Gold & White Honors
Seven alumni were recognized for outstanding contributions and two faculty members and a longtime friend of Georgia Tech were named honorary alumni.

Another Slice of Pi
The top winners of the annual Pi Mile Road Race gave a repeat performance of earlier victories in an event that drew more than 360 runners.

Alumni Officers and Trustees
The Georgia Tech Alumni Association presents its slate of officers and trustees for fiscal year 2003-04.

National Prominence
Georgia Tech’s College of Engineering maintains its national stature, once again placing among the top five engineering programs in the country. Tech’s Industrial and Systems Engineering school ranked No. 1 for the 13th consecutive year.

'Flinty-Eyed' Success
Georgia Tech Foundation chairman Buck Stith looks back on two years of hard-fought successes during a downsized business cycle.

Paper Hanger
Georgia Tech’s Air Buzz, designed and built completely from paper products, sweeps over sand dunes near Kitty Hawk, N.C., in the Energy Challenge 2003 competition.

Freedom Fighters
Alumna Jennifer Wilson, pilot of a B-2 in combat, is among the Georgia Tech graduates who served during the war with Iraq.

Meeting the Challenge
Congressman Max Burns addresses issues in the U.S. House with problem-solving techniques he learned in the Georgia Tech classroom.

Total Concept
Andrés Núñez Jr., who has been named Pioneer of the Year by the Society of Hispanic Engineers, took a page from former Georgia Tech athletics director Honor Keck’s playbook as a model for success.

Academic Reform
President Wayne Clough is among the Division I university presidents in the National Collegiate Athletic Association driving academic reforms concerning the eligibility of student athletes.

Getting A Pink Slip
What do you do when you are laid off or fired — especially if you are 50 or older? Articles with psychology professor Ruth Kanfer and career counselor John Hannabach discuss strategies to cope with a job loss.

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Gold & White Honors
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Letters

The Write Stuff

A Word of Congratulations

Congratulations to Tech for providing sharp, hard-working recent graduates for Gov. Sonny Perdue’s administrative staff — as well as Jim Lienitz as Georgia’s chief operating officer.

Congratulations to conservative graduates in Congress — Phil Gingrey and Max Burns — and also to Dick Royal in the Georgia House during this time when the Wall Street Journal reports that 60 percent of the faculties in the nation’s universities are liberal.

Congratulations to the Alumni Association for outstanding leadership. The recent reunion for former trustees was the best ever. And congratulations on a great issue of TECH TOPICS.

C.A. Roush Jr., CHE 47
Highlands, N.C.

Whiz Kid Engineers

Thank you for the fine work in TECH TOPICS. It is always a pleasure to read. I found the Spring cover story, “The Governor’s Whiz Kids,” to be a fascinating article. One does not need to look farther than Tech’s own Woodruff Distinguished Lecture Series to find many of the same ideals. In last year’s lecture, former New Hampshire Gov. John Sununu argued that there is indeed a unique place in public policy for the engineering mind.

The traditional mindset of many other professions, lawyers for example, is that the customer is always right and as a consequence the solution is selected first, with justification coming second. Indeed, such instinctual decision making is human nature. For many decisions it works well, but not for relatively complex issues. In contrast, the engineer, as part of his or her education, is conditioned to set aside predispositions, dissect the problem and reason his or her way to a solution. As one might imagine, this approach is compelling for many complex public policy issues.

I contend that by not including such individuals in government we are under representing a significant portion of the people. Unfortunately, as Sununu pointed out in his Woodruff Lecture, this asset is also the engineer’s tragic flaw. Those who think before speaking are often not charismatic as those who think while talking. I am pleased to hear Gov. Sonny Perdue appreciates these qualities.

Sununu’s speech and their action have been an inspiration to me.

Kevin S. Davis, ME 97
Cambridge, Mass.

Proud of Carter

While the letter by Mr. Roy Newkirk (“Putting Jimmy Carter, the communist, on the cover was just too much.”) does not deserve the dignity of a response, I cannot help but reply that I’m proud Jimmy Carter was a student at Georgia Tech.

I would highly support the award of an honorary degree to Jimmy Carter by Georgia Tech. This country and the world

would be far better if there were a lot more people like Jimmy Carter.

John E. Hanby, CHE 63
Seattle

Before transferring to the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., Jimmy Carter attended Georgia Tech during his sophomore year of college, following a freshman year at Georgia Southwestern College. While Carter was president, he delivered a major policy address at the Institute in 1979 and was awarded an honorary doctoral degree from Georgia Tech.

Character Bashing

The character bashing and name calling directed toward President Carter (Letters, Spring 2003) was completely inappropriate. I am surprised you published some of them. Jimmy Carter and I sat next to each other in the Naval ROTC (V-1 Program) class the year he attended Tech and got to know each other reasonably well. It turned out that, according to Carter’s mother, my grandfather (Dr. J.R. Robins) had “doctorized” their family several generations ago.

Carter was a quiet and unassuming student. I suspect that if a poll had been taken of the class as to who might seek elective office, he and I would have finished in a dead heat for last place. Much of his reticence can be attributed to his academic situation. In the 1960s, small-town south Georgia high schools were almost unequipped to prepare students for Georgia Tech. Carter never complained but plugged ahead. Perhaps overcoming this adversity gave him confidence to face greater challenges later.

I don’t like his politics and I never voted for him, but I consider him one of the finest to have held the presidency — probably too good for the job. I have one question for character bashers of Carter and his achievements: What have you done in life?

Tuner W. Ivy, CHE 48, MS CHE 51
Houston

Contentious Prize

I was dismayed and embarrassed to see a photo of a smiling, pompous Jimmy Carter on the cover of TECH TOPICS Winter 2002. He is an embarrassment to the state of Georgia and the United States. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize based on his opposition to President George W. Bush on Iraq. The proper, patriotic and right thing to do would have been to refuse it.

Allen W. Johnson, CHE 62
Augusta, Ga.

Beyond Understanding

Some letters regarding the article on President Carter were beyond my understanding. While many of us hold strongly differing political views, I don’t understand how anyone could consider this Naval Academy graduate, Naval officer, president and commander-in-chief to be unpatriotic or a communist.

Carter was a quiet and unassuming student. I suspect that if a poll had been taken of the class as to who might seek elective office, he and I would have finished in a dead heat for last place. Much of his reticence can be attributed to his academic situation. In the 1960s, small-town south Georgia high schools were almost unequipped to prepare students for Georgia Tech. Carter never complained but plugged ahead. Perhaps overcoming this adversity gave him confidence to face greater challenges later.

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Allen W. Johnson, CHE 62
Augusta, Ga.

Investing in Society Advances Mankind

The academic year is now complete and a new group of Georgia Tech alumni have been formally inducted into your Alumni Association.

Alumni Association President Robert Hall challenged them to “live a life of significance, not just success.”

In her commencement remarks, Sen. Elizabeth Dole challenged students to “go out in the world and listen — and then make a difference.”

You see, a university is not simply about educating students. It’s not simply about winning awards for faculty research. It’s not simply about college sports.

A university is a place that is invested in by society to give back to society — to bring economic development, to advance knowledge in relevant and meaningful ways, to cultivate good citizens, in short, to advance mankind. This is the message of the Institute.

It’s pretty easy to see tangible evidence of this at Georgia Tech. There’s plenty of construction going on. A simple (and incomplete) list of the facilities under construction would include Technology Square (three major buildings), SAC II, the Student Health Center, the football stadium, the Biomedical Engineering building and the Environmental Science & Technology building.

Why and how does this happen? Because people want to make a significant difference in Georgia Tech, the state of Georgia and society, so they give of themselves and their companies and foundations to make it happen.

People also like investing in a winner and that’s another reason to invest in Tech. It’s a place where innovation and progress thrive in many different fields. That’s fulfilling the obligation of Georgia Tech to society.

This Institute was founded on very pragmatic terms and that theme continues to this day.

Joseph P. Irwin

Vice President and Executive Director

Georgia Tech Alumni Association

Continued on page 6

Viewpoint

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Bobby Cremins Cared

I heartily second the thoughts of Professor Grebelhaus’ letter “Cremins is Special” in the Spring issue. I became acquainted with Bobby Cremins during my stint as president of the Washington, D.C., Georgia Tech Club in the late 1980s. He was our guest speaker on many occasions and made a very positive impression on everyone who met him. He always had the educational and personal interests of the players and the integrity of Georgia Tech at heart.

My wife and I ran into Bobby and some of his family in Savannah last year. He greeted us like old friends. He expressed a lot of enthusiasm for the Tech basketball team and the incoming players, Chiefy Chris Bosh. He also was very positive about basketball coach Paul Hewitt’s future.

Those of us who care about Tech and Georgia Tech alumni to represent a better coach than Bobby Cremins during those years. It still takes getting used to not seeing the bouncing gray mop on the Tech sidelines during the games. Thank you, Bobby, for 19 terrific years and wishing you the best of everything in retirement.

Gerald W. “Jerry” Swart, ME 62
Fairfax, Va.

Bullish on Poetry

On many occasions I am pleased to tell folks that today Georgia Tech is far better in every way than when I was a student way back in the last century. I am on campus quite frequently, as an investor in start-up companies at the Advanced Technology Development Center, as a member of the Georgia Tech Foundation board, as a participant in advisory board meetings, alumni functions and athletic events and as a parent of a second-year student.

But what I witnessed in early February represents changes for the better more profoundly than anything I have ever seen. On a cold and rainy evening, I joined a standing-room-only crowd at a poetry reading in the Student Success Center. Students, faculty, alumni and many people from the community came to hear three accomplished poets read from their work. It was astonishing.

Thomas N. Lux, holder of the Bourne Chair in Poetry, introduced the event and read. The other two were Stephen Dobyns, holder of the McEver Chair; and Bruce McEwen, IE 66, himself.

Tom Lux spoke with passion and delight that Georgia Tech has two of the 20 endowed chairs in poetry in the nation, much to the surprise of almost everyone. He makes a strong case for the link between poetry and engineering and science.

The ability to communicate effectively has never been more important than in today’s technology-driven economy, and I am very bullish on the introduction of poetry as one means to enhance the ability of Georgia Tech students to hone their writing skills. The poetry program at Georgia Tech has also reached out successfully to the Atlanta community, with readings and workshops that are well received.

My hat is off to an institution that can continue to grow and develop in such creative and substantive ways. Poetry at Georgia Tech. Who would have ever guessed such a thing?

February 3, IM 71
Atlanta

Incomplete Homework

I want to applaud your article on Congressman Phil Gingrey, who is off to a fast and successful start representing our state in Congress. However, there is one correction that needs to be noted. The article stated that Congressman Gingrey and former Sen. Sam Nunn are the only Georgia Tech alumni to have not been represented by a better coach than Bobby Cremins during those years.

If you had completed a little more homework, you would have noted that another new congressman, Max Burns — who is also off to a fast and successful start in our capital — is also an alumnus who wore the White and Gold of Georgia Tech. A similar article on him would also be appropriate.

Scott Orr, EE 78
Atlanta
We agree. Please see our article on Max Burns on page 29.

Delightful Irony

Your article about Dr. Phil Gingrey (representing Georgia’s 11th District) in the Spring 2003 edition of TECH TOPICS was well done and informative. However, you should be aware that Georgia Tech graduate Max Burns, IE 73, was also elected to Congress. Please set the record straight as soon as possible.

Besides, it is a delightful irony that the University of Georgia campus is in Congressman Burns’ district. And he defeated a candidate named Dooley in the primary — how great is that!

John Mogure, Text 71, MS Text 75
Washington, D.C.

Bums defeated Barbara Dooley, wife of Georgia athletics director Vince Dooley, in the November election.

De-emphasize Sports

The opportunity to return to the time of the student athlete is probably gone. The Atlantic Coast Conference is the best association of outstanding schools except for the Ivy League. Both are capable of raising a hell of a lot of money without the sports income. If I were in charge, this would be a priority.

Does the ACC have the guts to de-emphasize college sports and become the Ivy League of the South?

Joe Holt, IM 59
Lewistburg, W. Va.

Hyder Was True Gentleman

I was very sorry to hear about the death of Coach John “Whack” Hyder. There was one important thing about him that was omitted from the article in the Spring 2003 TECH TOPICS. After Coach Hyder retired from coaching, he served as a physical education instructor at Tech. I was fortunate to have him as my “aerobics” (running) instructor in the spring of 1976, my freshman year. The aerobics class was designed so that a student had to run 1.75 miles (seven times around the track) in under 12 minutes to make an A.

The first 30 minutes of class were usually spent running and then doing another outdoor sport (usually volleyball) for the last 30 minutes. This was to prepare for the 12-minute-running test at the end of the term.

I really hated to run but the course was a requirement, so I didn’t have much choice. About four weeks into the class, I broke my wrist and had a cast on my forearm. Since the official drop date had just passed, I hoped that my broken wrist would allow me to get a medical waiver. Coach Hyder discouraged me from doing this and he recommended that I continue with the class. I took his advice and continued to run the rest of the quarter with a cast on my arm.

Because of my broken wrist I usually could not participate in the outdoor portions of class. Instead, I spent the time with Coach Hyder doing other things — often just talking with him one-on-one. I learned much from him and discovered that he was a great guy and a true gentleman. Two days before the final 12-minute-running test, I got my cast off. On the day of the test in June 1976, I ran the 1.75 miles in 11:45 and earned a much-needed A that salvaged my GPA for that quarter. That aerobics course and Coach Hyder started my interest in running, which continues today, and it encouraged me to live a life of continued physical fitness. It’s been 23 years since I graduated from Tech and 27 years since I took that course with Coach Hyder, but I still consider the aerobics course and the downrightproofing (swimming) course the two best classes I’ve ever taken in my life. Both taught me life skills and showed me that I could do things that I never thought were possible.

Craig L. Pfitzer, IE ’80
Woodbridge, Va.

Remembering Coach Hyder

I was saddened by the death of Coach John “Whack” Hyder. I first got to know Coach Hyder as a high school kid and participant at his summer basketball camp. Later, as a student assistant in Georgia Tech’s Sports Information office, I renewed my acquaintance with him.

Not many know that he was a scholar-athlete and is in Georgia’s Sports Hall of Fame. Coach WA. Alexander was scouting another athlete playing against
Students Get Short Shrift

football scholarships, and the first football scholarship. Back then Tech only had
Coach Hyder was also a track star, accomplished in hurdles, the high jump and
the pole-vault. Many know that he was a baseball player and played for the
New York Yankees’ AAA club. Coach Hyder got the Yankee scout’s attention
because he was put in the game after the starting center fielder broke an ankle sliding
into second base in the first inning.

Whack enlisted in the Navy at the beginning of World War II. He came
home on a 30-day leave and married his sweetheart, Vera. He took her by the
university for introduction to her. Coach Alex and Alexander handed him a
letter offering him a coaching job upon
attending a Georgia Tech football game in
Living on the West Coast, I haven’t
came in contact.

Terry Maple never completely severed
ties to Georgia Tech. He continued teaching
a psychology course at the Institute
during his 17 years as director of Zoo
Atlanta.

Lighthearted Moments

Graduation is not all pomp and circumstance. Passing time can have its
hilarious moments as Sandy Shackelford, below left, and Florence Yarbrough dis-
cover with a draw of the cards while playing Go Fish. Congressman Max Burns,
IE 71, who attended the ceremony to see son Nathan graduate, receives a warm-
uzzy, welcome-back embrace from Buzz. The 215th graduation exercises on
May 3 saw 1,346 undergraduate students receive degrees in the morning and
653 master’s and 76 doctorates awarded in the afternoon.

Maple Deserves Banana

What a surprise it was to read in the
Spring issue of TECH TOPICS that
Terry Maple was returning to Georgia
Tech to lead the Center for Conservation
and Behavior.

I remember Dr. Maple from my days
at Tech when he was professor of psy-
chology. He was my favorite professor
due to his animated style and his knowl-
edge of various psychological issues. I
have used his teachings throughout my
career. In fact, the basic principles of
behavior and psychology are probably
the most valuable concepts I regularly
call upon in my daily business acumen.

Dr. Maple made his principles come
alive in the classroom and he created a
fun atmosphere to allow his students to
effectively learn. Anyone making an A on
one of his psychology exams was always
pointed out. Then, in quite a ceremonial
atmosphere and no matter where they
were sitting in the classroom, Dr. Maple
always hit them right in the hands with a
tossed banana. His work with the Yerkes
Primate Center thus carried over into his
teachings.

And while I was still living in Atlanta,
his appointment at Zoo Atlanta is remem-
bered as the rebirth of what had become
an eyesore for the city, but has now
turned him into a world-class facility out
of the Center for Conservation and
Behavior as well. For that he deserves his
own banana. Welcome back to Tech, Dr.
Maple.

George B. “Brad” Douglas, IM 86
Laurel, Md.

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 tele-
phone number. Letters may be edited for
clarity, space and content.

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street@alumni.gatech.edu
Seven alumni were recognized for their outstanding contributions and two faculty members and a longtime friend of Georgia Tech were honored as honorary alumni in the inaugural Gold & White Honors ceremony March 20.

Four alumni — Bobby Joe Anderson, IM 50; Shirley Clements Mewborn, EE 56; Thomas Patton, AE 43; and Rayford Kytle Jr., CHE 36 — were presented the Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumnus Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Alumni Association for a lifetime of leadership, achievement and service to Georgia Tech and to the community.

James R. Carreker, EE 69, and Joel Cowan, IM 58, were awarded the Dean Griffin Community Service Award. Anthony Priest, EE 88, MS IE 90, was named 2003 Outstanding Young Alumnus. Named honorary alumni of Georgia Tech were Charles Liotta, Ward Winer and James Moore.

Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award

Bobby Joe Anderson was president of the Alumni Association in 1988-89, the year the Association received the Grand Gold Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education as best in the country, and is an emeritus member of the Georgia Tech Foundation board. He represents the second of three generations to attend Tech. His father, Arnold B. Anderson, was in the class of 1923, and a cousin, Ralph Mallard, TE 29, began the tradition. His father-in-law was Eugene Anderson Stanley, EE 16. The legacy continues with his son, Stanley Eugene Anderson, IM 75.

“One of the grandchildren is bound to go to Georgia Tech,” he said. A four-year letterman in track, Anderson was a member of the Tech team that reigned as Southeastern Conference champion in 1949. He was also a member of ANAK, the Ramblin’ Reck Club, Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and ROTC. He hasn’t missed a Georgia Tech football game since 1945.

Anderson joined Puritan/Churchill Chemical Co. in 1963 as a sales representative and moved through the ranks. He became president in 1979 and retired as chairman in 1990.

Anderson was a member of the Georgia Tech Foundation from 1991-99 and was co-chair of the 50th reunion of the class of 1950. He is a former president of the Greater Atlanta Georgia Tech Club and has contributed to the Roll Call for 53 consecutive years — every year since graduation. In 1987, he established the Bobby Joe Anderson Endowment Fund supporting the DuPree College of Management.

Shirley Clements Mewborn, who led the way for women at Georgia Tech as one of the first two female graduates of the Institute in 1956, has continued to be a leader and an example for women and for engineers throughout her career. She is the first woman to serve as president of the Alumni Association.

As a student, 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 successfully juggled a family and career. She and her husband, Francis “Duke” Mewborn, also a 1956 alumnus, have two grown daughters. She retired as vice president and treasurer of Southern Engineering Co. after a 41-year career.

A member of the Georgia Tech Foundation board, 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. In 1990, the Alumni Association received the Grand Gold Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education as the nation’s best for the second consecutive year. She served as a member of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering advisory board, Georgia Tech Research Corp. board, Georgia Tech Advisory Board and the Legislative Network and National Campaign steering committees.

Mewborn has supported Georgia Tech through the Roll Call for more than 47 consecutive years. She and her husband have established the Shirley Mewborn Perseverance Scholarship Fund for female students at Tech and the Francis and Shirley Mewborn Endowment Council Fund.

A member of the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame, she received the 1994 College of Engineering’s Distinguished Alumnus Award and the 1999 College of Engineering Dean’s Appreciation Award.

Thomas Patton died June 14, 2002. His widow, Marie, accepted the posthumous alumnus honor and said, “Tom loved Georgia Tech — this is a very special award.”

Patton served as Alumni Association president in 1973-74 and was a Georgia Tech Foundation board member. As a student, Patton was a member of ANAK, Tech’s unique honor society. After graduating, he served as a Navy lieutenant aboard the destroyer USS Wren during World War II.

In his professional life, he and partners formed Triton Inc. and began the first self-service gas stations in Georgia that he named Happy Stores. Patton was chairman and president of the company, which expanded into more than 50 Happy Store stations throughout the southeast.

He also was one of 10 Atlanta businessmen who put up $1 million each in 1987 to help build the Georgia Dome. His monetary gifts to Georgia Tech helped the Institute recruit top faculty and administrators.

Rayford Kytle Jr., who died Jan. 5, 2001, was a longtime supporter of Georgia Tech who devoted his life to his family, career and community. As a student, Kytle was a member of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity, Omicron Delta Kappa national honor society and Alpha Chi Sigma professional chemical fraternity. He was editor of the T Book, a member of The Technijur staff, president of the student YMCA and a member of the student council, debate team and ROTC.

In 1941, he joined Reynolds Metals as superintendent of the sheet metal mill in Lestertull, Ala. Over the next 39 years he rose to the post of vice president and director of quality assurance and safety. An Association trustee from 1967 to 1971, he served as president of the Richmond, Va., Louisville, Ky., and Muscle Shoals, Ala., Georgia Tech clubs.

Continued on page 10

Sharing congratulations at the inaugural Gold & White Honors ceremony are Alumni Distinguished Service Award recipients, left to right, Marie Patton, who accepted the award on behalf of late husband Thomas Patton, AE 43; Bobby Joe Anderson, IM 50; and Shirley Clements Mewborn, EE 56, who is the first female to receive this award.

Ray Kytle

Tom Patton

Raymond Kytle, who led the way for women at Georgia Tech as one of the first two female graduates of the Institute in 1956, has continued to be a leader and an example for women and for engineers throughout her career. She is the first woman to serve as president of the Alumni Association.
Joel Cowan is chairman of the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District, the first chairman of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority, the developer of Phipps Plaza and a founder of Peachtree City.

A confidant of two governors, Cowan was honorary chief of staff for Gov. Joe Frank Harris and was a senior adviser to Gov. Roy Barnes.

Cowan is an innovative developer who began his career while still a junior at Georgia Tech. Cowan and the father of an Alpha Tau Omega fraternity brother came up with the idea of building a planned city from scratch on the outskirts of Atlanta. Cowan lobbied the General Assembly to grant the new city a charter and in 1999 became Peachtree City’s first mayor. Cowan’s company, Habenham Worldwide Holdings, develops large, mixed-use projects exclusively overseas, but he still lives in Peachtree City.

At Tech, Cowan served on the Board of Regents committee that chose Wayne Clough as the Institute’s 10th president. He is a former member of the Georgia Tech Foundation board and was a visiting professor in the School of International Affairs.

James R. Carreker has led philanthropic endeavors that have made him one of the country’s outstanding benefactors.

J. M. Carreker, of Saratoga, Calif., is founder and managing principal of Arbutus Associates, a research and consultancy program in the new field of entrepreneurial philanthropy.

He and his wife, Helen, are the leading benefactors of Georgia Tech’s School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, for which they have made contributions of $7 million. Last fall, they created the Arbutus Center for Distributed Engineering Education at Tech, an innovative facility to develop computer-enhanced education technologies that may revolutionize the way engineers are taught.

The couple have endowed a chair in Digital Systems Design in the school, sponsored an annual distinguished lecture series in the school and co-funded a certificate program in engineering entrepreneurship. The couple also fund many arts and public benefit organizations in their Silicon Valley community.

Carreker was founder and former chairman of Aspect Communications Corp., in San Jose, Calif., the world’s leading supplier of call center systems. He is also a founding director of the Entrepreneurs’ Foundation, an organization that encourages new companies in Silicon Valley to support community service.

James R. Carreker

Outstanding Young Alumns

Anthony J. Priest wears a Georgia Tech umbrella and carries a Tech shoulder bag as he rides the Washington, D.C., subway and, when he drives, his car has a Georgia Tech prestige license plate. While sending out Christmas cards, he slipped Tech’s basketball schedule into the mailing.

Priest, EE 88, MS EE 90, is president of the Georgia Tech Club of Washington, D.C., and, during the past dozen years, he has worked to make it one of the most dynamic clubs in the country. The club’s calendar is crammed with social, recreational, fund-raising and sports events that include an annual picnic, a golf tournament and TEAM Buzz Day. Under Priest’s leadership, the club has doubled the number of scholarships awarded to local students.

Priest is assistant project manager for Hines Interest Limited Partnership in Washington.

A President’s Scholar, Priest served in the Student Government Association and was a member of Tau Beta Pi, ANAK, Omicron Delta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. Priest was twice Resident Assistant of the Year and received the Time achievement award.

James Moore

Honorarory Georgia Tech Alumns Named

Charles Liotta has devoted his life to fostering collaboration among national laboratories and research universities, attracting top-notch faculty and graduate students to Georgia Tech and guiding young scientists’ innovations into the global marketplace.

As vice provost, Liotta oversees the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and $275 million in research monies awarded each year. The Regents’ professor of chemistry and chemical engineering serves as the Institute’s point man in its work with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Georgia Tech has benefited from Liotta’s expertise, foresight and dedication since his arrival on campus as an assistant chemistry professor in 1965.

Liotta received his bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Brooklyn College and his doctorate from the University of Maryland. During graduate school, he was awarded both Celenese and DuPont teaching fellowships.

His postdoctoral research focused on thermal degradation of polypropylene and the kinetics and mechanisms associated with aromatic nucleophilic substitution.

During his Tech tenure, Liotta has received the Outstanding Teacher Award, the Outstanding Faculty Award and the Georgia Tech Sigma Xi Research Award. He has been a visiting professor at the University of California-Berkeley and serves as a consultant to DuPont and Milliken.

Liotta is often called upon to share his research findings and expertise on nucleophilic substitution.

Ward O. Winer once gave the Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine an insight into his personal expectations.

“One of my underlying philosophies is to do the best damn job you can do at whatever you’re doing. When you do that, people respect you,” he said.

The job Winer has done at Georgia Tech has earned him the respect of colleagues and students as well as professional recognition.

Winer has always pushed to do his best. He received his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in chemical engineering in only three years at the University of Michigan.

After earning a doctorate from Cambridge University in England, he arrived at Georgia Tech in 1969 as an associate professor in mechanical engineering and now holds the Eugene C. Gwaltney Chair in the Woodford School of Mechanical Engineering.

Winer’s work at Tech has contributed to the development of a new scientific field that is revolutionizing fluid mechanics and his research has been funded by petrochemical companies, the National Science Foundation, NASA, the Office of Naval Research and the Department of Defense.

Winer is a fellow in the Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers and in 1997 received the organization’s international award. He was named Engineer of the Year in 1989 by the Engineers of Greater Atlanta, the Metropolitan Atlanta Engineer of the Year in 1986 and received the Georgia Tech Distinguished Professor Award in 1987.

He and his wife, Mary Jo Wielenga, have four grown children, two of them
Repeat Winners

Annual Pi Mile Road Race draws more than 300 runners

By Maria M. Lameiras

The top winners of the 31st annual Georgia Tech Pi Mile Road Race gave a repeat performance of earlier victories.

Todd Liscomb, who won the race last year, retained his title, and Tech graduate student Stacy Imler, who captured the top female prize in 2000, reclaimed her title.

A sparkling blue sky drew a large walk-up crowd of runners in addition to the preregistered racers for a field of 317 (including one preregistered dog) in the April 12 event.

Liscomb, who lives in the Home Park neighborhood north of the Tech campus, was inspired by the beautiful weather to compete, even though he had run the Macon Marathon two weeks earlier. He finished the race in 16:57.

Imler likes to run at Tech, where she studies mechanical engineering.

“The race is done really well,” said Imler, whose time was 20:32.

After the race, participants collected their race T-shirts, helped themselves to fruit and bagels and headed over to the complementary massage tables manned by student therapists from the Atlanta School of Massage.

There were a number of first-time Pi Mile runners. Jewell Jones Jr. ran the race for the first time in preparation for the Marine Marathon in Washington, D.C.

“I usually run 10K races, but I came to this as a warm-up,” said Jones, 62, who lives in Atlanta’s Buckhead neighborhood.

Another Tech neighbor, Bruce Kempe, accompanied his son, Sam, 11, who took up running earlier in the year.

“I just like to run,” said Sam, who also plays hockey and soccer and captured the first-place medal for the 14-and-under category with a time of 28:31.

Becca and Phil Darke came to campus from Decatur, Ga., with their daughter, Malia, 18 months, and their son, Drew, who was born in February. Phil was pushing Malia in a jogging stroller assembled the night before the race while Becca walked with Drew in a sling carrier.

“Some of our friends got word of the race and we got a big group to come out,” Becca said.

Douglas High School track team members Brittney Smith, 15, Alessia Pollard, 17, and Brittanii Strozier, 17, were chauffeured to the race by their coach, Michael Mazzio, who took advantage of the opportunity for the girls to get in some training during their spring break.

Lisa and Pui Panich of Atlanta ran the race to mark two anniversaries — the first race the couple ran together and their wedding — both on the same day, April 12, 1998.

“It’s hard to find a race on a Saturday and we wanted to run for our anniversary,” Lisa Panich said.

One returning runner with a unique partner was Dick Lawrence, IM 61, a Georgia Tech Alumni Association trustee. Running alongside him was Pete, a chubby schnauzer sporting his own race number.

“I used to run the race all the time, but that was 20 years ago. We walked about half the way and it took me about twice as long,” Lawrence said with a laugh.

Leadership Georgia Tech
Alumni Association recognizes dynamic clubs

More than 150 alumni from 60 Georgia Tech clubs across the country attended the annual Leadership Georgia Tech event at the Alumni/Faculty House in November.

Anthony Priest, president of the Washington, D.C., club, received the Ramblin’ Wreck Volunteer of the Year award and 16 clubs won awards based on points given for participation in club activities.

The President’s Award was presented to clubs in Augusta, Ga.; Greenville/Spartanburg, S.C.; Houston; North Metro Atlanta; Northeast Tennessee; and Washington, D.C.

Ramblin’ Wreck awards went to the Central Florida, Golden Isles, Triangle, Western North Carolina and Atlanta Intown Clubs. Clubs winning Buzz awards were Albany, Ga.; Charlotte, N.C.; North Alabama; Space Coast; and West Georgia.

The event, “Maintaining a Dynamic Club in Today’s Competitive Environment,” featured panel and breakout sessions dealing with ways to stimulate interest among young and old alumni.

Lesley Keck, president of the Emerald Coast Georgia Tech Club, praised the quality of the conference.

“I felt with a renewed sense of purpose and a much deeper commitment to our club’s role in promoting Georgia Tech in our community,” Keck told event organizers.
In Command
Alumnus teaches discipline, value of college education as Naval JROTC leader

By Maria M. Lameiras

Frederick Espy learned at an early age that certain opportunities were closed to him because of his race in the segregated South. Time and time again he was told what he could not do — he would never be a pilot, he would never go to college, he couldn’t apply to become a military officer — but the racial barriers did not stop his determination to succeed.

Espy, Math 66, is a retired lieutenant commander who spent 22 years in the Navy as an intelligence officer and fighter pilot. Over the past 10 years, he has built the top Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps unit in Georgia at Southwest DeKalb High School in his hometown of Decatur.

The program has grown from 50 students in 1993 to more than 220 this year, the unit’s 10th anniversary. “The kids gravitate to the ROTC program now,” Espy said. “It’s like a community. They belong somewhere and I find that they are very dedicated.”

He said the students respond to his life experiences of fighting in Vietnam and living in a segregated society.

“When they sit in my classroom, they don’t have to read about it in a book because I’ve done it and I can relate those experiences to them. It is amazing how these kids can listen to the news and have no clue to the history that connects it all. It is all related and I help them put that together.”

Historical moments — including the launch of Sputnik in 1959 and the Martin Luther King Jr. assassination in 1968 — are prouder of his students’ academic achievements — including the first to graduate from Tech, he was the first to participate in graduation ceremonies.

“I figured if I’d done all that work, I was going to go through graduation,” Espy said.

Espy attended Armed Forces Intelligence School at Lowry Air Force Base, then flight school in Pensacola, Fla. As an F-4 fighter pilot, he flew 120 combat missions during a single tour in Vietnam. As an intelligence officer, Espy also worked with Gen. William Westmoreland’s staff in Vietnam.

“I tell my students that this is not about recruitment, it’s about focus and discipline. Over 40 percent of my students go to college and only about 5 percent go into the military,” Espy said. Espy has learned the value of a good education and pushes his students toward college.

“Having that Tech degree gets you instant respect. Having that degree has gotten me respect across racial lines and opened up all kinds of doors for me,” he said, adding that although his drill teams are consistently winners, he is prouder of his students’ academic achievements — including the first to enroll at Tech in 2002.

“You can throw a rifle around all you want, but they are not going to go out there and do drill professionally,” Espy said. “I want to assist these kids with some kind of career decision and help mold them into productive citizens.”
Alumni Association Election of Officers and Trustees

President L. Thomas Gay, IM 66

Gay is president of Gay Construction Co., an Atlanta general contracting firm. He is currently president-elect and treasurer of the executive committee of the Alumni Association board of trustees, on which he has served for the past seven years. As a student, he was president of his freshman class, president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity and battalion commander of the NROTC. A Vietnam veteran, he served as a captain in the Marine Corps. He has a master’s in business administration from Georgia State University. He is currently president of the Atlanta Area Council of Boy Scouts of America and he holds the Silver Beaver award. He is past president of the board of directors of Hillside Hospital and continues to serve on the board. He has served as a director of the Atlanta Kiwanis Club, treasurer of the Callawayville Fine Arts Association and a general contractor for Bakken Dairy, Coconut Grove, Fla. He holds three children, Brent, Mgt 96; Tyler, HTS 01 and Mgt 01, who was undergraduate student body president; and Natalie, a graduate of the College of Charleston.

For President-elect/Treasurer Carey H. Brown, IE 69

Brown is a partner in The Benefit Company, a firm specializing in executive and employee benefit planning. He is a life and qualifying member of the Million Dollar Roundtable, the Atlanta Estate Planning Council and the Association of Advanced Life Underwriters. He is vice president for activities on the executive committee of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association and has served three terms on the Association’s board of trustees, including two consecutive terms from 1997 to 2001 and a third term from 2000 to 2005. He also has served as vice president of the Alexander-Tharpe Fund. As a student, he was president of the Student Government Association and active in a variety of organizations. Brown has remained active as an alumnus, serving on several academic and athletic boards. He has served on the boards of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the Georgia State Golf Association (current president of the GSGA Foundation), Literacy Action and Buckhead Rotary. He and his wife, Sally, live in Brookhaven, Ga., and have three children.

For Vice President for Activities J. William Goodhew III, IM 61

Goodhew is vice president of Intelligent Systems Corp. Before joining the firm in 1997, he was president of Peachtree Software, a former Intelligent Systems portfolio company that was sold to Automatic Data Processing in 1994. He is vice president for Roll Call and served on the board of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association from 1996 to 1999. In 1995, Goodhew was inducted into the Georgia Technology Hall of Fame. He was named Entrepreneur of the Year in 1990 and Software Executive of the Decade in 1993 by the Southeastern Software Association and was chairman of the Software Publishers Association. He is a member and past chairman of the board of advisors of Tech’s College of Computing and formerly served on the board of advisors of the Ivan Allen College and its Management of Technology program. He is a past trustee of the Alexander-Tharpe Fund, and is currently a trustee at Agnes Scott College. A member of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church, he is past senior warden and chairman of its endowment fund. Goodhew is also a member of the Atlanta Rotary Club. He and his wife, Joan, live in Dunwoody, Ga., and have two children and six grandchildren.

For Vice President for Roll Call Janice N. Wittschiebe, Arch 78, MS Arch 80

Wittschiebe is a principal in Richard • Wittschiebe Architects of Atlanta. She is currently vice president of communications on the executive committee of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association and served on the board of trustees from 1996 to 1998. She is a member of the Georgia Tech Foundation and served as the first woman to chair the Georgia Tech Advisory Board. She is a member of Tech’s College of Architecture Development Council and Program Advisory Board and is past chair of the college’s advisory board. She was a National Architectural Accrediting Board Observer for 2002. A member of the American Institute of Architects since 1976, she has served on the board of directors of the Atlanta chapter of the AIA and as a director for Alves. She is a member of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation and a member and past president of Women in Architecture/Atlanta. She has been a guest juror for the Mississippi State Design Awards as well as a visiting design juror at Southern Polytechnic State University and Georgia Tech, where she formerly was a design instructor. She is the widow of Bruce Wittschiebe, CE 76, and lives in Atlanta.

For Vice President for Communications C. Meade Sutterfield, EE 72

Sutterfield is a private equity investor, primarily in emerging telecommunications and wireless communications entities. He also serves as an advisor to Providence Equity Partners and Antares Capital, as well as other venture capital firms. He began a career in telecommunications after receiving his master’s in business administration from Harvard Business School. He entered the specialized mobile radio industry in 1986, when he purchased Johnson Communications Corp., which he built into one of the nation’s largest SMR carriers. The company was sold in 1993 to Nextel Communications. He also founded Powerfone, another SMR carrier, which was sold to Nextel in 1994. He was a member of the Alumni Association board from 1996 to 2001 and currently serves on the Alexander-Tharpe Fund board of Tech’s Athletic Association and the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering advisory board. He has been named to Georgia Tech’s Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni. He is chairman-elect of the Society of International Business Fellows, a director of the Radio Club of America and a member of the Atlanta Business Roundtable. He is married to Susan Johnson Sutterfield and has three grown stepchildren.

Trustee Nominees

■ CONSTANCE CALLAHAN, MS CP 93, manages the construction portfolio for SunTrust Bank’s Community Development Corp. Prior to joining SunTrust, she was vice president and development manager for Centennial Olympic Park. A graduate of the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, she received a master’s in city planning from Georgia Tech in 1993. Callahan sat on the Governor’s Development Council, a public/private partnership that focuses on economic development initiatives, from 1995 to 1997. She initiated Georgia’s pre-Olympic training program and developed the Georgia Avenue corridor for Olympic use. Callahan is a member of the College of Architecture’s alumni committee and the advisory board of Tech’s city planning program. She is a member of the executive board of the Urban Land Institute in Atlanta and chair of the urban plan program. She is president and director of Uster Project in Atlanta, a member of Central Atlanta Progress’ development review committee and a member of the American Planning Association. Callahan lives in Atlanta.

■ STEVE W. CHADDICK, EE 74, MS EE 82, is senior vice president and chief strategy officer of CIENA Corp. He has also served as senior vice president of systems and technology, senior vice president for strategy and corporate development, vice president of product development and president of CIENA’s core switching division. Prior to joining CIENA, Chaddick was vice president of engineering at AT&T Tridon, a manufacturer of small aperture satellite terminal systems. Chaddick is a member of the Peachtree Road United Methodist Church and a trustee of the Galloway School. He serves on the Georgia Tech Advisory Board, the advisory board of the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering and is a member of the Georgia Tech Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni. He is also an Alexander-Tharpe Fund trustee and a member of the Hill-Society. Chaddick and his wife, Barbara, live in Atlanta with their son, Justin, 14.

■ TONY S. CHAN, E 94, MS Mgt 98, is director of strategy and performance management at Hands On Atlanta, an advisory board for Partners In Technology, a program dedicated to making computer and Internet access available to everyone. During his freshman year at Tech, he helped create Best Buddies, a volunteer group working with mentally disabled. After graduation in 1994, he worked for Andersen Worldwide and was assigned to the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games as transportation coordinator for the Olympic Village. Chan returned to Tech to pursue his master’s and created the TEAM Buzz Community Service Day. The Alumni Association in 2001 named Chan the Outstanding Young Alumnus. He is co-chair of the Georgia Tech Young Alumni Network and an industry member of the Georgia Tech Executive Roundtable. He has supported Roll Call for 12 consecutive years and the Alexander-Tharpe Fund for eight years. The Atlanta resident is a member of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church.
THOMAS FREDERICK DAVENPORT III, IM 84, is principal of Lavista Associates Inc., an Atlanta commercial real estate brokerage firm. While a student at Tech, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epilson and currently serves as president of the fraternity’s alumni group in Atlanta. Davenport is a member of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors and the Cherokee Town and Country Club. He volunteers as a coach at the Northside Youth Organization and the YMCA. He is also active at Holy Spirit Catholic Church and Trinity School, where he and his wife, Mary, co-chaired the 2001-02 fund-raising drive. Davenport has contributed to Roll Call and the Alexander-Tharpe Fund for “16 consecutive years and has participated in the Ramblin’ Recruiter Program. The Davenports have two children, Thomas, 8, and Jack, 4, and live in Atlanta.

ANNE WISE FULLER, ME 68, MS PP 93, is chief executive officer of Priority Perspective Inc., a consulting company for small to medium-size businesses in Louisville, Ky. She is also an instructor of graduate programs at the Robert School of Business at Bellarmine University in Louisville. Fuller spent 17 years with Motorola in engineering and management positions in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Atlanta, Phoenix and Tianjin, China. She has served on the board of advisers for Georgia Tech’s School of Public Policy and the Wesley Foundation. Fuller was inducted into the College of Engineering Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni in 1995. She has supported Roll Call for the last 26 years. Fuller lives in Louisville with her husband, Doug (BS 85). Her father, Arnold E. Wise, graduated in 1949 in industrial engineering.

CHARLES A. “CHUCK” HALL, CBE 85, MS CHE 87, is director of the polymer business unit of William Barnett & Son LLC, a manufacturer and supplier of fibers, polymers and yarns in Spartanburg, S.C. At Tech, he was a member of the student chapter of the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry. Hall is a past president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Club and currently serves as the club secretary. He is a member of the external advisory board of the School of Chemical Engineering and an inductor into the Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni. He has served on the boards of the Sedge Avenue School Cooperative and the Adult Writing and Reading Education Program. He is also a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity and Team BLUZ, the Sunday school president and a member of Buncombe Street United Methodist Church. Hall and his wife, Pam, have two daughters, Abigail, 3, and Alexandra, 2, and live in Simpsonville, S.C.

S. GORDON MOORE JR., MG’ 82, MS MG 97, is managing partner and director of the Office of Minority Educational Services at Georgia Tech. While a student at Tech, Moore was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He is a member of the search committees and the associate vice provost for Enrollment Services. A participant in the Minority Affairs Committee at Tech since 1992, Moore also serves on one of the chancellor’s task forces for the University of Georgia System. Moore is a life member of the National Society of Black Engineers and has served as chairman of its national leadership and precollege initiative committees and currently sits on the regional and national advisory boards. Moore is a member of the strategic planning and restructuring task force for the National Association of Minority Engineering Program Administrators and is a member of the National Black MBA Association. He is a National Youth Sports Association certified coach and travels around the nation as a motivational speaker, moderator, workshop presenter and educational consultant. Moore is single and lives in Atlanta.

OSCAR N. PERSONS, MS 60, is senior partner and past chair of Alston & Bird law firm’s litigation department. He has been a lecturer on trial practice, appellate advocacy, securities litigation, restrictive covenants/trade secrets, corporate litigation and discovery. He was general counsel to the Georgia Republican Party from 1971 to 1993, a member of the state election board from 1976 to 1986, chair of the late U.S. Sen. Paul Coverdell’s 1992 election campaign and Georgia chair of Bob Dole’s 1988 and 1996 presidential campaigns and the 1997 state Electoral College. Persons earned a law degree from Emory University in 1967. He is a member of the Atlanta Bar Association and Old War Horse Lawyers Club. He was elected to the Academy of Distinguished Alumni of the Georgia Tech School of Industrial and Systems Engineering and serves on the advisory board of the College of Sciences. Persons and his wife, Virginia, have two children and live in Atlanta.

WILLIAM J. TODD, IM 71, is special assistant to Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue. He founded Encina Technology Ventures, an early-stage technology venture capital fund, in partnership with Atlanta developer Tom Cousins in 2000. Todd was founding president in 1990 of the Georgia Research Alliance, a strategic partnership of six Georgia research universities, private enterprise and state government designed to leverage research capabilities into economic development. Previously Todd worked in various administrative capacities at the Emory University Health Care System including a stint as assistant vice president for medical administration at the Robert W. Woodruff Health Sciences Center. Todd serves on the boards of the Georgia Tech Foundation, the Atlanta and Georgia Chambers of Commerce, the University of Georgia Research Foundation, Andrew College, Theatre Gael and the Holy Land Institute for Pastoral Renewal.

Todd is a frequent contributor on issues of technology policy to Congress and the Georgia General Assembly and writes a monthly column on technology for Georgia Trend magazine, which has named the fourth generation Atlantan one of the “100 Most Powerful and Influential People in Georgia” for the past five years. He is an elder at Shalowfard Presbyterian Church. Todd and his wife, Elizabeth, have two children, David, 19, and Hayes, 18, a sophomore at Tech. They live in Atlanta.

B. KENNETH TOWNSEND, ME 64, is president of Townsend Personal Financial Planning in Columbus, Ga. Previously he had worked for Exxon Chemical Co. for 34 years in various management positions including global procurement manager for chemicals and catalysts. Townsend has received an MBA from the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School of Business in 1966. Townsend has been involved with the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and United Way, an officer in the Columbus Georgia Tech Club and headed the Columbus Regional President’s Scholarship and the Bradley Turners Leadership Scholarship Committee for Georgia Tech. Townsend and his wife, Janice, have two grown children, Tyler and Meredith, and live in Columbus.

AL TRUJILLO, AE 81, is president and chief executive officer of Recall Corp., a global information management company. Prior to his appointment as CEO, Trujillo was president of Recall Americas, responsible for information management in North and South America. He has also held positions with Recall in Australia and New Zealand. Trujillo earned master’s degrees in mechanical engineering and business administration from Stanford University. Trujillo is a member of the boards of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce and the Georgia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Young Presidents Organization, Business Executives for National Security and Ali Saints Catholic Church. Trujillo was elected to Georgia Tech’s College of Engineering’s Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni in 1995. He is an active supporter of Roll Call and assists the Institute in the recruitment of Hispanic students. Trujillo and his wife, Mela, have two daughters, Jackie, 11, and Amanda, 16, and live in Dunwoody, Ga.

CHRIS A. VERLANDER, IM’ 70, is senior vice president of corporate development for Associated Industries of Florida, a Tallahassee-based business lobby. Previously Verlander held several positions with American Heritage Life Insurance Co., including vice chairman, president and chief operating officer. Verlander earned an MBA from the University of Florida in 1971. He is a fellow of the Life Office Management Association and the Life Insurance Marketing Research Association. Verlander is past president of the Florida Insurance Council and the Gator Bowl Association. He serves on the boards of The Boiles School, SunBank of N. Florida, Tallahassee Baptist Financial Services, the Florida Insurance Council and the Overseers Council at Samford University. Verlander serves on the advisory board of the DuPree School of Management at Georgia Tech and is a lifetime member of the Alexander-Tharpe Fund. Verlander and his wife, Karen, live in Jacksonville, Fla., and have three grown children Alan, Scott, MBA 01, and Mike.
High-tech High
Technology partnership accentuates research curriculum

By Maria M. Lameiras

Candice Hogan's sophomore research project involved the extraction of DNA from samples of canine blood using agarose gel electrophoresis in a biochemistry lab at Georgia Tech.

But Candice isn't a Tech student, she's a 16-year-old junior at the Rockdale Magnet School for Science and Technology in Conyers, Ga., a partnership between Georgia Tech and Rockdale County Public Schools designed to give high school students the opportunity to study college-level math, science and technology.

The magnet school, established in the fall of 2000, involves a specialized curriculum designed by Tech and the school system and utilizes both high school teachers and College of Engineering faculty to expose the students to research currently available only at the college level.

Recruited from a magnet school in Columbia, S.C., director Angela Quick helped design the school's curriculum, including specially developed research classes that teach study methods and time management. Students also perform detailed, in-depth research and investigations in specific areas of math, science or technology through long-term research projects.

"These classes were designed after meeting with middle school students here and finding out their strengths and weaknesses," Quick said.

There are 115 students enrolled in the "school within a school" at Rockdale High. The inaugural class of 12 seniors, who entered the program as sophomores, graduated in May.

Eighth-graders are selected based on teacher recommendations, grades and discipline record, a personal interview, problem-solving skills and a writing sample.

In addition to required classes in English, social studies, foreign language and health, magnet students are required to take advanced math, science and technology classes. Quick said magnet students often take advanced placement liberal arts classes as well.

Quick said the partnership with Tech is an invaluable resource to the program and the students.

"If a student comes up with a research project that is out of the scope of our facilities, I can contact Whit Smith at Georgia Tech and get them access to a gas chromatograph or a lab facility we don't have here. It has opened up a world of learning for the students," she said. "Through Tech they communicate with people at the Institute, at the Centers for Disease Control, with our French partners at Georgia Tech-Lorraine — their learning has really been escalated."

Smith, a senior research engineer in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, is Georgia Tech's liaison with the Rockdale Magnet School, helping coordinate student activities on campus, helping students gain access to people and facilities at Tech and mentoring individual students.

"The program is run out of the College of Engineering instead of out of the typical outreach office that administers the rest of our K-to-12 programs," he said. "In addition to working with students, I do a lot of background work, from helping raise funds to planning events, particularly those in which the students have interaction with Georgia Tech."

That interaction varies from Rockdale freshmen attending freshman chemistry and biology classes at Tech to using Institute facilities usually inaccessible to high school students.

"Some of the projects these students do are so exotic they can't do them at the high school," Smith said. "One student needed to calibrate an instrument to an atomic clock, so I took him to Dobbins Air Force Base and used the Georgia Tech facilities there for the calibration. Another needed dynamometers to measure the torque coming out of automobiles and he came to mechanical engineering to use the instrumentation there. Another girl has been using biological substances so hazardous they can't legally be used at a high school.

"These students don't do science fair projects, they do research projects," said Smith, adding that in 2001 — the first year Rockdale Magnet students participated in the regional science fair for the Rockdale/DeKalb area — they won every first-place prize and many of the second- and third-place prizes.

Last year, two magnet students were the first Rockdale County students to ever participate in the International Science Fair.

The benefits to the students are obvious — a unique research-based curriculum, a sense of community among magnet students and enhanced self-esteem — but Smith said Tech reaps the benefits of the partnership as well.

"In the Georgia Tech sense, we get a better crop of potential students coming in and Georgia Tech's good name ends up in a whole lot of places," he said. "It enlightens the students to science and math and gives them an introduction to the university community they normally wouldn't get the opportunity for."

The program also better prepares the students for the challenges of college.

"One of my biggest problems with new Georgia Tech students isn't that they can't do the work, it is that they get so busy doing other things they don't have time to do the academic stuff," Smith said. "Georgia Tech students all have tremendous backgrounds, but they tend to get sucked into more activities than they can handle.

"During the first research class the Rockdale Magnet students take as freshmen, we don't talk about science or technology. We talk about managing themselves — more than just time management, but characterizing teachers, how to study and balancing all of the other activities that will be begging for their time," Smith said. "We advocate that they be well-rounded, not just purely interested in science or technology."

Justin Gilstrap, 15, wants to pursue architectural engineering and was intrigued by the edge the magnet program would give him in pursuing his goal.

"They really prepare us. It is rigorous and we expect it to be, but it is really worth the effort," Justin said.
Next STEP
Equipping teens beyond high school
By David Terraso

E
ach day millions of high school students across the nation look up at the equation-covered chalk-boards in their math and science classes and think, “When the heck am I ever going to use this stuff?”

For many, the answer is never. But thanks to a group of Georgia Tech graduate students, teenagers in six metro Atlanta high schools are learning how to use those classroom lessons to develop a career.

“Many of these kids have no idea what they want to do when they get out of high school,” said Sundiata Jangha, a 27-year-old African-American doctoral stu-dent in mechanical engineering and a fellow in Tech’s Student and Teacher Enhancement Partnership.

As a STEP fellow, he spends at least 10 hours a week teaching general chemistry along with accelerat-ed physics and chemistry at the predominately African-American Cedar Grove High School. Jangha and 11 other fellows have spent the past year working with teachers in high schools located mainly in Atlanta’s African-American southern portion.

Launched in 2001, Tech’s STEP program is jointly administered by the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning and Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics and Computing. It is funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

Jangha said the graduate students not long out of high school “can connect with the students in ways that the school’s teachers can’t. Plus we can show the students how we use concepts discussed in class in our research projects.”

Getting students on a college and career path is vital to their success, Jangha said. “I try to get my stu-dents to think about what they want to do when they graduate from high school. So many of them have such a broad range of career ideas: fireman, police- officer, astronaut. That’s great when you’re 6, but at this point you need to narrow your choices and find out what it takes to get there.”

STEP fellow David Woessner is also trying to teach his students to go the extra mile. A candidate for a master’s degree in mechanical engineering and another in business administration, he teaches applied physics and chemistry at the predominately black Westlake.

Woessner said he is especially interested in help-ing African-American students join the engineering profession. “Why do we need more black engineers? We have a big problem in the black community with access to technology. Technology can be a great divider of society and engineers can give back to their commu-nity by providing access to both the technology and the company. Even among the wealthy,African-Americans I notice a technology and computer illitera-cy. For instance, out of the 25 or so students in NSBE at Westlake, only five use e-mail.”

Closing the technology gap, Woessner said, is cru-cial for the black community to continue to grow and penetrate professional fields. So is going to college. Woessner and Jangha were among the STEP fel-lowes who took their students to Georgia Tech’s FOCUS weekend, a program designed to recruit African-American graduate students.

Visiting a graduate school recruiting program may seem like jumping the gun when the students aren’t even in college yet, Jangha said, but it helps them focus on a career path.

To help students develop a career path, STEP fellow Kendra Taylor co-founded the Young Ladies Initiative at Dunwoody High School in north DeKalb County. Also an African-American, he helped his stu-dents start a junior chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers at the predominately black Westlake.

Woessner said he is especially interested in help-ing African-American students join the engineering profession. “Why do we need more black engineers? We have a big problem in the black community with access to technology. Technology can be a great divider of society and engineers can give back to their community by providing access to both the technology and the company. Even among the wealthy African-Americans I notice a technology and computer illiteracy. For instance, out of the 25 or so students in NSBE at Westlake, only five use e-mail.”

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To help students develop a career path, STEP fellow Kendra Taylor co-founded the Young Ladies Initiative at Dunwoody High School in north DeKalb County. The group, made up of 17 students, Taylor and three other professional women, meets on Wednesday mornings and at lunch to discuss goals and strategies for success.

“Many of the students don’t understand the link-age between what they study and their career,” Taylor said. “In the Young Ladies Initiative we ask them to ask themselves, ‘What are the characteristics I see in the young lady that I will become in the next five years?’ I remind them of these traits during the weeks that we meet.”

By the end of the semester, the young women had a list of goals and strategies to achieve them — the first step in the long road to success.

“In my mentoring, I try to incorporate the math, science and engineering and let the young ladies know this is something they can do,” said Taylor, who is pursuing a PhD in industrial engineering.

Taylor and Jangha hope to be college professors someday and say that participating in STEP will give them a better understanding of their future students. Woessner intends to go into professional sports man-agement but plans to keep mentoring students through the NSBE junior chapter he helped found.

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

Reaching Out
Tech strives to be good neighbor
By Elizabeth Campell

T
housands of Georgia Tech students, faculty and staff lend their hands, hearts and minds to neighborizing communities through volunteer and outreach efforts.

“Our neighborhood outreach initiatives are a tan-gible expression of our intent to create a positive envi-ronment for ourselves and our neighbors,” said President Wayne Clough.

Many student organizations and campus depart-ments encourage and coordinate community outreach programs ranging from tutoring to blood drives.

CEISMC — The Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics and Computing focuses on the kindergarten through 12th grade education community, including teachers, students, parents and community leaders. CEISMC offers Tech students an opportunity to mentor Atlanta elementary students and facilitates student enrichment programs and teaching camps for teachers. Each year CEISMC places dozens of teach-ers throughout the state in the Georgia Industrial Fellowships for Teachers program, matching math and science teachers with summer fellowship opportunities at such leading businesses and public science organi-zations as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, ENS Technologies, Georgia Power Co., Scientific Atlanta and United Parcel Service.

MOVE — Mobilizing Opportunities for Volunteer Experience is Tech’s umbrella organization for commu-nity service and volunteer opportunities. MOVE has 16 committees addressing everything from animal abuse to the blood supply. Tech gives blood literally. It is the 10th largest supplier of blood out of the more than 2,000 metro Atlanta organizations that sponsor drives.

Office of International Education — International students, return Study Abroad students and interna-tional affairs majors tutor at the International Charter School in DeKalb County, where 60 percent of the stu-dents are children of immigrants or refugees from such places as Cuba, Senegal and Vietnam. The Tech interna-tional students tutor them in math and English and help with homework. The Tech students bring their international backgrounds and experience to connect with these youngsters. They understand what it is like to be different and in a strange place and be expected to perform academically.

TEAM Buzz Day — Each fall since 1997 more than 1,500 students, faculty and staff participate in TEAM — Tech Enhancing Atlanta Metropolitan — Buzz Day and work on a variety of projects throughout the metro Atlanta area. Volunteers can pick from nearly 60 service projects, including working with children and staffing local food banks to improving the appearance of local parks and building homes with Habitat for Humanity.

Elizabeth Campell is a writer with Institute Communications and Public Affairs.
Commencement 2003

Sen. Elizabeth Dole, CDC director Gerberding address 2,044 graduates

Graduates who participated in Georgia Tech’s 215th Commencement on May 3 entered a world filled with challenges, but were fueled by enthusiasm for their accomplishments and spurred on by words of encouragement. U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Dole, who gave the address at the undergraduate ceremony in the morning, told graduates they face a world that is wary of the United States’ power. “You are our messengers,” Dole said. “To those abroad, show them that we have no sinister motives, share with them our ideals of freedom and tolerance. Show them that we only wish to share freedom and liberty with all of mankind.”

Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, spoke at the graduate ceremony in the afternoon. Among the 2,044 graduates — 1,346 undergraduates, 623 master’s candidates and 75 doctoral candidates — who received their degrees at Alexander Memorial Coliseum, no one was happier to “get out” of Tech than Bill Palmer.

In 1999, Palmer was a fifth-year engineering major and co-op student looking forward to graduation. That spring he was involved in a car crash that left him brain damaged and comatose. Palmer was given only a 5 percent chance of surviving, but one week later, he woke up. Recovery was not easy or complete, but Palmer returned to Tech in the fall. A subsequent brain hemorrhage resulting from the first injury left Palmer unable to walk and dependent on a motorized wheelchair to get around. Again, doctors offered little hope that he would be able to return to school and graduate after suffering two severe brain injuries. After two years of therapy and preparations, Palmer again returned to Tech in 2001. On May 3 he crossed the stage to receive his degree. “It was rough going back to school,” said Palmer, 27, “but I was determined to make it.”
Financial Aid ‘Perfect Storm’ Wreaks Havoc

Georgia Tech has seen a jump in appeals of financial aid applications from incoming freshmen, said Deborah Smith, director of undergraduate admissions.

“The financial aid process is based on last year’s tax statements. For people whose financial situations have changed in the last year, or even this year, their true financial situations are not reflected by last year’s tax information,” Smith said. “Students have begun to submit appeals explaining why their situations are different from what was in their applications.”

Tech’s Office of Student Financial Planning and Services has worked to show students how to appeal financial aid requests that were turned down.

“The financial planning office has been very proactive in getting out to the students on campus and to students who have been accepted to Tech and saying to them that if there has been a change in their financial situation, let us know and there is a process they can use to do that,” Smith said.

Marie Mons, director of Student Financial Planning and Services, said that the poor economy is driving the increased requests for financial assistance.

The deadline for students to apply for financial aid was May 1, but applications are still being processed. “We are experiencing a 21 percent increase in total applications for aid compared to last year,” she said. As of April 28, 11,100 students had applied for financial aid versus 9,200 as of the same day in 2002.

“We are experiencing a significant increase in families with changed financial situations. A colleague of mine described it as ‘the perfect storm,’ where families, even those who have saved, are now finding those savings dwindled by decreased returns in investments. Families who were already challenged to meet costs are facing higher costs and others who were already challenged have faced setbacks like downsizing or job loss,” she said. “Sometimes situations and conditions culminate this way.”

Last fall 30 percent of freshmen received need-based financial aid and 31 percent of all undergraduates received need-based aid. When that number expanded to students who receive scholarships, including about 4,000 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, Mons said.

“We expect this is a combination of students being more aware of financial planning and an increase in students who have never applied for aid before,” she said. Compounding the problem, scholarships and endowments are down “because the investments earned less money, just like our investments do,” she said.

Alumni are providing scholarship help for Tech students, Mons said.

“We’re an old school and our alumni are generous. We have many alumni who give back and now many reunion classes are taking on raising money for scholarships. We have seen that trend pick up in the last few years. The classes of 1952, 1953 and 1963 are a few of the many examples of classes that have funded scholarships,” she said.

Concern over college finances may also drive down the applicant pool, Smith said.

Applications for admission were down 4 percent overall from fall 2002, with tuition deposits slightly up from in-state students and slightly down from out-of-state students over last fall, she said.

SARS Travel Warning

Tech cancels Asian academic, leisure trips

By Maria M. Lameiras

Georgia Tech, which had several study abroad programs planned in Asia this summer, canceled trips to Shanghai, Hong Kong and Singapore due to concerns about the spread of SARS.

Amy Bass Henry, associate director of study abroad in the Office of International Education, said the Hong Kong/Singapore summer program was canceled in early April and the Political Economy of China curriculum based at Fudan University in Shanghai was canceled in mid-April.

“Three of the four classes that were going to be offered abroad are being offered here this summer,” Henry said. “They won’t be the same, because in Hong Kong fieldwork and visits to industrial sites became part of the program, and here they will just have straight classes, but it will be enough for the students to continue making progress toward their degrees and, academically, the ramifications are not too serious for them.”

It is too early to determine if exchange programs slated for the fall at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, National University of Singapore and Fudan University in Shanghai will be affected by concerns about SARS.

“Those students won’t be leaving until August. It is too early to try to make decisions about canceling exchanges until later in the summer,” Henry said.

Martin Ludwig, director of travel for the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, said a summer alumni tour to Beijing also was canceled due to growing concerns about SARS.

“We actually don’t have the ultimate power of canceling the trip, but we want to protect the interests of our alumni who have signed up for the trip,” Ludwig said.

The trip was scheduled last summer and initially had alumni travelers signed up for the June 19-July 4 excursion.

Intra, the travel company running the tour, made the decision to cancel the trip on April 25 and refunded travelers’ money.

Meanwhile, Tech officials are monitoring Web sites maintained by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization to keep up with the latest developments in the disease.

Robert Hartly, executive director of Institute Communications and Public Affairs, said a link was added to the Georgia Tech Web site’s emergency resource center page (http://www.gatech.edu/emergency) with an updated SARS health and travel advisory in early May.

“The international programs office has stayed in much closer touch with students who may have gone to those areas but, from a policy perspective, Georgia Tech hasn’t done anything regarding SARS,” Hartly said.

Although the University of California-Berkeley has banned students from SARS-affected areas from attending summer classes, no students have been denied admission to summer programs at Georgia Tech, said Sheila Schulte, associate director for international student programs in the Office of International Education.

Tech’s Industrial and Systems Engineering program ranked No. 1 for the 13th consecutive year. In all, seven of the 11 programs within Engineering ranked in the top 10 of their respective disciplines.

Among the highly competitive schools of business, Tech’s DePree College of Management ranked 31st overall and the college’s Production/Operations Management program ranked 10th.

“Overall trends are far more important than a specific ranking in a specific year,” said President Wayne Clough. “Our consistently high rankings in Engineering indicate that we have been able to sustain a very high level of quality for a long time. That’s a very satisfying trend.”

Tech’s College of Engineering remained a member of the elite top five, behind only MIT, Stanford, Cal-Berkeley and the University of Illinois. The seven engineering programs in the top 10 are: Aerospace (fourth), Biomedical (sixth), Civil (tenth), Electrical (sixth), Environmental (ninth), Industrial and Systems (first) and Mechanical (sixth).

Although the DePree College of Management dropped in the rankings, Clough said the college has sound fundamentals.

“The economy has hit the tech school sector extremely hard, so it’s only natural that a college that excels in entrepreneurship and the management of technology would feel the impact of that,” Clough said. “I’m very proud of the work done by our faculty, graduate students and staff to achieve these rankings,” said Clough. “We’re consistently competing well against some of the finest universities in the world. Rankings are not why we are here, but the trends contained there are in notable.”

This year, U.S. News & World Report editors ranked graduate programs in business, engineering, fine arts, health sciences, law and medicine.

Additional information about the college rankings may be found at www.gatech.edu and the U.S. News Web site, which may be accessed at www.usnews.com.
Ivins Awarded Ivan Allen Prize

By Kimberly Link-Wills

In her sarcastic and salty style, Molly Ivins downplayed her achievements as a female journalist after accepting the Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Progress and Service.

“I think one of the things that made a difference in my career was my size,” Ivins said during her remarks at the Ivan Allen College Founder’s Day luncheon. “I have towered over every editor I have ever worked for. No one ever looked at me and said, ‘You poor, sweet thing.’ It was always, ‘Ivins, get your ass out there.’

“Since we are celebrating 50 years of women at Georgia Tech, this is especially appropriate to honor Ms. Ivins, who has blazed a trail in the largely male-dominated arena of political commentary and her ability to use humor to critique both state and national politics and politicians.”

“arly in her career, Molly Ivins was a police reporter in Minneapolis. She went to Columbia University for a master’s and then Columbia again for a Ph.D., because of the lack of gatekeeping at that medium, because of the lack of gatekeepers,” Nair-Reichert said.

“Ivins never wanted a ‘society pages’ kind of journalism career. ‘When I started in the newspaper business, if you were female you were pretty much automatically assigned to what was called the snake pit, which was the women’s section,’ she said.

Writing wedding announcements and spring fashion previews didn’t appeal to Ivins, so she went to Columbia University for a master’s degree and ended up as the first female police reporter in Minneapolis.

Eventually the police force named its mascot pig for her. Ivins considers that one of her greatest honors — right up there with being banned from the Texas A&M campus.

Ivins believes in speaking out and taking a stand, and advised students not to be spectators in life. “You will always be a citizen of the United States, and that is in itself another job because this country is your responsibility.”

“Politics is not something you can look at as though it were a picture on a wall or a program on television. To not pay attention to it is to lose an enormous amount of control over your own life.”

Ivins granted that terrorism is a real threat, but said Americans should not give up their constitutional rights as a means of preventing attacks. “I think we are taking tiny steps toward fascism in this country and it worries me.

“We think we can make ourselves safer by making ourselves less free,” she said. “But you’re just less free.”

She also worries about the “considerable harm” done to the United States’ reputation around the world when President Bush decided to go to war despite opposition from other countries.

“It is nonsense for Americans to take this contemptuous attitude toward the rest of the world,” Ivins said.

“We are losing the battle in the hearts and minds in the rest of the world,” she said. “I think we should all be prepared to deal with the consequences of that.”

Ivins did use the podium to take a few shots at the president. “Whenever Bush says that he is going with his gut,” she said, “alarm bells should go off in your mind. That means he has stopped considering the evidence.”

She dismissed a question about liberal bias in the media by calling the notion “horse poop.”

“Ivins said some may find it hard to believe that she does worry about the Internet, which she called a fascinating medium, because of the lack of gatekeepers.

“I hate to see the well of public debate poisoned” with misinformation, she said. “There is a lot of crap on the Internet.”

Legal Buzz

Tech student sued for posting break-in details on Web site, sharing card reader system information

By Kimberly Link-Wills

Georgia Tech student Billy Hoffman and his attorney, alumnus Pete Wellborn, have a court date later this month to address a temporary restraining order barring the computer science major from disseminating information about the BuzzCard system obtained by accessing a switchbox on campus.

The Blackboard Co., which operates card-swipe machines at about 300 universities across the country, has filed a civil lawsuit stating Hoffman and University of Alabama student Virgil Griffith violated the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, the Georgia Computer Systems Protection Act, the Georgia Trade Secrets Act, the Lanham Act and the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act.

Tech uses the BuzzCard in dining and laundry facilities and for vending machines, building and parking lot access and library checkout. Students can deposit money into their accounts through a Web site or by visiting the campus BuzzCard office.

In court documents, the attorneys for Blackboard refer to Hoffman’s Web site, on which he wrote that “the signals to and from several Blackboard readers have been captured, as well as how data is stored on the cards. Using this knowledge, Virgil and I have created a drop-in compatible reader that will work with an existing RS-485 network.

“This (Web site) will show not only did we hack the system, but we hacked it so far we could build functional readers from scratch.”

Blackboard says in its complaint that “Mr. Hoffman’s Web site also acknowledges that he broke into a switchbox, a wall mount enclosure in a campus laundry, in order to examine an otherwise closed wired system.”

Hoffman’s site explains that he broke into the switchbox using “a long thin knife,” according to the complaint. “His Web site then shows photographs of this uncovered wiring system and attempts to explain how this reader, data line and multiplexer fit together.”

Wellborn met in April at the InterzOne conference in Atlanta, where the attorney spoke on “Stupid Record Companies, Thieving Internet Users and the State of Internet Music After Napster.”

Hoffman and Griffith were to present a seminar but Blackboard obtained a cease and desist order that barred the two from taking the podium. By the end of the weekend event, billed as a convention for “technology addicts, digerati, securi ty professionals, hackers, pheonekers, geeks and the general public,” Wellborn had been retained as counsel and an InterOne Legal Defense Fund had been set up.

Both sides are set to appear in DeKalb County Superior Court on May 30.

“We’ll be ready to defend the case tooth and nail, but it may be the case that the parties can agree upon some middle ground that is much less expansive than the temporary restraining order as currently written that will allow Billy and Virgil to comment on the state of technology while at the same time Blackboard will be satisfied that its rights are not being infringed upon,” Wellborn said.

No criminal charges have been brought alleging actual theft of meals, sodas or loads of laundry — anything purchased with a BuzzCard, he said.

Tech officials can’t discuss any disciplinary action that may have been taken. And the Institute has no involvement in the case brought by Blackboard.

Robert Harty, director of Institute Communications and Public Affairs, dismissed the notoriety surrounding Hoffman and said the computer-science student did not successfully hack into the BuzzCard system.

“This was vandalism of a switchbox,” Harty said. “We’ve taken a careful look at the BuzzCard system and it is secure.”

The case has garnered international attention. In its “Did You Hear?” column, the Washington Post highlighted a comment Hoffman reportedly made after receiving the restraining order. “I ... found the emperor has no clothes, and now everyone’s mad at me.”

Wellborn said Blackboard is seeking equitable relief. In other words, the company doesn’t want money from the college students. It wants to permanently bar them from telling people how to hack into the card reader system.

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Going Global
Distance Learning, Professional Education extend reach

By Neil B. McGahee

Georgia Tech is recognized as one of the top U.S. technological universities, a status achieved by reliance on traditional education and research methods. The Global Learning Center, opening in July at the new Midtown campus, along with the merger of two postgraduate education departments will provide easier access to education outside the traditional framework of the Institute.

“Tech has historically provided limited education opportunities beyond the campus boundaries,” said Bill Wepfer, interim vice provost of Distance Learning and Professional Education. “Distance Learning was primarily tied to our five distance degree master’s programs and, more recently, with the Georgia Tech Regional Engineering Program in Savannah.

Professional Education, formerly called Continuing Education, offered noncredit certificate programs and the Language Institute offered English as a second language.

“We decided last March to integrate the three departments to create a high-level service organization — Distance Learning and Professional Education — that has the infrastructure to provide course content anywhere in the world.”

Wepfer said the department merger, a new Web site and a move to the Global Learning Center will provide an easier point of contact for faculty, staff and students.

“The Global Learning Center and the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center will be a world-class facility that allows us to offer some fabulous events,” Wepfer said. “Access from the Global Learning Center and the hotel complex will be seamless, separated only by a courtyard. The first-class on-site facilities and state-of-the-art technology, along with the expertise of our faculty, should play a key role in developing new partnerships with leading corporations and universities similar to our relationships with General Electric and Georgia Tech-Lorraine.

“We currently have about 35 junior GE engineers taking part in our master’s programs,” he said. “We want to expand that program and a similar one at Lockheed-Martin. By partnering with companies and other universities, we can enhance our educational and research innovations.”

Wepfer said the new facilities will allow Tech to offer more short courses, a favorite with alumni.

“We will have a more blended delivery of classes,” he said. “A lot of the short courses in the past have been done the traditional way with people coming into town. The DLPE program and the Global Learning Center give us the ability to produce these materials so they can take the courses at home.”

“We also want to be able to take our course offerings to our neighbors in the Midtown area since we are now part of the community. A lot of those people aren’t going to be attracted to the hard-core ‘Techie’ stuff, so the Ivan Allen College will be able to offer many life-enriching experiences that Midtown folks might like.”

Wepfer said DLPE wants to extend the Georgia Tech educational experience to everyone.

“Whether they are sitting right in front of you or thousands of miles away, Georgia Tech is in the educational delivery business.”

Future Space
Astronaut says exploration essential

By Neil B. McGahee

A veteran space traveler and moon walker, John W. Young, returned to his alma mater to tell about 250 engineering students that space exploration is still a necessary mission for the future.

Former astronaut Young, AE 52, a veteran of the Gemini, Apollo and space shuttle programs, was the keynote speaker for the Aerospace Engineering Distinguished Lecture Series, presented by the School of Aerospace Engineering and the William R.T. Oakes Endowment on April 17.

Young first flew on Gemini 3 in 1965 and later Gemini 10, Apollo 10 and Apollo 16, during which he became one of only 12 men to walk on the moon. Young commanded the inaugural space shuttle flight and the first Spacelab mission. He is now the associate director of the Johnson Space Center in Houston, responsible for technical, operational and safety oversight of NASA missions.

Part of his job involves the investigation of the Feb. 1 crash of Columbia, the spacecraft he piloted 22 years ago.

“I knew when we lost trajectory it was gone,” he said.

What does the future hold for human space exploration in the wake of this tragedy?

“We’ll go back when the president says, ‘Do it,’” Young said. “I fully expect to see manned landings on Mars and a permanent base on the moon.”

Young said it would be foolish to think that future human space exploration can take place without the loss of lives and equipment, but changes are needed at NASA.

“We need to build more conservatism into the program,” he said. “Columbia was being treated as an operational vehicle, but it was still an experimental vehicle. The crash proved that.”

Young told the audience that he enrolled at Tech because he believed engineering technologies would save the world and 50 years later, the challenge remains the same.

“Space is our future,” he said. “Engineers like you will eventually help save the human race.”
H e’s the self-acknowledged leader of a “bunch of flinty-eyed, hard-nosed” businesspeople, but if that’s what it takes to get Georgia Tech through a spate of construction in a morose economy, it’s fine with Stith.

H. Hammond Stith, CE ’58, ends a two-year term as chairman of the Georgia Tech Foundation on June 30, handing the reins to real estate developer A.J. Land. Stith is the retired president of Stith Equipment Co., an Atlanta business that sells construction equipment.

During Stith’s tenure as chairman, the Foundation ventured into the bond market for $250 million, extended the credit line by $60 million and bought a half dozen increasingly precious land parcels near campus for future expansion — all in support of the Institute.

“Doing all that in a downside business cycle? Oh we had a ball,” Stith said.

The Foundation acts as the Institute’s bank, Stith said, raising funds and investing them for whatever purpose Tech officials deem necessary. Each year, the Foundation allocates to the Institute about 5 percent to 6 percent from its investment portfolio of $750 million.

Foundation-supported projects include renovations, construction, land purchases, equipment upgrades and scholarships.

“The academicians have the vision, what they want to accomplish in a certain time period,” Stith said. “Our job is to stay in touch with reality. When we meet in the middle, it’s always good.

“People think we’re a bunch of flinty-eyed, hard-nosed businesspeople who sit around saying no to everything, but nothing could be further from the truth,” he said.

Stith knew he would be leading the Foundation through a tough time. Tech had just finished a major fund-raising drive that left many alumni and support- ers tapped out. The national economy was beginning to teeter.

Instead of simply waiting for state coffers and alumni pockets to refill, Stith agreed with Tech President Wayne Clough to lead the Foundation in its first foray into the bond market. Taking an AA-1 rating to New York, the Foundation raised $250 million to build the 8-acre Technology Square and expand the student athletics center. In addition, the $60 million line of credit was used to complete the construction of 11 buildings on campus.

He credits the Foundation’s success during his tenure to alumni who chaired various committees, including Niles Bolton, Don Chapman, Mark Dash, Herky Harris, Jim Lientz, Mac Niese, Joe Rogers Jr., Bill Todd, John Staton and chair-elect A.J. Land.

But John Carter Jr., the Foundation’s president, said Stith deserved more of the credit.

“Buck is an extremely effective leader who is always fair and honest. He leads with integrity. When dealing with the tough issues — and we have had a few in the last two years — Buck’s style is to put the issue on the table and deal with it head on. He has no hidden agendas and, using an old cliche, you can take his word to the bank,” Carter said.

“When the day is done no matter how tough the issue, you always know you had a fair hearing and that Buck is still your friend.”

Stith said he was proud of several Foundation accomplishments during the past two years. One is that even though the number of large donations made to the Foundation dropped, the number of alumni giv- ing didn’t — remaining at more than 20,000 a year. Another is that Tech outperformed 75 percent of peer universities in investment returns.

A former president of the Alumni Association, Stith said the Foundation tries to have a strong relationship with alumni. “They can be satisfied knowing that any money given to Tech is managed by Tech grads, and we will give them a fair return.”

Technology Square is due to open this summer, on time and under budget, Stith noted. The $180 million development will become home to the College of Management, the Global Learning Center and center for executive education, the Economic Development Institute and the Foundation. It also will include a 252- room hotel and conference center, a bookstore and retail and restaurant space.

With his term over as Foundation chairman, Stith plans to spend more time on the golf course near his mountain home in Cashiers, N.C. But he’ll return to Tech during the two years he will serve the Foundation as its past chairman and to attend the sporting events that first sparked his interest in the Institute.

“I used to go to football games with my dad and my coach at Russell High School in East Point,” Stith recalled. “It was one of the happiest days of my life when Tech offered me a basketball scholarship. Otherwise, I would have gone to Clemson and turned into a tobacco-chewing, snuff-dipping engineer.”

The Georgia Tech Foundation

Money Managers

S even alumni have accepted nominations to serve on the Georgia Tech Foundation board and four former members were tapped as emeritus trustees.

Trustees nominated to two-year terms are William Royce “Bill” Collins, ME ’57, MS IM ’65, of Alpharetta, Ga.; chief executive officer for Collins and Arnold Construction Co. in Atlanta; Francis S. “Bo” Godbold, IE ’65, of Tierra Verde, Fla.; vice chairman of Raymond James Financial Inc. in St. Petersburg, Fla.; Dave McKenney, Phys ’60, IE ’64, of Atlanta, chairman, chief executive officer and president of McKenney’s Management Corp. in Atlanta, former president of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association; E. Roe Stamps IV, IE ’67, of Miami, founding partner of Summit Partners in Boston; Howard Telesco, CE ’66, of Simonson, Texas; chairman and CEO of Telepsen Corp. in Houston; Albert S. “Bert” Thornton Jr., IM ’68, of Duluth, Ga., executive vice president of operations with Waffle House Inc. in Norcross, Ga., former presi- dent of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association; and Deborah Nash Willingham, IE ’78, of Medina, Wash., retired senior vice president of human resources for Microsoft Corp., member of the Georgia Tech Industrial and Systems Engineering Alumni Advisory Board and President’s Advisory Board.

Emeritus trustees, who have previously served as board members, are James Thomas “Tommy” Gresham, TE ’60, of LaGrange, Ga., president, treas- urer and general manager of the Callaway Foundation Inc. in LaGrange; Thomas H. “Tom” Hall, IE ’68, of Atlanta, vice president, treasurer and director of The University Financing Foundation in Atlanta; John P. Imray Jr., IM ’59, of Atlanta, chairman of Imray Investments Inc. in Atlanta; and Cecil Jesse “Pete” Silas, CH ’53, of Bartlesville, Okla., retired chairman and CEO of Phillips Petroleum Co.

Foundation Introduces New Board Members

A able Leader

Foundation chairman Buck Stith savors ‘flinty-eyed’ successes

By Karen Hill

Foundation chairman Buck Stith savors ‘flinty-eyed’ successes

Foundation chairman Buck Stith savors ‘flinty-eyed’ successes
Georgia Tech Club
Ground broken on 600-acre residential community, golf course

The Georgia Tech Club has started development of its 600-acre planned residential community, designed around an 18-hole golf course that will also be home to the Georgia Tech golf team.

George C. Griffin II, IM 83, is director of sales for the $66 million planned community being developed in north Fulton and Cherokee counties.

Griffin, former assistant executive director for alumni relations and business development at the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, is in charge of in-house sales and marketing of memberships and real estate for the development, which includes a Stan Smith tennis center, a Johnson & Johnson lifestyle center and fitness facility.

Michael Hickman, CE 89, also was hired by the Georgia Tech Club as sales executive, working with founding members in selection of lots and real estate sales. The Georgia Tech Club is under the umbrella of the University Clubs by Melrose, a subsidiary of the Melrose Co.

Griffin said more than 90 home sites have been sold. “We are well on the way to having 100 home sites and 100 founding members by June 1.”

Four holes of the golf course will be completed this fall and construction of homes will begin in 2004, Griffin said.

In the meantime, a founder’s cabin situated on a lake is being used as a clubhouse where members can go for fishing, barbecues or planned recreational activities, he said.

Niles Bolton, Arch 68, designed the clubhouse and founders cottages, which are being built by Weitz Golf. Weitz Construction, the largest privately held construction company west of the Mississippi and a partner with The Melrose Co., is also building the golf course and roads.

The Rees Jones golf course will be built to world-class standards and is designed to host ACC golf tournaments. The Georgia Tech golf team will have its own set of practice tees and computer learning center at the club.

“It is a great recruiting tool for the Georgia Tech golf program,” Griffin said.

Eleven founder builders will construct all of the homes in the community and each will build two show homes for viewing. There are 206 one-acre home sites on the property, Griffin said.

“The setbacks from the golf course are 75 feet from the fairway — probably the deepest in Atlanta,” Griffin said. “That’s where the yards begin. It’s nicer for the golfers and the homeowners.”

About 100 acres in the community are planned for walking trails and green space, trees and parks.

“This place just sells itself,” Griffin said. “It’s absolutely gorgeous. You see the mountains on one side and the lake on the other.”

The community is expected to sell out in six years. Proceeds from the project will benefit the Georgia Tech Alumni Association and the Athletic Association, Griffin said.

Former PGA Tour pro and ESPN broadcaster Terry Diehl, general manager of the Georgia Tech Club, met with members of the Alumni Association executive committee at the founder’s cabin.

“We’re in a really exciting phase,” Diehl said. “We’ve broken ground. Years of planning and all the behind-the-scenes work are coming to fruition. It’s a very active area.”

During the initial construction, Diehl said, home sites around the lake will be developed at the same time as the Rees Jones golf course, clubhouse, cottages and Stan Smith tennis complexes.

“I played on the tour for over 10 years,” Diehl said. “Atlanta has got some wonderful golf, but I don’t know a place that has a Rees Jones golf course coupled with a Stan Smith tennis complex and a Johnson & Johnson health club and spa in a community that is in an area this nice.”

“Combine those components with a master developer like Melrose and Georgia Tech and you’ve got something that is very special.”

The club cottages on the property open up business opportunities as well, he observed.

“Tell your business clients — come stay at our club,” Diehl said. or

Roll Call Campaign Heads Toward Dual Goals

Roll Call, the Georgia Tech Alumni Association’s annual fund-raising drive that ends June 30, is running ahead of last year’s total on the way toward $7.4 million from more than 26,000 donors.

“Alumni continue to set new standards for support with more than 21,000 donors already this year,” said Jim Shea, Alumni Association assistant executive director for Annual Giving.

Shea said highlights of this year’s campaign include:

• A 7.8 percent increase in Leadership Circle donors, contributions at the $1,000 level and up.
• Parent support totaling more than $75,000 to date, already eclipsing last year.
• A dynamic phonathon effort that accounts for more than 11,000 donors and $1.1 million.

• Corporate support from matching gifts that will exceed $1 million.
• Student contributions from more than 1,600 donors.

Shea said the cost-per-dollar-raised total this year will be less than 10 cents.

“Georgia Tech alumni are a special breed,” said Bill Goodhew, vice president for Roll Call on the executive committee of the board of trustees.

“Their support is unmatched by any other public institution and that goes a long way in making each degree more valuable. Pride in Georgia Tech appears as strong as ever.”

Alumni can contribute online by going to galaumni.org and following the links under “Give Back to Tech.” or
Georgia Tech’s hang glider sweeps over sand dunes near Kitty Hawk, N.C., during the Energy Challenge 2003 competition sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. A team of Tech students designed and built the glider, named Air Buzz, completely from paper products. The competition with other colleges and universities was held in observance of the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers’ first flight. Although Tech’s longest flight, 186 feet, was the second best of the day — the longest was 192 feet — the team did not place. Team scores were determined by a variety of factors, including distance flown in four flights, quality of paper (tensile strength) and research reports. “It’s not about winning, it’s about the experience of participating,” said Jeffery S. Hsieh, faculty adviser for the team and professor and director of Pulp and Paper Engineering. Three of the flights were flown by professional hang glider pilots. Chemical engineering student Vicky Hsu took one turn as pilot. She spent seven days at flight training school in preparation for the event.

Nate Watson has been awarded the Harry S. Truman Scholarship and Monique Gupta has earned the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and both hope to use the prestigious national awards to help them serve their fellow man. Watson, 21, a junior double majoring in public policy and earth and atmospheric sciences, also recently won the Student Government Association presidency. In preparing himself for a life in public service, Watson has spent the past two years as the executive vice president of the SGA and has interned for U.S. Rep. John Linder (R-Ga.), Georgia state Sen. Steve Thompson and the Georgia General Assembly. He hopes one day to win a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he wants to help set environmental policy.

“I believe in getting involved in the leadership of your community, wherever you are,” said Watson. “I feel a lot of the time that politics has a dirty name. I want to do my best to restore people’s faith in politics.” Watson, who entered Tech as a President’s Scholar, is one of 76 scholars selected from 635 national candidates nominated for the Truman award. Each scholarship provides $30,000 — $3,000 for the senior year and $27,000 for two or three years of graduate study. The Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation was established by Congress in 1975 as a federal memorial to the 33rd president of the United States. Watson is only the sixth Georgia Tech student to earn the award.

Gupta, a junior majoring in industrial and systems engineering, plans to go on to earn her engineering doctorate and a medical degree, which she wants to use to improve the efficiency of gene transfer techniques and the health care system. She came to Tech from Macon, Ga., three years ago to study engineering and decided on ISyE for its multidisciplinary benefits. Health care system efficiency is one of the major areas of concentration in ISyE and Gupta has been working on gene therapy techniques with biomedical engineering professor Joseph LeDoux.

Gene therapy is a novel approach to treating diseases, and most of it is still in the experimental phase, she said. The concept is that scientists would first identify a gene in a patient that is causing a certain disease. “A new gene would be created in a lab, and doctors would use it to replace the gene that is causing the problem,” said Gupta, who is also a President’s Scholar. “Diseases that can be helped by gene transfer include rheumatic arthritis and juvenile arthritis.”

The scholarship will pay up to $7,500 toward Gupta’s tuition, fees and room and board for the upcoming year. This year the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation awarded 300 scholarships out of a field of 1,093 applicants from the United States and Puerto Rico. The program is designed to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering.
Back in Class
Engineer answers call to teach, brings technology into curriculum

By Kimberly Link-Wills

Tim Beck left a career as an engineer and took a 70 percent pay cut in order to share his love of engineering in a high school classroom.

Beck, EE 84, MS EE 88, just finished his first year as the technology education teacher at Chamblee Charter High School, which draws high achievers in math and science from throughout metro Atlanta’s DeKalb County.

“This is something I had been considering for a long time,” he said. “I became a consultant fairly young in life and I spent so much of my time traveling the country and developing presentations and formal training classes. I found I really enjoyed teaching and sharing my excitement about technical subjects.

“When I really enjoyed my job, it wasn’t an everyday challenge. This was something that let me share my love of engineering and math and science,” said Beck, a resident of Tucker, Ga., who worked as a licensed engineer in the energy field for 18 years.

The Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program was just the incentive Beck needed to make the career switch. A critical teacher shortage prompted the state to launch the program, which allows those with college degrees to become qualified for provisional classroom duty within a matter of weeks.

“It has to be something you really want to do and it has to be something you plan to do financially. The timing was right,” he said.

He received wholehearted support from his wife, Susan Trees Beck, CE 86, and their 8- and 11-year-old sons. After earning his provisional teaching certificate, Beck quit his job as an engineering manager with Honeywell last August, about a week before he had to report to Chamblee.

“I was so overwhelmed with the amount of work I had to do that I didn’t have time to be nervous. This was a program that had been neglected because they had a hard time finding people to fill these spots. It was a struggle to get equipment running, the space set up,” Beck said.

He has experienced what all public school teachers in cash-strapped districts go through. “I’ve learned that I really have to struggle for every resource I get. I’m going to have to become a super salesman to get resources and business partners to help us do what we want to do,” he said.

“There are a lot of things you don’t expect. Far and away it’s the most physically tiring job I’ve ever had. It’s physically demanding, it’s long hours. But it’s a lot of fun too.”

When he arrived at the high school, Beck found that some students didn’t even know there was a technology lab. But word spread that Beck and his students were building robots, designing Web pages and using a robotic arm.

“I have a team that entered a national robotics competition. While we didn’t win, we just had a fabulous time and I got the kids really excited about next year,” said Beck, who is also the sponsor of the National Society of Black Engineers chapter at the school.

Before the end of the school year, all Beck’s classes were overbooked for the fall. “Once they find out we’ve got some really neat things going on, they’re eager to sign up. I’ve been real enthused by it,” he said.

Beck said it has been rewarding to see his students winning awards, getting scholarships and receiving college acceptance letters. Nearly 20 of his students were invited to enroll at Tech in the fall.

He is incorporating an introduction to engineering course into his fall curriculum to keep the momentum going. “Everything I do tends to be as real world as possible. I try to make things as practical as possible. My whole goal here is to reinforce math and science in a practical setting.”

“I have so many students who focus on money, how much money they’re going to make. One of the things I did was have students do some Web research on the average home price in Atlanta, the average new car price, prevailing interest rates and millage rates,” Beck said.

“It worked out to be that you’d need $50,000 in pre-tax income just to pay the mortgage and the car payment and all the taxes and utilities.”

That was an eye-opening assignment for the high school students who thought the $12-an-hour summer jobs Beck helped them obtain would bring in an “enormous sum of money.”

Beck wants to ensure that his students succeed in college before moving on to the workaday world.

“I tell them they need all the math they can get,” he said. “I really focus on very strong math skills, strong science skills and very strong communication skills.”
First Flight
Combat mission lands alum in history books

When Georgia Tech alumna Capt. Jennifer Wilson landed her B-2 Spirit bomber at an unidentified base in the Middle East on April 1, she made history — again.

Wilson, BioL '95, brought the big bird to a halt after a bombing run over Iraq and officially became the first female B-2 pilot to fly a combat mission. But it’s not the first time she has seen war. Wilson was also in the helm of the Air Force’s B-1 Lancer bomber on its initial combat flight over Kosovo in Operation Allied Force in 1999.

“Flying is great,” Wilson said. “I can’t imagine doing anything else right now. To fly in combat with the B-2 was an awesome experience.”

The 30-year-old Miami native received her commission through the Air Force ROTC program at Tech, then attended undergraduate pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base in Mississippi.

After more than three years flying the B-1, Wilson applied to become a B-2 pilot. After a lengthy application and interview process, she was accepted into the training program in 2000 and qualified to fly the B-2 in April 2002.

The B-2 — or stealth bomber — looks like a giant flying wing. The absence of a vertical profile allows the bomber to penetrate the most sophisticated air defenses and strike heavily defended targets.

“I wanted to have the opportunity to fly what I think is the most premier aircraft,” Wilson said. “It’s exciting to be a part of a chosen few. I am lucky to be able to have the chance to do something that so few people will ever have the opportunity to do.”

Wilson said she believes the training she received gave her the confidence to complete the recent combat sortie.

“I was scared,” Wilson said. “We all trained quite a bit leading up to this operation. I knew I was able to come through and get the job done.”

Wilson said she does not consider the mission a milestone. She said she feels thankful that she was able to come through and get the job done.

“I was humbled to see them excited for me. We all work together to make the mission happen.”

Contingency Engineering Aids
Air Force Base in Afghanistan

No class at Georgia Tech ever prepared Air Force Lt. Sang Lee for his assignment at an air base in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

In one week, Lee, ME '00, and his unit designed and built a facility that provides blast and fragmentation protection for air base personnel. They were instructed that the structure needed to be stable and effective against mortar attacks, placed strategically within the confines of the current base footprint but complying with host nation restrictions. And they could not exceed the $100,000 budgeted and had one week to complete the project.

“This is what I consider contingency engineering at its finest,” said Lee, an officer who serves in the Air Force Civil Engineering Squadron. “My deployment hasn’t taken me to the front lines in Iraq, but our mission is simple — protect this base and its troops.”

Life was much simpler back in Atlanta dealing with Bernoulli’s equation and the first law of thermodynamics, Lee said.

“Out here in Afghanistan, things have a different flavor,” he said. “International politics, intercultural sensitivities, professional networking, proper expenditure of taxpayers’ dollars, back-of-the-envelope engineering and short, but critical, deadlines create a unique challenge. I feel very blessed to have been given the opportunity to take on that challenge.”

Although no class at Tech directly prepared me for these challenges, the problem-solving approach learned in my engineering classes taught me a lot about interpersonal relationships and multiple task juggling.”

Lee said although his unit was hundreds of miles from the fighting, he took pride in the support they provided the combat troops.

“Let me tell you, it was a feeling like none other to watch the statue of Saddam Hussein fall,” Lee said, “knowing that I had some small part in bringing hope to a nation. No award, recognition or salary can ever replace the pride and sense of accomplishment that we felt during that moment.”

Turbulent Times


Silverstein was assigned to strike operations aboard the carrier, helping coordinate missions for the various squadrons on the carrier, while Morales, Betts, Walker and Latham are pilots.

Betts flew the Navy’s newest strike fighter, the F/A-18F Super Hornet, while Walker and Latham flew older model F/A-18s, affectionately known as “Baby Hornets.” Morales flew the venerable S-3 Viking, a tanker/surveillance platform aircraft.

“Flying into Iraq was intimidating at first,” said Walker. “We train hard, but seeing the intense heat of battle for the first time is still a little scary, especially for new guys like me who really don’t know what’s going on.

“These are turbulent times. I just hope all people of the region can get along,” Walker said.
H is nickname is “Psycho” and he loves Tomcats, but not the yowling felines that sit on a fence and keep you awake.

In the ready room of the aircraft carrier Harry S. Truman, Navy Lt. Michael A. “Psycho” Picciano, ME 97, stepped into a pressurized suit and performed a preflight check on his F-14 Tomcat, a swing-wing, twin-engine jet able to fly at twice the speed of sound. He had practiced the routine thousands of times, but this was the real thing — his first combat mission as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“One way to the jet, I was nervous as hell,” he said, “mostly because I didn’t want to screw up, not because I was worried about dying or being shot down. Those things don’t enter your mind. Most of the pressure in this job is internal — we all want to do it right.”

The start sequence took about 20 minutes. Picciano taxied the warplane to the steam-powered catapult buried in the flight deck of the Truman. Steam rose around them as sailors swarmed around the jet like ants on a hill.

‘Be On Your Game’ Picciano flies Tomcats in combat
By Neil B. McGahee

Picciano veered the Tomcat sharply away from the Truman and climbed to 25,000 feet.

“One time I was airborne and busy doing 100 other things, including flying and looking for people shooting at me, the tension went away completely,” he said. “When you fly a six-hour mission to Iraq off the boat, drop bombs and return to the ship, a lot of pieces have to fall in place. That’s where the stress comes in. You try not to think about things you can’t control and just do your job the best you can.”

“I hate to say it, because it sounds cliche, but it was so much like training that it was hard to believe. Iraq looks just like the Nevada desert from 25,000 feet. We did everything just like in training. Of course, it’s real and it’s more complex, and the ‘foq of war’ — not enough information, decisions to be made, questions of target location, identification and weapons status — is ever present.”

Picciano’s VF-32 fighter group dodged anti-aircraft fire over northern Iraq. He could see explosions rocking Baghdad to the south.

“Passenger,” he said, “is not a word. You are far from home and you need the protection, the experience and skills. They attach the launch wires, the holdback bar keeps you on the flight deck, but you have to trust your experience and skills. They attack the launch bar to the nose strut and pull down the catapault stroke. Then they hook up the holddown fitting, which holds you back so when we go to full throttle, the jet stays put.”

The flight director double-checked the catapult for the shot, then signaled Picciano to go to full power. The Tomcat’s engines roared and the entire jet shook, but the holdback bar kept you in place. That’s where the stress comes in. You try not to think about things you can’t control and just do your job the best you can.

“You are far from home and you need the gas,” he said. “There are five or six other planes converging in the same piece of sky that need gas as well. You need to get in there quickly and safely, get your gas and get out. One thing you can’t control is the weather. This posed the biggest problems on the tanker.

Tanking in the go, at night, low on gas, after four or five hours of a combat mission, is an uncomfortable place to be. You can’t go 100 percent intensity for six hours. You have to turn it on and off, which is not easy to do. It’s a huge mental drill and you need to be on your game or you will hurt yourself, or worse, you will hurt someone else.”

The Ramblin’ Roll
By G. Clint Bolte

1950s
William B. Campbell, CerE 59, MS CerE 60, and Mercy Dickert were married March 1 in Knoxville, Tenn. The couple lives in Knoxville.

William F. Dykstra, CerE 59, has retired from Ferro Corp. and will now continue as a consultant in the industrial coatings industry. Dykstra lives in Nashville, Tenn.

1960s
Drew Case, ME 66, founded Case Industries Inc., an engineering and land-surveying firm in Hartsville, S.C., in February. Case retired Feb. 1 as a project engineer from Sanoco Products Co. after a 29-year career. He is also the author of a novel, “The Divine Spark,” written in 2001 and is working on his second book. He and his wife, Gladys, have two grown daughters and live in Hartsville.

Doug Grimm, AV 62, been named to head Rockwell

1970s

Mark Beck, IM 79, and his wife, Jodi, announce the birth of a son, Jacob Ryan, on Jan. 10. Beck is a pricing manager and industrial engineer with Panduit Corp. The family lives in Alpharetta, Ga.

Brian T. Moss, IM 62, was named president of Gulfstream Aerospace in April. Moss had been vice chairman of Gulfstream since 1985. Before he joined Gulfstream, he had been president of the business aircraft division of Bombardier Aerospace Group since 1992. He joined Canadian in 1979 in sales, became vice president of sales in 1984 and executive vice president of sales in 1986, the year Canadair became part of Bombardier. The following year he was named president of Canadair Challenger. Moss began his aerospace career at Lockheed-Georgia Co.

Patrick Sweeney, IE 64, retired as assistant director of the Montgomery, Ala., regional office of the Department of Veterans Affairs on April 3. Sweeney spent 27 years with the Veterans Administration working in rehabilitation of disabled veterans. He lives in Montgomery.

John M. Taylor Jr., IE 64, has published a second novel, “A Flash of Emerald,” through Blue Eagle Press. His first, “Behind the Green Water,” was a fictional account of the international crisis involving Iraq. Taylor served with the Army’s 101st Airborne Division as a platoon leader and battalion commander and designed military command and control systems as a civilian. Taylor lives in Lutz, Fla.
Drownproofing
Sit Salutes Fred Lanoue

In the mid-1960s, when Mike Kearney, who grew up in England but now lives in Wales, discovered Fred Lanoue’s book, “Drownproofing — A New Technique for Water Safety.” He found the technique “liberating.”

Lanoue, swimming coach at Georgia Tech from 1936 to 1964, developed drownproofing as a method of surviving in water. Passing Lanoue's drownproofing course at Tech was required for graduation.

After reading Lanoue's book, Kearney “rushed to the pool to try the technique. I was surprised my method didn’t need any learning, reading or training or practice, I could just do it. To suddenly realize that I could survive indefinitely in water, without effort, was an incredibly liberating experience.”

Years later Kearney went in search of an Internet site on drownproofing, but couldn’t find one. So he started Drownproofing.com, which promotes drownproofing and lauds Lanoue.

“Coach Lanoue believed that everyone should be able to survive in water and developed a simple technique which was easy to learn and did not depend on physical strength or intensive training.” Kearney says on Drownproofing.com.

“During his time at Tech, Fred personally taught his method to 20,000 students.” Lanoue’s book was published in 1963. The technique was introduced to Kearney and “countless others.”

### 1980s

**William Donnell “Don” Allen**

CE 86, has been named executive director of the Light Gauge Steel Engineers Association headquartered in Washington, D.C. Allen is an associate engineer with Starzer, Brady, Fagan and Associates Structural Design, Contract Administration, investigations and Cold-Formed Steel Design. He and his wife, Susanne, and their five children live in Jonesboro, Ga.

**D. Shane Austin**

IM 86, of Atlanta, became vice president of Habit, Arogeti and Wyne Capital Partners, an accounting and business advisory firm in Atlanta, in February. Austin has more than 10 years of financial planning experience.

**Kimberly Wood Bellmeure**

ME 84, and her husband, Norman, announce the birth of a son, Jack, on Jan. 3. Bellmeure is a construction project manager in ocean and waterfront facilities with ITA Industrial of Annapolis, Md. The family lives in Saunderton, R.I.

**Melinda Mills Billings**

Mgt 87, and her husband, Anthony, announce the birth of a son, Abisalom Rahohn, on April 25, 2002. Abisalom joins sister Aliza at the family’s home in Washington, D.C. Bolling is an attorney practicing in real estate, bankruptcy and general civil litigation in Washington, D.C. She earned her MBA from the University of the District of Columbia in 1990 and her law degree from Catholic University Columbus School of Law in 1998.

**Marc Corsini**

IM 80, and his wife, Susan, announce the birth of a son, Matthew Anthony, on Jan. 20. Corsini is president of Corsini Consulting Group, a strategic planning and business-coaching firm based in Birmingham, Ala., where the family lives.

**Barry A. Cothran**

CE 87, was promoted to product planner for Copeland Corp., a $1.2 billion division of Emerson, manufacturing HVAC compressor manufacturers. Cothran, his wife, and three children relocated in May from Lebanon, Mo., to Troy, Ohio.

**Brett Brooks**

IM 86, was promoted in January to vice president of emerging business at Choice Hotels International in Silver Spring, Md. Choice Hotels is the world’s second-largest hotel franchising company.

**Ben Elkins**

Math 88, and his wife, Ivy, announce the birth of a son, Jared Simon, on Jan. 4. Jared joins brother Adam, 2. The family relocated in March from Dallas, Texas, to Chicago.

**Guy Esten**

IM 80, was named commandant of the Florida Air Academy after retiring as a Navy pilot and spending several years in the information technology industry. He and his wife, Linda, live in Melbourne, Fla.

**Art Graham**

CHE 87, was elected to the District 13 post on the Jacksonville, Fla., City Council in April. Graham, a Republican, was first elected to public office in Bark, a member of the Jacksonville Beach City Council.

**Alice Williams Griffin**

CHE 84, was promoted to director of marketing at Eastman Chemical Co. in February. Griffin lives in Kingsport, Tenn., with her husband, Mike, and children, Matthew and Laura.

**Mike The-Hickman**

CE 89, was named a sales executive with the Georgia Tech Club, a golf course and residential development in Alpharetta, Ga., in February. Hickman and his wife, Alison Chids Hickman, IM 89, and their children, Andrew and Holly, live in Cumming, Ga.

**Steve Horton**

ME 80, graduated in May with a masters of public administration from Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Va. Horton was also inducted into Phi Alpha Alpha, the national honorary society for public affairs and administration. Horton lives in Chesapeake, Va.

**Raymond B. King**

Mgt 87, was named senior vice president for community and governmental affairs for SunTrust Bank in January. King lives in Atlanta.

**John J. Klein**

AE 88, a Naval flight officer, graduated in March from the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., receiving special distinction as a Mahan Scholar. His next assignment will be as a U.S. Navy federal executive fellow at the Brookings Institute, a Washington, D.C., think tank. He, his wife, Capi, and two daughters live in Newport.

**Richard M Kramer**

AE 88, joined the architectural firm of Peter O'Brien Her Architects in Alpharetta, Ga., in April. Kramer and his wife, Regina, live in Alpharetta with their three children, Christopher, Michael and Caroline. Christopher will begin classes at Tech this fall.

**Jay A. Langston**

IM 82, of Mosley, Va., graduated in December with his doctorate in public policy from Virginia Commonwealth University. Langston is executive director of a regional economic development corporation.

**Kathleen Mahler Lynch**

ME 85, and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of twin boys, Brendan Patrick and Cormac Kevin, on Oct. 14. Kathleen is the director of intellectual property for Elan Corp. The family lives in Dublin, Ireland.

**Mike McCarthy**

IE 83, has been promoted to comptroller of the Sod6th Communications Squadron at McGuire Air Force Base in New Jersey.

**Jennifer Moy McClure**

ME 89, and her husband, Andy, announce the birth of a daughter, Hannah Kathryn, on July 5. The family lives in Houston.

**Clifford “Chip” Morgan**

MS, CHE 86, and his wife, Elizabeth, announce the birth of a son, Adam Russell, on June 21, 2002. Adam joins brother Daniel, 6, and sister Mary Pat, 3, at the family’s home in Burlington, Vt. Morgan is a program manager for IBM.

**Raymond M. Norman**

CE 83, and Jill M. Weaver Norman, AE 88, announce the birth of a daughter, Stephanie Marie, on Sept. 30. Ray is a payload logistics engineer for the International Space Station at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center and Jill is working for Boeing in configuration man-

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**Virginia in January. Breslauer is director of business and operations for Clarke County Public Schools in Virginia. He lives in Purcellville, Va.**

**Bill Chastain**

IM 79, of Tampa, Fla., has written his first novel. “The Streak.” Chastain is a former columnist for the Tampa Tribune and covered major league baseball. He also has written a biography about Washington Redskins head coach Steve Spurrier and is working on his next novel, set on the Georgia Tech campus.

**Bruce J. Cutler**

IM 79, was promoted to vice president of logistics for Star Furniture in Houston. Cutler joined Star in 2002 after 16 years at Compaq Computers. Cutler and his wife, Margaret Pate, 85YE 81, and their son, Gordon, live in Spring, Texas. Pate is employed at Hewlett Packard.

**Bobby Hisson**

MS AE 71, retired from Lockheed Martin as senior manager in the strategic airframe directorate and also proposition integrated product team lead on the C-5 aircraft modernization program. Hisson spent most of his 36-year career with Lockheed Martin in Marietta, Ga., where he lives with his wife, Gaby.

**Manuel A. Junco Jr.**

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Meeting the Challenge

Max Burns uses problem-solving techniques for congressional issues

By Kimberly Link-Wills

Congressman Max Burns uses skills learned at Georgia Tech in his House work.

“A lot of what I do is listening and fundamental problem solving and it goes back to those foundation courses in mathematics, in calculus, in differential equations,” said Burns, JE 71. “I remember vividly the course in statics of nondeformable bodies. I remember vividly thermodynamics. Today I don’t use either one of those things, but the things I learned in those courses I use.”

A Republican elected in November to represent Georgia’s newly drawn 12th District, which stretches from Augusta to Savannah and Athens to Statesboro, Burns said his Tech education taught him how to deal with and solve problems.

“A Tech education allows you to understand the problem, break it down, analyze it, evaluate it, come to a consensus, come to a solution.”

Burns said problem solving in Congress requires receiving input from constituents and fellow lawmakers.

“I’m honored to have the privilege of casting the vote, but I will tell you that I listen to a lot of people. I have discussions and debates with folks. I find that people who agree with me all the time don’t help me very much.”

He said the hardest part of his new job has been fitting everything — the discussions and debates, votes, committee meetings, appearances in the district — into a 24-hour day. Burns fit in a trip to the Tech campus May 3 to watch son Nathan receive his management degree.

Life in Washington, D.C., is not anything like a television drama.

“The challenges and the work required are much greater than most people would ever anticipate. I have a ‘read file’ that is multiple inches thick on a daily basis,” he said.

“You don’t see the stuff that goes on between midnight and breakfast on TV. A lot of folks don’t realize the House schedule is such that most of the 9-to-5 business day is taken up with constituents or hearings or committee meetings or subcommittees. The real business of legislation occurs in the afternoons and evenings and sometimes into the early morning hours.”

Burns said he also learned how to deal with a demanding job while a student at Georgia Tech.

“I think the greatest thing Tech teaches is a strong work ethic, a strong problem-solving capability and the ability to accept challenges and not be intimidated by those challenges,” he said.

“Tech is the foundation of my experiences whether it was in business or industry 20 or 30 years ago or whether it was in education over the last 15 or 20 years or now.”

Burns didn’t set out for a career in politics. After graduating from Tech, he served as a lieutenant in the Army Reserve. He received a master’s degree in business information systems and a doctorate in business administration from Georgia State. As a Senior Fulbright Scholar, Burns taught corporate information management in Sweden.

He was a professor of information systems at Georgia Southern University, where son Andrew earned his degree, when he decided to run for Congress.

“Just over a year ago I was not considering running for Congress,” Burns said. “It happened very, very quickly in early May, when the dynamics in the district changed and there was a void in the Republican Party’s nominee. I was living in an area that was in danger of losing reasonable representation in Congress. My initial response was, ‘I hope we can find someone willing to step forward.’”

Burns’ phone started ringing. In less than two weeks, he stepped forward to get his name on the primary ballot. “I got in this race to ensure that our district had honest, viable, reasonable representation.”

He grew up in the 12th District, where he still maintains a small cattle herd on the family farm.

“Back in my father’s and grandfather’s day, we would grow cotton and corn, soybeans and wheat. We had livestock, we baled hay,” he said. “I have my roots deep in the American farm soil. I’m the only U.S. congressman from Georgia who lives in a rural community. The closest town is Sylvania and it only has 3,500 people. I’m 10 miles from town. I’m 34 miles from the nearest Wal-Mart!”

Burns said agriculture is the backbone of the U.S. economy.

“We have the most productive ag environment in the world. We’ve got to have an opportunity to export and trade our ag commodities across the globe and that’s one of the things we’re working on.”

Burns said less than 1 percent of Americans are actively involved in farming, but every household in the country is impacted.

“Many people do not have a realistic understanding of what it costs to grow an acre of corn or put in an acre of peanuts or cotton. They don’t understand the equipment requirements or the fertilizing of the seeds or the herbicides or any of the technology that there is today,” he said.

“One of the advantages I have is a reasonable understanding of those problems and I have the opportunity to communicate with my colleagues and do things that are good for America, not just for those directly involved in agriculture but for everyone who consumes an ag product that is produced here.”

A member of the House transportation committee, Burns said he recognizes that an effective way for the country to become energy independent is by boosting production of and support for grain-based fuel.

Transportation is a major issue in the 12th District, where Burns sees the need for infrastructure projects.

“We have industries in Augusta and all the way to Athens that cannot use the port of Savannah effectively because there’s no interstate access from Savannah to Augusta to Athens,” Burns said. “We can open up east Georgia and build more of a grid around our state when it comes to transportation opportunities.”

Burns wants the opportunity to continue serving the people of Georgia.

“I plan to run for re-election, the good Lord willing,” he said. “I enjoy the challenge. I certainly appreciate the honor of doing this.”

Shortly after arriving in the nation’s capital, Burns attended a party hosted by the House speaker at the Capitol for GOP freshman legislators. The chamber doors were opened and the new congressmen walked onto the House floor for the first time.

“It is tremendously inspiring,” Burns said.
agreement for the space shuttle at Kennedy Space Center. They live on Merritt Island, Fla.

Jeff Offutt, ICS 88, and his wife, Jan, announce the birth of a son, Andrew Jefferson Vill, on Jan. 9. Offutt is an associate professor of software engineering at Georgia Mason University. The family lives in Fairfax, Va.

Kevin Patton-Hock, Charles R. Rugar, EE 84, and his partner, Arthur Patton-Hock, of Somerville, Mass., announce the adoption of two sons, Benjamin Mao, 3, and Daniel Chen, 1. Kevin is a project architect with RSCC Architects in Cambridge, Mass.

Rosalind Wright Picard, EE 84, and her husband, Len, announce the birth of a son, Luc Elliot, on Feb. 8. Luc joins two brothers at the family’s home in Newton, Mass. Picard is on the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Media Lab in Cambridge, Mass.

Lisa Powers, BC 86, accepted the position of director of business development for CUH2A in the firm’s Chicago office. CUH2A is an architecture, engineering and planning firm that provides facility solutions for science and technology. Powers lives in Chicago.

Jeff Chang, ME 84, recently became a registered principal with National Securities Corp. in Richmond, Va., where he is a financial adviser in wealth management. Rugar and his wife, Kat, live in Richmond.

Mark Santos, ME 84, has been promoted to sales manager for Hy-Tek Material Handling in Cleveland. Santos lives in Green, Ohio, with his wife and two children.

Roger Sherrard, ME 89, and Lisa Smeraldo Sherrard, MG 85, announce the birth of a daughter, Lauren Grace, on March 30. Lauren joins brothers Trevor, Nicholas and Brandon at the family’s home in Cleveland. Roger is a general manager with Parker Hannifin’s automation group and Lisa is a full-time mother.

James Thomas “J.T.” Staley, MS MetE 88, was appointed assistant laboratory director at Honey Labs’ metallurgical testing facility in Muncie, Ind., in February. Staley, who works as a metals analyst for Honeywell Castings, the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Rocketdyne Propulsion and Power of The Boeing Company, lives in Muncie with his wife, Kay, and daughters, Kaitlin, 10, and Samantha, 8.

Rafi Wartan, EE 88, has been named a principal sharehold er in TLC Engineering for Architecture. Wartan is senior electrical engineer in the firm’s Jacksonville, Fla., office. Among his key projects are the new Baptist Medical Center Clinical Services Building, St. Luke’s Hospital and St. Vincent’s Medical Center, all in Jacksonville. He and his wife, Denise, and their daughters, Nora and Madeline, live in Jacksonville.

Pamela S. Whitaker, IM 82, and Jimmy Norman were married Oct. 19 in Fayetteville, Ga. Whitaker is a product line manager with SAFECO Insurance in Duluth, Ga. The couple lives in Decatur, Ga.

K. Brent Woodruff, IM 87, of Atlanta, has joined the corporate services group of CB Richard Ellis in Atlanta as first vice president. Woodruff will provide account management and strategic consulting services to the firm’s real estate clients.

Richard W. Zetterlund, ME 84, was promoted to Brooklyn borough director of infrastructure construction for the New York City Department of Design and Construction, established in 1996 to build the city’s sewers, water mains, roads and public buildings. Zetterlund, his wife, Gwen, and sons, Zach and Luke, live in Cedar Grove, N.J.

1990s


Christine Helvick Algard, Mgt 93, and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of a daughter, Amanda Grace, on Nov. 15. Amanda joins brother Brendan Michael, 3, at the family’s home in Loveland, Ohio, where Algard is a full-time mother.

At 1, Anton, ICS 90, MS ICS 92, PhD 97, of Cary, N.C., was named to the Micro- soft research university relations faculty advisory board at North Carolina State University in Raleigh. N.C. Anton is an assistant professor in the university’s College of Engineering.

Traci Battle, Biol 93, and Rawi Abdelhalim, Econ 93, announce the birth of a son, Alexander James, on Sept. 29. Traci is a research scientist at the Naval Air Force Combat Camera Institute at Harvard Medical School and Rawi is associate professor at Harvard Business School in Boston. The family lives in Wellesley, Mass.

Roxie “Jessica” Baxter, EXS 87, and Vernon Alexander “Ales” Turner, AE 97, were married Nov. 22 in Atlanta. Jessica is an engineer for Schlumberger/Sema and Alex is an engineer for Delta Air Lines. The couple live in Atlanta.

Hester Jordan Bell, CHE 96, launched an Internet business, Something Sweet, in October selling homemade baked goods and gift baskets at www.something-sweet.com. Bell lives in Fayetteville, Ga., with her husband and son.

M. Brian Blake, EE 94, received the Most Promising Engineer in Industry Award for his work in Web-based technologies at the Black Engineer of the Year award ceremony in Baltimore. Blake is a lead software systems engineer for MITRE Corp.’s center for advanced aviation systems development and is an assistant professor in the department of computer science at George-town University. He holds a doctorate in information technology and software engineering from George Mason University and a master’s degree in electrical engineering from Mercer University. He serves as director of the minority mentoring program at Georgetown and earned MITRE’s diversity award in 2001.

Karen Bishop, Mgt 92, and her husband, John, announce the birth of their first child, Zachary Kent, on Jan. 16. Bishop was also promoted to controller of Alcoa’s specialty metals division and the family relocated from Knoxville, Tenn., to Austin, Texas, in April.

Jeff Butler, EE 94, and Shannon Oehlberg, Mgt 96, announce the birth of a son, Justin Thomas, on Jan. 25. He joins brother William at the family’s home in Charlotte, N.C.

Dana Causby, TE 92, MS TE 96, and Shannon Luttie Causby, Phys 94, MS Phys 95, announce the birth of a daughter, Anna Lynn, on May 17, 2002. Dana also received her professional engineering license in July and is employed as a geotechnical engineer at Nova Engineering. Shannon is a full-time mother. The family lives in Acworth, Ga.

Jeff Chang, ID 93, and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of their second child, Alexio Brooke, on March 3. Alexio joins brother Tommy, 3, at the family’s home in Lawrenceville, Ga. Chang is research and development manager at L&I International.


Sonya Summerour Clemmons, ME 94, and her husband, Wayne, announce the birth of their daughter, Alper Seckiner, on Feb. 8. Clemmons holds a doctorate in biogeni- neering from the University of California–San Diego and is founder and CEO of SSC Enterprises, a biotech product and business development firm. The family lives in San Diego.

Jimmy Crowder, CE 93, and his wife, Kristina, announce the birth of their first child, Joseph Ryan, on Aug. 20. The family lives in Lawrenceville, Ga. Crowder is a civil engineer with Schnabel Engineering in Alpharetta, Ga.

Lisa Barron Curtis, ME 92, of Richmond Hill, Ga., was selected in January as one of only four interns in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers’ Minority Leadership Program, designed to increase the participation of African-American and under-represented minority groups. Curtis is lead designer and engineering manager for Lockwood Greene Engineering and Construction in Savannah, Ga.

Amy Palmer Daniels, Mgt 92, and Joe Daniels, Mgt 92, announce the birth of a daughter, Macy Carolina, on Jan. 3. Macy joins sisters Palmer and Bryce at the family’s home in Decatur, Ga. Amy is director of marketing at 51 Corp. in Atlanta and Joe is director of Southeast sales for Talisma Corp. out of Seattle.

John Davidson, ME 98, and Beth Davidson, IE 98, announce the birth of a son, Christian Grant, on Feb. 26. The family lives in Greenwood, S.C.

Brian S. Dietzman, MBA 96, and his wife, Joanna, announce the birth of a son, Augustus John Dietzman, on Dec. 27. John joins sisters Rebekah and Jana at the home in Fort Gordon, Ga. Dietzman, a captain in the Army, has been stationed at Camp Doha in Kuwait since November. He is the headquar ters commander for the 297th Military Intelligence Battalion.

Brandon Eason, CHE 98, MS CHE 91, and Courtney Lane Eason, CE 99, announce the birth of their son, Miles Lane Eason, on Jan. 2. Brandon is an engineering proj ect manager for Ken-McGee Chemical and Courtney is a consulting engineer with Hussey, Gay, Bell & Doreung civil engineering. The family lives in Savannah, Ga.

Kate Dickinson ElHamahmy, IE 96, and her husband, Sonny, announce the
Total Concept
Andrés Núñez followed example of Homer Rice in creating business
By Maria M. Lameiras

Andres “Andy” E. Núñez Jr. knows what it is like to work for a company that doesn’t see its employees as key to its success.

That is why Núñez, CE 79, MS CE 77, principal and co-founder of TEI Engineers & Planners, took a page from former Georgia Tech athletics director Homer Rice’s playbook in running his own company.

“Happy employees are more likely to stay. We invest a lot of time, effort and money into developing our employees and helping them have a meaningful career,” Núñez said. “We’ve pursued things we would have liked some of our employers to do for us. Not to steal from Homer Rice, but we admire the companies that are doing that because it gives you a ‘total person’ experience.”

Núñez moved to Florida in 1980 as project manager for installation of a computerized traffic signal system in Orlando and later headed similar efforts for other cities including Jacksonville, Bay County/Panama City and the Tampa Bay area.

Along the way, Núñez encountered corporate cultures and policies he did not agree with.

“I recognized a lot of things I’d do differently — and better — if it were my company,” he said.

Finally, he took the chance.

Núñez and a partner founded TEI Engineers & Planners in 1989, and since then, the company has won major awards. In February, Núñez was named Pioneer of the Year by the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. But Núñez is most proud of TEI’s designation as one of the “Top 100 Companies for Working Families” by the Orlando Sentinel.

TEI, which provides engineering consulting services including traffic engineering, transportation planning, traffic signal system design and implementation, and roadway and highway design, also was named Central Florida’s 2001 Organization of the Year in the large firm category and was ranked 15th among the nation’s “Top 50 Best Engineering Firms to Work For” by Civil Engineering News magazine.

The company, which has offices in Lake Mary, Tampa, Tallahassee, Fort Lauderdale and Sarasota, Fla., and in Atlanta, also was ranked among the “Top 25 Companies in Seminole County” by the Seminole County/Lake Mary Regional Chamber of Commerce.

“You have to be forward thinking to get something off the ground — starting with nothing and creating what we have today,” Núñez said. “The awards we have won for excellence and employee satisfaction have validated that we must be doing something right.”

TEI has a strong community service component.

Núñez said is largely directed by employees.

“We’ve set up a committee of employees who work independently and discuss the charities and activities they are interested in supporting and we have usually gone with their recommendations,” Núñez said. “We are not just dictating, ‘This shall do this or that.’ We want them to be involved in what they are interested in. We are very active in those activities to show leadership — not just saying things, but doing them.”

TEI opened its Atlanta-area office in June 2001 to join a community struggling with weighty transportation issues.

“We recognize there are a lot of transportation issues that need to be addressed and we are going to be addressed,” he said. “We feel we have the expertise to help make a difference and we are making inroads.

“There is always room to grow and experience and expand your horizons,” he said. “The worst thing you can possibly do is stop. You have to continue going and realize that anything you accomplish is actually benefiting others and not just yourself.”

Núñez’s interest in transportation stems from his youth in Puerto Rico, where a favorite uncle was a construction engineer.

“My uncle would pick me up and take me to his jobs and I was fascinated,” he said. “I’ve always wanted to be a civil engineer. I was always fascinated by traffic — bridges, roads, highways.”

As a student in Puerto Rico, Núñez was attracted to Georgia Tech both by its reputation as an engineering school and because of the reputation of its football team.

“I figured if you want to go somewhere to study engineering, you might as well go to the best,” he said.

Núñez remains involved with Tech, serving as a member of the external advisory board for the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. In 1999, Núñez was inducted into Tech’s Academy of Distinguished Engineering Alumni.

“You always have to look back and help those who helped you,” he said. “If I can make it, anybody can. You just have to keep on working and try your best until your last day.”

birth of a daughter, Sarah Kate, on Feb. 20. She joins brother Alex at home in Dunwoody, Ga., where El’haman is a full-time mother.

Fred Farmer, E’ 93, and his wife, Kim, announce the birth of twins, Joshua Leo and Madison Nicole, on Jan. 8. Farmer is a signaling operations manager with AT&T Wireless.

The family lives in Bothell, Wash.

Ruth Ann Francis, AE’ 98, was promoted to senior engineer for the stability and controls group of the F-3S Joint Strike Fighter program at Lockheed Martin.

Francis lives in Fort Worth, Texas.


Brian James Gray, EE 90, and Lesley Peterson Gray, EE 91, announce the birth of daughter, Ashley Noelle, on Dec. 20. Ashley joins sister Julie Ann, 3, at the family’s home in Norcross, Ga. Brian is a principal with North Highland, a management and technology consulting company, and Lesley is a full-time mother.

Thomas Hicks, B’ 99, and Emily Herron Hicks, Mgt 99, announce the birth of their daughter, Madeline Leigh, on March 26. On May 17, Thomas received his medical degree from the Navy’s Medical School, located in Bethesda, Md., and was promoted to lieutenant.

Barnett University.

David Katz, E’ 97, and his wife, Rachel, announce the birth of their first child, Rachel Machovec.

Machovec also recently completed the requirements for his professional engineer license in Alabama. He is employed as a project manager with Vulcan Engineering Co. in Helena, Ala.

The family lives in Maylene, Ala.

Ryan Magron, Mgt 97, and his wife, Aimee, announce the birth of a son, Austin, on July 24, 2002. Austin joins brother Taylor, 2, at the family’s home in Lawrenceville, Ga.

Magron is a director in account management at FacilityPro, an e-procurement and supply

Scott Machovec, ME 97, and his wife, Rachel, announce the birth of their first child, Madeline, on Jan. 20.

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The family lives in Maylene, Ala.

Rebecca Leonard, Mgt 96, and Aaron Gunn, EE 97, were married March 22 in Birmingham, Ala. Rebecca is an internal auditor with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta and Aaron is a technology consultant with Accenture. The couple live in Marietta, Ga.

Emily Herron Hicks, Mgt 99, and her husband, Bridges, announce the birth of their daughter, Madeleine, on March 26. Bridges is attending traffic school in San Antonio.

Lesley Peterson Katz, E’ 91, and David Katz, EE 90, announce the birth of their second child, Rachel.

Rachel joins sister Shana at the family’s home in Alpharetta, Ga.

Dave is corporate director of operations, planning and development for Coca-Cola Enterprises and Daphne is a full-time mother.

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Amazing Results

Chemist wins award for math models

Luminous William H. Miller finds the mathematics driving the award-winning models he develops awesome.

“I'm still amazed how math can make predictions about the real world — it's astonishing really,” said Miller, who holds a chair in the chemistry department of the University of California, Berkeley.

Miller, Chem 63, received the 2003 Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry from the American Chemical Society for his achievements in developing mathematical models to study and predict chemical reactions.

“Our whole goal is to try to describe chemical reactions with the fundamental laws of nature,” said Miller. “Then we try to see how far we can go in making predictions about both the chemistry in general and specific reactions.”

Despite advancements in computer technology, Miller still starts with his own computer: his brain, plus pencil and paper.

“Right now I'm trying to work out the mathematical relationships between low temperatures and reactions, so I'm manipulating equations a lot.”

Chain management solutions firm in Atlanta. He recently completed a four-year tour of duty in Tampa, Fla., as a quality management officer in the Air Force.

Drew Martinez, CHE 99, and his wife, Brooke, announce the birth of a daughter, Madison Claire, on March 14. Martinez is a run plant engineer for DuPont Dow elastomers in Piqua, Ohio, where the family lives.

Heather Scapianakis McKeon, Mgt 95, and her husband, Matthew, announce the birth of their first child, Jack Robert, on May 10. The family lives in Marietta, Ga.


James Cooper Owens, Phys 90, and his wife, Nina, announce the birth of twins, William Christopher Castro and Celine Amanda, on Jan. 24. Owens is senior vice president and chief information officer/chief technology officer of the CARCO Group, a fraud detection services firm. The family lives in New York City.

Lesley Moore Poole, Mgt 96, and her husband, Chip, announce the birth of a son, Sean Garland, on Feb. 20. Sean joins sister Ashley Dawson, 2, at the family's home in Suwanee, Ga. Poole is a full-time mother.

Sabrina Neill Powell, Biol 98, and Bradford Powell, Biol 98, announce the birth of their son, Jefferson Richard, on Jan. 28. Sabrina is pursuing her PhD in environmental sciences and Bradford is a PhD student in genetics, both at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. The family lives in Chapel Hill.

Kumar Rajan, CHE 97, and Sonal Shah, Mgt 98, were married on April 9 in Augusta, Ga. Rajan is a global account manager with Westwood Associates. Shah is a field marketing representative with Microsoft Corp. The couple live in San Francisco.

Craig J. Randall, Biol 93, a Navy lieutenant, is currently deployed with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C. During his deployment, Randall's unit participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Before the war, the unit also participated in training, humanitarian and peace support operations in Spain, Italy, Kosovo and Djibouti, Africa.

Margaret Harris Rauber, Arch 92, and her husband, Chris, announce the birth of their daughter, Jane Elizabeth, on Nov. 15. Rauber is a senior project manager for Winter Construction. The couple live in Live Oak, Ga.

Dana Ringle, IE 97, and Jamie Matlock, BC 93, were married Jan. 27 in Atlanta. Dana works for UPS Supply Chain Solutions and Jamie works for Atlanta Commercial Permits. They live in Atlanta.

Edward Charles Robertson, CS 95, and Heather Maloney Robertson, BC 94, announce the birth of a son, Sean Maloney, on Feb. 3. Edward is a software engineer in the information technology and telecommunications laboratory working on military flight training systems at the Georgia Tech Research Institute. Heather is a full-time mother. Sean joins brother James Patrick at the family's home in Marietta, Ga.

Charlene Molnar Rubano, EE 94, received her professional engineering license in Florida on Jan. 14. Rubano is a power quality engineer for Distribution Power Quality & Reliability of the central Florida region. She lives in Apopka, Fla.

Kimmerly Fleck Sejo, TE 99, and her husband, David, announce the birth of a son, Zacary Sebastian, on Feb. 21. Zac joins brother Nicholas at the family's home in Cartersville, Ga. Sejo is a systems engineer for Shaw Industries.

Helen Ayoub Shuford, Mgt 93, and Mark Shuford, Mgt 91, announce the birth of a son, William Mark, on Feb. 5. William joins sister Julia at the family's home in Atlanta. Helen is a market intelligence team leader with Southern Co. in Atlanta. Shuford is owner of Yard Services.

Carson Smith, Mgt 93, and Amy Gates Smith, Biol 94, of Flowery Branch, Ga., announce the birth of daughter Avery Elizabeth on March 19.

Leigh Tidwell Spooner, ME 91, and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of a son, Jackson Clay, on Jan. 22. Spooner is a staff account executive for the Georgia Power value management team. The family lives in Suwanee, Ga.

Lennyne Starr-Bruce, Mgt 94, and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of a son, Jared Andrew, on Feb. 2. She is a full-time mother. The family lives in Tucker, Ga.

Valerie Stickles, Biol 91, and Timothy Smith were married Jan. 1 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ga. Stickles is a senior software consultant with Manhattan Associates. The couple live in Cumming, Ga.

Boone Stokes, ICS 91, and Charles Britt Jr. were married May 17 in Oakwood, Ga. Boone is a software engineer at Lockheed Missiles & Space Co. Inc., a contract computer program management business. The couple live in Cumming, Ga.

Allen Turner, EE 95, and Gudrun Deming were married Feb. 8 in Fort Collins, Colo. Turner is an engineer with Western Area Power Administration in Loveland, Colo. The couple live in Fort Collins.

Amanda Overstreet Wagner, IE 98, graduated with her master's degree in business administration from Georgia State University in December. Wagner is a business analyst with The Coca-Cola Co. in Atlanta.

Charles “Chuck” Warlington, CE 98, and his wife, Stacey, announce the birth of a daughter, Riley Catherine, on March 13. Warlington also received the Engineer of the Year in Private Practice award from the Georgia Engineering Alliance in February. He is principal of Pond & Co., an architectural and engineering consulting firm in Atlanta. Warlington is also city engineer for several metro Atlanta communities, including Kennesaw, Duluth, Sugar Hill and Flowery Branch. He and his family live in Dunwoody, Ga.

Laine Lott Watson, IE 90, and her husband, Scott, announce the birth of a son, Ford Samuel, on Dec. 25. Watson works for Accenture management consulting and technology services company. The Watson family lives in Atlanta.

Todd Whittemore, CHE 91, and Megan Lane Whittemore, CHE 91, announce the birth of a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth, on April 25. Katherine joins sister and brother Brendan at the family's home in Singapore, Thailand. Todd is the process coordinator for an olefins project for Shell Chemicals and Megan is a full-time mother.


Navid Yazdani, EE 97, and Anne Valentine were married Sept. 1 in Poughkeepsie, Maine. Yazdani, who earned his master's degree in electrical engineering from Stanford in 2000, is a systems engineer at Raytheon in Marlborough, Mass. The couple live in Watertown, Mass.

Deval Karani Zavari, INA 94, and Jimmy Taib were married in Hyderabad, India, in December. After honeymooning in India and southeast Asia, the couple returned to their home in San Diego, where Zavari is an attorney with Morrison & Foerster.

The 2000s

Whitney Hopkins, IE 00, and Amy Lappensmith, IE 01, were married Jan. 18 in Roswell, Ga. Whitney is a quality engineer with Radiant Systems and Doug is a network engineer with Verizon Wireless. The couple live in Atlanta.

Michael G. Johnson Jr., IE 00, and Elizabeth L. Gibson were married March 29 in Shreveville, Ga. Johnson is a consultant for DGB and Co. in Marietta, Ga. The couple live in Atlanta.

Loni Lockaby, STC 00, and Matthew Ware, CHE 02, were married Feb. 8 in Douglasville, Ga. The couple live in Greenville, S.C. Matthew is a chemical engineer for Fluor Corp. and Jodi is a technical writer for Rockwell Automation, both in Greenville.
Generations

Family legacies are a revered part of the Georgia Tech tradition. The ties to the Institute have worked into the fabric of four generations of Tech families.

Uncle Billy’s Longtime Service Launched Van Houten Tradition

By Maria M. Lameiras

William Van Houten started working at Georgia Tech at the same age as many entering freshmen, but the longtime foundry foreman could have earned a dozen degrees by the time his career at Tech was finished.

Van Houten, known affectionately as “Uncle Billy” by students, began working in Tech’s foundry in 1889 at age 17, just one year after the school opened its doors. He had already graduated from Atlanta High School and gone into business with his father at Novelty Iron Works before he was hired as a foundry assistant to teach and do commercial work at Tech.

Although Uncle Billy never earned a degree, the Institute has educated three generations of Van Houten’s descendants, including sons John “Bourke” and Louis Michael, both Class of 1929, and Robert, Class of 1934, grandchildren William Van Houten, Text 55, John B. Van Houten Jr., Chem 59, and Louis Michael Jr., IM 65; and great-grandson Louis Michael III, Mgt 90.

When Uncle Billy started at Tech, foundry workers repaired parts for local cotton mills, did all of the castings and window weights for the Loew’s Grand Theater and created most of the bronze vault doors at Oakland Cemetery.

When the General Assembly banned industrial work at the Institute in 1889, Van Houten was made foundry foreman, a position he held until his death in August 1944.

Van Houten taught countless numbers of students and attended every graduation from 1890 until 1944. In honor of his 50th anniversary at Tech, he received a gold watch from the ANAK Society that was bought for him by members of 30 different graduating classes.

John Van Houten Jr., now an anesthesiologist at Kennestone Hospital in Marietta, Ga., and his parents moved into the house his grandfather built at 170 Fifth St. in 1948 so his mother could take care of his ailing grandmother. His three “old maid” aunts — Clare, Madge and Isabelle Van Houten — also lived in the house.

“There were very few kids around the area, so the people I associated with were the students around there,” he said. “We didn’t have a television, so I used to walk down the street to the fraternity house and watch TV there in the afternoon.”

John wanted to go to medical school, so he enrolled in premed at Emory University. “In high school I’d been a trainer for the football team and, in mid-August, it dawned on me that Emory didn’t have a football team. I couldn’t see going to a college without a football team, so my father told me to go see Dean (George) Griffin,” he said. “He knew enrollment was closed, but Dean Griffin told me to go see Mr. Carmichael, the registrar. Mr. Carmichael told me enrollment was closed and I was crazy to come to Tech because there were no premed program, but I told him Dean Griffin told me to come to him and he said, ‘OK, just come.’”

Louis Michael “Mike” Van Houten Jr., vice president of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. in Atlanta and a trustee of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, was just a toddler when his legendary grandfather died, but he remembers the house on Fifth Street.

“When my brother and I were young, we used to walk cars in the driveway before Tech football games for a dollar apiece,” said Mike Jr. “We could get 12 or 13 cars in there and then we’d try to find tickets to get into the games. If we couldn’t find tickets, we’d just go back to 170 and listen to the game on the radio.”

Mike Jr. said he never considered going “away” for college.

“It was where I was always going to go to school,” he said. “I had grown up with Tech, why would I then leave it? It was a no-brainer.”

Although he knew little of his grandfather, Mike Jr. said he gained a lot of respect for the place “Uncle Billy” held in Tech’s history. Despite that history, Mike Jr. didn’t push his son to attend Tech.

“He grew up with Tech the same way I did, going to ball games and all that. I wasn’t going to say, ‘This school is right for you.’ I told him he needed to talk to his guidance counselors and his teachers,” Mike Jr. said. “At the beginning of his junior year in high school he told me he’d made the decision to go to Tech.”

Mike III said he and his father would visit “Aunties” Clare, Madge and Isabelle at the house on Fifth Street on game days.

“My father and I would go to football games — I probably started going when Bill Curry started coaching in 1980 — and we would park at Uncle Billy’s house on Fifth Street where my three old maid aunts lived their whole lives,” Mike III said. “It was fascinating because if you look at that house, it is in the middle of everything, surrounded by a whole bunch of fraternities. Right in the middle of these three devout old maids. Whenever we went to visit, we were right in the middle of the Tech campus.”

Family members weren’t the only ones who visited the ladies on game days.

“They were Catholic, so on game days all of the priests would come to the game and park in their yard too,” Mike III said.

Once he was a student at Tech, Mike III found he shared more than a love of football with his dad.

“Professor (Robert) Carney was one of my management professors and his class was exactly the same as it had been 30 years earlier,” Mike III said. “He wrote out all of his grade sheets by hand and he kept everything. He was able to go back to 1964 when my father had him and show me my dad’s grade sheet with his name on it and all the grades for all the papers he did so I could see how my dad’s grades compared to mine.”

While at Tech, Mike III started his own business, Oxford Comics, and now also runs The Antiquarian Book Bindery, a restoration service for very old books and manuscripts, from the Oxford Comics building on Piedmont Road.

Since getting out, Mike III finds that his Tech degree gives him an instant camaraderie with other Tech graduates, but his fourth-generation connection extends that pride in his alma mater.

“When you meet another Tech graduate, you both know what you’ve been through,” he said. “Being fourth-generation gives you a sense of ownership in a way. You feel you really belong. You really care about the Institute and you owe it something more because your ancestors have gone and done these things before you.”

Generations stories continue on page 34. If you know of a fourth-generation family, please let us know.

E-mail editor@alumni.gatech.edu or write to Georgia Tech Alumni Publications, 190 North Ave, Atlanta, GA 30313.
Generations

Simmons Family Experiences

Unique Eras of Tech, History

Four generations of the Simmons family have attended Georgia Tech, and each generation has lived very different versions of the college experience.

The family’s Tech tradition began with brothers Shelton C. Simmons, Text 10, and John Simmons, Text 15. Shelton’s son Walton headed to Georgia Tech in 1936 with an eye toward the sky.

“When I was young, I wanted to study aeronautical engineering, but my family was in textiles, so my dad wanted me to study textiles,” Walton said.

Walton played bass drum in the marching and concert bands. He left Tech before earning his chemistry degree to join the Army Air Corps during World War II. His brother, Wallis Simmons, followed him to Tech and earned his degree in 1943.

Walton and his wife, Josephine, have three sons — John, Bob and Bill. John and Bob attended Tech. John, Cls 65, went on to earn a medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia.

“Considering that my grandfather, my great-uncle, my uncle and my father all went to Tech, it would have made it very difficult to go somewhere else,” he said.

He started Tech in the fall of 1961.

“That was the same year Tech was integrated and one of the first three black students was Ralph Long Jr. He and I buddyied around a lot,” he said. “When I think about that now and I go back and read the history on it, I don’t understand how there could have been that much angst about it.”

Bob, AE 68, initially enrolled at North Georgia College, majoring in physics.

“I can remember clearly thinking, sometime around January, ‘Why am I here?’ That was when I entered Tech in aerospace engineering,” Bob said.

“Then I worked my rear end off for four years.”

He realized his father’s dream by studying aerospace and, like his brother, attended Tech during an important period in history.

In April 1968, Bob was at the end of his senior year and was exempt from taking final exams. It was the week that the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s funeral was being held in Atlanta. Bob wanted to attend the memorial service for the slain civil rights leader.

“You can’t imagine the tension in Atlanta at that time. Windows were boarded up on houses all over town,” Bob said. “Many of my friends were Caucasian. When I told them I was going to see the funeral, they told Father Matthews, the priest at the Catholic Center.

Father Matthews came to me and said, ‘Bob, if you have to do this, you come with me and I’ll take you up on the rectorcy roof of Sacred Heart Catholic Church (located on Peachtree Street) to watch. Surely if they burn the city, they’ll leave the church.’

From his vantage point, Bob witnessed what he called “a real piece of humankind’s history.”

“I’ve never seen so many people in my life,” Bob said. “Every prominent politician, sports star and movie star came and the Atlanta airport was covered with Lear jets. Nelson Rockefeller chartered a Boeing 707 to bring the New York delegation down to Atlanta and the Kennedy family rented a whole floor of the Hyatt.”

Bob watched the funeral procession that stretched for miles as it wound from Ebenezer Baptist Church past the state capital, Atlanta City Hall and down Peachtree Street. There was suddenly a flurry of activity among the Sacred Heart priests as Cardinal Terrence Cooke’s delegation left the parade route to allow the cardinal a brief respite at the church.

“The priests just started scrambling everywhere and when the Cardinal came in, he sat down with them and had a beer,” Bob recollected with a laugh.

After graduating in 1968, Bob went to work for Beech Aircraft, where he spent 30 years in the design and manufacture of small aircraft in various Midwestern states before moving to Texas to work for Lockheed in 2001. A pilot himself, Bob is also a flight instructor.

John Sr. knew Tech would figure into his three sons’ futures. “There was no way my boys weren’t going to go to Tech,” he said.

John Jr. graduated with his electrical engineering degree in 1988 followed by brothers Todd, B'YE 91, and Andrew, IE 94.

“I decided to go to Tech in late junior high school, but I don’t really know why,” said John Jr., who applied only to Georgia Tech and Virginia, choosing Georgia Tech as soon as he received his acceptance letter without waiting for Virginia Tech’s reply.

John Jr. said he wasn’t sure what kind of engineering he wanted to study. “I went to the placement center and I saw on the job listings that electrical engineers were making the most money at that time so, for lack of anything better, that’s what I picked.”

Although the major wasn’t what he expected, he stuck with it as a matter of pride. Despite his parents’ reservations, John Jr. also joined Alpha Tau Omega fraternity — a step he said helped him academically because of the friendly competition between fraternity brothers to bring in the best grades.

“I actually liked EE. It is the most mathematical engineering discipline and that worked well for me,” John Jr. said.

When John Jr. was a senior, his brother Todd enrolled as a freshman. He also followed his brother into ATO.

“I don’t think the college atmosphere at Tech is like that of other schools, but I was from a sleepy South Carolina town, so Atlanta was very appealing to me,” Todd said.

When the time came, Andrew also chose Tech.

“I was always kind of math and science oriented. My mom desperately wanted one of her sons to go to a liberal arts school, but I knew that wasn’t for me,” Andrew said.

“I applied and was accepted to other schools in the ACC, but I knew I was going to Georgia Tech. It was just the right fit for me. I had always been infatuated with Georgia Tech, and I liked Tech and the Atlanta scene very much,” Andrew said.

“I was excited to get there, I wanted to be a part of the fun my brothers had in the fraternity and at football games, even not knowing exactly what I wanted to do in life.”

Andrew, also an ATO, majored in industrial engineering and graduated in 1994.

“Tech was exciting and more challenging than I’d expected. I really struggled getting started before I got the hang of it, but my first year was still definitely my best year with all of the things you do in your first year at college,” he said, adding that having brothers who went to Tech was an advantage. “I got a lot of easy advice.”

The Simmons brothers also had a nearby refuge as students. Every Sunday they would travel to their grandparents’ house in Jonesboro to do laundry, study and have Sunday dinner with Walton and Josephine.

“It was the ritual for all three of us,” John Jr. said. “You’d spread out the books on the dining room table and enjoy the quiet.”

Though they are in very different careers — John Jr. is a vice president in management at Morgan Stanley, Todd owns Cotswold Furniture Makers, a custom handmade furniture studio in Atlanta, and Andrew is in sales at GlacierSmithKline in New York City — all three credit Tech with giving them the tools to succeed.

“What you learn at Tech, besides an actual vocational skill set, is a way to learn. I am 100 percent certain Tech gave me a structure of how to keep learning in life,” Todd said. “It is a validation of that idea of ‘a way to learn’ and a feather in Tech’s cap that they have graduates who are doing so many different things.”

John Jr. added, “Tech made you do everything on your own. There was no one paying attention to whether or not you were taking the right courses to graduate or when to take what class. You had to figure it all out on your own and, if you couldn’t, that was your problem. It teaches you to solve problems on your own.”

Bob may be the only Simmons to have followed his passion for airplanes into a long career with Beech Aircraft and Lockheed, but the love of flying has spanned the generations. Walton, Bob, Todd and Andrew are all licensed pilots.

All of the shared experiences — from Tech to sports to aviation — provide a multigenerational bond.

“We’ve always been a close family, but there’s really an identity there,” Bob said.

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Generations

‘No Question’ for Johnson Clan in Choosing White and Gold

The Johnson family’s Tech tradition spans four generations, but it is Ann Drake Johnson who provides the vital link to the legacy as daughter, sister, wife, mother and grandmother of Tech men. William Calvin Drake, who graduated in 1913 with a degree in electrical engineering, was Ann’s father and he instilled in his children a healthy love for his alma mater. Ann’s brother, William Calvin Drake Jr., graduated in 1943 with his degree in aeronautical engineering and his daughter Ann had a strict policy of dating only Tech men.

“I didn’t want to date anyone else,” said Ann Johnson. “My father was pretty gung ho about Tech. He was very dedicated to Tech and we came to all the home games.”

Ann married one of her brother’s classmates, William Lloyd Johnson Jr., ChE 43, MS ChE 47, in 1948. The couple have two sons, Calvin Drake Johnson and William Lloyd Johnson III, both Tech alumni.

Lloyd Jr., 86, came to Tech because he became fascinated with chemistry at age 14 and because he had a couple of uncles who attended Tech before being called to serve in World War II.

“I grew up around Tech families and I knew Tech was the only place I wanted to go,” he said.

Calvin, MgSci 73, said there was no pressure to attend Tech, but Tech tradition was strong enough in the family to make it the logical choice.

“Including cousins, we’ve got close to 30 family members who have gone to Tech,” Calvin said. “My dad didn’t put pressure on me to go to Tech, but Tech football was a big part of growing up.”

When the time came for choosing a college, Calvin applied only to Tech.

“I applied for early admission without telling my parents,” he said. “I got accepted and when I received my letter of acceptance, I saved it and put it in my dad’s stock-

ing for Christmas. I knew I couldn’t give him a better present than that,” he said.

Lloyd III followed his older brother to Tech, participating in the Naval ROTC program and earning a commission in the Marine Corps while working on his industrial management degree, which he got in 1976.

“I never had any intention of going anywhere else and I never applied anywhere else,” said Lloyd III, who played football at Tech briefly before a knee injury forced him to choose between the gridiron and the Marines.

By the time he attended Tech, the Johnson legacy was already making itself apparent.

“Professor LeRoy Woodward taught me physics. The first day of class he was calling roll and when he got to my name he stopped, walked out from behind his lab table and asked me if my father was from Washington, Georgia. I said yes and he told me he and my father had gone to school together,” he said.

Adam, who graduated May 3 with his bachelor’s degree in management and a minor in music, has added a twist to the Johnson legacy with his graduation date — he, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather all graduated from Tech exactly 30 years apart — in 1913, 1943, 1973 and 2003.

Although the family tradition was a strong incentive to attend Tech, Adam said the Institute was a practical choice for him.

“I came here because it was the best school for me for the type of education I wanted,” he said, adding that he also wanted to play in the Tech band. “They began offering the music minor my first year here so that fit in with my plans as well.”

Adam played tuba in the Tech marching band and euphonium in the symphonic band.

“I’ve loved it,” he said.

Lloyd III said all three of his children — William Lloyd IV, 22, Patricia, 18, and Robert, 17 — were dressed in white and gold from a young age.

Lloyd IV is scheduled to graduate in August with his management degree and, like his father, a commission in the Navy. Also like his father, Lloyd IV didn’t apply to any other colleges.

“Because I was going into the ROTC program, my recruiter told me I needed to apply to other schools for the scholarship options, but I didn’t,” Lloyd IV said. “There was no doubt I was coming to Tech. I wanted to be an electrical engineer before I knew what an electrical engineer was. Once I got into it, I realized that operations management was the one thing about it that I loved, so I switched to management.”

Lloyd IV also has participated in intramural sports and other Tech social activities. The experience has been all he expected and more.

“I have enjoyed it, but I’m ready to get out,” he said with a laugh, echoing a sentiment that, in itself, is a legacy at Tech. 

Giant Among Alums

Larry Gellerstedt’s contributions throughout Atlanta, Tech campus

Lawrence Gellerstedt Jr., a former Alumni Association president and Joseph M. Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award winner, died on April 12.

Mr. Gellerstedt, ChE 45, of Atlanta, was the retired chairman of Beers Construction. He joined Beers after his discharge from the Navy in 1946, became the company’s president in 1960 and bought it in 1969. Mr. Gellerstedt led the company during its construction of such Atlanta landmarks as the prize-winning High Museum of Art, Coca-Cola headquarters, BellSouth Center, Georgia Dome, Bank of America tower, Piedmont Hospital, 191 Peachtree and the Four Seasons Hotel. On Tech’s campus, Beers Construction built such structures as the Centennial Research Building, the Cardinal Center, Moore Student Center, the Fourth Street and Hemphill apartments and the Parker H. Pettit Institute for Bioengineering.

He also was a leader at Georgia Tech, beginning with stints as president of the student council, his senior class, ANAK Society and Sigma Chi fraternity. Later Mr. Gellerstedt would serve as vice chairman of the centennial campaign in 1986 and of the five-year, $712 million campaign that ended in 2000.

Tech President Wayne Clough told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, “Larry was a giant among Tech alumni. He knew how to make strategic plans for the university, how to raise funds for it, what was important in the long run.”

During the five-year campaign, he endowed the Lawrence L. Gellerstedt Jr. Chair in Bioengineering. Mr. Gellerstedt also was a major contributor to the Wardlaw Center. A member of the Georgia Tech Foundation board for more than 25 years, he served as its president from 1973 to 1975. He also was a member of the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering advisory board, the Engineering Hall of Fame and the World War II class reunion committee.

Mr. Gellerstedt was instrumental in the creation of the Georgia Research Alliance. He received the Distinguished Service Award in 1981.

Mr. Gellerstedt served his community as well, as chairman of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Central Atlanta Progress, United Way; the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center and Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation and the board of Agnes Scott College.

Mr. Gellerstedt once told Tech Topics, “My life would have been totally different if I hadn’t had the exposure I had at Georgia Tech. I was prepared to earn a living and I was given the tools to do it with, so I don’t guess I can ever repay that school what I got out of it.”

He is survived by his wife, Mary; three children, Gayle, Ellen and Larry Gellerstedt III; nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Gellerstedt passed away on April 12, 2003, at the age of 77.
Deaths

1920s

Ralph Moldox Buffington, Arch 29, of Pendergrass, Ga., on April 18. He studied architecture in Europe in 1909 and 1910. Unable to land a job in architecture in Georgia during the early Depression, Mr. Buffington went to work as a high school principal and paint-ed. The High Museum of Art displayed 65 of his watercolors and drawings in October 1931. A World War II veteran, he retired from the Army Reserve as a lieutenant colonel. A resi-dent of Houston for nearly 50 years, his achievements in architecture include the Christian Cathedral in Oakland, Calif., and the Baptist Seminary in Taipei, Taiwan. He published books on his family's history and the artwork of George Cope and was the author of "Building for God, a Spiritual Adventure." Fred C. Reed Jr., Cls 29, of Athens, Ga., on March 15. While serving in the Army during World War II, he gathered war-time European countryside. When he returned to Atlanta, the High Museum hosted a one-man show of the sketches. In 1948 he opened Fred Reed Picture Framing, a business specializing in handcrafted custom orders. Mr. Reed also was a renowned art restorer. His clients included museums, designers and art patrons. He sold the business in 1952 and devoted himself to his painting. Mr. Reed's work was featured in a retrospective show at the Atlanta College of Art and recently at the Church of the Atonement.

1930s

William H. Guffey, CE 34, of Galax, Tenn., on Feb. 2. A co-op student at George Tech, he served as a captain in the Army Ordnance Corps in the Pacific, during World War II. Mr. Guffey retired as a chief field engineer after a 40-year career with the Tennessee Valley Authority. Survivors include his son, Charles Guffey, ChE 63.

A. Turner McDonald, Cls 30, of Athens, Ga., on March 15. While serving in the Army during World War II, he gathered war-time European countryside. When he returned to Atlanta, the High Museum hosted a one-man show of the sketches. In 1948 he opened Fred Reed Picture Framing, a business specializing in handcrafted custom orders. Mr. Reed also was a renowned art restorer. His clients included museums, designers and art patrons. He sold the business in 1952 and devoted himself to his painting. Mr. Reed's work was featured in a retrospective show at the Atlanta College of Art and recently at the Church of the Atonement.

1940s

George D. Adair, Cls 41, of Alpharetta, Ga., on Feb. 26. He served as a B-29 navigator on 27 Air Force missions during World War II. He held manag- ial and executive positions with Adair Appliance Co., Speed Queen Corp. and Sears Roebuck. He later built upscale custom homes as part of George Adair Construction.

William Dooley Bohannon Jr., ME 47, of Lawrenceville, Ga., on March 20. He was a fighter pilot in the Army Air Corps during World War II and retired from Western Electric/AT&T as a senior staff engineer after 30 years and 22 patents.

William B. Bourne Jr., IM 48, of Atlanta, on March 27. A member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity, he served in the Navy during World War II and participated in the D-Day invasion. He remained in the Navy Reserve until 1961. Mr. Bourne was retired from Universal Studios.

Joseph S. Carruthers, CHE 44, of Kingsport, Tenn., on March 22.

Theodore Harris Abbey, Cls 41, of Smyrna, Ga., on March 7. A World War II vet- eran, he served in the Marine Reserve until his retirement as a colonel in 1981. He retired as president of Abbey Steam Specialty Co. in 1984.

Jackson Riley Holliday, BS 48, Arch 49, of Macon, Ga., on Feb. 7. He worked at Georgia Power Co. as a co-op student, was inducted into ANAK, served as presi-dent of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and was a member of the Georgia Tech swim team. A member of the Army ROTC at Tech, he was called to active duty and served in France, the Philippines and Japan. A founder of Mathews, Holiday, Couch and Holch Architects, Mr. Holliday was the firm's president from 1976 until his retirement in 1991. Mr. Holliday served as vice chairman of the Macon Bibb County Urban Development Authority and as president of the Middle Georgia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Donald Bailey Markey, IM 43, of Atlanta and Newport, R.I., on Feb. 26. A member of Sigma Chi fraternity, he served as an Army captain during the occupation of Japan. Mr. MacKay founded and served as president of Silver Bear Inc., a manufacturer of col-lege notebooks. A lifetime mem-ber of the Newport Preservation Society, Mr. MacKay also umpired the Atlanta Driving Club tournaments for many years.

John Boyd Mallard Jr. Cls 46, of Asheville, N.C., on March 20. A graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, he was a retired Navy captain.

Julian C. McCowan Jr., EE 47, of Marietta, Ga., on Dec. 21. Mr. McCowan had been a BellSouth employee. Frank A. Miller Jr., Cls 42, of Marietta, Ga., on March 28. He was president of Briarwood Enterprises.

Charles Pooleos, AE 48, of College Park, Ga., on April 7. He served with the 50th Infantry Division during World War II and worked for Delta Air Lines for 37 years.

Charles A. Sikkas, CHE 41, of Newark, Del., on Feb. 10. An Army veteran of World War II, he worked for Getty Oil Co. for 35 years and was the opera-tions manager of the company refinery in Delaware City until his retirement in 1963.

Elmer L. Stanley Jr., IE 45, of Atlanta, on April 21. An Army lieutenant during World War II, he worked at Lockheed Aircraft for 41 years.

Albert T. Stephens, IM 41, of Columbus, S.C., on April 16. A Navy veteran of World War II, he retired from Southern Bell after 47 years. Mr. Stephens was vice president and director of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and served on the board of directors of the American Cancer Society and the Columbus United Way.

James B. Whitten, AE 47, of Huntsville, Ala., on Dec. 31. He enlisted in the Air Corps Weather Service in 1939 and served as a flight instructor and squadron commander. As a test pilot, he flew in more than 100 types of aircraft. Mr. Whitten wrote a number of technical reports for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, which later became NASA, and he worked on Mercury, Gemini and Apollo projects, including astronaut training, the docking guidance system and the lunarlander touchscreen.

1950s

Clifford D. Bailey, MS Phys 56, of Austell, Ga., on Feb. 27. A Navy veteran of World War II, he joined Lockheed as a research engineer and used sound waves to test for fatigue in the metal of airplanes and rockets. While a Tech student, he became fascinated by Atlanta's growing community of international students and joined the American Field Service International Student Exchange Program. He hosted the first of many foreign high school stu-dents in 1961. He became the state representative for the exchange program in 1963 and had a number of students. Mr. Bailey also was instrumental in the founding of the Atlanta Ministry for International Students in 1978.

Marion Luther Britain III, IM 51, of Los Angeles, on April 25. He was the grandson of former Georgia Tech presi-dent M.L. Brittain. An Army vet-eran, he retired in 1992 as vice president of investments for Title Insurance and Trust Co. in Los Angeles.

James H. Carlyle Jr., IM 53, of Norcotta, Ga., on Feb. 8. He served in the Army for two years during the Korean War and owned a Reserve for another 25 years. Mr. Carlyle was the Norcotta postmaster from 1956 to 1983.

Francis R. "Frank" Causby, CE 50, of Decatur, Ga., on Jan. 29. A World War II Navy veteran, he was the presi-dent and owner of CUBE Construction Co.

Wiley Don Holcombe, Cis 52, of Decatur, Ga., on Jan. 29. An Air Force veteran, he was a professional home builder in metro Atlanta for 48 years. Survivors include son Wiley Holcombe Jr., ESM 77, a senior research engineer at the Georgia Tech Research Institute.

Luther E. Harper Jr., Arch 52, of Conyers, Ga., on March 29. Mr. Harper was an Army veteran.

Irene Davenport Kruse, Text 59, of Shalimar, Fla., on Jan. 29. She enrolled at Georgia Tech after earning a History degree from Wellesley College. She worked in the tex-tile industry and then for the U.S. Tariff Commission in Washington, D.C., where she met her husband, H. William Kruse, IE 51, who survives her.

Smith Dies

H. Smith, the 1987 recipient of the Joseph Mayo Petitt Alumni Distinguished Service Award, died on March 9 in Naples, Fla.

Mr. Smith, Com 26, served as an Alumni Association trustee and president of the Georgia Tech Foundation. He endowed chairs in both entrepreneurship and small busi-ness and the John E. Smith Scholars Program.

He had served as chairman of the board of the John Smith Co., founded by his grandfather. For many years he also served on the boards of The Citizens and Southern National banks.

Mr. Smith served his wife's alma mater as well. He was chairman of the Agnes Scott College board for 17 years and endowed both the Julia T. Smith Chaplaincy and the chair of free enterprise. He also funded a soon-to-be-built chapel on the Agnes Scott campus that will be named for his late wife.

He served on the board of the Georgia Foundation of Independent Colleges and endowed a fellowship for the William Thompson Scholar’s Fund at Columbia Theological Seminary. Mr. Smith also had been a trustee of the Metro Atlanta YMCA, chairman of the Greater Atlanta Red Cross and president of the Horticultural Club of Atlanta.

Survivors include his son, John E. Smith II, IM 58. Memorials may be made to the John E. Smith Scholars Fund through the Georgia Tech Foundation.
**Alumnus Dies in Fall**

Georgia Tech alumnus T.J. Lathe, 49, of Stone Mountain, Ga., was killed Feb. 22 during a church mission trip to Honduras.

**George Robert “Bobby” McCaulley**, IM 56, of Rydal, Ga., Feb. 17. A base- ball standout at Georgia Tech, he was inducted into the Athletics Hall of Fame in 1975.

**Bob McMillan**, Cls 50, of Decatur, Ga., March 4. An Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, he was retired from BellSouth.

**James H. Motz Jr.**, CE 51, of DeKalb, Ga., March 15. He fought with the Marines at Iwo Jima during World War II and retired as a major in the Army Reserve. Mr. Motz also retired from Georgia Power Co., where he was a civil engineer.

**Earl Stevenson Jr.**, CE 53, of Smyrna, Ga., March 4. Mr. Stevenson served in the Army from 1944 to 1945. He was a co-founder of Miller, Stevenson & Steinichen, which later became Stevenson & Palmer Engineering Inc. and for which he served as chairman of the board and senior vice presi- dent. Mr. Stevenson served as a civil engineer and consultant for municipal and county govern- ments throughout Georgia.

**Charles R. Stigall**, IE 52, of Roswell, Ga., Feb. 27. He served in the Army at Fort Benning in the final months of World War II. Mr. Stigall, who retired from Kimberly-Clark Corp. after 30 years of service, was a member of the North Metro Georgia Tech Club. Survivors include his wife, Charline Stigall, IE 72.


**Frederick James “Jim” Cenklis**, MS CHE 69, of Kingsport, Tenn., April 17. He retired from Eastman Chemical Co. in 1996.

**Chang-Kiang “Clinton” Kuo**, MS EE 62, PhD 68, of Austin, Texas, Jan. 2. A native of Taiwan, he joined Texas Instruments in 1968 and was involved in MOS memory design. In 1979 he went to work at Motorola to lead EE-PROM product development. Mr. Kuo held 55 patents and published 28 technical papers. His awards include being named Motorola’s Distinguished Innovator in 1989 and the North Texas Inventor of the Year in 2000.

**Steve Cochran Mitchell**, Arch 55, of Marietta, Ga., Feb. 23. For much of his career, he was a senior associ- ate with the Atlanta architectural firm Heery International and served as project manager for Atlanta/Fulton County Stadium. Mr. Mitchell also worked on proj- ects with the New York City parks and recreation depart- ment and on nationwide proj- ects for the Corps of Engineers. At the time of his retirement, he was a senior consultant and expert witness with the Brookwood Group.

**Nancy Richardson Summers**, ME 79, of Charlotte, N.C., Sept. 8. of breast can- cer. She was a merit scholar and charter member of Alpha Delta Pi sorority.

**Bruce Wittschiebe**, CE 78, of Atlanta, Feb. 27 of cancer. While at Tech, he was a member of the Rambling Wreck Club and president of Theta Chi fraternity. Mr. Wittschiebe worked as president of Hardin Construction Co. and most recently was vice presi- dent of development for Cousins Real Estate Corp. He was involved in the develop- ment and construction of sever- al Atlanta landmarks, including Crawford Long Hospital, The Commodore Condominium and the Atlanta Airport Hilton.

Survivors include his wife, Janice Nease Wittschiebe, Arch 51, and son John, Cls 01, a resident of San Diego, on Feb. 24.

**Friends**

**Jeffrey Muchhauser**, CS 01, a resident of San Diego, on Feb. 24.

**Nellie Tryon Reynolds**, Acree, 90, of Atlanta, on March 26. A past president of the Georgia Tech Women’s Club, she was the widow of Walter Reynolds, Jr., a Tech math pro- fessor for 33 years.

Alumnus Dies in Fall
The Yellow Jackets
News from the World of Tech Sports

O&A

President Clough Discusses NCAA Academic Reform Rules

By John Dunn

Georgia Tech President Wayne Clough is among the Division I university presidents in the National Collegiate Athletic Association driving academic reforms concerning the eligibility of student athletes and annual eligibility reviews evaluating the academic progress of student athletes. Clough, who represents the Atlantic Coast Conference as a member of the NCAA board of directors and serves on the executive committee, said while the reforms are needed, some of the new rules will prove challenging even to schools like Georgia Tech. Clough discussed the increasingly active role of university presidents in the NCAA and the changing role of athletics directors.

What are the objectives of academic reform?

The impetus for academic reform is a good one and well intentioned. The attempt is to bring back a strong connection between college athletics and academics with a focus on the student athlete. The NCAA intent is to say we as universities are concerned with student athletes and their success both in athletics and academics. What is being enacted today is not likely to be the last action taken since there is a lot of determination to make whatever corrections are needed to get things back on a more even keel.

Whatever is done, it will not be a simple matter because the NCAA ranges from schools with small programs to those with large programs — Division III, Division II and Division I. It’s the old problem of trying to make one size fit all that makes it challenging. Even in Division I there are 18 members of the Division I board of directors, and only six of those are Division IA conferences that maintain football programs at a level with 85 full scholarships — the PAC 10, Big 10, Big 12, Big East, ACC and SEC. By comparison, Division I also includes the Ivy League Conference, which does not offer athletic-based scholarships.

In Division IA, football generates much of the income to operate the remainder of the programs. This is not the case in non-Division IA schools, and it proves to be a differentiating factor when many decisions are made about the operation of sports programs.

What are the reform measures?

The new rules come in a series of categories. The first deals with initial eligibility to participate in collegiate athletics. The second deals with continuing eligibility after the student is enrolled. It considers an athlete’s academic progress rate and what a student athlete must do to continue participating in college athletics. The ultimate measure in this category is graduation rate, which evaluates whether the student and the university have done their part to make sure the student has an appropriate chance to graduate.

The third set of rules has to do with a new category, which will address what are called incentives and disincentives. These will relate to an intent to reward those institutions that do a good job of maintaining an athlete’s eligibility and getting him through graduation and to discipline those institutions that don’t do a good job. Finally, there will be more structure established regarding aspects such as length of seasons, amount of time players are expected to practice and so on. This is still a work in progress.

How will academic reform affect Georgia Tech?

Tech has always been a school that has tried to play by the rules and we are one of very few schools that have never been on NCAA probation. We will continue to play by the rules and do all we can to support our student athletes to help them obtain an education that offers them a meaningful career.

What are the new rules for initial eligibility?

There are two major changes in initial eligibility rules. The first includes the use of a “sliding scale” to relate combined SATs with high school grade point averages. In the old system, a student with a combined SAT of less than 800 could not be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics freshman year, regardless of GPA. In the future, an SAT of 800 will no longer be a limiting factor if the student has a GPA high enough. Even lower SATs than 800 will be allowed depending on GPA. While many, including myself, see this as a retreat from earlier standards, experts say that the sliding scale is more consistent than an arbitrary cutoff like that used previously. The second change is to require student athletes to have 16 core courses rather than 13. This is clearly a step in the right direction since it sends a message to the high schools about adequately preparing student athletes for university work.

For Georgia Tech, none of these changes about initial eligibility have any effect since we have always recruited student athletes who exceed the new criteria. My only concern is what some schools might do with the new sliding scale approach to open doors to skirt the rules. There will be added pressure on high schools to “help” a student athlete who has a low SAT by improving grades and we know from past experiences some will succumb to the pressure.

What are the new rules for continuing eligibility?

This category will have the largest impact on most schools, particularly Georgia Tech. The rules state that for student athletes to remain eligible they have to meet stringent criteria for progress toward graduation. The most important calls for students to have completed 20 percent of their courses toward graduation by the end of the first year, 40 percent by the end of the second year, 66 percent by the end of the third year and 80 percent by the end of the fourth year. The intent is to create a strong incentive for student athletes to graduate in five years.

While this is a good notion in theory, it represents...
do a significant step up relative to present practice. To put this in perspective, at most schools not even a majority of students who are nonathletes presently meet this standard for progress toward graduation.

Meeting the criteria for continuing eligibility will be a challenge at Georgia Tech; but one that we have options to address. For example, we need to create a more robust offering of summer courses and more flexibility in the time frames over which they are offered. This is something we need to do as a result of switching to the semester system anyway, and such changes would help us in our efforts to improve the graduation rates of all of our students, not just student athletes. Also, we will have to make sure our academic support services for student athletes are first rate. Dave Braine and his staff have proven they are up to the task. He has done an exceptional job in improving our graduation rate and ensuring the academic success of our student athletes.

Do you see the changes as positive?

The changes are well intended, but I am concerned about several aspects for the future. First, there will be individuals at some schools who will continue to seek ways around the rules and there will be loopholes that can be exploited. Second, there is nothing in the new rules that challenges universities to look at themselves and ensure student athletes are taking curricula that prepare them for life. We all have heard of places where courses are offered that are simply not suitable. This will continue if nothing more is done.

At Georgia Tech, all of our curricula are excellent and preparing student athletes for a life after graduation. I only wish more universities would follow this simple precept. After all, only 2 percent of collegiate athletes go on to compete in professional sports and, even there, they need an education of substance to make their lives a success. In the end I believe we will have to work hard to recruit the kind of student athletes who can do well at Tech. I congratulate them on their efforts and the success we are seeing. There are ongoing discussions about an approach for “incentives and disincentives” and this won’t be completed for another year. I expect we will be voting on the proposed package at the NCAA board meeting next April.

What are the policies going to effect?

No policies that are new to initial and continuing eligibility are in place. The student athletes coming in this fall will have to meet the new rules for continuing eligibility. Recognizing this, our coaches have worked hard to recruit the kind of student athlete who can do well at Tech. I congratulate them on their efforts and the success we are seeing. There are ongoing discussions about an approach for “incentives and disincentives” and this won’t be completed for another year. I expect we will be voting on the proposed package at the NCAA board meeting next April.

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What other changes going on at Georgia Tech impact athletics?

I don’t believe there will be a new day because the new rules are going to have an impact. You are likely to see more reports of student athletes being ineligible and there are going to be more frequent checks of eligibility than in the past. The upside of this will be more focus on academics and ultimately it will be good for college athletics.

How are athletics directors reacting to the stronger emphasis on academics?

Athletics directors by and large get a bad rap. The largest majority of them are very serious about their jobs and doing things within the rules. All of the ACC athletics directors I know are concerned about their student athletes. Everybody has to realize this is a new day because the new rules are going to have an impact. You are likely to see more reports of student athletes being ineligible and there are going to be more frequent checks of eligibility than in the past. The upside of this will be more focus on academics and ultimately it will be good for college athletics.

What will the role of the athletics director be?

I agree with Dave Braine, who feels the job of an athletics director is changing rapidly, not only because of the new rules and the complexity of enforcement, but also because of changes in the financial aspect of collegiate athletics. Never before has the challenge been so great on the athletics director to balance budgets while addressing issues like Title IX and keeping facilities competitive. The term “arms race” is being used to describe the building of new athletics complexes and it is not a poor choice of terminology.

The business of collegiate sports is growing and is a part of our future, but it will not be a straightforward task. Alumni, friends, coaches, faculty and the administration will need to pull together if we are to succeed. After this year we will be fortunate to have first-class facilities for both baseball and football along with those for most of our other sports. These will help us in our efforts to recruit not only good student athletes, but also to attract the best coaches as well as a fan base beyond our alumni.

I suspect we will continue to see the flowering of our Olympic sports programs such as swimming, tennis and baseball as well as soccer when we add that exciting sport. Beyond soccer, a sport like crew would be a great fit with Georgia Tech and one in which we have had considerable success at the club level.

Stanford perhaps provides a good model for us because it has shown it is possible to have a strong nationally competitive sports program in a highly competitive academic university setting. The key for Georgia Tech will be to continue to integrate athletics into its Institute-wide strategic plan so there is a close fit with our academic and institutional goals.

What consequences will NCAA reform bring?

Georgia Tech is a small school with a small alumni base and arenas that hold crowds half those of some of our competitors, we have to work harder to succeed. Our ticket revenues will never be as large as those of many of our competitors. Also, we are situated right in the middle of Atlanta and have to compete for crowds with a host of professional teams. Our athletics director has to be clever, be able to raise private funding and be at the top of his game to keep us competitive. We also have to link to alumni for support more than is the case for the competition, and we are highly dependent on a strong conference affiliate that embraces revenue sharing.

Georgia Tech has one of the smaller Division IA programs with only 18 sports. The average ACC school has 22. Schools like Stanford have 34. Dave and his staff have done a great job of bringing in full support for all of our sports for the first time and in adding women’s swimming. Last year 15 of our teams qualified for postseason competition, reflecting our greater breadth. We hope to add women’s and men’s soccer next to bring us in better alignment with the ACC, one of the nation’s premier soccer conferences.

The good news is that, first with Homer Rice and now Dave Braine, we have had the experienced kind of athletics director that we need to build our intercollegiate athletics programs into a competitive posture, one that Tech alumni and friends can be proud of and one that has facilities that show us at our best.

Dave and I both believe the athletics director of the future will need to have a strong background in not only athletics but also finance and law. At Georgia Tech he will have to be able to build a support team that can address all of the complex areas within the context of our unique circumstances.

What do you foresee in the future for Georgia Tech athletics?

I believe intercollegiate athletics will play an integral part of our future, but it will not be a straightforward task. Alumni, friends, coaches, faculty and the administration will need to pull together if we are to succeed. After this year we will be fortunate to have first-class facilities for both baseball and football along with those for most of our other sports. These will help us in our efforts to recruit not only good student athletes, but also to attract the best coaches as well as a fan base beyond our alumni.

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Complete Competitor

Matt Harpring finds his niche in NBA

By Gary Libman

Matt Harpring burst into the NBA spotlight this season as Utah's second-leading scorer. Trailing only future Hall of Famer Karl Malone, Harpring averaged a career-high 17.8 points per game. Because that average is six points higher than his previous high, and because Utah is his fourth NBA team in five years, fans might believe that Harpring, Mgt 97, Ms Mgt 98, catapulted to stardom.

But the story isn't that simple. “Some nights he’ll score 25 or 27 points and people will look at it and say, 'Where does this all come from?'” said former NBA star and interim Los Angeles Clippers coach Dennis Johnson. “But I think he's always had it in him.”

“Sometimes a man has to bounce around to a couple of teams,” Johnson said at the Staples Center in Los Angeles before Utah beat the Clippers late in the season. “Now he's found his niche.”

The crew-cut, 6-foot-7 Harpring agreed. Harpring began his NBA career in 1998 as a first-round draft pick with Orlando, a playoff team with established scorers. But Harpring, 26, said he felt stifled under coach Chuck Daly.

“In that situation, you have to fit in however you can be on the court. My role was to defend, hustle and rebound,” he said in the locker room after the game in Los Angeles, his knees wrapped with ice and his feet soaking in a bucket of ice water.

After two years, Harpring was traded to another established team in Cleveland for one season and then to Philadelphia. Harpring averaged a respectable 11.1 points per game for Cleveland and 11.8 for Philadelphia, but his career bloomed after Philadelphia released him and he signed a four-year, $18 million contract with the Jazz in 2002.

“I'm getting more of an opportunity to have the ball in my hands here and they look for me. They call plays for me. That's what makes it fun this year,” he said.

The Jazz also encouraged Harpring to shoot three-point shots. He worked at it and hit accuracy improved from .304 last season to .431, fifth best in the NBA. Overall the former Tech All-American shot .512 percent, eighth best in the league.

“When the coaches have confidence in you and the players have confidence in you, you gain confidence yourself,” Harpring said.

That confidence includes other areas of his game.

“My biggest strength is that I play hard every night,” he said. “That sounds like a given, but a lot of people in this league don't try to be fundamentally sound in every aspect. Shooting, Passing, Defense. Rebounding, I don't want people to look at any one thing and say, ‘He's not good at it.’”

Coach Johnson said, “I think he's one of the more complete players in the league, but people choose to write about other things.”

Teammates appreciate his toughness and rivals admire his tenacity. “He plays the game nose first,” said the Clippers' Lamar Odom. “He dives in. He has a full-back's mentality.”

Guard John Stockton, the NBA's all-time leader in assists, said, "We needed him and he's filled the need. He's scored. He's been a physical defender. He's a terrific rebounder and he's a tough player.”

Harpring showed the same skills at Georgia Tech, completing his eligibility ranked second in career scoring with 2,225 points and second in rebounds with 967. Three wonderful memories remain from his senior year — having his jersey retired before his last home game, receiving a standing ovation from ACC fans at the conference tournament and graduating.

Harpring, who won an ACC postgraduate scholarship, said not enough NBA players finish their education. “I graduated at a good school taking real classes. I know that when I'm done playing I'm going to be able to use my degree.”

Harpring said he'd like to own a business after he finishes playing. But that could be many years away.

After the Jazz narrowly beat the Clippers 94-89, Stockton noted that Harpring stole a pass and scored a key layup in the final seconds.

“It shows that he competes,” Stockton said. “He's not just sitting at the other end of the court and waiting for his next shot. He's playing the full game.”

Farewell Berenato

Women's basketball coach leaves Jackets hive for Panthers' Pitt

Agnus Berenato, only the second women's basketball coach at Georgia Tech, resigned May 1 to become the head coach at the University of Pittsburgh.

Berenato recently finished her 15th season as head women's basketball coach, leading the Yellow Jackets to a 20-11 mark and an appearance in the 2003 NCAA Tournament — the fourth consecutive postseason berth. Berenato also coached Tech's first NCAA tournament team in 1993.

Berenato came to Georgia Tech in 1987 as assistant coach under her sister, Bernadette McGlade. Two seasons later, McGlade was promoted to associate athletics director and Berenato took over the head coaching position. In her first season at the helm, Berenato guided the Jackets to the championship of the 1992 National Women's Invitation Tournament. She also led Tech to three other NIT appearances in 2000, 2001 and 2002.

She compiled a 223-239 record at Tech.

Berenato, a Gloucester, N.J., native played basketball at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Md. After graduation, she began coaching at the high school level until 1985, when she was named head women's basketball coach at Rider University in New Jersey.

Georgia Tech President Wayne Clough appointed a search committee for a new women's head coach, chaired by athletics director Dave Braine, that will include administrators, faculty, alumni and student athletes.

“Agnes has given a great deal to Georgia Tech over the last 17 years, and we wish her nothing but the best,” said Braine.

“This was a tremendous opportunity for her and her family. We will move forward with the coaching search immediately, and I am confident that we will hire a head coach who will build upon the success that our women's basketball program enjoyed this past season.”
Coping skills simplify job search

By Maria M. Lameiras

Pounding the pavement and sending out hundreds of resumes may seem the wise thing to do after being laid off, but taking a more measured approach will serve a job seeker better.

During a study performed by Georgia Tech’s School of Psychology in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, laid off workers were tracked for six months to determine what strategies they used to cope with job loss and to search for new work. Psychology professor Ruth Kanfer said the data showed that those who searched more intensely were more successful, but there is a difference between intensity and frenzy, she said.

“You may have a programmer who loses his job after two decades and who finds his skills obsolete. If he stops and examines his strengths and skills and takes full stock of his knowledge and competitiveness in the job market, he may wind up with a very different job than before,” Kanfer said. “If that programmer is laid off from an obsolete job but he still looks for that kind of job, he will not be successful.”

Statistics across the labor force show the average time spent in one job is now less than four years. As retirement age rises, that means a person can expect to do 12 or more job searches in their lives, Kanfer said.

Continuous professional development is key for keeping up with a changing job market.

“If you keep your skills up while you are still employed, it will have big payoffs down the road,” she said. “We have come to understand this about our physical being, but not our professional lives. We know if we eat right and live healthily, it doesn’t mean we won’t get cancer, but our chances of being able to get a pink slip — it is a huge hit. Protecting our self-esteem and self-worth through other activities becomes much more important. It helps shore up their willingness and motivation to search in what is a tough employment environment.”

Job searchers who dealt with their negative emotions in constructive, active ways — such as in a change in their exercise program — stayed more focused.

“If you just wake up and search, search, search until you go to bed, you have to burn out at some point,” she said. “The way to positively increase your search behavior is to prepare yourself, to be in good physical and mental health so you will be able to search more effectively and have better outcomes.”

A meta-analysis of the study done afterward by Kanfer, Tech graduate student Tracy Kantrowitz and professor Connie Wanberg of the University of Minnesota found that there is a strong relationship between focused job search and success.

Kanfer said some laid off workers worry so much about searching for a new job that they don’t actually go out and do it.

“They get up and get dressed and leave as if they are going to work, but they leave the house and don’t go anywhere. They don’t have a plan. Strategic and planned search is much more satisfying — and more likely to get results — than less focused and haphazard search.”

What Do You Do When You Are 50 and Out of a Job?

The unemployment rate rose in April from 5.8 percent to 6 percent. Employers reduced payrolls for the third straight month, cutting 40,000 jobs after slashing 124,000 in March.

Losing your job is a devastating experience, but what happens when you are 50 years old and suddenly unemployed? How do you start over at 50?

John Hannabach, a career counselor and former director of Career Services at Tech, told more than 75 people attending an Alumni Career Conference that some are going to be. What kind of things did you make — they don’t have to be work related, but many are going to be. What kind of things did you do that you just couldn’t wait to tell somebody about? You look for those kind of things.”

After losing a job, consider four options:

• Look for the same position in the same industry because you enjoyed what you were doing and the industry is in good shape economically.
• Look for the same job in a different industry because you liked what you did but you saw some shortcomings in the industry.
• Look for a different job in a different industry. “When you’re over 50 years old and you decide to look for a different job in a different industry, that kind of a change might be a little more difficult,” Hannabach said. “That’s almost like starting over.”
The Real World

Out of a Job

You’re probably not going to achieve making the same kind of salary that you were making before. But that’s an option that shouldn’t be ruled out.”

Once you know who you are, what you like to do, what your skills and abilities are and what your strengths are, you’re ready to start, he said.

“The way most people are going to find their next job is through networking,” Hannabach said. “That’s an oversimplified expression, but it’s very real. Networking means making contacts with everybody you know — letting them know you’re in the market and what it is that you’re looking for. Start with what I call the ‘A contacts’ — those people that we all know. They could be alumni, hairdressers, barbers, doctors, dentists — contacts that we all have.

Use those contacts to reach the people in charge of hiring.

“What you want to do is get to the hiring manager, the decision maker. ‘Your ‘A contacts’ may not know that hiring manager, but they may know someone who could be a bridge to that hiring manager. That’s part of networking. You’re looking for somebody who can give you a lead to somebody who is looking to make a hire,” he said. “Networking is the most effective way of doing a job search. It takes time, but it is very effective.”

Lengthy job searches can be discouraging, but be persistent, he said.

“The biggest detriment to someone in this situation is frustration and lack of patience,” Hannabach said. “Jobs are out there if you’re 50 years or older, but it takes time to uncover them, do the interviewing and to have the decisions made. It’s the sellers’ market today. Companies can pick and choose who they are looking for.”

When interviewing for a job, the candidate should have a positive attitude, confidence and enthusiasm, Hannabach said.

“You need to hone and develop those three characteristics,” he said. “A can-do attitude is vitally important — not only in the job search, but in the job. Your attitude is significant. You should demonstrate confidence in your own skills and abilities and exude enthusiasm. You know who you are and you know what you want to do.”

Hannabach said resumes should be prepared with care and free from errors. Have someone proofread your resume, he said.

“A carefully written resume should ‘resonate with accomplishments and results — not job responsibilities,’ Hannabach said. ‘Pump it up with accomplishments and results — not job responsibilities.”

“If you can quantify those accomplishments by putting a number with it — achieved 6 percent increase in sales — those numbers jump off a resume page at somebody.”

Include a cover letter that also emphasizes a positive attitude, confidence and enthusiasm, highlighting accomplishments and results that are in the resume. Hannabach said the Internet is another avenue to be tapped, but should not be a sole means of search.

“Don’t ignore the Internet, but don’t post your resume online and sit back waiting for all of these job offers to come in, because it won’t happen,” Hannabach said.

“If you see a posting on the Internet that looks interesting, rather than post to the site, look up the company that is listing the position, go to its Internet site and look at the career openings and post your resume directly to the company,” he said.

Hannabach is a career counselor with Right Management Consultants and is president of Hancon, an independent consulting organization specializing in career coaching and career-related activities.

Annual event features job fair, workshops, networking

More than 800 alumni participated in a job fair, workshops and networking sessions during the 20th annual Alumni Career Conference at the Cobb Galleria in April.

There were more than 40 companies at the conference interviewing alumni to fill positions, said Jennifer Gillilan, Mgt 93, director of Career Development for the Georgia Tech Alumni Association.

“The conference was very successful,” Gillilan said. “Every event, every workshop was well attended. The Young Alumni Networking event for the classes of 1992 to 2002 was outstanding.”

Keynote speaker Bill Todd, IM 71, told a noon audience he was in transition as president and chief executive officer of Encina Technology Ventures when he was asked to join the staff of Georgia Gov. Sonny Perdue as a special assistant.

Todd said creativity, communication and commitment are strengths that can distinguish a job candidate.

“Creativity defies analysis,” Todd said. “People say you’re born with it or you’re not. But creativity can be learned — even nurtured and developed — just as an appreciation for art and culture can be learned and developed.”

Just as a person not skilled as a musician can learn to appreciate symphonic music, a person can nurture creativity and improve the ability to be a creative problem solver in business.

“I believe in the value of art and culture to help promote a creative mind,” Todd said.

“Creative people take risks,” he said.

“Sometimes they take on too much risk, but the best of them learn from those errors.”

Todd said the ability to communicate shows up in every job specification on every level.

In the past, Georgia Tech was not as good at helping develop communications skills as it is today, and nothing symbolizes the transformation better and speaks to the role and need for communication better than the introduction of poetry on campus, he said.

“Last January, I went to a poetry reading at Georgia Tech,” he said. “There were 250 people in a room designed for 100 people. There were students, faculty, people from town — and it was wonderful. Georgia Tech has two endowed chairs in poetry, and there are only 20 endowed poetry chairs in higher education nationwide. The place has figured out that a well-rounded person can learn to communicate with many media, including poetry.”

Todd said a willingness to commit to a project is essential in the job market.

“By commitment I don’t mean lifelong commitment to an employer, I mean commitment to a mission,” he said. “Increasingly, it seems to me, employers are seeking to find a match between their mission, as crisply as they can define it, and the interest and passions of the skill sets of the people with whom they are talking.”

There are many worthwhile missions, he said.

“I feel that business in general is a calling — that work is dignified and inherently noble,” Todd said. “And with that philosophy, I believe that prospective employees need to buy into the vision of the organization that they are considering or where they are now. And if they can’t buy into it, they’re in the wrong spot. I believe in commitment.”
The Yellow Jackets
News from the World of Tech Sports

President Wayne Clough Discusses NCAA Academic Reform

By John Dunn

Georgia Tech President Wayne Clough is among the Division I university presidents in the National Collegiate Athletic Association driving academic reforms concerning the eligibility of student athletes and annual eligibility reviews evaluating the academic progress of student athletes. Clough, who represents the Atlantic Coast Conference as a member of the NCAA board of directors and serves on the executive committee, said while the reforms are needed, some of the new rules will prove challenging even to schools like Georgia Tech. Clough discussed the increasingly active role of university presidents in the NCAA and the changing role of athletics directors.

What are the objectives of academic reform?

The impetus for academic reform is a good one and well intentioned. The attempt is to bring back a strong connection between college athletics and academics and the focus is on the student athlete. The NCAA intent is to say we as universities are concerned with student athletes and their success both in athletics and academics. What is being enacted today is not likely to be the last action taken since there is a lot of determination to make whatever corrections are needed to get things back on a more even keel.

What ever is done, it will not be a simple matter because the NCAA is an organization that ranges from schools with small programs to those with large programs — Division III, Division II and Division I. It’s the old problem of trying to make one size fit all that makes it challenging. Even in Division I there are 18 members of the Division I board of directors, and only six of those are Division I conferences that maintain football programs at a level with 85 full scholarships — the PAC 10, Big 10, Big 12, Big East, ACC and SEC. By comparison, Division I also includes the Ivy League Conference, which does not offer athletics-based scholarships. In Division I A, football generates much of the income to operate the remainder of the programs. This is not the case in non-division I A schools, and it proves to be a differentiating factor when many decisions are made about the operation of sports programs.

What are the reform measures?

The new rules come in a series of categories. The first deals with initial eligibility of the student athlete to participate in collegiate athletics. The second deals with continuing eligibility after the student is enrolled. It considers an athlete’s academic progress rate and what a student must do to continue participating in college athletics. The ultimate measure in this category is graduation rate, which evaluates the appropriate chance to graduate.

The third set of rules has to do with a new category, which will address what are called incentives and disincentives. These will relate to an intent to reward those institutions that do a good job of maintaining an athlete’s eligibility and getting him through graduation and to discipline those institutions that don’t do a good job. Finally, there will be more structure established regarding aspects such as length of seasons, amount of time players are expected to practice and so on. This is still a work in progress.

How will the academic reform affect Georgia Tech?

Georgia Tech has always been a school that has tried to play by the rules and we are one of very few schools that have never been on NCAA probation. We will continue to play by the rules and do all we can to support our student athletes to help them obtain an education that offers them a meaningful career.

Please explain the new rules for continuing eligibility.

There are two major changes in initial eligibility rules. The first includes the use of a “sliding scale” to relate combined SAT’s with high school grade point averages. In the old system, a student with a combined SAT of less than 800 could not be eligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics in their freshman year, regardless of GPA.

In the future, an SAT of 800 will no longer be a limiting factor if the student has a GPA high enough. Even lower SATs than 800 will be allowed depending on GPA. While many, including myself, see this as a retreat from earlier standards, experts say that the “sliding scale” is more consistent than an arbitrary cut-off like that used previously.

What changes are proposed for the initial eligibility?

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When do the policies go into effect?

Meet this standard for progress towards graduation rates of all of our students, not just student athletes. Also, we will have to make sure our academic support services for student athletes are first rate. Dave Braine and his staff have proven they are up to the task. He has done an exceptional job in improving our graduation rate and insuring the academic success of our student athletes.

What will the role of the athletics director be?

Athletics directors get a bad rap. Most of them are really serious folks. All of the athletics directors in the ACC are very serious about their student athletes and what is going to happen to them. Our athletics directors are saying, “You tell us what we need to do and we’ll do it.” Everybody has to realize this is a new day. These new rules are going to impact folks. You’re going to see more reports of student athletes being ineligible. There are going to be more checks and the criteria are going to be a lot stiffer on student athletes as far as their ability to stay eligible.

What will the role of the athletics director be?

Dave Braine has been much more involved with the academic side of the house. As we look at these young people and try our best to make sure we are bringing in the best young person who can succeed at Georgia Tech, there’s much more involvement with the admissions side. Will this person succeed?

In the long haul the role of the athletics director is changing because the budgets of our athletic programs are growing. Georgia Tech’s budget for its athletic programs is almost $30 million a year. Part of it is TV contracts; part of it is additional revenues and the need to add sports. At Georgia Tech we have far too few sports. We only have 18 and we need to go to 20, particularly since the average for an ACC school is 22.

Our goal is to add women’s and men’s soccer to bring us to 20.

Stanford has funded 34 sports. It competes in a lot of sports in intercollegiate athletics we only have as club sports — like crew, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse. We have great club teams but they’re not intercollegiate, they’re not funded from the athletic department. We’re trying to do it to help them succeed.

Dave Braine has funded all the scholarships that we have available to us. Men’s swimming is now fully funded; women’s swimming is fully funded. If we are going to compete successfully in the ACC, we have to have a requisite number of sports that we can compete to maintain ourselves in an all-sports conference. We need to add, for example, men’s and women’s soccer because the ACC is a great soccer league. We may be the only school in the ACC that doesn’t have soccer.

As the budgets get bigger, you’re going to be looking for athletics directors who have MBAs, who can manage a budget of $50 million a year, who can deal with the complexity of the rules and regulations that you have to deliver in order to be successful and manage what is in essence, the commercial side of the enterprise — ticket sales, entertainment, marketing. I think in the future athletics directors will have law degrees or MBAs.

What consequences will NCAA reform bring?

It’s going to be more challenging for some schools to succeed in intercollegiate athletics. Some will have to raise their standards, I don’t think there is any question about that. Hopefully that will happen across the board.

For a school like Georgia Tech, the continuing eligibility part of this equation is going to make it more challenging for us. For schools that have much broader enrollments and much more flexibility in their scheduling, this is going to be less of a stretch. There is an unintended consequence as Georgia Tech brings in brighter students. It means our student athletes have to compete with that category student. That’s a good problem to have.