marietta, Ga., and Johnson owns Impact Media Solutions in Atlanta. The Cooks live in Mableton, Ga.

Mark Covel, ME '01, a fighter pilot with the Marine Corps, finished advanced training at Air Station Miramar in November and was deployed to Iwakuni, Japan, in January. Covel pilots an FA-18C Hornet with the 314th Marine Fighter Attack Squadron.

David Droogleever, CE '05, was commissioned a naval officer after completing officer candidate school at Pensacola, Fla., on Nov. 22.

James Freedman-Aponte, CMPE '02, and Stephanie Killgore, of Alexandria, Va., were married June 18 in St. Petersburg, Fla. He is an electrical engineer at the Army’s night vision labs at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Peter K. Martin, IntA '00, was elected to the Lawrenceville, Ga., city council. He works for Home Insurance. His wife, Amanda Syfert Martin, IntA '99, is self-employed. They have an infant daughter, Charlotte, and live in Lawrenceville.

Timothy Martin, ME '00, and Amanda Smith Martin, Mgt '99, of Lilburn, Ga., announce the birth of daughter Emily Elizabeth on Aug. 31. Timothy is a Clyde Bergemann project manager. Amanda is a full-time mom.

Joshua “Josh” McManus, Mgt '03, was named vice president of development for the nonprofit Allied Arts of Chattanooga, Tenn. His duties include coordination of the annual campaign, major gifts and planned giving. Allied Arts raises and distributes more than $2 million annually to arts organizations in Hamilton County. He and his wife, Kristy, Mgt '96, live in Red Bank, Tenn.

Bobby O’Keefe, IntA '00, and Jill Hoffman O’Keefe, ME '99, MS ME '00, announce the birth of a son, Sean Ellis, on Oct. 16. The O’Keefes live at Laughlin Air Force Base in Texas, where Bobby is an Air Force captain and Jill is a full-time mother.

Omar Qureshi, MS EE '03, and his wife, Naz, of Bradenton, Fla., announce the birth of a son, Yusuf, on Aug. 16. Qureshi is a firmware engineer at General Electric security headquarters.

Darrin Roby, CE '00, and Alice Torres Roby, Chem 99, of Sugar Hill, Ga., announce the birth of a daughter, Erin Michelle, on Sept. 18. Darrin is a project manager at Osborne and Associates. Alice is a chemist at MetaMetrix in Norcross, Ga.

Eva Shen, Mgt '00, and Bryan Fobole, Mgt '99, of Atlanta, were married July 9. Eva is a developer at The Home Depot corporate office and Bryan is a software analyst at Media Ocean.

Leslie Vincent, Mgt '00, of Lexington, Ky., an assistant professor of marketing at the University of Kentucky, received her PhD in management from Tech in August.

Michael Vincent, MS C '00, works at Sapient.

‘Ouchless’ Doctor

Bo Kennedy eases pain of young patients in emergency room

A t one time, pediatric emergency medicine physician Robert M. “Bo” Kennedy could guess, without even looking, how many patients were waiting for treatment in the St. Louis Children’s Hospital emergency department. The loud cries of frightened children, many in pain, always tipped him off.

Kennedy decided they could do better. “We have worked hard to become the ‘ouchless’ emergency department,” said Kennedy, Chem 75, who is also a professor of pediatrics at Washington University. Some of his innovations have changed emergency room treatment worldwide.

Kennedy pioneered the use of buffered lidocaine — injected with tiny, 30-gauge needles — to blunt the pain of starting an intravenous line.

“A major part of my research has involved the use of ketamine,” he said. “We performed the first and one of the few comparative trials that has supported a worldwide resurgence of use of this drug for painful procedures such as realigning broken bones and debriding burns. We are now collaborating with our psychiatrists to see if it mimics part of the mechanism of schizophrenia.”

Kennedy also took a fresh look at nitrous oxide or “laughing gas,” often used in dental procedures. In small children with facial lacerations, nitrous oxide had joyous results.

“One 2-year-old with facial lacerations was screaming at the idea of putting on topical anesthetic gel, but when he was given the nitrous oxide, his screams turned into giggles,” Kennedy said. “Then his mother, who was standing at the bedside trying to calm him, started laughing — and all the tension just melted away.”

Kennedy’s childhood, spent in Washington University. Some of his innovations have changed emergency room treatment worldwide.

“A major part of my research has involved the use of ketamine,” he said. “We performed the first and one of the few comparative trials that has supported a worldwide resurgence of use of this drug for painful procedures such as realigning broken bones and debriding burns. We are now collaborating with our psychiatrists to see if it mimics part of the mechanism of schizophrenia.”

Kennedy also took a fresh look at nitrous oxide or “laughing gas,” often used in dental procedures. In small children with facial lacerations, nitrous oxide had joyous results.

“One 2-year-old with facial lacerations was screaming at the idea of putting on topical anesthetic gel, but when he was given the nitrous oxide, his screams turned into giggles,” Kennedy said. “Then his mother, who was standing at the bedside trying to calm him, started laughing — and all the tension just melted away.”

Kennedy’s childhood, spent in Virginia and Georgia, charted the course for his career. From his father, a Presbyterian minister, he learned a philosophy that has seen him through many a long night: When you’re interacting with people, work on the assumption that they are doing the best they can, all things considered.

From his mother, an elementary school teacher, he picked up a love for children and from his older brother, Monty, a pediatrician in Dallas, he acquired a nickname, Bo, a childhood mangling of the word brother.

With that brother he undertook a 5,200-mile, cross-country bicycle trip in June 1976, just after he graduated from Georgia Tech and before he went off to the Medical College of Georgia.

He left Georgia for his pediatric training at Children’s Hospital and, in 1983, inaugurated the field of emergency medicine as the first faculty member with a full-time presence in the department.

He and his wife, Carol, have four children: twins Greg and Scott, 19, both freshmen at Washington University, Julie, 16, and David, 13. The Glendale, Mo.-based family enjoys backpacking vacations — the more rigorous, the better. And Kennedy still likes to ride a bike. He commutes to work by bicycle several times a week.

This article is adapted from the Washington University Record in St. Louis.
Deaths

1920s


Willis P. Lanier, Com 27, of Memphis, Tenn., on Oct. 20.

1930s

Edwin J. Barnhill, TE 38, of Atlanta, on Dec. 24. He retired from the military as an Army lieutenant colonel. He was a member of the Alexander-Tharpe Fund and a 22-year contributor to Roll Call.

Matthew T. Barnhill, ChE 32, of Fairhope, Ala., on Oct. 21.

Kerby E. Calloway, GE 38, of Marietta, Ga., on Dec. 23. He served in the Army during World War II and worked for Georgia Power as an engineer for 35 years.

Clayton L. Cammack Sr. Com 30, of Clearwater, Fla., on Nov. 19. He was a retired general manager of Baker Cummack Hosery Mills in Burlington, N.C. Survivors include a son, Clayton L. Cummack Jr., IM 59.

Argyie Campbell Crockett Jr., CE 38, of Bradenton, Fla., on Nov. 21. He served as an Army ordnance officer in World War II and attained the rank of major. He was a partner in Barge and Co. general contractors of Atlanta for more than 20 years.


James Edward Johnson, GeoS 37, of Nashville, Tenn., on Nov. 23. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, Naval ROTC and the baseball team. After graduation, he served as personal assistant to Robert W. Woodruff, CEO of Coca-Cola. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, he was mistakenly drafted into the Army although he was an ensign in the Naval Reserve. He held the ranks of private and ensign until the mistake was rectified. Mr. Johnson spent the duration of the war in the South Pacific in command of the radar room of the USS Lexington. Following the war, he returned to Coca-Cola and worked in Bikini, Miss., Mobile, Ala., and Nashville. When the Nashville plant was sold to Wometco, he stayed on and eventually became chairman of the board.


Joseph F. Oliver, TE 37, of Atlanta, on Jan. 8. He served in the Army during World War II and retired from the Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel. He began working for Stodghill and Co. as a co-op student and continued until he retired in 1978. Survivors include a son, Joe F. “Skip” Oliver Jr., Mgt 74.

James F. Parker, AE 38, of Tusitin, Calif., on Nov. 13.

Charles E. “Ted” Perdue, Cls 38, of Thomaston, Ga., on Dec. 31. He was a retired vice president of Thomaston Mills.

E.E. Sack, AE 36, of Lompopo, Calif., on July 31. He was a retired Navy commander.

Edgar J. Swint Jr., Cls 38, of Rome, Ga., on Jan. 9. He was a Georgia Power employee for 47 years and retired in 1983 as superintendent of the Rome district. He was the first person outside the Atlanta metro area to be elected president of the Georgia Power Ambassadors. He served on the boards of directors of the United Way Campaign and Boys and Girls Clubs, was a member of the Rome Lions Club for 45 years and a member of Second Avenue United Methodist Church, where he served as a Sunday school teacher for more than 30 years.

1940s

Nelson D. Abell, ME 44, of Monroe, La., on Jan. 12. He was chairman of Abell Corp., a fertilizer and plastics manufacturer in Monroe. He played basketball and tennis for the Yellow Jackets. After graduation, he received a Navy ROTC commission and served aboard the submarine USS Hoe in World War II. In 1995, Mr. Abell was inducted into the College of Engineering Hall of Fame. He was one of three alumni who contributed more than $1 million to build the Bill Moore Student Success Center in honor of Mr. Abell, the first person out of the 150 students from Georgia Tech to serve aboard submarines during World War II.

William Tullos Alley, EE 49, of Sandy Springs, Ga., on Nov. 23. He was chief engineer of the South Atlantic Division Hydropower Branch of the Army Corps of Engineers and was awarded the Army Meritorious Award for Civilian Service.

James E. Barrow, ME 41, of Fayetteville, Ga., on Dec. 26. An ensign in the Navy, he served as a flight instructor during World War II. In 1956, he founded JEBCO Inc., a contract manufacturer in Warren, Ga. Survivors include a son, James E. Barrow Jr., IM 70, and a grandson, James A. Barrow, IE 91.

Thomas P. Brooks, IM 40, of Sarasota, Fla., on Nov. 21. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and was a retired American Airlines captain.

Colgan H. Bryan, MS AE 46, of Tuscaloosa, Ala., on Jan. 4. He was an engineering professor at the University of Alabama for more than 60 years. After earning a master’s in physics from Duke in 1940, he was hired by the university to teach navigation, aerodynamics and aircraft to more than 1,000 fighter pilots. In 1952, he was named chair of the aerospace engineering department and remained in that position until 1968. He continued to teach full time until he retired last year at age 95. The National Society of Professional Engineers named him the 1986 Engineer of the Year.

Charles R. Byrd, ChE 48, of Tulsa, Okla., on Dec. 2.

Former Vice President Thomas Stelson Was ‘One of the Giants of Georgia Tech’

Between 1974 and 1988, Thomas Stelson increased annual research spending at Georgia Tech from $8 million to $112 million.

Mr. Stelson, the former executive vice president at the Institute, died Nov. 13 at age 77. He served as head of the civil engineering department from 1970 to 1974, when he was named vice president for research. Mr. Stelson, a resident of Sandy Springs, Ga., retired in 1990.

College of Engineering Dean Don Giddens told the faculty and staff newspaper The Whistle that Mr. Stelson was “one of the giants of Georgia Tech.”

“He saw the importance of interdisciplinary research long before it became popular and, more importantly, he invested resources in promoting this,” Giddens said. “My own career was impacted through Tom’s vision and willingness to take a risk. He recreated the Bioengineering Center and agreed to my proposal to start the Emory-Georgia Tech Biomedical Technology Research Center that became the foundation upon which much of our current bio-engineering efforts have been based.”

In 1980, Mr. Stelson took a leave of absence from Tech to become assistant secretary for conservation and solar energy in President Jimmy Carter’s administration. He was also the founding administrator of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and was instrumental in the signing of a 1985 contract between Georgia Tech and China to develop science and technology.

Mr. Stelson also helped the School of Mathematics create the Center for Dynamical Systems and Nonlinear Studies and he endowed the Stelson lectures in honor of his father, who was a mathematician.

He earned his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees at Carnegie Mellon University.
George Harris, Florida Banker, Father of Congresswoman, Dies

George W. Harris Jr., IM 56, president of Citrus & Chemical Bank, a resident of Bartow, Fla., and father of Congresswoman Katherine Harris, died Jan. 13.

He enrolled at Georgia Tech in 1942 and met Harriett Griffin, a student at Agnes Scott College in Decatur, Ga., and a Polk County girl.

"We had a blind date our freshman year and dated quite a bit after that. We got married right out of school," Mr. Harris told The Lakeland Ledger in a 1984 interview.

The Harrises spent the next two years stationed at the Navy base in Key West, Fla., where Katherine, their first child, was born.

Katherine Harris is best known as the former Florida secretary of state who oversaw the disputed 2000 election ballot count that gave George W. Bush a 537-vote victory over Al Gore in the 2000 election.

"I feel that the bank's youngest chief teller. In 1963, he became the bank's youngest chief executive officer at age 29. He attempted to look older by shaving his beard, a tradition he continued the rest of his life.

Mr. Harris served on the board of directors of the Lakeland Economic Development Council, Community Foundation of Greater Lakeland and Florida Chamber of Commerce; board of governors of Polk Museum of Art; as president and director of Florida Bankers Association; as chairman of the board of trustees of Polk Community College; and as a member of the Supreme Court of Florida Judicial Council.

Others survived include a son, George W. "Walt" Harris III, Mgt 82.

Charles E. Rogers, CHIEF 48, of Charleston, W.Va., on July 5.

H. J.y. S. Smith, JIM 43, of Davidsonville, Md., on Nov. 6. He served 23 years in the Air Force, retiring in 1966 as deputy chief of the Frequency Management Division. He chaired the aeronautical communications services subcommittee of the Federal Communications Commission's industry advisory committee. In 1984, he was awarded the distinguished Service Medal from the Federal Aviation Administration for his contributions to the advancement of civil aviation.

James R. Smoot, Cls 40, of Nashville, Tenn., on Sept. 1.

James O. Thornton, GE 42, of Oldsmar, Fla., on March 6, 2005. Born at Fort McPherson, Ga., Mr. Thornton was a member of the Army ROTC at Tech and served as a navigator in the Army Air Corps in Europe during World War II. As a member of the 760th Air Squadron 460th Bombardment Group, he flew on more than 60 combat missions and was awarded the Purple Heart and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

R. Spencer Thompson, Cls 40, of Nashville, Tenn., on Sept. 1.

1950s

William Andrew Atchison, MS IM 59, of Decatur, Ga., on Nov. 18. He flew C-46 transports in World War II, dropping American paratroopers over Normandy on D-Day. In 1961, he joined Delta Air Lines and was instrumental in the development of DeltaMatic, the first computerized reservation system.

Robert E. Bass Jr., JIM 56, of Flat Rock, N.C., on Jan. 19. He was a member of Kappa Alpha fraternity. After graduation, he served in the Air Force, attaining the rank of first lieutenant. He was an industrial engineer for Westinghouse until his retirement in 1972.

Maynard L. Bobo Jr., ME 50, of Roswell, Ga., on Nov. 26.

Maurice Ray Brewer Jr., IM 56, of Paris, on Aug. 4. After serving as a lieutenant in the Navy, he was employed by IBM and Hughes Tool Co. At the time of his death, he was studying French at the University of Paris.


Thomas Marion Bryan II, TE 50, of Jefferson, Ga., on Nov. 10. He retired in 1990 as president of Jefferson Mills and was a former president of the Georgia Textile Manufacturers Association. He volunteered as a lieutenant colonel in 1973. Mr. Thornton was buried at Arlington National Cemetery alongside his brother, William N. Thornton, a Navy admiral, and his mother and father, William O. Thornton, a quartermaster general in the Army.

Lucius H. Traylor Jr., ME 42, of LaGrange, Ga., on July 22.

Duncan P. Walker, AE 47, of Rancho Palos Verdes, Calif., on Oct. 17. He was a flight test engineer for 44 years at McDonnell Douglas, Boeing, North American and Convair and was aboard the first test flight of the DC-9 airliner.

William Lee Walthall, ME 49, of Newman, Ga., on Dec. 14. He worked for Georgia Power for more than 30 years and retired as manager of Plant McManus in Brunswick, Ga.
A luminary John Stuart McKenzie, a former designer for the Georgia Tech alumni magazine, died Nov. 10 at age 83.

Mr. McKenzie became associated with the Georgia Tech Alumni in 1955 as salesman for the printing company that produced the publication. In his March 1957 column, editor Bob Wallace McKenzie was officially the printing salesman, but “unofficially, he was chief critic, father confessor and an exceptionally loyal friend to the editor.”

Wallace said McKenzie was an “artist, typographer, journalist and becalmer of excited editors by profession and alumnus of Tech and Emory by intention.”

After attending Tech, McKenzie,Cls 46, earned a journalism degree from Emory University and worked briefly as an editorial cartoonist for the Atlanta Journal. According to the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Mr. McKenzie later related the story that he drew a cartoon that “attacked the state fire commissioner, whereupon the journal building was condemned as a fire hazard.”

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution also said Mr. McKenzie would make himself the butt of jokes in the lighthearted columns he wrote for the Georgia Printer magazine, which he co-founded in 1979. The Alpharetta, Ga., resident retired as vice president of Stein Printing Co. in 1995. He also worked as a freelance calligrapher.

A native of Canada, Mr. McKenzie served as a Royal Canadian Air Force bomber pilot in World War II. He served as president of the Art Directors Club of Atlanta, chairman of the board of the Printing Industry Association of Georgia and was a founding member of a calligraphy guild he named Atlanta Friends of the Alphabet.

Charles S. Hedges, CE 57, of Sidell, La., died Dec. 23.

Richard D. Neal, Text 53, of Kingwood, Tenn., died Sept. 10.

Walter J. Overend, AE 55, of Greensboro, Ga., died Oct. 28. He served in World War II as a trainer for Royal Air Force pilots. When the United States entered the war, he transferred to the 31st Fighter Group and flew more than 340 missions in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. He was awarded the Silver Star and the Distinguished Flying Cross. He worked for 38 years as manager of performance engineering and programs at Delta Air Lines. He was instrumental in the design of several airliners including the McDonnell-Douglas DC-8 and DC-9, the Convair 880 and the Boeing 757 and 767. He was awarded the Colwell Cooperative Engineering Medal for his contributions to the aviation industry.

Reid Presson Jr., EE 58, of McKinney, Texas, died Sept. 27.

Paul D. Rotenberry, IM 58, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., died Oct. 30. He played football under Bobby Dodd and was inducted into the Georgia Tech Athletic Hall of Fame. He was a retired partner of a Roanoke, Va., construction firm.

Rudy A. Rubesch Jr., AE 56, of Bellevue, Wash., died on Nov. 20.

Bolling Hall Sasnett Jr., ChS 51, of Atlanta, died Nov. 18. He was a member of the Tech swim team and Chi Phi fraternity. Mr. Sasnett founded Gate City Oil Equipment Co. and Universal Epsco, a manufacturer of fuel dispensers. Mr. Sasnett and his son, Bolling III, patented several devices that are still used in the oil industry today.

Benton A. Siegel Jr., IE 54, of Orlando, Fla., died Sept. 11.

Theodore R. Smith Jr., CE 55, of Hamilton, Ga., died in 1937 and joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and worked in an Oregon national forest. He served in the Navy in World War II and Korea. Mr. Smith worked as a special projects engineer for the Georgia Department of Transportation for 25 years. He established Family Initiative Residences, a nonprofit organization providing housing for the mentally ill.

Edwin C. Vouused, ME 52, of Lakeland, Fla., died Sept. 29.

Ralph O. Wilson Jr., IM 50, of Hinton, W.Va., died Nov. 16.

Former Magazine Designer John McKenzie Dies
1970s

Frank Acree, Econ 75, of Decatur, Ga., on Nov. 26. He was an office manager for H&R Block.

S. Jack Ahadeff, Psych 76, MS CE 81, of Atlanta, on March 8, 2005. He was a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

Joseph A. Compton, EE 71, of Baltimore, on Feb 16, 2005.

James K. Davis Jr., Arch 77, of Atlanta, on Dec. 3. He joined Georgia Power in 1972 as a minority recruiter and was the highest-ranking black executive when he retired in 2003 as senior vice president of employee and corporate relations. He traveled with former mayor and U.N. ambassador Andrew Young’s team to sell Atlanta as the site for the 1996 Olympics.

William Joseph Geib, IM 79, of Conyers, Ga., on Dec. 20. He stayed in the grocery business as a $15-a-week stock boy and retired in 2003 as senior vice president of employee and corporate relations. He traveled with former mayor and U.N. ambassador Andrew Young’s team to sell Atlanta as the site for the 1996 Olympics.

Fred E. Grim, ME 72, of Murfreesboro, Tenn., on Aug. 5.

Blane D. Hargrove, EE 75, of McKinney, Texas, on May 12.

William A. Lawrence, Math 72, of Tucker, Ga., on Aug. 3.

James B. Pye, IE 71, of Covington, La., on March 22, 2005.

Robert W. Steffen, Phys 75, of Redondo Beach, Calif., on Nov. 18.

1980s

Keith Newell Boyd, ME 88, of Norcross, Ga., on Dec. 19. He was an adjunct professor in the Continuing Education Department at Tech.

Eric R. Hinger, ME 82, of Omaha, Neb., on Nov. 26. He was a Navy pilot. Hinger and a co-pilot flew to a world-class aviation record for turboprop aircraft last year.

2000s

Blair Radford Smith, EE 04, of Alpharetta, Ga., on Oct. 10.

Friends

James Hal Armstrong, 89, of Atlanta, on Dec. 11. He was a professor of engineering at Tech for 32 years. He served as pianist, choir director, deacon and Sunday school teacher at Peachtree Baptist Church.

Robert D. Hayes, 80, of Panama City, Fla., on Nov. 12. He was a professor of electrical engineering at Georgia Tech for 30 years. Mr. Hayes was named an honorary alumnus in 2005.

S. Jack Alhadeff, Econ 75, of Alpharetta, Ga., on Oct. 23. He was an office manager for Colonial Stores supermarket for 32 years. He served as pianist, choir director, deacon and Sunday school teacher at Peachtree Baptist Church.

Friends

William A. Lawrence, Math 72, of Tucker, Ga., on Aug. 3.

1990s

Peter X. Bellini, AE 96, MS AE 98, of Centennial, Colo., on Aug. 14 after a long battle with cancer. Survivors include his wife, Heather Nisbett Bellini, EAS 98.

Daniel C. Hager Jr., ME 97, MBA 99, of Bluffton, S.C., on Nov. 14. He was a senior mechanical engineer with the Nevarco Co. in Hampton, S.C.

Eugene W. Hammond III, MS MoT 97, of San Diego, on Jan. 5. His interests included tennis and running and he participated in fund-raising runs for St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital.

Please send me . . .

____replica(s) of the Ramblin’ Wreck $39.95 = $_____

shipping ($5.00 per Wreck) = $_____

Georgia Residents add 8% ($3.20 per Wreck) = $_____

TOTAL = $_____

NAME__________________________

ADDRESS_______________________

CITY____________________STATE____ZIP_____

CREDIT CARD: □ MASTERCARD □ VISA

NUMBER__________________EXP. DATE________

SIGNATURE_____________________

DAYTIME PHONE (_____)

PHONE ORDERS: Call Toll Free: (800) GT-ALUMS

SEND MAIL ORDERS TO:

Official Ramblin’ Wreck
Georgia Tech Alumni Association
Alumni House
Atlanta, GEORGIA 30332-0175

Order your new edition today!
Illness Forces Braine to Resign

By Neil B. McGahee

A national search is under way to find a successor to Georgia Tech athletics director Dave Braine, who announced his retirement in January.

“Dave Braine leaves Georgia Tech with a long list of accomplishments and his leadership will be missed,” said President Wayne Clough, who hired Braine in 1997. “He leaves big shoes to fill.”

A search committee, chaired by Clough and including faculty representative Dan Schrage, Alumni Association President Joe Irwin, IM 80, former Tech football standout Chuck Easley, IM 86, and Student Government Association president David Anderson, is charged with making a selection from an expected deluge of applicants.

“It’s a really desirable position, so it’s safe to say a lot of people are interested,” Irwin said.

Clough said the candidates must have experience in Division I-A sports, be able to hire good coaches, appreciate Tech’s stringent academic environment, field winning teams while abiding by the rules and respect the importance of university governance and institutional control. The athletics director also must manage a $55 million budget.

Two high-profile alumni candidates have said publicly they are interested — Cam Burday, IM 74, former general manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Tampa Bay Devil Rays baseball teams, and Bill Curry, Mgt 65, former Tech All-American and head football coach.

Braine’s resignation, announced during a Jan. 11 press conference, came after almost nine years as head of Tech sports, a run highlighted by a trip to the NCAA men’s basketball championship game, bowl games in nine consecutive football seasons and the school’s best performance in the annual national all-sports rankings. Braine said he was being sidelined by health problems.

“I lost more than 28 pounds in a six-week period last summer,” Braine said. “I thought I had cancer and I was scared to death. My doctor told me I didn’t have cancer, but I had Crohn’s disease, an incurable gastrointestinal illness that usually affects people between the ages of 15 and 35. He said the stress of my job was impeding my ability to fight the disease.”

In recent months Braine shouldered criticism over Tech’s first-ever NCAA probation, a five-year contract extension for football coach Chan Gailey and a court-ordered reinstatement of a football player indicted on a charge of conspiracy to distribute marijuana.

“I took 10 days off this fall and felt very good,” Braine said. “But as soon as I got back to Atlanta, my stomach started doing flip-flops again.”

Braine’s contract with Tech was to fulfill the last year of his contract.

Braine earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at the University of North Carolina, where he was a defensive back and place-kicker. From 1966 to 1985, he held assistant coaching and administrative posts at schools from Virginia to California, including a two-year stint as Pepper Rodgers’ secondary coach at Tech.

In 1985, he was named athletics director at Marshall University in West Virginia and charged with rebuilding a football program that had not had a winning record in many years. In Braine’s third season, the Thundering Herd advanced to the I-AA national championship game and he established a reputation as a program builder.

In 1988 and 1989, Braine and other Virginia Tech athletic administrators worked to add a football football program that had not had a winning record in many years. In Braine’s third season, the Thundering Herd advanced to the I-AA national championship game and he established a reputation as a program builder.

He was named the Virginia Tech athletics director in 1988 and spearheaded a campaign for Big East Conference membership. Under his leadership, the Hokies vaulted into the national spotlight in football while winning the National Invitation Tournament title in men’s basketball and capturing the all-sports trophy five consecutive years.

Braine was named director of athletics at Georgia Tech on June 3, 1997, succeeding the legendary Homer Rice.

He continued Rice’s campaign to provide top-notch athletic facilities. Bobby Dodd Stadium, the oldest continually used stadium in Division I football, was refurbished and the capacity expanded to 55,000. The Russ Chandler baseball stadium was razed and replaced with a $9.7 million venue seating more than 4,000 fans. The Aquatics Center, built for the 1996 Olympics, was transformed into an enclosed arena that will host the 2006 NCAA swimming and diving championships in March.

Braine is a devotee of the Total Person Concept, a program conceived by Rice that stresses academics and life skills in addition to athletic success.

“We want to make sure that all student athletes have an opportunity to graduate. It is our goal to give back a better person than we brought in.”

Baseball coach Danny Hall said, “He’s given my staff and players everything we need to be successful. He has provided an atmosphere where kids can compete athletically and get the support needed to earn a Georgia Tech degree.”

Football coach Chan Gailey said, “A guy that has coached himself understands the unique situations that a coach goes through, and he knows what a football player goes through to go to school and play major college football.”

Braine said he informed Clough in December that he would not be able to fulfill the last year of his contract.

“I never thought I would see this day,” he said. “As a kid, my favorite class was recess. I’m 62 years old and I’ve been playing games — in one way or another — all my life, so I can’t complain.

“I’ve had a good life, but there comes a time when it’s time to go and my mind and my body have told me, ‘Hey, it’s time to go.’”
FOOTBALL RECRUITING
‘Quality Class’
Gailey optimistic despite restrictions

By Neil B. McGahee

Georgia Tech football coach Chan Gailey said he was pleased despite signing only 15 recruits on Feb. 1, national signing day, because of scholarship restrictions.

“We got a quality class with a lot of speed and athleticism and high character,” Gailey said. “We had specific needs at wide receiver and linebacker and we got those. Of course, you can never have enough defensive backs and we got those too.”

Tech was restricted to 79 scholarships for the 2006-07 and 2007-08 academic years after being placed on NCAA probation in November.

“The probation hurt us in the number of players we could recruit, but not the quality. We were straight up with them about the problem and we were able to assure them that it didn’t affect television or bowl appearances,” Gailey said.

Nine out-of-state football players — from Florida, Alabama, South Carolina, Illinois, Ohio, Texas and Virginia — signed with the Yellow Jackets.

“I would have preferred to sign closer to 50 percent Georgia players as we have in the past,” he said. “Georgia is a great football state — we will always recruit Georgia first.”

Georgia-grown wide receivers Demarius Thomas of Dublin, ranked the No. 22 prospect in the state by Scout.com, and Corny Earls of Macon, No. 30 on Scout.com’s Georgia Hot 100 list, will play opposite Calvin Johnson.

Gailey said Earls has great speed while Thomas is a big target that would complement the 6-5 Johnson.

Running back Jamaal Evans of Irving, Texas, ranked as a four-star prospect by Scout.com and the sixth-best all-purpose back in the nation by Rivals.com, is already enrolled at Tech.

“We are very excited about Jamaal,” Gailey said. “He’s not a speed burner, but he’s fast enough — more like Joe Burns.”

Signing to play football for the Yellow Jackets were: Ben Anderson of Aiken, S.C., ranked among the nation’s top 30 defensive tackles by Scout.com; Austin Barrick of Moody, Ala., rated the No. 33 tight end in the nation by Scout.com; and Shane Bowen of Pickerington, Ohio, an all-district safety.

Earls and Evans were joined on the roster by Trevor Bray of Chesapeake, Va., rated the No. 22 fullback in the nation by Scout.com; Sedric Griffin of Winnsboro, S.C., ranked the No. 21 player in South Carolina by Rivals.com; and linebacker Robert Hall of Hawkinsville, Ga., an Atlanta Journal-Constitution Top 50 pick.

Others were quarterback Byron Ingram of Stone Mountain, Ga., a Journal-Constitution Top 50 pick; safety DeRon Jasper, a Scout.com Georgia Hot 100 player from Dunwoody; and Quincy Kelly of Decatur, Ga., rated the No. 40 running back in Georgia by Rivals.com.

Other recruits were Laurence Marquis of Key West, Fla., ranked the No. 26 corner-back in the nation by Scout.com; wide receiver Dominique Reese of Auburn, Ala., ranked No. 27 in Scout.com’s Alabama Hot 50; and linebacker Oshion Tongo of Napoleonville, La., ranked the No. 33 linebacker in the nation by Scout.com.

“I think we got a quality class,” Gailey said. “But you really find out how well you recruited in about a year.”

2006 BASEBALL PREVIEW

Tech Fields Strong Bullpen

Hall’s 13th season may be unlucky — for opponents

By Neil B. McGahee

Danny Hall began his 13th season as Georgia Tech’s head baseball coach with his team occupying a familiar position — ranked in the preseason top five by Baseball America magazine.

The No. 4-ranked Yellow Jackets returned eight starting fielders and eight pitchers from last year’s Atlantic Coast Conference championship team.

“Our pitching staff may be the deepest it has ever been,” Hall said. “The majority of our starters and bullpen are back.”

The Yellow Jacket pitching staff is almost evenly split with eight right-handers and seven lefties.

“All of our juniors are back and they solidify our pitching,” Hall said.

“Blake Wood was our number one starter last year and he will fill that role again and Matt Wieters will be our closer.”

Other returning pitchers include right-handers Tim Gustafson, Tim Robb, Jared Hyatt, Brad Roulon and John Goodman and lefties Ryan Self, Lee Hyde, Tim Ladd, Jake Sullivan, Ryan Turner and Michael Hults. Two freshmen, David Duncan, a 6-6 left-hander from Ohio, and Chris Hicks, a right-hander from Alpharetta, Ga., are expected to see time on the mound.

Four starters, including two preseason All-Americans, return to the infield.

Third baseman Wes Hodges and catcher/pitcher Matt Wieters were named to Baseball America’s preseason All-America team.

Hodges, a junior, led Tech hitting with a .397 average and 106 hits in 2005 while Wieters, last year’s ACC Rookie of the Year, earned second-team honors. The catcher/pitcher hit .366 with 10 home runs and led Tech with six saves and a 2.85 ERA last season.

“We are very excited about Danny Hall began his 13th season as Georgia Tech’s head baseball coach with his team occupying a familiar position — ranked in the preseason top five by Baseball America magazine.

The No. 4-ranked Yellow Jackets returned eight starting fielders and eight pitchers from last year’s Atlantic Coast Conference championship team.

“Our pitching staff may be the deepest it has ever been,” Hall said. “The majority of our starters and bullpen are back.”

The Yellow Jacket pitching staff is almost evenly split with eight right-handers and seven lefties.

“All of our juniors are back and they solidify our pitching,” Hall said.

“Blake Wood was our number one starter last year and he will fill that role again and Matt Wieters will be our closer.”

Other returning pitchers include right-handers Tim Gustafson, Tim Robb, Jared Hyatt, Brad Roulon and John Goodman and lefties Ryan Self, Lee Hyde, Tim Ladd, Jake Sullivan, Ryan Turner and Michael Hults. Two freshmen, David Duncan, a 6-6 left-hander from Ohio, and Chris Hicks, a right-hander from Alpharetta, Ga., are expected to see time on the mound.

Four starters, including two preseason All-Americans, return to the infield.

Third baseman Wes Hodges and catcher/pitcher Matt Wieters were named to Baseball America’s preseason All-America team.

Hodges, a junior, led Tech hitting with a .397 average and 106 hits in 2005 while Wieters, last year’s ACC Rookie of the Year, earned second-team honors. The catcher/pitcher hit .366 with 10 home runs and led Tech with six saves and a 2.85 ERA last season.

“We are very excited about Danny Hall began his 13th season as Georgia Tech’s head baseball coach with his team occupying a familiar position — ranked in the preseason top five by Baseball America magazine.

The No. 4-ranked Yellow Jackets returned eight starting fielders and eight pitchers from last year’s Atlantic Coast Conference championship team.

“Our pitching staff may be the deepest it has ever been,” Hall said. “The majority of our starters and bullpen are back.”

The Yellow Jacket pitching staff is almost evenly split with eight right-handers and seven lefties.

“All of our juniors are back and they solidify our pitching,” Hall said.

“Blake Wood was our number one starter last year and he will fill that role again and Matt Wieters will be our closer.”

Other returning pitchers include right-handers Tim Gustafson, Tim Robb, Jared Hyatt, Brad Roulon and John Goodman and lefties Ryan Self, Lee Hyde, Tim Ladd, Jake Sullivan, Ryan Turner and Michael Hults. Two freshmen, David Duncan, a 6-6 left-hander from Ohio, and Chris Hicks, a right-hander from Alpharetta, Ga., are expected to see time on the mound.

Four starters, including two preseason All-Americans, return to the infield.

Third baseman Wes Hodges and catcher/pitcher Matt Wieters were named to Baseball America’s preseason All-America team.

Hodges, a junior, led Tech hitting with a .397 average and 106 hits in 2005 while Wieters, last

year’s ACC Rookie of the Year, earned second-team honors. The catcher/pitcher hit .366 with 10 home runs and led Tech with six saves and a 2.85 ERA last season.

“We are very excited about Danny Hall began his 13th season as Georgia Tech’s head baseball coach with his team occupying a familiar position — ranked in the preseason top five by Baseball America magazine.

The No. 4-ranked Yellow Jackets returned eight starting fielders and eight pitchers from last year’s Atlantic Coast Conference championship team.

“Our pitching staff may be the deepest it has ever been,” Hall said. “The majority of our starters and bullpen are back.”

The Yellow Jacket pitching staff is almost evenly split with eight right-handers and seven lefties.

“All of our juniors are back and they solidify our pitching,” Hall said.

“Blake Wood was our number one starter last year and he will fill that role again and Matt Wieters will be our closer.”

Other returning pitchers include right-handers Tim Gustafson, Tim Robb, Jared Hyatt, Brad Roulon and John Goodman and lefties Ryan Self, Lee Hyde, Tim Ladd, Jake Sullivan, Ryan Turner and Michael Hults. Two freshmen, David Duncan, a 6-6 left-hander from Ohio, and Chris Hicks, a right-hander from Alpharetta, Ga., are expected to see time on the mound.

Four starters, including two preseason All-Americans, return to the infield.

Third baseman Wes Hodges and catcher/pitcher Matt Wieters were named to Baseball America’s preseason All-America team.

Hodges, a junior, led Tech hitting with a .397 average and 106 hits in 2005 while Wieters, last year’s ACC Rookie of the Year, earned second-team honors. The catcher/pitcher hit .366 with 10 home runs and led Tech with six saves and a 2.85 ERA last season.

“We are very excited about Danny Hall began his 13th season as Georgia Tech’s head baseball coach with his team occupying a familiar position — ranked in the preseason top five by Baseball America magazine.

The No. 4-ranked Yellow Jackets returned eight starting fielders and eight pitchers from last year’s Atlantic Coast Conference championship team.

“Our pitching staff may be the deepest it has ever been,” Hall said. “The majority of our starters and bullpen are back.”

The Yellow Jacket pitching staff is almost evenly split with eight right-handers and seven lefties.

“All of our juniors are back and they solidify our pitching,” Hall said.

“Blake Wood was our number one starter last year and he will fill that role again and Matt Wieters will be our closer.”

Other returning pitchers include right-handers Tim Gustafson, Tim Robb, Jared Hyatt, Brad Roulon and John Goodman and lefties Ryan Self, Lee Hyde, Tim Ladd, Jake Sullivan, Ryan Turner and Michael Hults. Two freshmen, David Duncan, a 6-6 left-hander from Ohio, and Chris Hicks, a right-hander from Alpharetta, Ga., are expected to see time on the mound.

Four starters, including two preseason All-Americans, return to the infield.

Third baseman Wes Hodges and catcher/pitcher Matt Wieters were named to Baseball America’s preseason All-America team.

Hodges, a junior, led Tech hitting with a .397 average and 106 hits in 2005
“O”ur society is living on an air mattress that the air is slowly going out of. One day if we don’t do something we’re going to wake up and find our head on a really hard, cold cement floor,” said Thomas L. Friedman, author of the best-selling book “The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-first Century.”

Friedman, a columnist for The New York Times who came to Georgia Tech as a College of Management IMPACT series speaker, said while working on a documentary on outsourcing in India he was approached by people offering to do his taxes, write software, read X-rays and even track his lost luggage — all from Bangalore. Then the CEO of Infosys Technologies Limited in India told him, “The global economic playing field is being leveled and you Americans aren’t ready.”

He said he wrote “The World is Flat” so at least his two daughters would understand how the world they’re growing up in differs from that of his childhood in the 1950s, when his parents would tell him, “Tom, finish your dinner, people in India and China are starving.”

Now he tells his daughters, “Finish your homework because people in India and China are starving for your jobs and in a flat world, oh they can have them because in a flat world there is no such thing as an American job. It’s just a job and it’s going to go to the most efficient, smartest, most effective person who can do that job.”

Friedman said globalization is now all about individuals globalizing themselves.

“What’s really cool and exciting and frightening about this era is that it’s built around individuals — individuals competing globally against individuals.”

Career Conference Provides Networking Opportunities

By Leslie Overman

The improved job market has many companies increasing their recruiting efforts this year, said Lara Stickney, senior manager of Alumni Career Services for the Georgia Tech Alumni Association. The bright outlook is good news for those attending the 23rd Annual Alumni Career Conference, to be held April 12 at the Cobb Galleria Centre in Atlanta.

The Career Conference provides an opportunity for alumni and company recruiters to meet face-to-face. More than 100 companies were represented at the 2005 conference, and about 1,000 alumni attended. Companies returning for this year’s conference include Internet Security Systems, Prime Engineering and Printpack.

Alumni can register for the event at http://gtalumni.org/careerconference. The deadline for registration is 5 p.m. April 7.

Companies interested in registering can visit http://gtalumni.org/site/Page/Employer for more information.

Schedule of Events

Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta

Wednesday, April 12

• 7 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. — Career Conference check-in, walk-up registration

• 8 to 9 a.m. — Breakfast featuring Rosita Smith, business development manager for the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, who will highlight some of the region’s growing industries. The breakfast cost is $10.

Joe Evans, IM 71, chairman and CEO of Flag Financial Corp., will present a 12:30 p.m. luncheon address, “Taking Your Career from Good to Great.” He will focus on business strategies used by major companies and how job seekers can apply these same strategies to their own career-planning efforts. Tickets for the box lunch are $10.

From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., alumni will meet with company representatives. Informal, on-site interviews with the representatives will be from 2 to 5 p.m.

Alumni should “do their homework,” Stickney said. “Research and understand the company’s products, operations and services. Prepare specific questions about the company, something to help you engage in conversation with the employers.” Registered companies are listed on the Association’s Web site, www.gtalumni.org.

Alumni not actively searching for a job are still encouraged to attend the event because it allows them to network with fellow alumni and learn about what companies have to offer.

“What opportunities are available to you in other industries? What other companies are hiring people with your background and skills?” said Stickney, who likens the experience to a career “progress report” for participating alumni.

“It’s a good way for alumni to see if they’re on par with fellow alumni. Are you progressing at the same rate as your peers?” she said.

Alumni registered for the event may submit their resumes online by April 11 for inclusion on a resume CD distributed to all participating companies. The CD will serve as a year-round recruiting tool for employers.

An employer data book will be distributed to alumni at the conference. It will list the participating companies, their recruiters’ contact information and their current and upcoming job openings.

The large number of participating companies and alumni networking opportunities make this year’s Career Conference a valuable opportunity, Stickney said. GT