SAC II project moving forward this fall

Dan Treadaway
Institute Communications and Public Affairs

Plans announced last fall for a new Student Athletic Complex (SAC II) will become evident to the campus community in the next several weeks as demolition and preparation for construction begin.

The $45-million SAC II project will include enclosing the existing Olympic Aquatic Center to allow year-round use, a new recreation center to replace the existing 25-year-old structure, and a 500-space parking deck to be constructed on the current gravel lot adjacent to the Aquatic Center. In addition, a new Student Health Center will be constructed on the south side of the new building.

SAC II project activities, which are underway and will continue throughout the semester, include:

- Taking out of service four of SAC’s eight racquetball courts and one of two squash courts to provide space for disrupted programs and to address storage needs due to construction-related activities. Some courts have already been taken offline, and the remaining ones will be gone within the next few weeks. The four racquetball courts and one squash court that remain in service equal the number of courts in the SAC II project.
- Demolition of the Auxiliary Gym, located on the south side of the SAC building, to allow for construction of the new Student Health Center. This phase should start during spring semester and will also eliminate the A-19 parking lot, which includes 57 spaces. Rod Weiks, director of Parking and Transportation, said the SAC employees who currently park in A-19 will eventually be moved to the DuPree College surface lot across the street from SAC.
- Elimination of lockers in the Aquatic Center due to construction slated to begin early in spring semester. Because locker demand at SAC is expected to increase for spring semester, faculty and staff are advised to secure locker rentals as soon as possible.
- Closing the Olympic Aquatic Center at the end of fall semester in preparation for phase one of SAC II construction, which will begin in early 2002. For a two-year period while enclosure of the Olympic Pool is ongoing, the only pool available at SAC will be the “bubble” pool. Additionally, the gravel parking lot adjacent to the Aquatic Center will serve as graduate student parking from the beginning of fall semester until Nov. 1, when it will close in preparation for SAC II construction. Although 300 spaces will be lost with the elimination of the gravel

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“QUOTE—UNQUOTE”

“In 80 percent or more of the cases [we examined] it is the adult children of parents that make the decision to say ‘Mom or Dad needs to move.’ And so we realized, if we were going to do this research, we had to take into account what the kids needed to know about their parents.”
—Elizabeth Mynatt, assistant professor in the College of Computing, on her visits to assisted living centers while developing the technologies that are central to the Aware Home Research Initiative (NPR’s “Morning Edition”)

“When the surrounding pressure is reduced, as with the opening of a soft drink bottle, the gas in the fluid immediately begins to escape. If some of the oxygen remains in the solution and follows with the water into the stomach it will continue to move out of the solution and could result in an expensive burp.”

“Teeiixeea wwiillll nnoott rreettuurr ffoorr sseenniioorr yeeaarr ccoonnttrraacctt wwiitthh TTeexxaass RRaannggeerrss”

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on internships with the Georgia Supreme Court. “What was really surprising to me is that, coming from a technology school, I was able to get one of the best legal internships in the federal government.” The internship — which is unpaid — almost always goes to pre-law undergraduates or law students.

In addition to the unparalleled learning experience she expects to have, Cames is also excited about getting to know a branch of the government and the inner workings of the Supreme Court so intimately. “This will be a great chance to do in-depth research and get to know a branch of the government very well,” she said. Cames, plans to attend law school and eventually practice public interest law following her experience she expects to have, Cames is also excited about getting to know a branch of the government and the inner workings of the Supreme Court so intimately. “This will be a great chance to do in-depth research and get to know a branch of the government very well,” she said. Cames plans to attend law school and eventually practice public interest law following her

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lot, plus the 57 spaces in A-19 Student Health Center construction, the new 500-space deck will result in a net gain of more than 140 spaces upon completion. “As we all know, disruptions and displacements will occur due to construction,” said Batch Stanphill, director of Campus Recreation. “During the next three years, the Campus Recreation staff will strive to assure disruptions are held to a minimum. It is our goal to conduct all programs as scheduled, however, the transition from one phase to another will bring about many challenges. In the long run, Georgia Tech will have one of the premier recreational centers in the country.”

In order to keep the campus community informed about ongoing changes in the availability of SAC facilities during construction, Stanphill said a SAC II Communications Committee has been formed. The committee is in the process of creating a listserve called SAC-Updates to provide timely and accurate information about the changing status of SAC facilities.

For more information

To join the listserve, develop a subscription gateway.
To become a member of SAC Gayle Kreckman, 894-7163

Teixeira will not return for senior year; signs contract with Texas Rangers

An American third baseman Mark Teixeira agreed to a four-year, $9.5-million Major League Baseball contract last week.

“I think he has the potential to be a cornerstone,” Texas Rangers owner Tom Hicks said. “He is probably the best player we have ever drafted as franchise.”

Teixeira, 21-year-old switch-hitter, will begin at the Florida Instructional League, which starts Sept. 17.

Teixeira is considered one of the premiere hitters in college baseball. In his first two seasons at Tech, Teixeira hit .408 with 31 home runs and 145 RBIs. He was the National Player of the Year in 2000 and led the USA National Team to a 27-3-1 record last summer. He sat out his junior season because of a broken ankle.

“I have been working out every day at Georgia Tech, working on my ankle. I can run or fine, it’s just building back up the strength,” he said.

Working at the coldest place in Georgia

Tech physicists create extreme cold to study the properties of atoms

John Toon
Research News and Publications

The coldest place in Georgia is inside the laboratory of Georgia Tech physicist Michael Chapman.

Chapman and his research team generate temperatures as low as 450 degrees below zero Fahrenheit (-273 degrees Celsius), the coldest reading that nature will allow. At that positively chilly temperature, the normally active atoms of gaseous materials slow to a crawl — which is the whole point of the work. One promising direction for future advances in computing is known as quantum logic, which relies on the ability to control and interact with atoms — a great many atoms, perhaps tens of thousands. Scientists from around the world, including Chapman’s group in the School of Physics, are pursuing this hot new research area.

But atoms in gaseous form normally zip around wildly in unpredictable directions, which means that before they can interact with each other, scientists must first slow the atoms and control their behavior. Cooling them to such extreme temperatures is one way to do that. “If you can control atoms and interact with them individually, all of a sudden the whole paradigm for computing changes,” said Chapman, who has been working on controlling collections of atoms for several years. “Where this will lead is hard to predict, but historically whenever we’ve been able to get more control over physical systems, that has led to dramatic new directions in science and technology.”

As part of their research into controlling atoms, Chapman’s research team made news around the world this past July by announcing a new technique for creating a unique supercooled form of matter known as a Bose-Einstein condensate. By trapping a cloud of atoms and cooling it to a just fraction of a degree above absolute zero — a temperature (exact 450.67 degrees F) at which all atomic motion would stop — the researchers persuade the atoms to abandon their quirks and motion and enter a single state in which they all behave identically.

Chapman compares the atoms in a Bose-Einstein condensate to the photons of light in a laser beam. Lasers produce streams of photons with identical wavelengths and energy levels, all moving in the same direction. This unique property is known as coherence, makes lasers useful for a broad range of applications from high-speed communications to industrial metal cutting.

“A lot of the excitement about atomic Bose-Einstein condensates is that this sort of coherence, getting all the atoms to be in one state and do everything at the same time, could eventually lead to some interesting developments,” Chapman said. As August temperatures in Atlanta inch toward 100 degrees, working with Chapman’s supercooled atoms might sound appealing. But don’t envy the academic research team that for rea- son the minus 450-degree temperature exists only on a tiny sample, a third of millimeter, inside a stainless steel vacuum chamber surrounded by a thick blanket of liquid nitrogen.

The temperature in the rest of the lab is a more comfortable 70 degrees — above zero, that is.
A five-month, $1.4-million renovation of brittain Dining Hall bore fruit recently as new and returning students on East Campus were treated to a grand reopening of the landmark Gothic facility. At left, work crews discuss the final phase of the renovation, a few weeks before the students arrive. Flanked for then-president Marion Luther Brittain, the 73-year-old “mess hall” was conceived shortly after World War I and designed to evoke an English collegiate appearance. Below, the finished product.

### IN BRIEF:

**On the move...**

The Office of Information Technology Telecommunications Department has relocated from the Rich Building to 845 Marietta Street. The new telephone number is 385-7090.

**New professorship funded**

William W. George, chairman of Nerdton Inc. and a 1964 industrial engineering alumnus, plans to establish a $1 million endowment to support a new faculty position in health systems engineering. George’s $1 million gift will create the William W. George Professorship in Health Systems.

**Research grants increase again**

Tech had a record-breaking year, securing more than $257.4 million for research. This will be the Institute’s third straight record-setting year.

**No, it’s not your imagination**

Combining current and planned construction over the next three years, a total of $473 million is being spent to improve and expand the campus. That’s more than the period from 1991-1996, as Tech prepared to serve as the Olympic Village, at a cost of $214 million.

**People news**

Robert Loeswy (School of Aerospace Engineering) is the newest member of the executive committee of AHS International, a technical professional society for the advancement of vertical flight technology and its applications. It marks the first time that a representative of the academic community has been elected to a leadership position within the Society.

**History lesson**

Professor emeritus Helen E. Grenga has written a book, “Movies on the Field: A Sailor’s Diary and Memories of Other Men of the USS Bau,” about one of the “little ships” of World War II. It is available in the Tech bookstore.

**Commendation**

The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) recently acknowledged Georgia Tech and the Office of Organizational Development, awarding a ‘Commendable Practice’ in the Management Achievement category for its work in redesigning the Institute’s professional development programs.

**New director named**

Following a nationwide search, Georgia Tech recently named Tom Parker as the Counseling Center’s newest director.

**Club car wins top honors**

The Georgia Tech Motorsports team drove its single-seat race car to victory at the annual Formula Student competition in Birmingham, England. The Birmingham meet featured 25 university teams — six from the United States, one each from Canada, Germany, France, the Netherlands and Ireland, and 14 from England. The club placed first in design, second in slalom, third in cost, fourth in acceleration and autocross and sixth in presentation, scoring 912 out of a possible 1,000 points to claim the crown.

**Vigilance key to preventing identity theft**

Theresa Harvard Johnson
Office of Information Technology

Due in part to the explosion in popularity of the Internet and its pervasiveness in everyday life, identity fraud is one of the fastest growing white-collar crimes in America, according to reports from the FBI.

Industry statistics estimate that between 500,000 and 700,000 people will have their identities stolen this year. According to the Bureau’s website, imposters can thrive in personal information in any number of ways. Once in possession of that information, they proceed to ruin your good standing by opening new credit card accounts, changing existing credit card accounts, obtaining cell phone services, opening new bank accounts, and obtaining new loans.

Its simplicity is frightening: all a criminal needs is your name, social security number, and birth date to steal your identity. Using this information, an impostor can create a fake driver’s license with his or her picture, and become your clone in a matter of hours.

What’s worse, identity theft can impact the victim in ways other than financial.

“About a year ago some female students posted their pictures, and detailed personal information on their website,” said Georgia Tech Police Chief Jack Vickery. “That information attracted a sexual predator who lived in Florida who threatened to use their information in ways never intended nor imagined by the students.”

Internet vulnerability is a serious issue, particularly for Tech students, faculty, and staff, said Brian Culver, technical project director, CIT Information Security.

“The need to educate people on the importance of Internet security is critical,” he said, “especially since transferring electronic data has become a primary means of communication.”

When disclosing information, making purchases or sharing information online with other businesses, you should find out what kind of privacy practices they have in place. Culver noted that many browsers have pop-up warnings that inform users about whether or not the site they have entered is secure. If you choose to continue, Culver said, “just know that any information you submit is equivalent to standing in the center of a football field, yelling out all of your information over a microphone to the audience in the stands.”

While the number of reports by Tech students or employees of identity theft are relatively few, they are on the rise.

“We don’t want people to become paranoid,” Vickery said. “What we do want is for students, faculty and staff to be aware of the seriousness of this crime, their rights under Georgia law and what they can do to help keep themselves from becoming victims.”