Tech Topics
Georgia Tech Alumni Association

Tech Mourns Loss of Legendary Leaders
Shirley Mewborn, Ivan Allen
A Quick Read of Fall 2003 Contents

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Georgia Tech mourns the loss of Shirley Clements Meaborn. EE 56, a role model for women in the field of engineering, and Ivan Allen Jr., Com 33, Atlanta's courageous and visionary mayor who led the city to national prominence. (Allen photo by AP/Wide World, Meaborn by Caroline Joe.)

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Alumna M.ewborn led efforts to restore the 56-foot statue of Vulcan that stands atop Red Mountain overlooking Birmingham, Ala.
The letters in TECH TOPICS concerning Coach John “Whack” Hyder were excellent. I met him in the late 1970s as a student struggling to pay my own way through school. Although I was a co-op student, I still needed a job on campus. I worked for him at the Old Gym and knew him as “Mr. Hyder rather than “Coach.” He ran a tight ship and was a stickler for rules, but he was the kindest, most compassionate boss I think I’ll ever have to work for. He even handed out chocolate chip cookies for me that his wife made.

I remember that football coach Bill Curry once came by during lunch hour and was going to run with a blind man. Coach Curry would run with the gentleman around campus, letting him know where obstacles were. Mr. Hyder told me with great pride that Coach Curry was the kind of person who would do this. When Mr. Hyder respected someone, you knew it was valid. Mr. Hyder had a pride in the strength and people of Georgia Tech that was truly awesome.

I’ve often thought about Mr. Hyder since graduating. In fact, he ranks among the most influential individuals I encountered at Tech, which really says something since there were (and are) so many individuals of high integrity at Tech. I was not an athlete at Tech, just a typical student, and Mr. Hyder meant a lot to me. I can’t imagine what he meant to the people he coached.

Kate Brew, IE B’1 Boca Raton, Fla.

A Step Backward

The Summer 2003 TECH TOPICS was yet another outstanding issue. The publication continues to make us Ramblin’ Wreck fans proud. The articles are always thought provoking, diverse, researched and well written. I pass my issues along to family and friends. Their response is complimentary, especially alumni from other colleges and universities.

I must admit, however, my displeasure at learning that Molly Ivins was honored by Georgia Tech. She certainly has written exceptional political commentary, unfortunately all laced with venom and hatred for conservatives and Republicans. I started reading her articles years ago to get a perspective from both the liberal and conservative points of view. I continue to read her commentary to see if she ever writes anything from an objective point of view. I am still holding out hope for that to happen.

The Ivan Allen College took a step backwards with recognition of this character. Texas A&M had much more insight and courage when it banned the immature, obsessed Ivins from its campus. I conclude with Ivins’ own words, “I hate to see the well of public debate poisoned with misinformation — there is a lot of crap on the Internet.” And, in my opinion, this accurately describes Molly Ivins’ columns.


Politically Correct?

I read with dismay in the Summer 2003 issue of TECH TOPICS that Molly Ivins recently received the Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Progress and Service. I have been exposed for years to her newspaper column relentlessly exposing the party line of the far left interspersed with insults and name calling, and totally devoid of thoughtful intellectual content.

How could this happen? What is the criteria for selecting the recipient of the Prize for Progress and Service and who decides? Surely Tech is not succumbing to the nauseous “politically correct” dogma of the liberal arts institutions. Tell me it isn’t so.

Guy L. Lockbaugh, CE 52 Keville, Texas

Sports Scholarships

In the days of yore, I had the opportunity to fly many of the coaching staff to various high schools during the recruiting protocols for the football team. Many of the prospects had manners and respect and wanted an education, not a turf-thumping career on 100 yards of grass. Sports scholarships must be based on the recipient’s ability to learn, not block and run. If the Institute starts offering bachelor of science degrees in broken field running, higher learning at Georgia Tech is doomed.

I have a radical suggestion. Georgia Tech was chartered as a state-endowed educational institution to teach engineering, science and a mixture of academic knowledge to allow graduates to succeed in the real world — not the world of commercialized sports. Return to the days of teaching, not those of financing a training camp for the professional sports leagues.

S.A. Sparks, IM 50 Fayetteville, Ga.

Georgia Tech is continuing its tradition of recruiting scholar athletes, one of whom is featured on page 45.
Drownproofing Not Forgotten

I read with great interest and nostalgia the story in the Summer TECH TOPICS about Mike Kearney’s Web site dedicated to drownproofing and coach Fred Lanoue’s work at Georgia Tech (www.drownproofing.com).

I grew up on the sea islands at the south end of South Carolina and learned to swim early. We spent most of the summer days in the saltwater rivers and creeks around Beaufort, S.C., so I thought I knew it all. That is, until the end of my sophomore year at Clemson University when I was called up in the Navy and sent to Georgia Tech as a member of the V-12 program. I finished my last two years at Tech and managed to graduate in October 1944.

It was obvious early on that there was much about swimming that I really did not yet know. But with Coach Lanoue’s insistence, we all learned. Since we were already in the Navy and destined to go to sea soon, the version of his drownproofing training included one twist that we were required to learn how to “survive” by bobbing up to the surface only when we needed to gulp some fresh air. And our feet and hands were tied. We had to maintain this for some period of time, like a vertical porpoise move, and it gave lots of support for that time, like a life jacket.

As part of our Navy test, which we were required to pass, we didn’t have to swim the pool with our hands and feet tied, but we were required to learn how to “survive” by bobbing up to the surface only when we needed to gulp some fresh air. And our feet and hands were tied. We had to maintain this for some period of time. I’m no longer so sure how long, maybe 15 minutes, in order to pass the test. The action required to bob was sort of like a vertical porpoise move, and it did work.

The thing most of us had trouble accepting was after the “bob and gulp,” we would settle much lower in the water before rising back to an equilibrium depth. In time we all managed somehow to do it — especially since it was pointed out that when our ship got blown up, we might have both arms and legs broken! That got one’s attention quick.

It’s been a long time. I’ve been retired from E.I. DuPont Co. since 1985, but you can see that I’ve remembered Coach Lanoue’s lessons.

Olin K. McDaniel Jr., CHE 44 Florence, S.C.

Delightfully Dedicated

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Daniel C. Fielder, emeritus professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering. ECE Chair Roger Webb was right in saying “the lasting impressions of Dan will be a sense of awe for his enduring dedication to teaching and scholarship and in another sense, perhaps envy for the unfailing integrity and the positive nature of his personal interactions.”

I have never known a more dedicated teacher who constantly delighted in imparting knowledge of rigorous subjects to his students. As to his extolling the virtues of Maxwell’s equations, which Dr. Webb also mentioned, I will relate an incident. While attempting to solve a complex equation on the board, a nervous student fell apart, almost to the point of tears. With great compassion, Professor Fielder said, “Bear with me and I will get you through this.” All in that class felt sympathy and empathy for the student and great admiration for Dr. Fielder.

I recall Professor Fielder’s admi- ration for the “sharpies” who finished their exams early and then wanted to amble about the building. He very tactfully point- ed out that “indiscriminate” wanderings about the building were distracting to other classes. Being so respectful of the man, no one failed to heed his words.

In addition to his many fine traits, I remember that he was a native of Rhode Island and that he took meticulous care of his gunmetal gray Oldsmobile 88 with the powerful rocket engine, which I’m confident he never put to the test.Legions will miss him.

Hal Branch, EE 51 Goodlettsville, Tenn.

Your Comments Welcomed

The Georgia Tech alumni publications, Tech Topics and the Alumni Magazine, welcome letters to the editor. Please include your full name, address and telephone number. Letters may be edited for clarity, space and content.

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Shirley Mewborn: Embodiment of Tech Education

Shirley Clements Mewborn, one of the first two women to graduate from Georgia Tech in 1956 and a role model for women in the field of engineering, died July 10 after a battle with cancer. She was 68.

Mrs. Mewborn, who earned a degree in electrical engineering, is the first — and to date only — woman to serve as president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association. In March, she received the 2003 Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award, the highest award conferred by the Alumni Association.

“Shirley Mewborn was a pioneer at Georgia Tech,” said President Wayne Clough. “We will miss her fine leadership, her excellent judgment, her tireless energy and her warm smile. She was the embodiment of a Georgia Tech education.”

She successfully juggled a family and career. She and her husband, Francis “Duke” Mewborn, also a 1956 Georgia Tech alumnus and retired chairman of Baker Audio, reared two daughters. Mrs. Mewborn retired as vice president and treasurer of Southern Engineering Co. in 2000 after a 41-year career.

Mrs. Mewborn didn’t set out to make history when she arrived on campus in the fall of 1953 as a sophomore transfer student from Western Carolina University. She saw it as an opportunity.

“Women didn’t go there to change Georgia Tech,” Mrs. Mewborn said. “We went there to get an education and get out.”

As a student, Mrs. Mewborn was a member of ANAK, Omicron Delta Kappa, Tau Beta Pi national engineering honor society and DramaTech. She was a charter member, president and secretary of Alpha Xi Delta sorority. She served on the advisory and house boards for the Gamma Eta chapter at Tech and was chairman of the Alpha Xi Delta national foundation trustees for the last three years.

A member of the Georgia Tech Foundation board from 1990 to 2001, she served as president of the Alumni Association in 1990-91 — the same academic year Tech’s football team won a national championship and the basketball team went to the Final Four. During her term, the Alumni Association received the Grand Gold Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education as the best Association in the country for the second consecutive year.

She served as a member of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering Advisory Board, the Georgia Tech Research Corp. board, the Legislative Network Steering Committee, the Georgia Tech Advisory Board, the National Campaign Steering Committee and was chairman of the Georgia Tech Research Corp. board.

Mrs. Mewborn supported Georgia Tech through the Roll Call for 48 consecutive years. She and her husband established the Shirley Mewborn Perseverance Scholarship Fund for female students at Tech and the Francis and Shirley Mewborn Endowment Council Fund.

A star of the girl’s basketball team for Rochelle High School in her hometown of Rochelle, Ga., Mrs. Mewborn was passionate about Georgia Tech women’s basketball and was often seen as the guest coach on the bench. The program recently established the Shirley C. Mewborn Scholarship for engineering students on the women’s basketball team.

She was named one of Atlanta’s Top 10 Businesswomen in 1991 and was a member of the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame. She was a recipient of the 1994 College of Engineering’s Distinguished Alumni Award and the 1999 College of Engineering Dean’s Appreciation Award. In 1987, the Atlanta Business Chronicle named her one of 15 business executives who made outstanding contributions to their professions and communities.

In July, Mrs. Mewborn was unanimously elected to the Georgia Technology Hall of Game, a prestigious award for leaders who have shaped the growth of technology in the state.

She was a member of the Atlanta Lawn Tennis Association, enjoyed fishing and gardening and was a member of Holy Innocents Episcopal Church. Memorials be made to the Shirley Mewborn Perseverance Scholarship Fund for Women through the Georgia Tech Foundation.
Eyewitness

Ivan Allen appealed to the best, displayed incredible courage

By William Todd, IM 71

In the summer of 1961, when I was 13, my father took me to a political event, the first that I can remember. I recall it vividly.

The three candidates seeking the office of mayor of Atlanta — M.M. “Muggsy” Smith, Lester Maddox and Ivan Allen — were campaigning in the parking lot of a shopping center on a hot July night. In a commentary on just how small town Atlanta was at the time, the platform was a flatbed truck with bales of hay stacked around it and red-white-and-blue bunting in front. The candidates sat in fold-up chairs and stood up, took a minute speaking into a bulboous, stand-up microphone.

I can’t recall a single thing that Muggsy Smith said, but my daddy and grandfather said he was a nice man. Ivan Allen appealed to the best in the crowd, urging the city to continue to grow and prosper and become the greatest city in the South.

And then came Lester Maddox. He said words that embarrassed people, words that we children were not allowed to say in our family — hateful, mean-spirited words that were shocking. He got some of the crowd up with the rhetoric and the high-pitched anger he was expositing.

He was connecting with some of the crowd, and they began to urge him on. I turned around to look at a gaggle of men behind us. Their faces were red and their eyes bulging as they raised their fists in support and agreement with Maddox. Their faces were filled with hate. It frightened me.

About five years ago, I sat next to Mayor Allen at a meeting of the Rotary Club of Atlanta. I got up the courage to sit at this most senior table because I wanted to be near him. He was very gracious. I told him the story. He recalled that hot, steamy night at Camellton Plaza and remarked that it was even more frightening looking down from the flatbed trailer into the eyes of the angry men.

In 1966, the summer after my high school graduation and before I entered Georgia Tech, I was in a 1953 Ford with three classmates returning from Panama City Beach late one night.

We had delayed leaving as long as we could and now we were pushing the car hard along the two-lane roads. When we arrived in town, we decided to take a shortcut to deliver one of the boys to his house. We ended up where we didn’t need to be. We drove down a hill and were slowed, then stopped by the sight of a large crowd of highly excited young African-Americans who were surrounding a white car. As we got nearer we saw a white man with white hair sitting on the car. Immediately recognized him and called out in surprise, “That’s the mayor.”

Mayor Allen was standing on the car with a bullhorn, waving his arms.

We couldn’t hear what he was saying and couldn’t figure out what was going on, but we realized the crowd was angry. We saw the car on which the mayor stood started rocking from the pushing of the crowd.

I called for my classmate who was driving to throw that Ford into reverse.

“Let’s get out of here, fast,” I said with a strong sense of genuine fear. We left without attracting the attention of the crowd or the police.

The next day, out in our houses with our parents, we learned of the trouble in Summerhill and the courage and leadership of Mayor Allen.

Forty years later, I relayed that story to Ivan Allen. When he found out that we had shedded-died, he said with a twinkle in his eye, “Well, thanks a lot for coming to my rescue.”

He knew full well that was the last place four skinny white teenage boys needed to be.

As I think back on witnessing this remarkable event by being in the wrong place at the wrong time, it feels a little like Forrest Gump and his uncanny timing. And after recalling the long-forgotten memory of that scene, it makes me marvel at the incredible courage of Ivan Allen.

It was courage that I saw.

As president of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce in 1961, he proposed a Six Point Forward Atlanta program, which became the cornerstone of his platform in his successful bid for mayor that year.

On the day Allen took office, Jan. 2, 1962, he ordered “white” and “colored” signs removed from City Hall and he desegregated the City Hall cafeteria. He initiated immediate reforms in the police and fire departments and openly supported civil rights.

On July 25, 1963, at the request of President John F. Kennedy, Allen testified before Congress in support of the civil rights bill, which became the 1964 Civil Rights Act. He was the only Southern elected official to do so.

Allen was friends with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and hosted a dinner on behalf of the city in honor of King when he received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. After King’s assassination in 1968, Allen and his wife, Louise, immediately went to give support and sympathy to Coretta Scott King, his widow.

During his two terms as mayor, Allen’s “Forward Atlanta” campaign attracted corporate support, and the city experienced a burst of growth and prosperity. There were 50 major buildings constructed downtown, the Interstate 75/85 Downtown Connector was completed and the city’s first direct international air routes were established.

Allen saw to the development of the Atlanta Civic Center and presided over the creation of the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority, which replaced the old Atlanta Transit system.

“In Mayor: Notes on the Sixties,” Allen wrote in 1971 with co-author Paul Hemphill, “There is no adequate word to describe Atlanta’s physical and economic growth during the ’60s. You could use ‘tremendous’ or ‘fantastic’ or ‘incredible’ and you would be correct, but you would still be understating the situation. In that short span of 10 years, Atlanta grew as much as it had in all its previous history, moving from being a somewhat sluggish regional distribution center to a position of one of the dozen or so truly ‘national cities’ in the United States. In 1959, we were known for Coca-Cola, Georgia Tech, dogwoods, the Atlanta Crackers and easy Southern living, by 1969, we were known for gleaming skyscrapers, expressways, the Atlanta Braves and, the price you have to pay, traffic jams.”

Less than six months after taking office, Allen and the city faced a common tragedy: An Air France jet carrying 332 passengers and crew, including 106 of Atlanta’s arts and business leaders, crashed at Orly Field on June 3, 1962. Allen went to Paris to represent the city. Many of his close friends lost their lives in the crash. From the tragedy came the Memorial Arts Center, later named the Woodruff Arts Center, under the auspices of the Atlanta Arts Alliance.

Allen was president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association during fiscal year 1953-54 and was president of the Georgia Tech Foundation in 1958. In 1960, Tech named its liberal arts college the Ivan Allen College. Georgia Tech also honored him an honorary doctorate for public service.

He graduated from Georgia Tech with a bachelor of science in commerce in 1933. At Tech, he was president of the student council and a member of ANAK, Omicron Delta Kappa and Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. He supported SAE throughout his life and for many years held an annual Ivan Allen Rush Party in the meadow behind his home.

After graduation, he began a lifelong career at the Ivan Allen Co. He was president of the company from 1946 to 1970 and chairman from 1970 to 1995.

In 1936, he married Louise Richardson of Atlanta. During World War II, Allen served as a supply officer in the Army. Following the war, Allen was executive secretary to Georgia Gov. M.E. Thompson and he was chief of staff to Gov. Ellis Arnall. In 1954, Allen made an unsuccessful campaign for governor. In 1960, he was elected Chamber of Commerce president.

Allen received the Martin Luther King Jr. peace prize in 1981.

“Mayor Allen was a great friend to me personally, always complimenting me on the work I was doing and offering to help in any way he could,” Clough said.

“I was a student at Tech while he served as the mayor of Atlanta and it inspired me to see his example and good works on almost a daily basis. It was impressive to have a Tech man as mayor of our city who was progressive, took risks in the interest of our future and stood tall with the other great leaders at a crucial time in our history.”

Shirley Mewborn Never Compromised her Principles

By John B. Carter Jr., IE 69

All knew Shirley Mewborn in different ways — wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, friend, fellow alum, tennis partner, fishing buddy. But one thing we all have in common, we knew her to be a warm and caring person who was absolutely committed to doing the right thing and doing it the right way. She never compromised her principles.

Shirley and several other students were founding members of the Alpha Xi Delta sorority; the first sorority on the Tech campus. For years the sorority owned a house on Fifth Street that Shirley and others helped buy. Shirley most recently spearheaded an effort to build a new Alpha Xi house, which will be named for Shirley and Gay Dull.

In the fall of 1955 the Georgia Tech football team was invited to play the University of Pittsburgh in the Jan. 2 Sugar Bowl at Tulane Stadium. The only problem was that Georgia Gov. Marvin Griffin wouldn’t allow Tech to play because Pittsburgh had a black running back. Senior and avid football fan Shirley Clements didn’t think that was right. So, Shirley and boyfriend Duke Mewborn and other classmates gathered at Peter’s Park and proceeded to march on the governor’s mansion.

Suffice it to say that Bobby Dodd coached and Wade Mitchell led a team of Yellow Jackets to beat the Pittsburgh Panthers 7 to 0 to win the Sugar Bowl.

Shirley was an inspiring leader who stuck to her principles against all odds and did the right thing. Georgia Tech is a better place for what she and her fellow students did.

In July of 1990 after Shirley became the first woman president of the Alumni Association, we talked about her goals for the year. I envisioned playing up Shirley as the first woman Alumni Association president and Georgia Tech’s first woman to serve as president. But Shirley told me that it was about time for her to pass the gavel to the next president.

She announced that for her last hurrah she wanted to establish a society of Alumni Association past presidents. Her goal was to keep them involved in the association activities. They had all volunteered for nine straight years in a leadership role and now was no time to let them get away. The name of the society was to be the “Used to Bee” and a logo was designed on a cocktail napkin. Every past president was sent a gold and white shirt emblazoned with the newly created logo with a letter from George P. Bundell explaining the new society.

She wouldn’t let us put her name on the letter because she didn’t want the credit, but George Bundell tricked her as he had been tricking people for years. He added a P.S. naming Shirley, the first woman to be a “Used to Bee,” as the society’s queen bee. And a queen bee she was.

Shirley loved and supported Georgia Tech athletics. In fact, there is a fully endowed women’s basketball scholarship named after her. She always had a message for the president of Georgia Tech, the athletic director and head football coach. She would tell them that the only time there was a woman as the president of the Alumni Association Georgia Tech won a national football championship. That’s a powerful message.

In December 1990 in the Citrus Bowl Parade before we won the national football championship, the Alumni Association Ramblin’ Wreck followed the Georgia Tech band. Shirley was in the rumble seat all decked out in white and gold and Duke was in the passenger seat. There were some 40,000 Georgia Tech fans dressed in their white and gold attire lining the streets of downtown Orlando.

As we traveled our way through the streets, the fans would yell, “Hello Shirley, congratulations Shirley, way to go Shirley, we love you Shirley.” That must have happened more than a hundred times. When we got to the end of the parade route, Shirley remarked what an incredible experience the parade had been and she had no idea that many people knew her. Only when Shirley got out of the Wreck did she see the huge magnetic signs on each side of the Wreck that read, “Shirley Mewborn, Past Alumni Association.”

She then realized that all the people who were calling her by her name didn’t really know her. She told this story almost every time she spoke to students and her message was no matter how good you think you are or no matter how good others make you feel, never, ever take yourself too seriously.

Shirley had many firsts at Georgia Tech, but one stands out as especially noteworthy. In March of this year she was the first woman to be awarded the highest award an alumnuus can receive — the Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

There have been more than 120,000 alumni who have graduated from Georgia Tech and only 85 have received this award. That is less than one-tenth of 1 percent. What a tremendous tribute to Shirley’s service to Georgia Tech. She has taught us all the real meaning of perseverance and patience. Shirley summed it up best in her graduation speech when she said, “You are an advantaged class. Ahead of you are the riches of opportunities. The same principles and fundamentals that brought you to this day will assure you success in those opportunities.

Integrity — build a special relationship with people. Market integrity, service and the ability to solve problems. Tenacity — nothing can take the place of perseverance. Enthusiasm — to be successful in doing something you must feel good about it. Toughness — that quality that makes a Georgia Tech graduate stand out from other bright scholars. Attitude — enjoy the trip. Whether you see an opportunity or an obstacle is based on your attitude, on your perception.”

That sums it up. She said it all. Shirley cared deeply about Georgia Tech, gave far more of her time and resources than she ever received. Simply put, she was a great inspiration to all of us.

We loved her and will miss her and Georgia Tech will miss her: Shirley Clements Mewborn, Electrical Engineering 1956, a true Ramblin’ Wreck from Georgia Tech and a helluva engineer.

John B. Carter Jr. is president and chief operating officer of the Georgia Tech Foundation and was vice president and executive director of the Alumni Association when Shirley Mewborn served as president.
Honoring Alumni
Nominations invited for key service awards

The Georgia Tech Alumni Association invites you to nominate alumni for the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award and the Dean Griffin Community Service Award. The recipients will be recognized at the annual Gold & White Honors event next spring.

“It is such a great experience for past and current winners to come together in one evening to celebrate our alumni’s achievements,” said Joseph P. Irwin, IM 80, Alumni Association vice president and executive director. “It is an honor to receive these awards and this allows our award winners to share that experience with their families, colleagues and friends and to celebrate.”

The Outstanding Young Alumni will be presented to an individual who has graduated since 1982 and will not reach the age of 40 before March 18. The award recognizes the achievements of young alumni based on their contributions to Georgia Tech, their communities and to their professions.

The Dean Griffin Community Service Award, named for Tech’s long-time dean of students, the late George C. Griffin, honors alumni who have performed exemplary community service work. Nominees are judged on service in a long-term volunteer capacity, impact on the quality of life of others, leadership and ability to be proactive in dealing with societal problems.

“We want to foster a greater awareness of the awards and what they are meant to recognize in order to solicit a wider variety of nominees,” Irwin said.

The awards will be presented at the second Gold & White Honors on March 18. Among the highlights of the awards ceremony will be the naming of honorary Georgia Tech alumni and the recipients of the prestigious Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award.

Self-nominations are accepted. Nominations must be received by Sept. 30.

Nomination Form
Please check the award for which you are nominating this person:

- 2004 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award
- 2004 Dean Griffin Community Service Award

Nominee:
Home Address:
Business Address:
Home Phone:
Work Phone:
E-mail Address:
Occupation:

Title:

School(s) Attended, Degree(s), Year(s): _______________________________________

For the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award, describe in a narrative format on an attached typewritten sheet why this nominee should receive the award, focusing on community service activities for which he or she should be recognized. Please include leadership positions, offices held, dates and a contact person. References or supporting materials may be provided.

For the Dean Griffin Community Service Award, describe in a narrative format on an attached typewritten sheet why this nominee should receive the award, focusing on community service activities for which he or she should be recognized. Please include leadership positions, offices held, dates and a contact person. References or supporting materials may be provided.

Nominated by: ____________________________________________

Degree/Class Year: ________________________________

Address: ______________________________________________

E-mail: ________________________________________________

Phone Number: _________________________________________

All nominations must be received by Tuesday, September 30, 2003. Please photocopy this form for multiple nominations.

P.S. Karl Paul, IM 69, who retired from Hewlett Packard as North American human resources manager for the sales organization, has joined the Georgia Tech Alumni Association as assistant executive director for Alumni Career Development, Human Resources and Alumni Relations.

“Karl brings great passion and experience to our organization,” said Joseph P. Irwin, IM 80, vice president and executive director of the Association.

Paul was elected to a three-year term on the Alumni board of trustees in 2000. He is a past president of the Cobb County Georgia Tech Club and was Tech’s Roll Call/1B* matching gift coordinator from 1986 until his retirement in 2001. He was a member of the Class of 1969 25th Reunion Committee and the Georgia Tech/Hewlett Packard recruiting coordinator from 1980 to 1992. He has been a Roll Call contributor for 33 years and a member of the Thousand Club for 15 years.

Paul accepted an early retirement package from Hewlett Packard after a 29-year career in which he had worked in human resources and sales and marketing in Atlanta and Colorado. From 1997 to 2000, he built and managed an 11-member human resources team for 1,400 Hewlett Packard employees responsible for $10 billion in sales.

As a student, Paul was rush chairman for Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and served on the student government finance committee. During his senior year, he was vice president of the Bulldog Club, a student intramural athletics organization. He and his wife, Janis, live in Atlanta and have two grown daughters.
Homecoming Calendar

190 North Avenue

Homecoming is all about reconnecting — to Georgia Tech and to former classmates. Homecoming Weekend Oct. 2 to 4 provides the best opportunity to see old friends and a great opportunity to get a first-hand look at Technology Square.

Reunions are highlights of the weekend, with the milestone reunion classes — 1953, 1963 and 1978 — celebrating their special years with their own special parties in great places on campus.

The slate of Alumni Seminars during Homecoming will be present- ed in the new Global Learning Center at Technology Square, covering a variety of topics including Tech’s involvement in research, innovation, the economy, the arts and education.

Thursday, October 2

Homecoming weekend festivities begin at the Global Learning Center in Technology Square with a keynote alumni seminar from 6 to 7:30 p.m., fol- lowed by a wine-tasting seminar with one of Atlanta’s top wine experts, Michael Venezia, director of education for United Distributors Inc., who will present wines of northern California.

Friday, October 3

Returning alumni can get back in touch with campus life or learn something new at an alumni seminar.

• Building Consensus Between Palestinians and Israelis, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Professor Nancy Green-Leigh uses the subjective eye of cinematic artists in order to better understand how people respond to their cities as opposed to the popular images Hollywood pro- vides.

• Georgia Tech in the War on Cancer, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Professor Al Merril of the School of Biology and chair of the Georgia Tech Cancer Research Council, presents a survey of the interesting projects that are begin- ning to bridge biotechnology and can- cer detection and intervention.

• Korea: A Country Divided, 10 to 11 a.m. John E. Endicott, director of the Center for International Strategy, Technology and Policy will discuss the political, military and economic climate in North Korea and review the current situation and the vital regional relation- ships that depend on a positive out- come of a nuclear threat.

• Engineering a Poem, 10 to 11 a.m. Professor Thomas Lux, who holds the Boume Chair of Poetry in the School of Literature, Communication and Culture in the Ivan Allen College, will demonstrate through readings of his own work and others how poems are “engineered” by poets into “made objects,” much like bridges, buildings and industrial systems.

• Memory Changes in Normal Human Aging, 10 to 11 a.m. There are three things to worry about growing older. The first is memory, the other two we forget. Professor Anderson Smith of the College of Sciences explains mem- ory changes in normal human aging.

• Artificial Intelligence in Interactive Drama and Art, 10 to 11 a.m. Michael Mateas of the School of Literature, Communication and Culture shows how artificial intelligence, when used as an expressive medium, opens up new forms of interactive art and entertainment. Learn about current work in AI-based art and entertainment and a new lab devoted to the study of video games as an art form. This ses- sion is a preview of the new Tech2Nite program.

• Tech Today, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Robert McMath, vice provost and dean of Academic Affairs, has been at Tech for more than 20 years as an adminis- trator, professor and friend of students. He shares the “state of student life” on the Georgia Tech campus.

• Fun with Maths: Why You (Probably) Won’t Win the Lottery, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Professor William Trotter, algebraic topologist at the School of Mathematics, explores the world of lot- teries. Is a lottery a good investment? How should you pick numbers? What about playing birthdays and anniver- saries? There are surprising answers.

• Healthy Homes and Household Chemicals, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. Professor Anne Steinemann of the College of Architecture will address health- related health hazards in homes (and offices and schools), why they are such a problem and how to make a healthier home.

• Estate Planning in Uncertain Times, 2:50 to 5 p.m. Whether you are an old Gold alum or a more recent graduate, learn the latest tax-saving strategies in estate planning. Lawton M. “Mac” Nease III, IM 65, outlines strate- gies for ensuring that your wealth is transferred where you choose rather than to pay taxes.

• Biomedia Art & Design Innovation, 4 to 5 p.m. Professor Diane Gaudrat of the School of Literature, Communication and Culture at Ivan Allen College explores provoca- tive new uses of computer technology that incorporate experiential computing and the human body. This session is a preview of the new Tech2Nite program, evening courses to enrich your life.

• Getting Technology to Market, 4 to 5:30 p.m. Marie Thurston, professor at DuPree College of Management, leads TiGER (Technological Innovation Generating Economic Results), a colla- boration between Georgia Tech and Emory University in which technologi- cally savvy engineers, scientists and business and law students study how to deal with the challenges of commercial- izing technology.

• Adopt-A-Student, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Alumni may gather in Room 301 of the Student Center, where the Student Alumni Association will match Tech grads with current students for a unique perspective of life at Tech in 2003. Take your student to Lunch with the President, attend a class together or visit your favorite places on campus.

• Lunch with the President, noon to 2 p.m., Student Center Ballroom. The Alumni Association’s annual meeting, hosted by Alumni Association President Thomas Gay, IM 66, highlighted by Georgia Tech President Wayne Coughlin’s State of the Institute Address.

• Campus Walking Tours, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., Alumni/Faculty House, host- ed by the Georgia Tech Ambassadors. One-hour tours will depart about every 15 minutes.

Saturday, October 4

• Ramblin’ Wreck Parade, time to be announced. The parade route will begin on Fowler Street and wind through campus.

• Alumni Tailgate Party — Two hours before kickoff, Yellow Jackets will gather for the tailgate party under the big tent on the Tech Tower lawn. Meet fellow alumni for great food and appear- ances by Buzz, the cheerleaders and the Wreck and get ready to watch the Yellow Jackets beat N.C. State.

• Georgia Tech vs. N.C. State — Bobby Dodd Stadium will be the site of the gridiron matchup between the Yellow Jackets and the Wolfpack. Game time is to be announced 12 days prior to the game.

• Old Gold Reunion, immediately fol- lowing the game, Alumni/Faculty House Ballroom. If you “got out” in 1953 or ear- lier, bring a guest and join your fellow alumni.

To register for Homecoming activi- ties, visit http://gtalumni.org/homecom- ing.

REUNION PARTIES

• Class of 1978 25th Reunion Party, 7 to 11 p.m., The Basil Garden at the Alumni/Faculty House. For details, visit the 1978 Reunion Web page at http://gtalumni.org/GetInvolved/events/1978reunion.html.

• Class of 1963 40th Reunion Party, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., Wardlaw Center. For details, visit the 1963 Reunion Web page at http://gtalumni.org/GetInvolved/events/1963reunion.html.

• Class of 1953 50th Reunion Party, 6 to 11 p.m., Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center. For details, visit the 1953 Reunion Web page at http://gtalumni.org/GetInvolved/events/1953reunion.html.

• Buzz Bash — Fourth Annual All-Alumni Reunion Party, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m., Festival Area at Bobby Dodd Stadium. Looking for a way to catch up with old friends, make new connections and have fun all in one great evening? The Georgia Tech Alumni Association has the answer—Buzz Bash. Food and drinks, live music, roaming street entertainment, fireworks and appearances by President Wayne Clough, the Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets Marching Band, cheerleaders and Buzz make this an event you won’t want to miss. For details, visit the Buzz Bash Web page at http://gtalumni.org/GetInvolved/events/buzzbash.html.
Oppportunity Knocked
Leo Benatar opened his own doors

By Maria M. Lameiras

The difference between success and subsistence depends on the ability to recognize opportunities and the courage to pursue them. Leo Benatar has made a life’s practice of picking prospects that would drive his career upward.

“It seems to me that opportunities come up and you have to try to make an assessment of where that opportunity could take you,” Benatar said. “Sometimes you take the risk and sometimes you don’t. You have to think about it, but people do sometimes spend too much time thinking and not doing.”

From 28 years spent building a career as a top executive with Atlanta Paper Co. and Mead to leading a midsize graphics company struggling to find its niche, Benatar, 73, has not been near-sighted about his career path.

Benatar said he could not have achieved his goals without his Tech education.

“Tech was like a survival course. I liken it to Coach Fred Lanoue’s drowning proofing course. Tech threw you in the water and told you that you’d better learn how to swim,” he said. “It gave you more work than you could do and made you set priorities. You had to accomplish things in order of importance and decide what to let go by the wayside.

“Like a survival course, it forced me to a discipline I didn’t have before. It forced me to set priorities and put things in perspective.”

An early Tech experience involving Dean George Griffin stands out in his mind.

“It was my second or third week at Tech and I was in The Robbery having a doughnut. George Griffin came through and saw my name on my RAT cap. He looked at me and said, ‘Boy, are you kin to Vic Benatar (CHE ’45)?’ I told him, ‘Yes, sir, he’s my brother.’ He told me, ‘Be in my office in 30 minutes.’”

A nervous Benatar arrived for the impromptu appointment and, as he stood outside Griffin’s closed office door, heard the gruff dean “chewing someone out” on the telephone.

“I went in and he gave me that look and said, ‘Let me tell you something, if you give me half the trouble your brother did, you’re out of here,’” Benatar recalled with a laugh. “My brother was very bright, but he was always in the doghouse. He would miss curfew and he loved to pull pranks.”

Benatar credited Griffin and Assistant Dean Fred Ajax with helping him make it at Tech.

“I told them I wouldn’t be able to stay if I didn’t work. Fred Ajax was in charge of the placement office, and Griffin took me down there and told them, ‘Get this boy a job!’ After that, both Dean Ajax and Dean Griffin would help me get classes I needed with early registration cards to work around my jobs,” he said.

Before graduation, Benatar’s Naval Reserve unit was called up for active duty in the Korean War. He got a deferment until graduation, but three months later was sent to boot camp.

After a two-year Navy stint, Benatar took a job at Atlanta Paper Co. as an industrial engineer and attended graduate school at Tech at night. A year later, a friend set him up on a blind date.

“After that date was over, I told my friend, ‘That’s the girl I’m going to marry,’” Benatar said. He and Louise Cure dated for two years and were married in 1956. They settled in Little Five Points and Benatar was made the night supervisor at Atlanta Paper.

Before completing his master’s thesis, the professor who was advising him left Tech. Benatar couldn’t find another professor to support his thesis work, so he decided to give up on completing the degree.

Mead Corp. took over Atlanta Paper in 1957, and Benatar worked his way up as night supervisor, day plant manager and department manager for planning, scheduling, purchasing and marketing.

In 1965, Mead expanded to Europe and he was given the chance to direct the construction of overseas plants and sell the company’s multiple packaging concepts to the Europeans. He moved his family, including his wife and three children — Morris, Ann and Ruth — to Belgium for about three and a half years.

In 1965, Mead expanded to Europe and he was given the chance to direct the construction of overseas plants and sell the company’s multiple packaging concepts to the Europeans. He moved his family, including his wife and three children — Morris, Ann and Ruth — to Belgium for about three and a half years.

He returned to the United States to become vice president of Mead Packaging Worldwide and in 1972 was made president of international operations.

In 1980, Mead asked Benatar to move to the company’s headquarters in Dayton, Ohio.

“I asked the CEO at the time what the likelihood was of my becoming CEO in the future and he told me the next CEO had already been picked,” Benatar said.

“When I realized I wasn’t going to get that chance, I left the company.”

Benatar was on the board of directors of a North Carolina company called Engraph and the graphics firm was looking for a new CEO to take over for the founder, who was retiring.

“They asked me to take the job and when I told my wife she said, ‘You’ve lost your mind. At 51 years old, you have taken leave of your senses. You had a job where you traveled around the world and had the respect of the company and now you want to do this.’ Ultimately, she said if it was what I really wanted to do, do it,” he said.

Benatar saw the opportunity to do what he had always wanted to do — call the shots.

“When I was in Europe, I had a lot of independence and I liked it. I knew I wanted to be a CEO and to get the chance to run a company, I gave up a lot of security, but I thought I could do it and I figured if it didn’t work I could probably get a reasonable job doing something,” he said.

When Benatar took over at Enigraph, the company provided graphics and packaging to larger industries. He felt that the spectrum of things Engraph was doing was too broad and wanted the company to focus on what it did best.

“We were trying to compete with larger companies to sell things like toothpaste boxes to Procter & Gamble or cereal boxes to Kellogg’s, but we couldn’t compete in those areas. I said, ‘Let’s do something where we can be the leader.’” he said. “Even if they were small niches, I knew we would grow if we picked growth markets and provided services others couldn’t or wouldn’t provide.”

Benatar took over at Enigraph in 1981, moved the company’s headquarters to Atlanta in 1982 and focused the company on vending machine graphics, flexible packaging for confections and labels for the pharmaceutical and personal care industries. The company grew 25 percent to 30 percent per year for 15 years and revenues ballooned from $20 million a year to more than $300 million.

In 1992, Sonoco Products Co. acquired Engraph for $800 million. Benatar stayed on as executive vice president until retirement in 1996. Meanwhile, he was a member of the Federal Reserve Board of Atlanta from 1990 to 1995, serving as chairman in 1994 and 1995. Since then he has done part-time consulting for A.T. Kearney and started Benatar & Associates, his own consulting firm specializing in advising small to midsize companies. He continues to serve on the boards of Mohawk Industries Inc., Interstate Bakeries Corp., Pasar Corp. and Aaron Rents Inc., and he is a trustee emeritus of the Georgia Tech Foundation.

Benatar, 73, has no regrets about the risks he has chosen or the opportunities he left behind. He said being a CEO exceeded his expectations.

“It was a lot more difficult than I had imagined because you had a lot of people who wanted the status quo and we had to change the environment. We had to persuade people that a better objective of the company would be to grow and not just be static,” he said.

“A CEO has a vision for a company all he wants, but if the people don’t sign on to that same vision, it is not going to happen.”
Exceeding EXPECTATIONS
Technology Square ready for fall
By Gary Goettling

While plans for Technology Square’s official opening are taking shape, a number of retail stores and Georgia Tech departments — including the College of Management — already have begun to settle into their new spaces there.

President Wayne Clough has appointed a faculty committee to plan the official dedication, tentatively set for Oct. 23 and 24. The event is expected to include a talk by a nationally prominent business leader and a street fair. Details will be announced when they become available.

“This dedication will be a once-in-a-lifetime event for Georgia Tech and for most of us who will participate,” said Clough. “Technology Square is a remarkable addition to the Georgia Tech campus, and at the same time helps establish the technology center for Atlanta. It is innovative in its concept and is one of the key building blocks driving the Midtown renaissance.”

Technology Square was still suffused with the smells of fresh paint and plaster when the College of Management began moving into its new building at 800 West Peachtree St. on July 14. The new facility embraces 189,000 square feet of classrooms, offices and learning resource space, including executive education and interdisciplinary centers.

“Now that we are in our new building instead of looking at blueprints, it exceeds our expectations,” said Dean Terry Blum. “It is more stunning than I anticipated. Everyone involved has performed in an outstanding way. It’s like an exquisite symphony, rather than merely outstanding solos!”

The college was preceded in the migration to Technology Square earlier in July by the Georgia Tech Foundations and the Global Learning Center. The Georgia Electronic Design Center, the state-sponsored learning resource space, including executive education and interdisciplinary centers.

“We walked over here to get our reward for a week of hard tests,” explained biology major Chester, nodding toward the Marble Slab Creamery, one of Technology Square’s retail tenants. “We wanted to see what’s new and what’s coming in. It’s really kind of exciting — and the ice cream is fantastic too.”

Henderson, an industrial engineering student, is confident the campus addition will be a hit among students.

“The kinds of stores here will motivate people to come over, so the distance won’t matter much,” he said. “Plus, it’s just so nice over here. It has really turned out well.”

The retail component of Technology Square is anchored by Barnes & Noble at Georgia Tech, which serves as the student bookstore. Other businesses located in the development include LA Fitness, Starbucks, Posh Day Spa, T-Mobile, Parcel Plus/Copy Club and Modern Care Cleaners and Newsstand.

Six new restaurants complete the project: Fifth Street Ribs and Blues, St. Charles Deli, Moe’s Southwest Grill, Tin Drum Asian Cafe, Marble Slab Creamery and Great Wraps.

The distance will be mitigated in large part by trolleys that went into service Aug. 4. The alternative-fuel vehicles resembling old-fashioned streetcars operate along a route connecting the central campus, MARTA’s North Avenue and Midtown stations and Technology Square. The trolleys run every four minutes and are available to the public.

Technology Square’s only physical link to the main campus, the Fifth Street Bridge, will be upgraded to invite pedestrian traffic and also provide an attractive new “gateway” to campus, according to Clough.

“We’re going to beautify the street all the way down from the bridge to the baseball stadium, leading you right to the center of campus,” Clough said. “We want to make a statement with the Fifth Street entrance that says in a dramatic and recognizable way to everyone, ‘This is Georgia Tech.’”

The waning weeks of summer are being spent on finishing touches such as signage, according to Deron Foreman, facilities manager for the Technology Square Research Building, which houses the Design Center.

“There are thousands of details in a project this size and we’re finding out from day to day things that are missing or that need to be done.”

“This is really going to be a great place once everything is open and operational,” Foreman added. “Everything here will be very accessible.

Academic units locating to Technology Square will be fully operational in time for the start of the fall semester, and most of the business occupants are expected to be open by then as well.

August openings are scheduled for the 252-room Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center, the Economic Development Institute and the Center for Quality Growth and Regional Management. The College of Computing’s Graphics, Visualization and Usability Center will set up shop in the Technology Square Research Building in September. Georgia Tech’s Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics and Computing will unstack at Technology Square in October, followed in December by the Advanced Technology Development Center.

If the verdict of two summer-session sophomores from Marietta, Ga., is any indication, Technology Square could quickly become a new center of campus life.

On a sticky Friday afternoon in July, Stephanie Chester and Blake Henderson spooned cups of ice cream while strolling across the brick plaza.

“We walked over here to get our reward for a
A ‘Magnificent’ Gateway Began with a Vision

By Gary Goettling

Not long after he was named president of Georgia Tech in 1994, Wayne Clough was stunned to discover that the Institute didn’t figure into anyone’s development plans but his.

“The maps from Central Atlanta Progress stopped at North Avenue, and the maps from the Midtown Alliance stopped at the freeway,” recalled Clough, CE 64, MS CE 65. “Here’s a great institution that people would fight over to have, and we were somehow stuck in a no-man’s-land.”

Undeterred, Clough began to assemble a blueprint for Georgia Tech’s growth over the next 30 years. That vision included a break from Tech’s traditional northern and western expansion and instead focused east, across the Downtown Connector to Midtown.

What city planners and highway engineers had divided in the 1960s and ’70s, Wayne Clough was determined to reconnect.

Only one year into his presidency, the decision was made to purchase an eight-acre Midtown site on either side of Fifth Street between West Peachtree Street and the Connector. In 1997, the Georgia Tech Foundation purchased the property for $11.5 million.

With the real estate he needed in hand, Clough assembled a group of top administration officials, including Bob Thompson, senior vice president for administration and finance, and Jean-Lou Chameau, dean of engineering at the time, to develop a plan for utilizing the property.

Their efforts culminated in a presentation before the Georgia Tech Foundation in which Clough called for construction of a distance learning center — now called the Global Learning Center — along with a hotel and conference center. He also offered a timeline for their sequencing.

After the meeting, Foundation President John B. Carter Jr., IE 69, broached an idea with the chairman, John Staton Jr., EM 60.

“I asked what he thought about the Foundation spending $50 million of its unrestricted funds — that was the cost at the time — to build the centers and hotel for Tech,” said Carter.

Staton countered with the suggestion that bonding the project would be a better approach, and the idea caught on with the Institute and Foundation management. Bonding would bring a greater amount of funding; that, in turn, led to an increase in the scope of what was then becoming known as the Fifth Street Project.

“We’ve always felt that campus growth was unfairly limited by the interstate, so being able to build in Midtown is a huge plus for Tech,” said Staton.

The Fifth Street parcel’s strategic location also provided an opportunity to create a new gateway to campus.

“It represents, to use a technology buzzword, a portal to the Midtown technology corridor and community,” said Thompson. “More importantly, it represents a two-way connection between Georgia Tech and the community of which it is a part, allowing all who live, work, play and study in Midtown to make Georgia Tech and the Georgia Tech community a part of their everyday lives.”

As the idea gained momentum, a design and planning commission was formed to draw upon Georgia Tech’s real estate development, planning and financial expertise. Concerned with establishing the project’s economic viability, the leadership group, which by now included Dean Terry Blum of the College of Management, added the college to the site.

Also penciled into the blueprints were the Georgia Electronic Design Center, the Advanced Technology Development Center, Georgia Tech book-store and the Economic Development Institute. More would come later, along with space for retail businesses. The Fifth Street Project was rapidly becoming more than your run-of-the-mill campus extension, but an innovative, high-tech urban development effort.

“The facilities at Technology Square were selected to work together in a unique way,” Clough said. “For example, think of someone who has a business meeting at the management college. It will be easy to get there, have a meal at the hotel or a breakout session at the conference center or at the Global Learning Center. If that person needs to talk to someone about broadband technology, the Georgia Electronic Design Center is right across the street. If you’re interested in starting a new business, ATDC is right there too. It is all linked.”

The other advantage of the mixed-use development approach is that academic units such as the college create enough interaction to make Technology Square a true extension of Tech instead of simply a remote campus island in Midtown Atlanta.

By 2001, H. Hammond “Buck” Stith, CE 58, then chairman of the Foundation, led the effort to work out financing arrangements that raised $186 million in 30-year bonds through the Development Authority of Fulton County and underwritten by the Foundation. It was a tremendous leap for the Foundation, but absolutely necessary if the Technology Square complex was to happen, Stith said.

The traditional fund-raising route would have taken years to raise enough extra money to construct Technology Square, Stith said.

“By leveraging the Foundation’s assets we were able to build now, enjoy its benefits now and pay for it over time, just like you do when you take out a mortgage on a new home.”

Many of those benefits are shared with the wider community, said Joe Irwin, IM 80, executive director and vice president of the Alumni Association. “As Georgia Tech grows, Atlanta and the state of Georgia benefit through the creation of new jobs and new investment. Our role is not simply educating students, but is also concerned with the area’s economic livelihood and vitality.”

According to the plan developed by Thompson and the design commission, Fifth Street becomes a major element of the Georgia Tech campus, bracketed by the Biltmore Hotel on the east and the soon-to-be-construced Klaus Advanced Computing Building on the west.

“These are two magnificent architectural structures from different eras in the life of Atlanta and Georgia Tech,” Thompson noted.

He added that the Klaus Advanced Computing Building will serve as the “front door to the new-century sector of Georgia Tech now being constructed in this area of the campus,” which includes the new technology sciences buildings — biotechnology, environmental science and technology, and microelectronics.

The completion of Technology Square this summer crowns a tremendous amount of work by the Georgia Tech leadership, said Foundation Chairman A.J. Land, EM 60.

“It took vision to buy land on this side of 14th Street when the school had been growing the other way,” he said. “It took vision to keep adding the ingredients until it got to be large enough to where it made sense. And the driving force behind all this was Wayne Clough, whose wonderful vision became Technology Square.”
technology Square

Caption info will go here...
Tech names six to faculty chairs, leadership posts

Six acclaimed educators have been named to fill Georgia Tech academic chairs and leadership positions.

Ralph Merkle, inventor of encryption technology that allows secure transactions over the Internet, was appointed director of the Georgia Tech Information Security Center. Merkle, widely recognized as one of the co-founders of public-key cryptography, has recently focused on nanotechnology or molecular manufacturing. He will join the College of Computing faculty as a professor of computing on Sept. 8.

Catherine Ross, former executive director of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, is the new director of the Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development, an educational research arm of the College of Architecture. She is the College of Architecture’s first endowed faculty member, holding the Harry West Chair for Quality Growth and Regional Development.

Ross’s arrival is a homecoming of sorts. She came to Tech in 1976 as an assistant professor in the Graduate City Planning Program, became an associate professor in 1984 and a full professor in 1990. She has also served as vice provost for Academic Affairs, associate vice president for Academic Affairs, co-director of the Transportation Research and Education Center and director of the College of Architecture’s doctoral program.

Diana Hicks was named chair of the School of Public Policy in the Ivan Allen College, effective Sept. 1. She comes from CHI Research Inc. in New Jersey, where she served as a senior policy analyst specializing in science and technology policy.

Before joining CHI Research, Hicks was on the faculty of the Science Policy Research Unit at the University of Sussex in England, where she taught graduate courses in science policy and sociology of science and directed a graduate program.

She was a visiting professor at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1994 and taught an MBA course on innovation in Japan.

Joseph B. Hughes, professor and chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Rice University in Houston, was named chair of Georgia Tech’s School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Hughes served as an assistant professor, associate professor and chair of Rice’s Department of Environmental Science and Engineering. He also served as co-director of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Hazardous Substances Research Center South and Southwest.

Jim Kranzusch was named executive director of Corporate Programs for the DuPree College of Management. Kranzusch has held a variety of leadership positions in sales, marketing and general management, including a 15-year career with IBM as director of retail operations.

Kranzusch will focus on expanding partnerships between the college and the corporate community in the areas of MBA recruitment services and executive learning and development.

Stephen Cross was named a Tech vice president and the director of the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

Cross has been director and chief executive officer of the Carnegie Mellon Software Engineering Institute, an applied research laboratory, since 1996, and was also a research professor in the Robotics Institute. He will also hold a joint appointment as a professor in the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering.

Tech Topics • Fall 2003

Alumni Association forges partnership with FASET

Incoming freshmen are incoming alumni. Because of that, the Georgia Tech Alumni Association and FASET have formed a partnership.

FASET — Familiarization and Adaptation to the Surroundings and Environments of Tech — is designed to help freshmen and transfer students become a part of the Tech community.

A major sponsor of FASET programs, the Alumni Association is seeking to establish a similar relationship with students by reminding them that they are Tech alumni long before they graduate.

“We don’t want to wait until current students graduate before connecting with them because students are just as much our alumni base as those who have already ‘gotten out,’’” said Allie Brubaker, assistant director of campus relations for the Alumni Association.

“We want to build a relationship with them from the moment they get on campus and that way it won’t be as difficult to maintain that connection after they graduate. Most students also do not realize that once you’ve successfully completed one semester at Tech, you are considered an alumna,” Brubaker said.

Because FASET is focused on getting students acquainted with Tech’s campus, academic environment, support services and rich traditions, the fit with the Alumni Association is a perfect one, she said.

“FASET is very much involved in passing on Tech’s history and traditions and that is what the Alumni Association is committed to.”

The Alumni Association is providing financial support and seeking other sponsorships for the FASET program. The Alumni Association’s Parent Programs department also conducts seminars during each of the seven FASET sessions and is present at each FASET “marketplace,” where students and parents can pick up information on campus resources. The Alumni Association is responsible for collecting and keeping parent data for all students and sharing it with campus departments.

The Alumni Association has long participated in RAIS Week during the first week of the fall semester through Traditions Night, but for the first time this year will sponsor “Screen Under the Stars,” a free showing of “The Matrix: Reloaded” for incoming freshmen on Aug. 21 on the Tech Tower lawn.

“The screening fits in with this year’s FASET theme of ‘Reload Your Reality’ and being involved with our new freshmen fits in with the Alumni Association’s desire to reach out to our current students and increase awareness of what the Alumni Association has to offer,” Brubaker said.
Georgia Tech salutes four Medal of Honor winners

Several years ago, Joseph P. Byrd, GE 38, was inspired to create a Georgia Tech memorial honoring four military heroes who received the Medal of Honor.

Byrd of Lufkin, Texas, a retired lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve and inventor of the Mark II oil field pumping unit, took the initiative to fund and design the memorial, which was dedicated May 19 at the Wardlaw Center. Appropriately, the tributes are spread across the walkway from memorials to Tech alumni who lost their lives during World War I and II, the Korean War and Vietnam. The plaques create a wall of honor leading to the plaza entrance of the Wardlaw Center.

Byrd was unable to attend the ceremony, but his classmate, Marine Gen. Raymond G. Davis, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for heroism during the Korean War, was there and paid tribute to Byrd. Davis, CH 38, one of America’s most decorated soldiers, and three other military heroes were recognized at the ceremony.

“Tribute is across the walkway from memorials to Tech alumni who lost their lives during World War I and II, the Korean War and Vietnam. Four memorial plaques herald the heroism of Davis, who led a battalion under withering fire during the Korean War to rescue a rifle company and held off the enemy. That provided an escape route for two other Marine regiments, Army Air Corps Maj. Thomas McGuire Jr., who during World War II became America’s second-leading fighter pilot of all time; Navy Capt. David McCampbell, the Navy ace of aces during World War II, and Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, America’s soldier-statesman who helped capture the Apache chief Geronimo and later helped kick off Georgia Tech’s football tradition.

Although Byrd was unable to attend the ceremony, his sons, Joseph P. Byrd IV and Bill Byrd, IE 69, both of Atlanta, represented him.

“Father always admired his friend and classmate, General Ray Davis, one of America’s great fighting men,” Bill Byrd said. “My father is also an admirer of President Wayne Clough and hopes this memorial will be of importance to this wonderful institution.”

The Medal of Honor is the highest award for valor in combat, above and beyond the call of duty. The plaque to Davis notes the 1st Marine Division’s fight to break out of the Chosin Reservoir area in December 1950. “Against overwhelming odds and after being knocked to the ground when a shell fragment struck his helmet and two bullets pierced his clothing, he led the first battalion of the 7th Marines in a horrific four-day battle, which saved a rifle company from annihilation and opened a mountain pass for the escape of two trapped Marine regiments,” the memorial plaque reads.

McCampbell received the Medal of Honor for aerial combat during World War II in the battle of the Philippine Seas on June 19, 1944. The plaque reads in part, “McCampbell destroyed seven hostile planes during a single engagement in which the outnumbering attack force was virtually annihilated. Then in October 1944, assisted by another pilot, they intercepted 60 enemy planes. McCampbell shot down nine planes that day, unequalled in the history of air warfare.”

McGuire received the honor posthumously for seven World War II aerial victories over Manila from December 1944 through January 1945.

Institute of Paper Science and Technology Integrates with Tech

William “Jim” Frederick Jr., a professor at Chalmers University of Technology in Gothenburg, Sweden, has been named director of the Institute of Paper Science and Technology at Georgia Tech. Frederick will also maintain a faculty appointment in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

The Institute of Paper Science and Technology, a graduate research facility serving the paper and pulp industry, integrated operations with Georgia Tech July 1.

About 60 students and 14 faculty members were combined with Tech in the transition.

IPST was established in 1929 in Appleton, Wis., as the Institute of Paper Chemistry. The school was moved to Atlanta in 1989 and changed its name. Since then, more than 1,500 masters and doctorates have been awarded. The Board of Regents approved a master of science degree in paper science and engineering and is applying for approval for a PhD.

“The process of papermaking is one that is intricate and very capital- and energy-intensive,” Ron Rousseau, who served as interim director, said. “It involves going from a tree to a sheet of paper, so it covers many of the academic disciplines already in place at Tech — like biology, chemistry and chemical engineering, mechanical engineering — just about everything except aeronautics.”

Rousseau said IPST would continue to offer only graduate degrees.

“The School of Chemical Engineering already offers a bachelor’s with a certificate in pulp and paper engineering, so I doubt we will be expanding the program to include an undergraduate degree exclusively in paper science,” he said.

Chairman of the IPST board of trustees A.D. “Pete” Correll said, “The paper industry desperately needs innovative technologies, and we look forward to supporting their development through the new IPST at Georgia Tech.”

Rousseau agreed that combining the resources of Tech and IPST is “an opportunity to help shape one of the most important industries in Georgia at a time when that industry isn’t doing as well as it has in the past.

“The paper industry’s decline is pretty simple. There have been lots of mergers and there is intense competition from abroad. These companies have focused their research activities and some of their technical advances have been quite significant relative to advancing their industry as opposed to the North American paper industry,” he said.

“Georgia Tech can provide a more stable base of funding so they can refocus and continue their research efforts. It’s the best solution to help the industry and make a contribution to Georgia’s economic development.”
Developer A.J. Land Chairs Tech Foundation

Atlanta real estate developer A.J. Land Jr. began a two-year term on July 1 as chairman of the Georgia Tech Foundation, which generates, receives and manages funds for the support and development of Georgia Tech.

Land, IM 60, chairman of Pope & Land Enterprises, said the role of the Foundation is simple.

“I look at the Foundation as being really just a custodian,” Land said. “You’ve got money that has been given to the Foundation from donors, from alumni, and we act as a custodian and manage the money, invest the money and distribute it back to the school, of course, honoring the wishes of the donors.”

While the concept is simple, the Foundation is a big business operation. During the past dozen years, the Foundation has grown in total assets from $179 million to $1.1 billion.

Despite the economic downturn of the past two years, the Foundation invested more than $190 million in Georgia Tech programs, faculty, students, land, buildings and operations.

The Foundation has 45 trustees, all alumni elected to four-year terms, who serve on one of six committees — audit, budget-finance, development, investments, real estate and stewardship.

Serving as officers of the executive committee with Land are H. Hammond Stith Jr., CE 58, past chairman; Don L. Chapman, IM 61, vice chairman and chairman-elect; Hubert L. Harris Jr., IM 65, treasurer; and John B. Carter Jr., IE 69, president and chief operating officer. The chairs of the Foundation’s standing committees also serve on the executive committee.

Carter heads the senior management team that runs the daily operations of the Foundation and includes Michael A. Cordon, chief investment officer; Mark W. Long, MgtSci 85, controller and corporate secretary; Jerome T. Posatko, chief information officer; and Patricia H. Wichmann, chief administrative officer. The Foundation has a 28-member staff.

Carter said the Foundation’s assets as of June 30 totaled more than $1.1 billion. The investment assets as of June 30 totaled $819 million.

“Each trustee serves as a member of at least one committee,” Land said.

“We have participation from a lot of very well-informed trustees. That’s been very helpful through the years. But managing $800 million plus is a Herculean task. John Carter and the staff run a big business.”

Land said allocations to the Institute have run as high as 6 percent of the endowment, although most Foundations limit allocations to no more than 5 percent.

“I think the Foundation has done a great job,” Land said. “The investment committee over the last two years was able to preserve a major portion of the Foundation’s assets when a lot of people were losing money. They anticipated some of the turnaround in the technology stocks in time to get out or hedge their investments. I think the Foundation’s assets investment strategy stacks up very well compared with any foundation that I know of.”

The Foundation has a well-diversified portfolio that is managed by professionals, Land said.

“The aspect of it that is not as exciting as it has been is the fact that the funds are down, which means that the distribution to the school is down,” he said. “At a time when the state is cutting back, the Foundation is also distributing less money. So the school gets hit with a double whammy at a time when you’d like to be able to increase the funding to the school.

“I think our challenge is in times when the investment returns are down as it is with the overall economy,” Land said. “Now is the time for friends of Georgia Tech, alumni of Georgia Tech, to really get behind fund raising. One of the biggest challenges the Foundation has is how to help the development office and the school. One of its major goals is to raise $55 million related to Technology Square. We are committed to help raise that money.”

Carter said the Foundation operates like a bank, serving as the fiduciary for funds entrusted to it.

“The Foundation receives funds from donors, invests those funds and makes allocations to the Institute,” Carter said. “The long-term goal is for its investment returns to exceed the annual allocation, which results in asset growth and makes more money available to support the future priorities of the Institute.”

“We provide monthly accounting reports to Georgia Tech, annual endowment reports to our endowment donors and annual contribution statements to our donors to assist them with tax preparation,” Carter said.

“And we prudently invest the funds entrusted to us for the benefit of Georgia Tech.”
Three Milestone Reunion Classes Support Student Projects

The classes of 1953, 1963 and 1978 will be remembering their student days this Homecoming and, through their class reunion gifts, are making sure today’s students also have memorable experiences.

The combined fund-raising goal of the 50th, 40th and 25th reunions is $7 million, including the class projects plus donations to Roll Call, the Alexander-Tharpe Fund, Technology Square, renovations to the football stadium and other gifts to the Institute.

The 50th Reunion Class of 1953 set a goal of raising $250,000 for the President’s Scholarship Program as its class project, with an overall fund-raising goal of $3 million for the class.

“I always feel rejuvenated after interviewing the candidates for the President’s Scholarships. I often tell my wife that I think America is in good hands. They are so outstanding, those young people.”

The 40th Reunion Class of 1963 chose to raise $200,000 to support need-based student scholarships and set an overall fund-raising goal of $3 million.

“We wanted to do something we felt would make a difference with the money we would raise and we quickly focused on scholarships as a place where we can certainly make a difference for a number of students,” said Lynn Maddox, EE 63, 40th Reunion Fund vice-chairman.

“We made the decision to support need-based scholarships because a significant proportion of students coming to Tech need financial assistance. We all know college has gotten enormously expensive and, even though Georgia Tech is a great bargain compared to private schools of similar quality, there are still a lot of people from moderate-income families who are very qualified to come to Tech, but who need help to come here and we wanted to help a number of those students out,” he said.

Last fall, 30 percent of freshmen received need-based financial aid and 31 percent of all undergraduates received need-based aid. When that number is expanded to students who receive scholarships, including about 4,900 who receive Georgia’s HOPE Scholarship, more than 60 percent of new freshmen receive some sort of need-based financial aid or scholarship money. In a typical year, about 7,000 of the approximately 11,000 undergraduate students at Tech receive financial aid, scholarships or loans. Only 30 percent of those students receive an institutional scholarship and those scholarships meet only 11 percent of demonstrated need.

The Class of 1978, which celebrates its 25th Reunion this year, is raising $150,000 to help fund the indoor track at the new Campus Recreation Center, to be named the Class of 1978 Indoor Track, and plans to raise a total of $1 million for its overall goal. The suspended, four-lane running track is one of the highlights of the new center and is surrounded by glass walls and offers a spectacular view of the Tech campus and Midtown Atlanta. The center replaces the Student Athletic Complex, which was completed in the spring of 1997.

“Our class was one of the first classes to get to use SAC when it was opened, so there was kind of an emotional attachment to that because of the tremendous difference it made in campus life,” said Steve Krebs, IM 78, vice-chairman of the 25th Reunion Fund.

“The athletic facilities for students were not very well developed before that time and we watched while SAC was under construction for almost two years while we were undergraduates. It was such a great experience for us. We wanted to be a part of a similar experience for students who are at Tech now.”
Charmed Life
Young man who drowned now a President's Scholar

By Maria M. Lameiras

I t has only been within the last year that Michael Vincent has come to realize how extraordinary his life is. He’s not famous and he hasn’t made a fabulous discovery — at least not yet — but the fact that Vincent enrolled for his freshman year at Georgia Tech in August as one of 40 President’s Scholars is more fantastic than it seems.

In 1987, 2-year-old Michael and older sister Jessica were playing in the back yard of their grandmother’s home in Friendswood, Texas, when his grandmother suggested they feed the ducks in a creek about 200 feet behind the house. As Michael Vincent slipped inside to grab some bread, an excited Michael dashed toward Chigger Creek.

When Mary Vincent returned to lead her grandchildren to the creek, she found only Jessica remaining near the deck. Panicked, she ran to the edge of the creek, where she saw Michel floating on the water’s surface, buoyed by a pocket of air trapped inside his clothes. Though she couldn’t swim, she jumped in and dragged him from the creek, then frantically dashed to call for help.

When police arrived, Michael wasn’t breathing and had no pulse. His family later estimated he had been without oxygen for eight to 10 minutes. Friendswood police officers James Rion and Ramona Satsky took the lifeless toddler from his grandmother’s arms and performed CPR until an ambulance arrived. Rion, who was breathing air into Michael’s water-filled lungs, told The Houston Chronicle, “I was whispering to him, ‘Come on, Michael, you can do it.’ With the last breath I gave to him, he coughed. I had hold of his little finger and he squeezed my finger and I said, ‘Damn! He’s alive!’

More than 16 years later, Michael Vincent sat in the sunshine outside the Tech Tower after his FASET orientation, excited about starting a new chapter in his already storied life. Vincent said he “kind of always knew” about the near tragedy, but it wasn’t a driving force for him.

“I remember going to a specialist when I was about 4 and playing with all of these cool toys. It was an assessment to see how much brain damage I had suffered,” said Vincent, who is now 18. “It’s been within the last 10 months or so that my family has talked about it more. Hearing my grandma talk about it, I realize I actually drowned. They call it a near fatal drowning. It is incredible that I didn’t have any brain damage and I think about how lucky I am.”

As a student at Jefferson County Baccalaureate School, a small public school for gifted students in Birmingham, Ala., near his home in Trussville, Vincent was not only a good student, but highly involved in extracurricular activities and the community.

With a 4.2 GPA, he graduated fourth in his class and scored 1500 on the SAT, pulling a perfect 800 on the math section. Vincent was also president of his school’s National Honor Society and captain of the cross country team. He won awards in math, science and choir and attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

Although he was offered scholarships from Duke, Vanderbilt and Auburn, Vincent said there was no doubt he would come to Tech when he was offered the President’s Scholarship.

“When I visited in the fall of 2002 for President’s Scholars weekend, I knew it was a better school for me,” he said.

Vincent, who is studying electrical engineering, was pumped up by his FASET experience. He didn’t try to hide his eagerness about starting at Tech.

“It’s great, I don’t want to leave,” he said, grinning. He hopes to play on the Ultimate Frisbee Club team, wants to participate as a FASET leader next summer and plans to try out for Tech’s chamber choir. A certified lifeguard for the past three years, he is also looking into a part-time job at the new Campus Recreation Center.

At his high school graduation in May, Vincent met former officer Rion, who breathed life back into him when he was 2.

“He was a really neat guy, very funny and open. He says he has a picture of us from the newspaper on the wall right when you go into his house,” said Vincent, adding that he plans to keep his personal hero apprised of his progress at Tech.

But for now he plans to enjoy the classes he is taking, especially math, computer science and engineering.

“I am really looking forward to doing the things I didn’t get to do in high school. I’m also looking into the co-op program because I was in a work study program in high school and I was able to do a little bit of research in materials science engineering and math at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and it was great. Being able to do that lets you see what’s going on in current research and it really makes a difference to employers. It helps you stand out and, besides, it’s cool.”

Tech Venture Teams Win Business Planning Funding Competition

By Neil B. McGahee

Two DuPree College of Management venture teams won major business plan competitions this spring. Torex International won $250,000 in funding for placing third at the 2003 Carrot Capital Business Plan Challenge April 26 in New York City. Torex was one of 20 finalists selected from 740 submitted business plans.

Advanced Audio Technology won first place and the Golden Phone Award at the 14th Annual Venture Challenge 2003 in March. Twenty venture teams competed for funding at the international student business plan contest at San Diego State University.

Torex produces steel fiber reinforced concrete for use by the international construction industry.

“Steel fiber reinforced concrete has been around since the 1970s, but this is the first major development in 20 years. Fibers the diameter of a small needle get mixed into concrete to increase strength and durability,” said Luke Pinkerton, team leader and DuPree MBA student.

The Torex team also included MBA students Alicia Bernyad, Mike Bliss, David Devine and Andy Warner and chemical engineering graduate student Chris Power. Pat Dickson, an assistant professor, served as faculty adviser.

Torex also won third place and $2,500 at the 2003 Georgia Tech Business Plan Competition in March and received a $45,000 service package for being the most fundable venture team.

The Advanced Audio Technology team presented a plan to provide a solution for one of the most annoying problems in the hearing aid industry: the inability
By Karen Hill

Vulcan has returned to Red Mountain, the bird nests pulled from his hollow head, the cracks repaired in his cast-iron body and his skin tone restored to its original medium gray — even on the naked backside that has mooned part of Birmingham, Ala., for six decades.

Restoration of the world’s largest cast-iron man was the job of J. Scott Howell, IE 75, in his role as vice president and general manager of Robinson Iron of Alexander City, Ala.

Birmingham civic leaders commissioned the 56-foot-tall statue of Vulcan, the Roman god of fire and the forge, for the Louisiana Purchase Exposition of 1904 held in St. Louis. After the fair, they moved him to Birmingham’s fairgrounds.

In 1938, Vulcan was moved to a pedestal atop Red Mountain, named for the iron-ore deposits that contributed to Birmingham’s boomtown beginning.

To secure Vulcan’s perch on the windy mountain-top that looked down over a region rich in coal, iron ore and limestone — minerals needed to make iron — engineers poured concrete into Vulcan, filling him from toes to chest. But over time, as the concrete heated and cooled in rhythm with the seasons, cracks began to appear in the statue.

It didn’t help when a mayor decided to make Vulcan the local symbol of traffic safety, placing a light in one hand that burned green when all was well on city roads and red when there had been a fatal wreck. Workers stuck rungs in the statue so they could climb up and down to change the lightbulbs. They tossed burned-out ones into his head, alongside the bird nests.

In 1990, Howell was asked to take a look at the woebegone landmark, beginning the first of several studies on how to save it. By the late 1990s, pieces of cast iron began to fall from the statue. Alarmed city officials closed the park surrounding it. They asked Howell to fix their broken man, while civic leaders focused on raising $14 million to restore the pedestal and the park.

Howell began by taking two large cranes up the mountain to gently remove Vulcan’s arms, held in place by bolts that had worn to half their original size.

“That had to be the scariest thing I’ve ever done in my career. I’m not that great with heights,” Howell admitted.

Workers then climbed inside the statue to carefully core the concrete, in 18-inch patches, layer by layer. They used a wire strung with industrial-grade diamonds — “they look like Mardi Gras beads,” Howell said — to clean the concrete from Vulcan’s toes.

Once Vulcan had been safely carried in pieces from the mountain, he was trucked to Alexander City, about 60 miles away. There, at Robinson Iron’s facility, workers began to repair the cracks that crisscrossed his body.

Surprisingly, Howell said, most of the original cast iron, 2 to 3 inches thick, was still in good shape. He only had to replace about 5 percent of the statue with new iron.

“’That was a great thing. The people of Birmingham don’t have a replica, they have their original,’” Howell said.

As work was finished on various pieces of the statue, workers set them outside to settle, drawing crowds of gawkers. Birmingham residents, driving through Alexander City en route to Lake Martin, a popular weekend getaway, stopped to check on their icon’s progress.

Howell said he was impressed by the “amount of passion people have for that sculpture. Everybody had a story about that statue, everybody had a memory. They would write letters, send e-mails saying, ‘I met my wife at Vulcan Park.’”

Howell found pictures of the spear and hammer originally in Vulcan’s hands and made replicas. The first spear never got put in Vulcan’s hand in Birmingham, as the hand it fit into got twisted in shipment from the St. Louis fair. The statue originally had two hammers, one for a hand and the other to rest on the anvil at Vulcan’s feet. Only the one intended for the anvil made it from St. Louis. In Birmingham, workers stuck it in Vulcan’s hand, where it never quite fit right.

Howell made a new top for Vulcan’s head, foiling the birds. He found the original finish and restored it. He also found graffiti inside the statue, most notably the names of the eight foundry workers who cast it in the right shoulder.

The restored statue, still in pieces, made the return trip, again by truck, early this summer to Vulcan Park. There, Mother Nature seemed determined to thwart Vulcan’s resurrection.

Frequent thunderstorms made it nearly impossible for workers to safely climb inside the statue for the time period needed to reconnect the bolts. But Howell couldn’t leave large pieces of the statue swinging from cranes in the storms.

He resorted to frequent checks of the weather via radar, calling off work if a storm appeared to be within two hours of Birmingham.

No one had been injured in the mammoth under-
taking and Howell wanted to keep it that way. “It was extremely dangerous, and no statue in the world is worth one human life,” he said. “We had news cameras on us constantly. One false move and all of sudden, it’s not just local news.”

After 11 crane lifts in nine days, the statue was back on its pedestal, this time secured around a stainless steel skeleton, with large base plates — similar to those holding the Statue of Liberty in place — added as anchors. “I sleep well at night with this design,” Howell said.

Vulcan Park won’t reopen to the public until January as restoration work continues on a nearby sandstone tower and on the grounds. But for now, 13 years after his first close look at the enfeebled god, Howell is finished. “He’s back up on his perch,” Howell said. “And certainly I check on him every time I drive by.”

Business Editors Honor Miller

Eugene Miller, Chem 45, founder of the Society of American Business Editors and Writers, was honored by the organization in April for his role in starting it 40 years ago. SABEW now has more than 3,500 members representing newspapers, magazines and television stations nationwide. Miller is a professor and executive-in-residence at the College of Business at Florida Atlantic University. He taught at the University of Houston and Northeastern Illinois University and the graduate business schools at New York and Fordham universities.

Miller was a reporter and assistant city editor of the Greensboro Daily News in North Carolina and served as Southwest bureau chief and associate executive editor of Business Week magazine. He was also a syndicated columnist for Newsday magazine.

In his business career, Miller was vice president of McGraw-Hill Inc., senior vice president of the New York Stock Exchange, senior vice president of CAN Financial Corp. and vice chairman and chief financial officer of USG Corp.

In public service, Miller wrote speeches for Dwight Eisenhower’s presidential campaign and was a consultant to Secretary of Commerce Luther Hodges. A World War II veteran, he retired as a Naval Reserve commander after 23 years of service.
The Ramblin’ Roll

The Buzz from Friends

1950s

**John O. Exum**, IM 59, and his wife, Shirley, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 23. Exum retired from Printpack Inc. after serving as treasurer for 25 years. They have four grown children and 14 grandchildren and live in Conyers, Ga.

**Robert L. Porter**, IM 55, has been appointed regional investment advisor with Colonial Brokerage, a wholly owned subsidiary of Colonial Bank, in Atlanta. Porter recently relocated to Atlanta from Thousand Oaks, Calif.

**Randolph Cabeal**, EE 53, MS EE 54, has produced a CD of various classical and contemporary music. The CD, released in April, consists of 16 favorites of the 19th Virginia Heavy Artillery Band plus five songs of the South recorded by the Crestmark Military Brass Band. The CD is available at www.amazon.com. Cabeal lives in Boyce, Va., with his wife, Mary Kay.

1960s

**Harry W. Ellis**, Phys 66, PHD 74, has received the John M. Bevan Award for Campus Leadership and Teaching Excellence from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla., where he is a physics professor and has been a faculty member since 1978. The award is presented annually to a faculty member for fostering teaching excellence. Ellis was cited for his leadership of the college’s general education program, his success in making the natural sciences more accessible to non-science students and for stressing active student learning.

**Nelson E. “Ed” Cobleigh**, ME 66, recently retired as vice president of international business development from Raytheon Missile Systems Group. Cobleigh is in the process of publishing his first book, which is based on his experiences as a fighter pilot in the Vietnam War. He lives in Paradise, Calif.

**Al Culbrett**, IM 68, received the 2003 Jacob W. Shoul Award from The MOW Group in Boca Raton, Fla., in April. Culbrett, a financial adviser, is director of South Gwinnett Youth Basketball, chairman of planned giving with the Georgia Tech Athletic Association’s Alexander-Tharpe Scholarship Fund, founder of the Gwinnett County Georgia Tech Scholarship Fund and a senior leader class member of the Gwinnett County Chamber of Commerce. He and his wife, Paula, live in Loganville, Ga. They have two sons, Bart, 24, and Paul, 20.

**Walter W. Hubbard**, IE 65, joined Honeywell International as national president and CEO of Honeywell Nyon Inc. in May. Hubbard lives in Cornelius, N.C.

A New Chapter

**By Kimberly Link-Wills**

When her husband accepted a job in Houston, Kim Skelton Dickie left BellSouth and Atlanta behind to devote herself to full-time motherhood.

She began taking her two young sons to a children’s bookstore as both a social and educational outlet. There Dickie, Text 92, found what she wanted to do with the next chapter of her life.

“I discovered a small independent book store that had story times and author visits. I had a vision of opening a book store like it in Atlanta,” Dickie said.

About a year later the family was back in Atlanta and Dickie set to work to make her vision a reality. She attended a seminar in New York on how to open and manage an independent bookstore. She visited the owner of Hobbit Hall, a quaint bookstore in Roswell, Ga., and sought advice.

She searched for a “warm and homey” location for more than a year. During that time the economy soured and the only sites Dickie found were in strip malls or in the shadows of the monolithic chain bookstores. Dickie decided to put her dream on the back burner and returned to BellSouth part time. Out of the blue a few months later the owner of Hobbit Hall called and asked Dickie if she would be interested in buying the shop. “Hobbit Hall had everything I was looking for. There’s nothing like this,” she said of the converted 3,000-square-foot house in historic Roswell complete with goldfish pond, garden and two-story playhouse.

She took the helm in March. In May the store marked its 12th anniversary and grand reopening. “It was a huge success. People are really excited about it again,” said Dickie, who attended public relations and promotion through jobs in event planning at the Georgia Dome, World Congress Center, Georgia Department of Trade and Tourism and for the Olympics. Dickie’s public relations savvy has helped Hobbit Hall land front-page coverage of its “Harry Potter” book release party and a visit by “Good Morning Atlanta” during an early morning story time.

“I am really excited about children’s literature,” she said. “We have story times and authors coming to visit, puppet shows, summer camps, birthday parties.”

Dickie can rattle off the names of children’s authors she and her boys — Mack, 4, and Cal, 2 — love. But she had never worked in a bookstore before she bought Hobbit Hall. In fact, her only retail experience came as a teenager clerking in a clothing store.

“But there have been a ‘few of those days’ when Dickie wondered what she had gotten herself into as she tackled making the transition between owners, boosting the inventory and establishing a relationship with 200 publishers and vendors.”

“I wear about eight different hats right now: I’m the owner, the marketing manager, the buyer, the bookkeeper and human resources,” she said.

Dickie also spends one day a week on the sales floor getting to know her customers and what they want. And she is working on “aggressive growth,” which includes expanding the wholesale division and increasing the number of book fairs Hobbit Hall stages in schools.

Much of her time is spent on the phone or on the computer as she writes the company newsletter and maintains the Hobbit Hall Web site. When she goes to the store, Dickie can take her boys with her. They can look at picture books, work puzzles, watch a puppet show, feed the fish in the pond or run around in the yard. “At night I can work from home and be there to put my children to bed. I have the flexibility to be with my kids.”

“Owning your own business is fulfilling, but I do have to battle the big guys,” Dickie said, quickly adding that she has an edge on customer service that the super stores don’t.

“We know the moms and the kids by name.”

Dickie has always been determined to succeed — and to graduate from Georgia Tech. “I was a Tech fan from the time I could walk. Then I ran on scholarship at Tech.”

A humming injury after two seasons sidelined Dickie and she spent the remainder of her time at Tech studying and working in football coach Bobby Ross’ office.

Dickie said she learned something at Tech that is helping her in business. “Tech taught me discipline — completing something and doing it well.”

Richard E. Davis Jr., ME 71, retired in June as a captain after a 31-year career in the U.S. Navy. Davis most recently served as chief of naval education and training at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla.

Stuart L. Oglesby, ME 79, has joined D.B. Lewis Brown as vice president of institutional consulting and private client services at the firm’s Atlanta office. Oglesby lives in Atlanta.

Richard A. Standard, MS Arch 77, has joined the planning office of Leo A. Daly as a principal and director of hospitality design. Standard has designed more than 5,000 hotel rooms for such clients as Marriott Corp., McKibbon Hotel Group, Intercontinental Hotels and Regent Partners. His project experience also includes large office buildings and multi-use facilities, churches, condominiums, schools, theaters and retail and recreational facilities for private clients such as The Barkers Bank, Songy Partners, Black & Decker and Cortel. He has also designed projects for the federal government and the cities of Rome, Douglasville and Albany, Ga., Mount Vernon, N.Y., and Tallahassee, Fla.

Paul Stansbury, Phys 70, MS Phys 76, PhD 78, has been a fellow of the Health Physics Society. Stansbury is a senior scientist in the Department of Energy’s Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, was recognized for his “significant administrative, educational and scientific contributions to the profession of health physics.” Stansbury joined the laboratory in 1990 and specializes in the assessment and reduction of radiation risks in the workplace and environment. He teaches a course on behalf of the Columbia Chapter of the Health Physics Society for those preparing for the certification exam and is an adjunct professor of radiologic science at Washington State University.

Deborah Wagner, ME 76, has joined Hunter Maclean law firm in Savannah, Ga., as a partner and head of its entertainment division. Wagner also was recently named to the President’s Advisory Board at Georgia Tech. Previously, she served as counsel to both Cornell & Co. Inc. in Nashville, Tenn., and Fox Law Group, a Los Angeles and New York entertainment law firm. From 1996 to 2000, Wagner was lead attorney for the Nashvillle office of Johnson Mason Partners Ltd. Entertainment law firm.

Steve Adams, ME 83, has joined TractelEnergy as director of origination at the company’s North American headquarters in Houston. Also, he and his wife, April, celebrated their 25th anniversary this year with a trip to Hawaii. The family lives in Tomball, Texas.

Jeff Amason, CE 86, and his wife, Ann, announce the birth of a son, Reilly Elijah, on June 13. Reilly joins sister Cassidy and brother Connor Tanner and Wyatt at their family’s home in Medford, Ohio. Amason is a senior project manager with the Westfield Group.

Jim Anderson, IE 87, and his wife, Suminado, announce the birth of their fourth child, Benjamin Thomas, on Feb. 1. Jim is a consultant. His August and brother Patrick and Zachary at the family’s home in Sherryburg, Pa. Anderson is a partner with the law firm of Drew, Eckl and Farnham in Atlanta.

Cathy Baker, IM 86, and Stephen Kyle, AE 86, were married Sept. 21, 2002, in Carrum Downs, Australia. Stephen is a private contractor for Lockheed Martin and Cathy is the vice president of lodging for SugarloafUSA/Ski Resort. The couple lives in Carrumba Valley South, Australia.

Mark Cawthorn, TE 80, was promoted to division manager with Mississippi Power Co. in Meridian, Miss. Cawthorn lives in Meridian.

Ann Savage Champkin, IM 81, and Jeffrey John Fracas, IE 85, were married Dec. 27 in Braselton, Ga. Ann is an account executive for Steering Commerce and Jeff is a senior systems analyst for ArMQuest Inc. The couple live in Jefferson, Ga.

Jennifer Waples Cooper, ME 89, graduated from Florida State University Law School with highest honors in May. She is married in Tallahassee, Fla.

Chris Curtin, IM 80, was awarded the Turnaround Management Association’s “Outstanding Individual Contribution Award” for 2002. Curtin, vice president at Georgia Bankers Mutual Capital Corp. in North Palm Beach, Fla., served as recent president of the organization’s chapter for nearly five years and was a member of its international board of directors and Chapter President’s Council. Curtin was cited for “almost single-handedly” saving two Florida chapters of the organization from “near oblivion” and for his tireless effort to recruit members. Curtin lives in Jupiter, Fla.

John K. Dewberry, IM 86, has led his company, Dewberry Capital Corp., in the sale of 3.41 acres located in north Fulton County, Ga., and purchase of a quarter acre in Midtown Atlanta for a mixed-use development project. The purpose of the planned urban campus will include office buildings, a five-story townhouse center of shops, restaurants and high-rise condominiums and village-style apartment buildings. Dewberry Capital is an Atlanta-based holding company focused on the acquisition, development and management of commercial and corporate business assets.

Camey Craig Gardner, MgCDs 86, and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their first child, Noah Michael, on Jan. 13. Gardner, who worked with Lockheed Martin in Marietta, Ga., in C-130 program control, is taking a year off to stay home with her son. The family lives in Savannah, Ga.

James A. Godsey, EE 80, ME 85, was promoted to colonel in the U.S. Air Force in April. Godsey graduated from the Air Force Test Pilot School in 1986 and received a doctorate in electrical engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology in 1996. He is currently the chief of the Electro-Optics Sensor Technology Division of the Air Force Research Laboratory at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio where he directs research in electro-optic and infrared sensor and countermeasure technologies. Godsey, his wife, Charlotte, and their two sons live in Beavercreek, Ohio.

R. Kirk Hatcher, EE 88, MS EE 89, and Janice Stinecipher Hatcher, MS Chem 90, announce the birth of a daughter, Lila Frances March 4, 2002. Janice is a certified pharmacy technician with CVS/Pharmacy in Duluth, Ga., and John is a principal engineer with Ciena in Alpharetta, Ga. The family lives in Duluth.

Kelley Kittka Hundt, EE 88, and her husband, Greg, announce the birth of a son, Garrett Arnold, on Feb. 20. Hundt is an information technology manager for Georgia Tech’s Economic Development Institute. The family lives in Alpharetta.

Ronald L. Johnson, MS OR 65, commanding general and commander of the Pacific Ocean division of the Army Corps of Engineers, received the Black Engineer of the Year Award for Professional Achievement in Government from BlackEngineer.com. A 1976 graduate of West Point, Johnson has served in Army Special Service as an Army’s senior officer in the Asian-Pacific region. He leads a force of 1,700 from Alaska to Korea. Johnson has served in a variety of combat and staff commands in the Army. He also has a master’s degree in military arts and science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Johnson is an instructor and assistant professor in the math department at West Point. Johnson has received the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.

Ronald J. Kern, CS 84, and Michele Warner were married May 31 at St. Francis Cabrins Church in Omaha, Neb. Kern is a business systems analyst with AmentACold Logistics in Atlanta. The couple live in Snellville, Ga.

M. Mark King, EE 81, was promoted to corporate director of labor relations with Michelin North America in January. King lives in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Eric Kvit, IM 84, a lieutenant colonel in the Air Force, graduated from the U.S. Army War College with a master’s degree in national security studies in May. In June, he was assigned as the deputy group commander of the 347th Operations Group at Moody Air

Tech Topics

Tech Topics
By Maria M. Lameiras

Brent Darnell isn’t a redneck auto mechanic drug dealer, but he’s played one on TV. Darnell is, however, a playwright, actor and management development and environmental consultant who specializes in helping people elevate their “EQs” — or emotional intelligence — to master skills their IQs don’t cover.

“Some of these skills are life-changing things. Not only will someone be a better employee or manager for it, they will be a better person,” he said. “It’s really rewarding for me when someone really feels this has made a difference for him.”

The world premiere” brochure for the play’s opening bills the production as “an oftbeet love story about an agoraphobic young man who hasn’t left his basement room in 13 years and a quirky young woman with one leg whose life revolves around celebrities, television and movies. As they fall in love and begin to exploit each other’s fears and perceptions of the world, the dark surprises do not end until the final curtain.”

Interestingly, it is Darnell’s return to the environmental engineering force that has led to his recent successes in writing.

“I went to work for Beers Construction as a project manager and, when it was bought by Skanska, I had the opportunity to go to Sweden,” he said. “After two years in Sweden, Darnell became head of Skanska’s new international management development program, which the company used to train its upper-level engineers and executives to manage people as well as projects by focusing on interpersonal skills, creativity and EQ.

After two years, Darnell’s contract with Skanska was finished and he returned to Beers as a project manager. Last year, he started Brent Darnell & Associates, a consulting firm based on the concepts he taught around the globe in Skanska’s management program.

“I was teaching construction managers who manage multiple projects, which is a highly stressful job, but they can’t manage people how they manage projects,” Darnell said. “In general, technical folks lack ‘soft’ skills such as presentation and communication. My acting experience has helped me with this process and I got into teaching emotional intelligence to others.”

Darnell uses a 133-question, multiple-choice test called the BarOn Emotional Quotient Inventory to determine what areas a client needs to focus on in his management style. Studies have shown that emotional intelligence is a better predictor of success than IQ, he said.

“When I was working in engineering, I used to set aside Friday nights as my time to write, but I wasn’t writing anything. I would do laundry or pay bills or clean up, all the things I needed to do to ‘get ready’ to write the next week. My girlfriend — now my wife, Andrea Robbins — told me, ‘You always say you’re going to write, but you never write.’

“Now it’s like a dam has burst,” he said.

One of the books he has penned is entitled “Big Mama’s Country Cookbook,” dedicated to Darnell’s 99-year-old grandmother, Ruby Sansom, who the family affectionately calls Big Mama. The Southern-style recipe collection contains all of his grandmother’s signature dishes, as well as recipes, stories and photographs from other family members.

Another book is a children’s story called “The Great Adventures of Pierre the Singing Worm,” based on a play he wrote for a children’s troupe called The Magic Theater, which he helped found in San Antonio in the early 1990s.

Darnell drew on his business experiences to write “Common Courtesy: How to Get What You Want and Save the World Just by Being Nice” and “The Performance of Persuasion,” two books that teach how to use basic acting techniques and the art of rhetoric to create business presentations.

“Common courtesy has disappeared nowadays,” Darnell said. “There is no ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ anymore. I use an example in the book of overseas travel. A lot of Europeans view us as ‘ugly Americans’ because of our behavior. A French person walking up to an American on Peachtree Street and asked, in French, directed something and didn’t get an answer when he didn’t understand — asked again, in French, only louder and slower. Then, when the American still didn’t understand, he got mad and walked away. That’s what we do overseas all the time.”

Helping people develop themselves through his work — both in consulting and writing — has been satisfying, Darnell said.

Some of these skills are life-changing things. Not only will someone be a better employee or manager for it, they will be a better person,” he said. “It’s really rewarding for me when someone really feels this has made a difference for him.”

Force Base in Georgia. Kivi, his wife, Jeaninne, and their three daughters, Laura, 14, Christina, 13, and Emily, 7, live in Valdosta, Ga.

Tom Lindsay Chi 84, has joined Sterigenics as general manager of operations in Smyrna, Ga. Sterigenics is a world leader in the sterilization of medical devices using ethylene oxide. Lindsay, his wife, Vicki, and their two children live in Kennessaw, Ga.

Liliana Maldonado, MS SanE 80, was selected as one of the country’s most powerful Hispanic executives in technology and business by Hispanic Engineer & Information Technology magazine in April.

Maldonado, global vice president and director of the water business group at CH2M HILL, has been with the company for 20 years. Her recent work includes a $2.1 billion program to revamp the water and wastewater infrastructure of Puerto Rico, her birthplace. In October 2002, she received a professional achievement award at the Hispanic Engineers National Achievement Awards Conference. She is also co-
John J. McGowan, IM 85, president and founder of TMTS Associates Inc. in Atlanta, has a patent pending on an improved low-nitrogen oxide, high-efficiency combustion turbine. TMTS supplies consulting engineering services on energy, combustion and air pollution control. He also presents short courses for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Air and Waste Management Association.

James E. “Jimmy” Moore Jr., ME 97, MS ME 98, Ph.D., 1991, has accepted a faculty position in the biomedical engineering department at Texas A&M University. Moore’s research is in the area of cardiovascular mechanics. He holds a patent for a vascular stent which he founded two start-up companies.

Paul Nemez, Ceff 81, has taken a job as a systems engineer with Veridian Engineering in Huntsville, Ala., supporting the Army’s Comanche program. He was a captain in the Air Force Reserve. Nemez’s wife, Susan, and children, Ashley, 18, and Ben, 16, live in Montgomery, Ala.

George Nicholas, Arch 84, received his law degree from the Regent University School of Law in May and is currently a forensics architect with the TAF Group in Virginia Beach. Nicholas lives in Chesapeake, Va.

Rebecca Lane O’Stelle, MSIG 88, has been named manager of global packaging development for battery maker Energizer Holdings Inc. at the company’s headquarters in St. Louis. O’Stelle lives in St. Charles, Mo.

Marcus H. Sachs, CE 81, recently transferred from the White House Office of Cyberspace Security to the Department of Homeland Security to serve as the cyber program director in the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection Directorate. Sachs retired from the Army in January 2002 after a 20-year career. Sachs and his wife, Dia, were married in 2001 in Bellingham, Wash. They have two daughters.

Lonnie L. Johnson, ME 74, has joined Goodwin Procter in New York as counsel in March. Somm lives in Katonah, N.Y.

Brian K. Vander Yacht, EE 80, retired in October from the Naval Reserve as a commander with 25 years of service. He works in purchasing for Pechiney Plastic Packaging in Chicago. Vander Yacht lives in Gunter, Ill., with his wife, Kim, and son, Douglas, 8.

Randall S. Ward, IM 88, was named director of sales in the West for Innovation Associates, based in Johnson City, N.Y. The company specializes in pharmacy automation and robotic systems. Ward relocated from Carmel, Ind., to Monroeville, Colo.

Wanda Jackson Williams, Bci 88, a physician, joined a new practice, Kids First Pediatric Group, in Stonebridge, Ga., in April. Williams lives in Jonesboro, Ga.

1990s

Tavie North Allan, ICS 90, and her husband, Rick, announce the birth of a daughter, Octavia Palmer, on April 9. Octavia joins sister Mackenzie at the family’s home in Norcross, Ga. Allan runs her own business, Two Fish Concepts, which provides project planning and team building tools and services.

Tricia M. Anderson, CH 98, and John Chambard were married May 10. Anderson, who works for Exxon Mobil and her husband live in Houston.

Chris Annunziata, IMA 93, and Melissa Lynn Love were married May 26 on the island of St. Martin, in the Caribbean. Love is an attorney. The couple live in Atlanta.

Jim Brzostowiec, CE 95, and Tricia Copeland Brzostowiec, Cia 95, announce the birth of a daughter, Allison Elizabeth, on Aug. 17, 2002. Jim is a civil engineering manager for a private consulting firm and Tricia is an intern from DuPont. The family lives in West Chester, Pa.

Scott Carter, CE 90, was promoted to district maintenance engineer for southwest Georgia for the state Department of Transportation in March. Scott and his wife, Jamie Williams Carter, ID 90, and their daughters, Malorie and Rebecca, live in Tifton, Ga.

Daniel “Rob” Dean, MBA 95, was recently promoted to registered associate at Hayes Staley Malters & Malters and serves as bridge department head in the firm’s Roanoke, Va., office. Since joining the firm in 1995, Dean has been involved in a wide range of projects for public and private clients involving design of bridge structures as well as the inspection, rehabilitation and renovation of existing design.

Steve Davidson, IM 90, and Victoria Grace Welsh were married Sept. 14, 2002, in Norcross, Ga. The couple live in Hilsboro, Ore. Diamond designs sports products for professional and college teams, including Georgia Tech, F Gotham in Portland, Ore.

Mary Catherine Dudley, MG 98, and Bob Schmitt, ME 98, MS ME 99, were married May 3 in Atlanta. Mary Catherine is a business analyst for Health Care Services and Bob is an engineer with GE Power Systems. The couple live in Atlanta.

Eric J. Dykes, ME 96, and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of their son, Ethan Garrett, on July 10. Ethan joins sister Emma, 2, at the family’s home in Dacula, Ga. Dykes is vice president of network services at Summit Systems in Buford, Ga.

Tyler P. Elder, EE 99, recently obtained his professional engineering license in Florida. Elder is an electrical engineer at GRG Consulting Engineers Inc. in Orlando, Fla. His project experience includes work with health care, cancer and science laboratory building design. Elder lives in Maitland, Fla.

William Gregory “Greg” Elliott, ME 95, and his wife, Susan, announce the birth of their son, Matthew, on May 29. Elliott, a licensed professional engineer, earned his MBA from Clemson University and is a project manager with Fluor Corp. The family lives in Greenville, S.C.

Jonathan D. Elder, ME 91, and his wife, Kimberly Ann, announce the birth of a son, Ryan Matthew, on May 15. Ryan joins sisters Nicole and Rachel at the family’s home in Franklin, Tenn. Fisher is operations engineering manager for MAHLE-Tennex North America in Furfoesborn, Tenn.

Mita Shukla Fitzjohn, MG 95, and her husband, Jon, announce the birth of a daughter, Averie Kran, on Dec. 9. Fitzjohn is currently an e-business consultant for Granger Industrial Supply. She lives in Granbury, Texas, with her family.

Evan W. Fleisher, IE 90, has been named president of Tri-State Logistics Inc., a full-service truck brokerage business in Dubuque, Iowa, specializing in the movement of refrigerated and frozen freight.

Daniel Floyd, CH 97, and Rebecca Woo, Biol 96, of Augusta, Ga. Dan is a senior engineer with the Dow Chemical Co. and Rebecca is a first-year obstetrician and gynecology resident at Baylor University Medical Hospital in Houston. The couple live in Houston.

Josh Fowler, CE 97, and his wife, Kim, announce the birth of a daughter, Agatha Gayle, on April 6. Fowler is a civil engineer with Design South Professionals Inc. in Anderson, S.C. The family lives in Spartanburg, S.C.

Andrew Fritchley, ME 96, and Elizabeth Lovejoy Fritchley, MG 97, announce the birth of their twins, Aaron John and Jordan Andrew, on Aug. 17. Andrew is a senior project manager with Mlikken & Co. and Elizabeth is vice president of West Georgia Health Systems, both in LaGrange, Ga. The family lives in LeGrange.

David Gailen, GA 94, and his wife, Sharon, announce the birth of a son, Jeremy Alex, on Feb. 8. Gailen is an electrical engineer at L-3 Communications Joint Operations Group in Tifton, Ga. The family lives in Tift County, Ga.

Jeffrey T. Gaskins, AE 94, holds a degree in e-Communications Joint Operations Group Aeronautical Engineering Department in Richmond, Ky. The ceremony is the contractor responsible for executing the Special Operations Forces Support Activities’ workload in supporting the global war on terrorism for the United States Special Operations Command headquarters in Tampa, Fla. As engineering manager, Gaskins is responsible for all design, production support, testing, documentation and configuration management for projects associated with the company’s Army Aviation Program Management Office. Gaskins and his team design highly specialized mechanical and electrical modifications to the Special Operations Aviation fleet of Blackhawk, Chinook and Little Bird helicopters.

Daniel Habicht, CH 93, and Christine Lang Habicht, MG 93, announce the birth of a son, Eric Matthew, on April 22. Dan is an engineer for BP-Amoco Fabrics and Fibers in Austell, Ga., and Christine is a full-time mother.

Eric joins sister Katie, 5, and brother Greg, 3, at the family home in Newman, Ga.

D. Scott Hagan, MG 97, of Statesboro, Ga., earned a master’s degree in civil engineering at Emory University’s Cannon School of Theology in May. Hagan is a member of the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church.

William H. Harrison Jr., Arch 80, principal of Harrison Design Associates in Atlanta, has joined The Buckhead Coalition as a director. The coalition is a nonprofit civic association of top-level north Atlanta business people.

Jancie Stilineczko Hatcher, MS Chem 90, and John H. Hatcher, EE 88, announce the birth of a daughter, Leah Frances, on April 18. Hatcher is a certified pharmacy technician with CVS Pharmacy in Duluth, Ga., and Janice is a professional engineer with Ciena in Alpharetta, Ga. The family lives in Duluth.

Beckie Strickland Hayes, TE 97, and her husband, Kevin, announce the birth of a son, Aidan Bryte, on May 10. Aidan joins sister Alya, who is a student at Bainbridge College, in Ga., where Hayes is an industrial engineer for the Georgia Department of Labor.

William H. Hemphill II, EE 90, of Stone Mountain, Ga., earned a master’s degree in industrial engineering at Emory University’s Cannon School of Theology in May.

Keith Hollingsworth, EE 90, MS EE 92, PhD 95, of Atlanta, was awarded tenure at Morehouse College as director of economics and business in the spring. Hollingsworth was also the inaugural recipient of the college’s Outstanding Faculty Award in his division.

Jason B. Hurst, CE 96, has become a shareholder in Columbia Engineering, a general civil, transportation and traffic engineering firm headquartered in Norcross, Ga. Hurst, a project manager, has been with the company since 1997.

Perdita Jordan, IE 95, a documentation engineer for Turner Broadcasting System, recently received AOL Time Warner’s Andrew Heilskov Community Service Award. Jordan has volunteered for more than 12 years with the Open Door Outreach Center and is a student focused on serving families. She also volunteers with the American Stroke Association and participates in Turner-sponsored vol-
Call of the Open Road
Father Calhoun rolls over stereotypes
By Kimberly Link-Wills

Nathan Calhoun sports a scruffy beard and ties back his long hair. He takes off his white collar, dons a leather jacket and roars off on his Harley.

Father Calhoun, Cls 96, does not fit the stereotypical image of a Catholic priest. His charitable methods are unorthodox as well. In May Calhoun organized Vinny’s Ride, a fund-raiser in which 120 motorcyclists wheeled in nearly $4,500 to benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

He has never fit into a mold. Calhoun realized while he was a student at Georgia Tech that he was not cut out for engineering.

“IT wasn’t a particular event or anything that happened. I was in a co-op job in Alabama for two quarters. I did a lot of sitting in my office typing on a computer. Actually I was teaching myself to type. I started doing some journaling on the computer and typing thoughts and reflections on different things, mainly on God and faith and life in general,” Calhoun said.

“One day I felt like I had been hit with a bat. ‘Go to the seminary. That’s where you need to be.’ I thought originally I would finish my degree at Tech first. At the end of the first week of classes that next spring I know it wasn’t energy well spent to stay there. But I do somewhat miss the science and math I used to do.”

Friends and family were supportive of his decision, yet some were surprised when he dropped out of Tech in 1994.

“When I first told my mother I had withdrawn from Tech, she asked me, ‘What are you going to do now?’ I said, ‘Well, I’m thinking about going to the seminary.’ She was kind of speechless after that,” Calhoun said.

Studying for the priesthood rivaled the engineering curriculum at Georgia Tech. “It’s harder in some ways because your life is taken over somewhat, but it’s not as technically difficult. It’s nearly as challenging in terms of the intensity, the pressure, living in community, conforming to a daily routine of morning and evening prayer, having meals with the same group of people for four years, the spiritual direction.”

After earning a bachelor’s in philosophy and a master of divinities degree, Calhoun was ordained in June 2000. He now is one of three priests at St. Lawrence Catholic Church in Lawrenceville, Ga.

He began wearing his hair longer after he was ordained. “My pastor kept trying to get me to cut it, but I resisted him. I had it in a ponytail for about a year now. Every now and then I get an older lady in the parish who will say, ‘You really should get your hair cut.’”

A parishioner kick-started Calhoun’s hobby a couple of years ago.

“He came to mass one day on his Harley. I was kind of infatuated with motorcycles and thought one day I might get one. He had connections with this place that had riding lessons and he paid my tuition. By the time I finished, I was sold. I started looking through magazines and cycle traders. I finally got a Yamaha and rode that up until this past spring. I sold it to another priest,” Calhoun said.

He replaced the Yamaha with the boss hog of all motorcycles — a 100th anniversary edition 2003 Harley-Davidson Heritage Springer. Calhoun said seven other priests in the Atlanta archdiocese are motorcycle riders.

But he’s the only one with a Harley.

“Of years ago. I sold it to another priest,” Calhoun said.

“I want to break down barriers. I think there are still a lot of antiquated ideas about what it means to be a servant of God.”

Calhoun also rolls over stereotypes. “Sometimes I hear, ‘You’re a priest, with long hair and a motorcycle?’ But a lot of times I get people wanting to talk. They’ve got a chance to talk to a priest. I don’t look like a priest. I look like a normal guy.”

He recalled parking his Harley outside a fast food restaurant. A man climbed out of a dump truck and admired the motorcycle. “Somehow it came up that I was a priest. He told me about his life, some of the issues he had with his family. It opened the door to him sharing a lot.”

On his days off Calhoun often rides with other motorcycle enthusiasts. “Sometimes we’ll meet up at a biker bar and have a burger before we hit the road. I don’t really know any real roughneck guys. The guys I ride with all have white collar jobs,” he said with a laugh. “No matter what you do for a living, everybody has a kind of camaraderie. It’s the same way with hiking. I hike the Appalachian Trail in sections. Everyone I meet is from a different walk of life, but immediately there’s a bond.”

Some bikers are bonded by their love of Harleys or leather jackets or tattoos.

“I’ve been thinking about getting a tattoo for a couple of years. I’ve been looking for the right design. One of my seminarian friends got a big one, a Celtic cross with a lot of colors in it. It was pretty neat looking. But I haven’t been able to find a tattoo parlor that I feel comfortable patronizing yet.”

Each piece measures over seven inches tall and weighs one pound. This unique product is only available through your Georgia Tech Alumni Association.

Please Send Me:
Buzz
Bobblehead @ $14.95/ea. = $_____
Shipping $6.00.
GA Residents add 7% Sales Tax @ $1.05/ea. = $_____
Total = $_____
Marchbanks, Columbia, S.C.

Marchbanks is a technology leader with
Brooks, 2, at the family's home
in San Francisco and Los
Angeles.

Stacey Hutcherson

Stacey Hutcherson is a technology leader with
in San Francisco and Los
Angeles.

Keith J. Kilpatrick

Keith J. Kilpatrick was married
in San Francisco and Los
Angeles.

Brian C. Thomas

Thomas was married in
San Francisco and Los
Angeles.

McFarland, Alpharetta, Ga.

McFarland is a senior engi-

Randy McDow

McDow was married in
San Francisco and Los
Angeles.

Linda Konie Stacholy

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Angeles.
By Kimberly Link-Wills

G eorgia Tech alumnus Bill George emphasizes putting the customer first in his new book, “Authentic Leadership: Rediscovering the Secrets to Creating Lasting Value.”

Headlines broadcasting the downfall of powerful CEOs have done much to tarnish the images of executives whose lavish lifestyles and company perks rival those of pop stars. But George, 64, attributes success in business to leaders who build customer relationships.

“In contrast to what sharehold values advocates argue, the purpose of any company boils down to one thing; serving its customers. Ultimately, its success will be measured on how well it serves all its customers, especially less powerful ones. If it is superior to everyone else in its field and can sustain this advantage over the long term, it will create the ultimate in shareholder value,” George writes.

“Top management must be the role model for customer focus, being sure that managers do not slip into an internal orientation. Executives must recognize the employees who are actually serving customers — by creating innovative products and services, by producing quality products and by providing direct sales and service support — and provide the environment that empowers and rewards their efforts.”

George, who served as CEO of the medical technology company Medtronic from 1991 to 2001 and as chairman of the board from 1996 to 2002, points out in his straight-to-the-point style that a good leader shares the burden and surrounds himself with a top-notch staff.

“As a leader, I have always surrounded myself with people who are more knowledgeable and experienced than I am,” he writes in a chapter titled “It’s Not Just the CEO.”

“The key is having people around you who complement your weaknesses and make up for your lack of experience. This section obvious, but how many CEOs fail to do so in building their teams? It is a real danger sign when leaders only appoint people with whom they feel comfortable.”

George seems comfortable sharing both his career highs and lows.

“The greatest failure in my career occurred as I was leaving Litton Microwave to join Honeywell. I had groomed an exceptional individual as my successor and thought I had support from corporate management. As soon as I handed in my resignation, I lost all power and influence and the decision was reversed. Instead of my recommended successor, Litton chose a factory operations expert we had recruited six months earlier. Unaware of himself, he put a hold on all R&D projects and began running the organization like a factory,” George writes.

“Meanwhile, my candidate resigned and became the highly successful CEO of a major media company. In the end Litton tried to sell the business, failed and wound up shutting it down. Over time 2,000 people lost their jobs. To this day I feel responsible for this fiasco.”

George writes that he learned to keep a clear head through meditation. He also learned how to balance work and family and how to be a well-rounded person instead of a one-dimensional businessman.

“To be authentic, leaders must behave with consistency and self-discipline, not letting stress get in the way of their judgment. They must learn to handle any kind of pressure and stay cool and calm. Handling unexpected challenges requires being in peak condition. Like a professional athlete, they need consistent habits to keep their minds sharp and their bodies in shape.”

George also learned when to walk away. “The final third of your life is about giving back. Psychologist Erik Erickson calls this the stage of ‘generativity,’ the time in our lives when we are in a position to share our wisdom and give back to others. It is also an excellent time to grow out of the day-to-day pressures of advancing in your career or making the quarterly numbers.”

He writes that it is important to have something to move on to. George moved on to write “Authentic Leadership” and to teach at IMD and the Polytechnic, both in Switzerland, and serve as the executive-in-residence at the Yale School of management.

George’s matter-of-fact writing style makes “Authentic Leadership” a fairly quick read, perfect for a plane ride or as preparation for a job interview or simply as a reminder that not all CEOs are greedy and only out for their own best interests.

Deaths

1930s

Rees Mahone Andrews, Cls 31, of Atlanta, on July 5. He founded Andrews Products.

Mr. Camp served in the Merchant Marines during World War II. He later founded Camp Rayonier.

Mr. Wright was a member of Delta Sigma Pi fraternity at Georgia Tech, the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame and the Hill Society. Survivors include son Marvin G. Mitchell III, ME 68. The family requests that memorials in his name be sent to the Marvin G. Mitchell Scholarship Fund at Georgia Tech.

Amos Ross “Cap” Wright Jr., KI 99, of Houston, on June 25. He had a distinguished career in the home building and real estate development industry. Mr. Wright was a member of Delta Sigma Pi fraternity at Georgia Tech, the Houston Homebuilders Association and the Professional Engineers Association.

Wallace A. Buchanan, IM 48, of Selma, Ala., on April 8. A member of Phi Delta Theta at Georgia Tech, he was an Air Force veteran. He was president of Buchanan Hardwoods Inc.

B. Turner Loehr, EC 38, of Clearwater, Fla., on April 20. He retired as vice president of engineering and long-range planning for International Minerals and Chemicals. He was a retired Navy commander of the USS Roselle, a fleet minesweeper. Mr. Loehr also had served as commander of a Naval Reserve surface unit.

Marvin George Mitchell Jr., CE 39, of Vero Beach, Fla., and Atlanta, on July 4. He spent 42 years with CBI Industries and retired as CEO and chairman in 1982. He was president of Butler National Golf Club in Oak Brook, Ill., and a member of Kappa Alpha Fraternity and the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame and the Hill Society. Survivors include son Marvin G. Mitchell III, ME 68. The family requests that memorials in his name be sent to the Marvin G. Mitchell Scholarship Fund at Georgia Tech.

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John Bachman Dies


He was president of the South Carolina prestigious division of Tindall Corp. and had been with the company since 1967. He served as a lieutenant in the Navy aboard the USS Wallace L. Lind and was discharged as a senior lieutenant. He worked as a professional engineer in Georgia and was a member of a number of organizations, including the National Society of Professional Engineers and the South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers.

Mr. Bachman was a communicant of the Episcopal Church of the Advent in Spartanburg and a former member of St. Bede’s Episcopal Church in Atlanta, where he served as senior warden and treasurer. He also served as treasurer of St. Bede’s Day School.

Survivors include daughter Kim Bachman, Mgr 89. Memorials may be made to the John H. Bachman Jr. Endowment Fund in the Georgia Tech School of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

22. He served in the Army Air Corps in England during World War II. He retired from the General Services Administration after 35 years of service and later worked as a loan officer for two credit unions.

Frank Coxe Mills Jr., MS AE 47, of Savannah, Ga., on July 8. He was a practicing engineer and was chief of construction for the Savannah District of the Army Corps of Engineers for nearly 20 years. He joined the Navy in 1941 and taught in Pensacola ground school before embarking on a two-year tour aboard the USS Suwanee. He retired from the Naval Reserve in 1951 as a lieutenant commander. Mr. Mills taught engineering at Clemson and Georgia Tech, worked for Goodyear in Akron, Ohio, and Douglas Aircraft in California before joining the Army Corps of Engineers in 1960.

Harold A. Montague, Arch 44, of Roswell, Ga., on May 29. A World War II veteran, he worked for Robert and Company, designing such buildings as Atlanta’s Civic Center Auditorium. He hosted Georgia Tech graduate students from Switzerland for 15 years.

Shepherd Green

“Shep” Pryor III, AE 47, of Atlanta, on May 7. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 and later served as director of instrument flight training for the B-25 at Bythewood Air Force Base in Arkansas. After being promoted to captain, he transferred to Arizona for night fighter training and later returned to the Pacific Theater. Mr. Pryor went on to earn a law degree from the Woodrow Wilson College of Law in 1954. Mr. Pryor retired after 32 years with Lockheed Georgia Co.

John Robert Rankin

III, Cls 42, of Atlanta and Sun City Center, Fla., on May 27. An Army Air Force veteran of World War II, he worked as a stockbroker and was instrumental in the founding of McNeil, Rankin and Co. He retired in 1986 from Dean Witter Richards.

Stephen M. Richards

EE 48, of Tampa, Fla., on June 12. A member of Tau Beta Pi, engineering society at Georgia Tech, he served in the European Theater during World War II as captain of the 123rd Ordinance Bomb Disposal Squad of the Third Army and received the Soldier’s Medal of Valor for recovering war crime documents in Czechoslovakia in 1946. A pioneer in the development of the Port of Tampa and in the sulphur industry, Mr. Richards served in numerous capacities from chief engineer to president and was affiliated with Texasgulf Sulphur, Pan American Sulphur, Port Sutton Inc., Rivergulf Terminals, Brimstone Terminals, ParkTark Corp., ThermoTerminal and Paccos Terminals during a career that spanned from 1949 until retirement in 1996. He was a director of the Tampa Chamber of Commerce and the Tennessee Tombigbee Waterways Authority and a member of the Florida Waterways Commission.

Charles S. Roach Sr.

EE 40, of Atlanta, on May 17. He served as lieutenant commandant aboard an oil freighter during World War II. Mr. Roach worked as a manufacturer’s agent in the electrical industry.

Robert F. Sasser

Clis 44, of Atlanta, on June 19 in Livonia, Italy. He served as a cartographer and fire commander with the 33rd Chemical Mortar Battalion attached to Gen. George Patton’s Third Army during World War II and helped liberate the Buchenwald concentration camp. In 1950 he founded Sasser & Co. and for more than 20 years directed his firm in mechanical design and construction of commercial and industrial complexes in Georgia and Tennessee. Mr. Sasser later was a founding partner of Heritage Commercial Realtors and managed his family-owned firm, Heritage Investments.

Theodore G. Steiner

CE 41, of Clifton Park, N.Y., on Jan. 25, 2002. He was a retired Navy lieutenant in the Pacific during World War II. Mr. Steiner worked for Republic Aviation Corp., the engineering firm of Vincent Thorton, Foley and Smith in New York City and as a structural engineer for the New York State University Construc- tion Fund. In retirement, he traveled to all seven continents.

Mitchell L. “Mike” Weiss

Clis 46, of Atlanta, on May 14. He attended Georgia Tech until he enlisted in the Navy. During World War II, he was stationed in the South Pacific. He later opened his own business specializing in commercial building materials.

J. Franke Willett

EE 46, of Lexington, Va., on Oct. 11, 2002. He served as president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association in 1962. Mr. Willett also had been president of the Atlanta Georgia Tech Club. As a student, he was run- ner-up to the national collegiate tennis champion for two consecutive years.

1950s

Jack C. Bryant

CVE 53, of Seneca, S.C., on April 26, 2001. He served in the Marines in the Pacific Theater during World War II. His career as a nuclear engineer spanned 40 years. He worked for E.I. DuPont at the Savannah River Plant, the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and as a senior reactor inspector for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Paul Ray Cheney

IE 50, of Dawsonville, Ga., on May 19. He served in the Navy aboard the USS Leath in the Pacific Theater during World War II. Mr. Cheney retired as an engineering consultant in 1992 and later operated an Internet business, Internet TV, 2001.

Henry R. Hair

Clis 54, of Lithburn, Ga., on July 17. He lettered in football at Georgia Tech in 1951, 1953 and 1954. He practiced with the 1952 national championship team but was not on the roster because of low grades. In 1954, he made the Southeastern Conference squad with 24 receptions, 270 yards rushing and four touchdowns. He was inducted into the Georgia Tech Hall of Fame in 1975. Mr. Hair was drafted by the Los Angeles Rams and played briefly for the Canadian Football League. Mr. Hair launched his own company, Delta Building Services, in the early 1980s.

Staude E. Johnson

EE 54, of Huntsville, Ala., on Jan. 25, 2002. He was retired from the U.S. Civil Service.

J. Jones, ME 56, of Marietta, Ga., on June 21. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II and while attending Georgia Tech began a career at Newcomb and Boyd Consulting Engineers that spanned nearly 48 years until his retirement in 1994.

Joseph A. Ogile

MS ME 55, of San Antonio, on Feb. 26.

Charles W. O’Rear

Text 56, of Greenville, N.C., on May 5. He was an assistant profes- sor at East Carolina University.

James R. Rigby

CE 50, MS EM 62, of Durwoodo, Ga., on June 4. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II and went on to work at Lockheed. Mr. Rigby retired from the Fulton County Department of Planning and Community Development in 1982. He was preceded in death by his wife, David L. Rigby, and E. Reynolds Wheeler III, IM 76, and Bruce Rodgers Wheeler, IM 86.

James “Jimmy” Oliver Bradford

CE 53, of Roswell, Ga., on July 20.

Susan Rainey

Clemmons, IE 69, of Houston, on June 2. She was manager of the G.L. and H.S. Clemmons Trust.

Jeffrey L. Jenkins

IE 65, of Augusta, Ga., on June 27. He was the quality assurance manager for GIL Industries Inc.

William F. Lord

IM 62, of McLean, Va., on May 31. A retired Navy commander who served in the Vietnam War, Mr. Lord received a degree in computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School and attended the Armed Forces Staff College. He was commis- sioned in the Navy in 1963 and was a surface warfare officer off the coast of Vietnam during the war. He later served as a project director at the Bureau of Navy Personnel. Mr. Lord retired from the Navy in 1983 and became a program manager of information systems at Kathpal Technologies in 2000.

Rosser A. “Ross” Malone

Mach 60, of St. Paul, Minn., on Oct. 23. He was president and CEO of Human Resources Inc. in St. Petersburg and performed with the Ross Malone and the
Former FABRAP President, Teacher Bill Finch Dies

James Harrison
Bill Finch, Arch 36, the former president of the University's architectural firm who worked on the design of Fulton County Stadium, the Georgia Power building and Coca-Cola's headquarters, died July 27.

Mr. Finch, of Alpharetta, Ga., was part of the design team for the Fulton County Stadium in 1960 and went on to work on more than 60 sports complexes in the United States and Canada, including Cincinnati's Riverfront Stadium and the home of the New England Patriots. Career projects also included the Five Points MARTA station and the headquarters buildings of First National Bank and Southern Bell.

In 1987, Mr. Finch received the Princeton Prize and attended graduate classes at Princeton University. He was an associate professor of architecture at Georgia Tech from 1946 to 1964. He was awarded the Philip Trammel Shutze Medal as a distinguished College of Architecture alumnus in 1992.

Mr. Finch fought in the battle of Iwo Jima and was awarded the Legion of Merit for service during the Korean War. He retired as a distinguished College of Architecture alumnus in 1992.

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Southern Tradition Band. Mr. Malone also was the author of a book, “Tales from Sowega: Old Times There Are Not Forgotten.”

He was a member of Chi Phi fraternity at Georgia Tech.

1970s

Foster Edward Brown
IE 74, of Houston, on June 20. A graduate of Harvard Business School, he was president of BP Solvay Polypropylene North America and had been with the company for more than 20 years.

Carol Copeland
Crumpler, Arch 75, of Savannah, Ga., on May 18. She was a homemaker and mother of two sons. Survivors also include her husband, John Paul Crumpler, ME 79.

Jerry Dean Leven
EE 78, of Dawsonville, Ga., on June 13. He was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He began his engineering career with NDRC in Peachtree City, Ga., and ended it at Glenray Electronics Inc. in Duluth, Ga., where he served as a software engineer manager. Agnus.

Berdaner, former Georgia Tech women's basketball coach and a longtime family friend, delivered the eulogy at the memorial service. Survivors include siste Janice Morelock Leven, ICS 80.

1980s

Robert Craig Hiers
IM 85, of Atlanta, on Feb. 10 of a pulmonary embolism. He was employed by Blockbuster.

Bruce Richmond
EE 80, of Kennesaw, Ga., on June 16 of myelodysplastic syndrome. He was a managing partner with Accenture and was affiliated with the Council of Logistics Management and the Warehousing Education and Research Council. He helped fund his Georgia Tech education by building model airplanes and selling them to hobbyists. Mr. Richmond went on to win national and international model plane flying competitions.

Jeffrey L. Woodmen
EE 81, of Sutton, Mass., on March 30. He was a software project manager at Avalant Corp. in Waltham, Mass. He had worked in similar positions in

Massachusetts at Sun Life of Canada, EDS and at Harvard University, where he was a Harvard fellow. Mr. Woodmen also served as a captain in the Air Force.

Friends

Julia “Judy” Morgan
Brown, 90, of Atlanta, on July 3. She had worked as a secretary at the School of Civil Engineering.

Barry W. Crouse
60, of Atlanta, on March 16. He was dean of the graduate school at the Institute of Paper Science and Technology. He had been part of the PSTF management team for 14 years and worked to create a dual degree program with Georgia Tech and assisted in the integration of the academic programs. Mr. Crouse was the faculty adviser to the Georgia Tech Flying Club and was one of only 303 pilots in the country with a designation of master certified flight instructor. He also was active in Techmasters, the Tech chapter of Toastmasters. He received his bachelor's degree in paper science and engineering from Rutgers University, his master's from the University of Maine and a doctorate from Duke University. Mr. Crouse also was a veteran of the Army Signal Corps.

Yo Ishizuka
65, of Yokohama, Japan, on June 30 when a tree limb crushed his car in Atlanta. A professor of industrial engineering at Sophia University in Tokyo, he came to Georgia Tech in May to conduct research in industrial systems engineering. Mr. Ishizuka was expected to complete his work at Tech in early July. He is survived by a wife and two daughters in Japan.

Ruth Scott Milam
67, of Atlanta, on May 9. She married Edward L. Milam III, Arch 67, in 1966. Mrs. Milam was the executive assistant to the president of The Foundations, a group of philanthropic organizations including the Robert W. Woodruff, Joseph B. Whitehead, Lettie Pate Whitehead, Lettie Pate Evans and Trebor foundations. Mrs. Milam retired in 2000 after 26 years of service. Her retirement came from The Foundations was a Georgia Tech Alumni Association cruise through the Caledonian Canal in Scotland.

C. Lee Payne Jr.
69, of Jasper, Ga., on May 10. He directed the industrial design program at Georgia Tech from 1976 to 1988. After retirement, he continued to teach part time and regularly led summer art and design history classes in Europe. Mr. Payne had just finished teaching a course in art and motif design during the spring semester. He earned a bachelor's degree in industrial design and a master's in art history from Emory University. Mr. Payne came to Tech from a successful career as an industrial designer. He worked on the teams that designed the Olympic torches for Atlanta and Salt Lake City. He designed electric football games, Char-Broil grills and the packaging for Chilton margarine. He also designed the logo for the National Hockey League Players Association. His Neapolitan Table, a coffee table resembling Neapolitan ice cream, is part of the permanent collection of the Art Institute of Chicago. He was awarded fellowship in the Industrial Design Society of America in 1988.

Bill Smith
60, of McDonough, Ga., on June 29. During World War II, he helped design the Bell Aircraft project for the B-29 Superfortress. Mr. Smith also taught applied engineering at Georgia Tech, although he did not have a college education.

After the war, he was offered a scholarship to attend Tech, but turned it down because of family obligations. In 1950, Mr. Smith bought the patents for a self-propelled lawn mower. That mower became Snapper, and Mr. Smith designed the first logo—a turtle in top hat, bow tie and spats. Mr. Smith served as president and CEO of the company until 1979.

Claudius L. Taylor
94, of Roswell, Ga., on June 14. A graduate of Emory University, she married James L. Taylor, a Georgia Tech chemistry professor. She left her teaching job at Girls High School in 1942 to start a family. Mrs. Taylor was recruited in 1960 to teach English at Atlanta's newest high school, W.F. Dyles. She taught there until 1967.

Azalie Mulkey
Williams, 84, of Arlington, Va., on June 7. After retiring from Seydel-Woolsey & Co. as a purchasing agent, she worked part time as a secretary at Georgia Tech.
Learning Experience

Tech was a source of lessons in and out of the classroom

By Michael E. Murphy

When I enrolled at Georgia Tech in 1965, there was an optional two-week orientation program prior to the start of classes.

That two-week period had more impact on me than any course I took at Tech. The setting was a campground in rural Georgia. The purpose of the orientation program was to prepare you for the Tech environment before your first class. I learned about RAT hats, George P. Burdell and Georgia Tech’s fight songs. I will always remember the first group meeting where the speaker told us to look at the person on your right and the person on the left and realize that they will probably not complete their college courses to gain a degree at Georgia Tech.

Miller Templeton and Augustus L. Stanford were in charge of the campground building to which I was assigned. I didn’t realize the impact these two guys would have on my academic life.

Templeton, Ph.D., MS NS 63, was my first math instructor. An alumnus, he had enjoyed his time as a student and he was a great instructor. In the late 60’s everyone at Tech knew of Miller Templeton. I have never met anyone else like him.

I remember Dr. Stanford playing the guitar as accompaniment to protest songs during the Vietnam War era. He was a great teacher of solid state physics, the smartest person that I have ever met and he was a great instructor. In the late 60’s everyone at Tech knew of Miller Templeton. I have never met anyone else like him.

During my time at Tech, there was nothing like a trip up the Hill to help me appreciate life. I’ll always remember trudging toward a three-hour freshman drawing class on Saturday morning and asking myself, “Do I really want to do this?”

One very cold day when the rain was freezing to my clothes and my face, I crawled up the Hill on the icy sidewalks only to find out that classes had been canceled for the day.

It’s funny how much this experience taught me. When times get tough, I think back on my “Hill Encounter,” which makes a molehill out of any obstacle. I also learned to listen to the weather reports before climbing up the Hill.

I lived in the Harris Hall dorm during my freshman year. Moids would clean our dorm rooms once a week. They had their own keys and would knock before entering to change our bed linens, sweep the floor and dust.

We had small rooms with bunk beds, windows that opened but had no screens and steam radiators. One day I decided to surprise my roommate when he returned from class. I had about 20 guys help me stretch an inner tube from the radiator to the doorknob. We all hid and waited for my roommate to return. But we had forgotten about the maid. She opened the door with the master key attached to her clothing and when the door opened, the inner tube snapped loose, catching her keys and ripping her dress. The poor maid, stunned and cold, fled the room screaming.

I remember Georgia Tech students as a studious bunch.

One Saturday morning in 1969, a liberal arts major from the University of Georgia stood in front of the Georgia Tech Library and asked Tech students to burn their draft cards and conduct a “sit down” in front of the library. I’ll never forget one Tech student who pushed his way around the protester and said, “I have a final exam to study for and I don’t have time for a revolution.”

As a graduate student, my final exam in solid state physics under Dr. Stanford was the last one of the week. Dr. Stanford told the class he was going home and directed us to slide our exam papers under his office door when we finished.

After about 12 hours, no one had left the exam room. I did my best to answer all of the questions because I figured I had flunked my term paper. Dr. Stanford had given my paper no grade, only writing, “You’ve got to be kidding” on the cover. Still I was the first to leave the class. You cannot believe my relief when I saw the “A” next to my student ID.

When I graduated from Tech, I received more than 50 job offers — many of them as a result of the textile and ceramics courses I had taken as electives.

At one time I worked for Mitel, a Canadian company that had automated insertion equipment for printed circuit cards and other front-end assemblies in Shannon, Ireland, where they were having a quality control problem. Having an Irish name helped me selected for a two-month assignment in Ireland.

When I reviewed the plant’s processes, I discovered that all they needed was a little feedback to correct the problem. It is surprising how many people do not get feedback so they can make changes.

That first night 25 of us went to Dirty Nelly’s, one of the best-known taverns in Ireland. There I made a big mistake. I bought a round of drinks. Later when I was served, there were 20-plus drinks on the bar in front of me. In Ireland, if you buy someone a drink, he feels it is his responsibility to buy you one back. It is considered an insult if you don’t drink the one bought for you.

I learned several things that day. People want to do a quality job. Feedback is the key to solving problems. And you should never buy a round in an Irish tavern.

Michael E. Murphy, EE 69, MS Phy 71, lives in Flowery Branch, Ga., and is a semi-retired information technology consultant.
Chan Gailey, a 29-year veteran of coaching — 13 years in the college ranks and 16 in the pros — was named the 11th head football coach at Georgia Tech in December 2001. Gailey, former offensive coordinator for the Miami Dolphins, endured a rocky inaugural season, marred by injuries. Despite predictions of a dismal fall, Gailey was optimistic as he talked about football and the coming season.

Eleven student athletes, including 10 football players, were declared academically ineligible for the 2003 season and have been dismissed from school until next spring. What happened? Using those 10 players really hurt us, but you can’t say there was only one reason for the problem.

My philosophy has been that you have to earn what you get, but I think we can help an athlete get through issues in his classes and in his life. You can get a player the best schedule and tutoring, but if you don’t stay on top of him on a daily basis — make sure he’s attending class and going to tutoring and doing the things that give him the opportunity to succeed — he may fail. It’s an issue of coaches knowing exactly where the student athletes stand academically and exactly what they’ve got to do to get from day one to graduation day.

Communication is a key issue. Our communica-
tion this summer has improved greatly with the aca-
demic support people. We are hoping to find ways to better establish relationships with our faculty.

Athletes come from all different backgrounds — you can’t fit them into the same square every time. Our student athletes have so much on their plates that just dealing with daily issues is a struggle. I hope we can create relationships with the academic side so they can see we’re not trying to strong-arm anyone. We’re out to help these guys get a degree.

How do you motivate college players? Your back-
ground is more at the pro level. Is there any differ-
ece? I do have the same philosophy of player motivation that I had in the pros. Guys want to be great, they want to be successful. I don’t see that as being any dif-
ferent. Maybe the carrot dangling in front of them is a little different. It’s a very tangible career in the pros — they see the dollars and they know if they perform, they get the money. The carrot in college athletics is a dream — the dream of earning a degree, the dream of doing something for family pride and even the dream of playing in the pros. They can see it, but they can’t hold on to it.

There are so many more moving parts in college football. In the pros, you have football, then you have football. In college there are academics, family rela-
tionships — the players are not out on their own com-
pletely — and peer issues within the school and the team. You have to depend on people in the university systems — not just in athletics, but support services along with academics. All these other parts have to do their jobs in order for us to do our job.

What do you look for when recruiting a student ath-
lete at Georgia Tech? I think it’s a lot easier to determine a good student than a good football player. With students, you get a good barometer from his GPA, his SAT or ACT or his extracurricular activities. Does he have a full plate or extenuating circumstances at home? You consider all that and he might not make a 1300 on the SAT, but he’s got so many things going on that if he comes here and concentrates on football and academics, he can make it. You can gauge that fairly well. You can also gauge his 40-yard sprint time, his vertical leap, his hand-eye coordination and how quickly he changes direction, but you also have to judge the heart and the mind and mental toughness. That’s the subjective area. That’s always the toughest, no matter the level of play.

I look for two things when evaluating an athlete. One, how hard does he play? When the going gets tough, how does he perform? Two, can he make deci-
sions at critical points in the game? That’s the key to being a good football player. How does an offensive lineman handle a stunt? Does he go for the right guy?

These are the two biggest criteria as to whether he can play football or not.

What is your style of discipline and how is it better? I don’t think any system of discipline or motivation is better than another. You have to go with what you have been successful with, and through the years, I’ve had success explaining what had to be done and hold-
ning people accountable to do what must be done. In college, you have to really stay on them that first year, then, as they prove responsible, you let them make more decisions because, when they graduate, you want them to be decision makers.

If I tell an athlete what to do for four years — when to get up, when to go to bed, what to eat, what to wear — he won’t be a decision maker when he graduates. I want my players to be decision makers in the game of life, so if a player proves responsible, then I want him to participate in the decision-making process.

The Atlantic Coast Conference invited the University of Miami and Virginia Tech to join the conference. How does that affect Tech? We have raised the bar tremendously in the ACC and now we have to meet that challenge. To succeed we have to be very smart about the young people we recruit, and we have to be a junior-senior laden team. We have to have good, experienced foot-
ball players and keep them coming. If you look at the best college football programs, consistency and conti-
nuity is their key to success.

We had an excellent recruiting year last year and, given the interest around the nation in our program, we’ve got a good chance for another excellent recruit-
ing year. We’ll be better recruiters this year because we know the school better. We know what the demands are and what it takes to win. With a year under my belt, I have a better feel for the conference and what it takes to win at this level.

Facing tougher competition will help us recruit, but the competition will be stiffer so it’s a wash in cer-
tain respects. You’re going to get a better player but it’s going to take a better player and team to win. If we can win the ACC championship, then we put our-
selves in a position to win the national championship. The competition will be such that, if you win, you jump right to the top of the heap.

Georgia Tech doesn’t offer an easy major for athletes. Can we remain competitive?
I'm not in favor of diluting our curriculum. I'm for making sure that whoever gets into this Institute has all the tools available for earning his degree. It would be an easy thing to create an easy degree, but then you dilute the degrees of all those who came before. Tech is not for everybody. We've always been about academic quality.

Tech has carved a niche for itself in academia to be the very best in the world. It's the same for football — the goal is the national championship. That's why we lift weights every day, why you run in 100-degree weather. You plan to win. I'm always asked to predict wins and losses. I always say the same thing — I3-0. If you don't have those expectations, why play the game?

Tech did not play well last year in the Georgia game or the Silicon Valley Classic. What happened? First of all, I am responsible for each game, so it is my fault how we played in those games. Last year I took some things for granted about our work ethic. I assumed some things were in place in regard to mental toughness and I assumed incorrectly. Football is a tough game for tough people and we have to work on toughness — mental and physical. Each game is a fight for 60 minutes, and I assumed the players understood that. I won't assume that anymore.

We will fashion our work ethic and our practices to make sure that we know what it will take to be successful. We will continually talk about it — not just for 60 minutes — but for 12 or 13 games. You can't play one good game then relax. Toughness has to become a way of life.

A lot of players understand that but they aren't conditioned to do it. That's why we tackle every day we legally can. We are spring training for why we run Oklahoma drills. We have to do a better job of discipline and that's the job of the coaches and the players.

You said that you intend to simplify the offense. Are you talking 3 yards and a cloud of dust?

Simplifying the offense will allow us to be a better disciplined football team. We will be closer to 3 yards and a cloud of dust than five wide every snap.

Nothing is set in stone. We'll have to play percentages, not high-risk plays. That tends to eliminate flashy five-wide, triple-option, reverses and reverse passes. It's going to be a more conservative offense at times.

The objective is to win the game, so sometimes you take a military approach — you use tanks or infantry or the Air Force. There are a lot of different ways to win the battle, so you try to pick what your team does best and exploit those advantages and your opponent's disadvantages.

Has any decision been made concerning a starting quarterback?

Right now it looks like we may be playing a younger quarterback. If we do, a young quarterback can only handle so much offense. As he expands his capabilities, you expand your offensive weapons. That's true for all positions. If you have a strong offensive line, the quarterback can only handle so much offense. As he expands his capabilities, you expand your offensive weapons.

By Neil B. McGahee

A former All-American, outfielder Jay Payton, Cls 95, was a first-round draft pick of the New York Mets in 1994 and maintained a respectable .278 batting average over five years. Payton was traded to the Colorado Rockies at the end of the 2001 season and he hit .335 with eight home runs and 28 RBIs.

After 43 years as a player and manager in the Cardinals and the Atlanta Braves minor league systems, shortstop Bobby Dewy, Cls 81, can be found coaching the bullpens for the Braves. Pitcher Darren Bragg, Cls 91, a 1990 All-American selection, also plays for Atlanta.

Former Tech teammate Nomar Garciaparra, Cls 91, is vying for a place kicking for the Birds. Another Tech inlinebacker, Recando Wimbush, Cls 03, is also a Falcon.

Gooiinng  PPrro

Following Georgia Tech's 1900 baseball season, pitcher Weldon Henley signed a contract with Connie Mack's Philadelphia Athletics, becoming the first Tech athlete to play a professional sport. Four years later, he made more history when he pitched the first no-hitter for the fledgling A's.

Tech has sent 133 players to baseball's professional ranks since Henley signed his contract. Currently, 29 former Jackets appear on major and minor league rosters.

Kevin Brown, Cls 83, was a first-team All-American pitcher for Tech in the 1980s after joining the Jackets as a walk-on. The 6-4, 200-pound righthander is a starter for the L.A. Dodgers. He is one of five players in major-league history to represent four different teams in the All-Star Game. When the Dodgers signed Brown in 2000, his $15 million salary was the highest ever paid in Major League Baseball.

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Cam Borsay, IM 74, is director of scouting and player personnel for the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. He was inducted into the Tech Hall of Fame in 1988.

After graduating, Borsay played minor-league ball for a year in the St. Louis Cardinals system, then landed a job scouting for the Cincinnati Reds and later for the Cardinals. The Pittsburgh Pirates hired him in 1988 to be director of scouting. In 1993, he was named general manager and remained in that position until 2001, when he joined the Devil Rays.

Former Tech teammates Norman Garcia, Cls 95, and Jason V artek, Cls 94, anchor the infield for the
Boston Red Sox. Caro-Sipparan, only the fourth Tech player ever to reach 100 hits in a season, plays shortstop, while Varitek, a three-time All-American selection and Baseball America’s 1993 College Player of the Year, is catcher. Varitek is the only Tech baseball player ever whose name has been retired.

Infielder Mark Teseira, C’02, a first-team All-American selection and Baseball America’s 2000 College Player of the Year, was the fifth pick overall by the Texas Rangers in the 2001 Major League Baseball draft. After a year spent in the minors, he has moved up to the major-league roster.

Kris Wilson, C’98, a 1997 All-American selection, is a right-handed pitcher for the Kansas City Royals. He came to Georgia Tech on a football scholarship to play quarterback, but was redshirted as a freshman and decided to concentrate on baseball.

Mark Byrd, C’99, plays outfield for the Philadelphia Phillies, pitcher Doug Creek, C’91, plays for the Toronto Blue Jays and pitcher David Elder, C’98, is with the Cleveland Indians.

The minors are loaded with Tech talent. Jason Basil, C’01, plays third base for the Kane County Cougars (Oakland A’s), Kevin Cameron, C’02, is a right-handed pitcher for the Quad City River Bandits (Minnesota Twins) and Chris Goodman, C’03, pitches for the Arizona Royals (Kansas City Royals). 8th baseman Heath Honeycutt, C’99, a 1998 All-American third team selection, plays for the Potomac Cannons (Cincinnati Reds) along with Tech teammates Steve Kelley, C’02, and Brian Prince, C’02.

Richard Lewis, C’01, plays second for the Greenville Braves (Atlanta Braves), Victor Menocal, C’02, plays shortstop for the Lakewood Blue Claws (Philadelphia Phillies) and Andy Mitchell, C’01, pitches for the Frederick Keys (Baltimore Orioles). Corey Vance, C’01, and David Newhan, C’96, play for the Colorado Springs Sky Sox (Colorado Rockies) and Rhett Parrott, C’02, pitches for the Tennessee Smokies (St. Louis Cardinals).

Matt Murray, C’04, plays for the Lowell Spinners (Boston Red Sox), Tyler Parker, C’03, is a catcher with the Peoria Chiefs (St. Louis Cardinals) and Jeff Watkins, C’03, pitches for the Casper Rockies (Colorado Rockies). Jason Perry, C’03, is with the Modesto Dodgers (Oakland A’s) and infielder Matthew Boggs, T’01, plays for the Florence Freedom of the Independent League.

In 1949, the Philadelphia Warriors of the fledgling National Basketball Association signed Tech basketball star Jim Nolan. Since then, 40 Tech men and 12 Tech women have been drafted into the NBA as a plus move and the minus moves are the Trade for the American League in this year’s All-Star game, through a working agreement with the Mexico City Reds. The only thing I said when I left was to truly evaluate (me), pull out both sides of the ledger — the plus moves and the minus moves.”

Five months after his dismissal, Bonifay joined Tampa Bay as director of player personnel. He added the job of director of scouting in August 2002. His son, Jonathan, 28, scouts for the team.

Bonifay has been evaluating players since he became a part-time scout for the St. Louis Cardinals in 1976 and has seen thousands of games.

“I don’t get tired of watching, and when I’m there, the games are very interesting,” he said. “But I do try to not watch and break away for a few days.”

Bonifay said he’s always loved athletics and industries involved with sports, perhaps because his father, Bob, was a general manager in the minor leagues.

Bonifay nurtured that love at Mark Smith High School in Marietta and at Georgia Tech, where the first and third basemen followed his brothers Ken, IE 68, and Brannon, IM 71.

As a freshman Bonifay played first base while Brannon, a senior, played third for the Yellow Jackets team that reached the NCAA regional playoffs. Cam was also a place-kicker for the football team that appeared in the Peach Bowl his sophomore year and the following seasons defeat- ed Iowa State in the Liberty Bowl. Byrnes moved up to the major-league roster. Baseball draft. After a year spent in the minors, he has moved up to the major-league roster.

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Bonifay played one more year before graduating with a degree in industrial management.

That summer he played minor league baseball.

From 1976-87 he held scouting positions for the Cincinnati Reds and St. Louis Cardinals before spending 1987-88 as an assistant coach at Georgia Tech.

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Coaches Applaud 70 Percent Graduation

Georgia Tech’s football program has been recognized by the American Football Coaches Association for graduating 70 percent or better of its freshman class. Tech is one of 32 Division I-A schools honored nationally.

“Academic achievement for our student athletes has always been our priority at Tech,” athletics director Dave Braine said. “This honor confirms our commitment to their success.”

The study involved the freshman class from the 1997-98 academic year, including those who entered but did not receive financial aid until after their initial year, or who transferred from another institution and subsequently received a grant-in-aid.

The overall graduation rate of the 102 Division I-A schools that responded was 59 percent.

ACC Expands to 11

The Atlantic Coast Conference expanded its league to 11 with the addition of football powers Miami and Virginia Tech.

In May the ACC approached Big East Conference members Boston College, Miami and Syracuse about joining the ACC. The remaining Big East schools — Connecticut, Rutgers, Pittsburgh, West Virginia and Virginia Tech — filed suit to stop the move.

Boston College and Syracuse were later dropped from consideration in favor of Virginia Tech after the University of Virginia lobbied vigorously for its archival team to be admitted.

Miami, a Big East member since 1991, weighed counteroffers, but finally opted to jump to the ACC.

“We have raised the bar tremendously in the ACC and now we have to meet that challenge,” football coach Charley Cote said. “Facing tougher competition is good.”

MVP Leads Academics

Alumnus James Stevens began work July 1 as director of Academic Services for the Athletic Association.

A former Tech football and baseball standout, Stevens, IM 75, has been a professor of aerospace studies at the Institute for the past three years and commander of the Air Force ROTC.

Carole Moore, who formerly directed the academic services program, returns to full-time academics as a special assistant to the vice provost.

President Wayne Clough praised Moore for significantly improving academic advising services during her tenure through improved graduation rates, higher GPAs and sustained academic progress for student athletes.

Stevens was quarterback under football coach Bill Fulcher in 1972 and ’73 and was named the most valuable player in the 1972 Liberty Bowl. He also played baseball in 1974 and was named to the All-Southeast Independent Team.

No Pro Contract

Georgia Tech degree is Yellow Jacket’s reward

By Michelle Hickey

Brian Lee graduated from Georgia Tech on May 3 without much fanfare. His shining moment on the football field came three years ago, a last-minute touchdown catch to beat Central Florida.

Lee doesn’t have a pro contract. He has been a backup tight end, a role player counted on by his team but seldom noticed by outsiders.

Also easily overlooked among the hype of draft day and other players’ NFL signing bonuses is the increasingly valuable reward Lee received on graduation day: a virtually free college degree.

His story is one you don’t usually hear about. Only 2 percent of college football players ever get a pro paycheck. A diploma is the biggest payday most players will receive from their athletic skills.

Lee owes no bank for his management degree. It’s a piece of paper more valuable now because of the enormous debt facing most students today — nearly $17,000 in federal loans for each undergraduate borrower in 2000, according to the Public Interest Research Group. The average student debt for Georgia was $9,041 last year, a figure that is rising, according to the Georgia Student Finance Commission.

For young adults like Lee, 23, an athletics scholarship always has been valuable, as measured in dollars and pride.

His family couldn’t afford the cost of higher education. “I’d had needed loans if I went to junior college,” he said.

His mom is a secretary in Florence, Ala., and his dad works for the city’s electricity department. Lee is an only child. “We didn’t have enough money for me to be spoiled,” he said. “When you can’t afford the Happy Meal at McDonald’s all the time, that makes you hungry for success in a way that can’t be simulated by anything else. I wouldn’t trade that for anything. It’s put me right where I sit now.”

His extended family drove four hours to see him become one of the first Lees to get a degree. His out-of-state scholarship totaled $93,200 for tuition, room, food and books. If he had worked a minimum-wage job, he would have had to put in 60 hours a week for five years to make that much, before taxes.

Starting out what he calls “real life,” Lee is better off than the average college student who carries $2,745 in credit card debt, according to the Credit Education Bureau. Lee has about $2,000 on his credit card, but plans to pay that off quickly.

Lee already has started his job as a unit manager for Waffle House.

“Academic achievement for our students is hard at Tech. Of 14 guys in his recruiting class, he said, only half made it this far. He was recruited as the top tight end in Alabama in 1997. Lee moved into his new place with a bunch of memorabilia — jerseys from five bowls, a game ball from last season, his framed recruitment letter. His first house, he says, will have a room just for all this.

“This is something my kids and grandkids can be proud of,” he said. His diploma will shine in its frame, the most valuable prize he ever got from football.

Career Roundtable

By Neil B. McGahee

More than 80 recent Georgia Tech graduates attended the Young Alumni Career Roundtable and Networking session July 17 sponsored by the Alumni Association. A spin-off of the popular Executive Network for older graduates, the session was targeted for Tech alumni who have “gotten out” since 1996.

“We were delighted with the turnout,” Jennifer Gillilan, Mgt ’93, director of career development, said. “We expect to make this a quarterly event.”

Networkers participated in round-table discussions in entrepreneurship, working at a start-up company, consulting, using a headhunter, making a career change and pursuing an MBA.

Experienced senior alumni moderated discussions in which their younger counterparts answered questions, shared career opportunities and discussed challenges in building new careers.

“This was a wonderful situation that allowed our newer alumni to pair with the older, more experienced ones,” Gillilan said. “We plan to analyze the feedback we’re getting from the participants so we can tailor the programs to even better meet their needs.”

Sarah Tibrwicz, EE ’02, attended the session to test the job market by talking to other alumni as well as the speakers. “I want to see where the markets are going and where I fit in,” she said.

“I went to the recruiters and consulting tables. I think the recruiting discussion was most helpful because they had a lot of good information on how to meet recruiters, ways to format our resumes.”

A small sea of faces surrounded entrepreneur Leland Strange, founder of Peachtree Software, as he talked about the differences between corporate jobs and entrepreneurial ones.

“I've literally been an entrepreneur all my life, even while I was at Tech,” he explained. “I have started more than 20 businesses, everything from a little sandwich shop to manufacturing to software development.

“In entrepreneurship, you have to be willing to take a chance. Ideas are a dime a dozen — people come to see us all the time with ideas, but few have the gumption to go ahead and make something of it.”

Jerald Gaines, ME ’02, a consultant with Deloitte Consulting in Atlanta, wanted information on seeking an MBA.

“I really got a lot of information from some of my peers,” he said. “A lot of the alumni are trying to do the same thing I want to do. That’s inspiring.”

Gina Hafez, IE ’01, is also interested in an MBA.

“I came to the session with a cynical mind-set, but this is a great opportunity to get information from other people,” she said. “I want to pursue an MBA in entrepreneurship and the workshop made me focus and get a clearer perspective on just what is involved.”

Two alumni discovered a possible working relationship while attending the sessions. Rob Bury, Mgt ’03, works at a real estate development firm in Atlanta and is searching for a way to streamline the bid process for contractors. He met Manas Tungare, CS ’03, between round-table sessions.

“We want to automate the process as much as possible,” Bury explained. “Right now we’re working out of file cabinets. I found out in conversation with Manas that he has been developing software to do exactly what we need. We’ll be talking soon.”

Program for Top-level Executives Wins Top National Award

The Georgia Tech Alumni Executive Network, an innovative new career assistance program developed by the Alumni Association’s Career Development department, has captured a national Seal Of Excellence Award in Alumni Relations from the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education.

The program, which started in July 2002, is aimed at career executives with a minimum of 15 years of experience who graduated from Georgia Tech in or before 1988.

The CASE Circle of Excellence Awards recognize “top alumni programs nationwide that can be used as models for other institutions,” said Robert L. Hall, IM ’64, past president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association.

Jennifer Gillilan, Mgt ’93, director of career development for the Alumni Association, said the Executive Network is aimed at a highly specific group of career executives.

“We are seeing more and more of our senior-level alumni who have been affected by corporate downsizing and related layoffs,” Gillilan said. “We realized the value of networking for those at the executive level and decided the best resource we could provide for them was each other — helping them connect with alumni with their same level of experience. After the first meeting of the Executive Network, the demand and interest was so significant that we made it a monthly program.”

At the Executive Network’s monthly meeting, guest speakers are brought in to discuss career-related topics appropriate for senior level executives. Afterward, participants break into small groups segmented by industry or profession for structured networking activities. In addition, geographically-based groups of six to 10 alumni, led by a trained facilitator, meet across the metro area every month for job-seeking alumni who need the regular support of other alumni in a small group setting.

Karl Paul, IM ’69, who joined the Alumni Association as assistant executive director for Alumni Career Development, Human Resources and Alumni Relations in August, was instrumental in the formation of the group.

“We had about 110 people at the first meeting and have had an average of over 80 at each subsequent meeting,” Gillilan said.

She added that some alumni have secured six-figure jobs through networking with Georgia Tech alumni.