Out of the four seasons of the year, spring is probably the one during which it is hardest to concentrate on classes. After three or more months of rain and cold, the average Tech student is ready for some warm, sunny weather. The urge to skip those afternoon classes is insurmountable, so instead of studying the mechanics of deformable bodies, many follow their natural instincts to get away from books and forget all about working for awhile. During spring, 1976, there were many opportunities provided for such escape. IDC and IFC co-sponsored a Six Flags night, selling over 1000 tickets to the Tech community. Traditional events like SAC Week and Greek Week were welcomed by those whose winter inactivity had given them energy to burn. Burn it they did, competing in everything from croquet to drinking. Competition was also the driving force behind the Tech 200. The race was held after its financial problems were solved, allowing Tech's frustrated mechanics and speed demons to come out of their garages and show their skill.

A special preview of 1976 football was given in the annual T-Night game. Other new looks appeared on campus, too; a Tillie the All Time Teller was installed in the Student Center by First National Bank, and the Price-Gilbert Memorial Fountain was built in front of the library.

Learning experiences were plentiful, including everything from the IDC-sponsored Trivia Bowl and the Student Center-sponsored White Roots of Peace program on American Indian culture. As always, a major spring extracurricular activity was ORGT, featuring a whitewater program and backpacking and rock climbing schools.

There was one sour note sounded for the future to mar an otherwise peaceful quarter. The office of the Registrar announced that a record freshman enrollment was expected for fall. Coupled with this announcement came one from the Housing Office anticipating fall space shortages due to the overflow of Rats. At the end of spring quarter, many dorm residents left still wondering where they would be living during fall quarter.
Spring:
just a peaceful
time of year
a time to relax
and enjoy nature
Opportunities for extracurricular learning were plentiful — whether interests lay in Indian lore, trivia, or outdoor pursuits.
A pretty spring day —
a warm spring night —
a good time to see
the sights,
on or off campus
The Tech 200 and Greek Week provided chances to get outside and burn winter’s stored energy.
Spring was a welcome breath of fresh air and brought with it a desire to do everything but study.
The Seasons of Tech: Summer

Summer quarter at Tech is very different from any other. There are fewer people on campus, a fact which somehow seems to take a little pressure off the usual workload. With this relaxed feeling comes the illusion of more time to enjoy Atlanta's finest weather — whether by floating down the "Hooch" or by sleeping in the sun outside the Student Center. Summer 1976 crept by in the leisurely manner of most summers, marked by the nation's bicentennial celebration, presidential nominating conventions, and the Montreal Olympics, events by which to keep track of the days.

No summer would be complete without the influx of incoming fall freshmen for their three day "Familiarization and Adaptation to the Surroundings and Environ of Tech," a phenomenon which is known to most of the Tech community simply as FASET. With Rats-to-be being hurried all over campus, students had to be careful not to get swallowed up in the whirlwind and whisked away to a FASET activity — like dinner at Brittain Dining Hall, which nobody needs.
On-campus entertainment was provided by the Co-op Club, which sponsored both Field Day and Monte Carlo night. Field Day is a rare opportunity for Tech's frustrated athletes to get out and demonstrate their athletic abilities, whether their skill is rolling inside an inner tube or in a game of leap-frog. It was amazing how easy it was to forget the anxieties caused by late lab reports and skipped classes when the sun was shining and everyone was having a good time just being. Monte Carlo night allowed those students with a gambling spirit to lose thousands of dollars without spending a dime as the Student Center ballroom became a casino for a day. People were even betting on whether or not they would have to stand in line during fall registration — was there ever a safer bet?

A little excitement is always a good thing, and summer started off with more than a little; it was learned that the 1973 Georgia Tech Blueprint had been plagiarized by the 1974 West Point Howitzer. Interest in the incident died rapidly, and Tech students could direct their attention to other events, such as the crowning of Sandy Adamson as Miss Georgia and Venetia Rae Corley as Miss Georgia Hemisphere. Tech's female population stayed in the news with the announcement that Brown dormitory would become a women's dorm in the fall, giving freshman ladies a housing establishment comparable to Techwood. Not even Techwood, though, could hope to surpass the Student Center's big summer problem: the conversion of the first floor into a cesspool was just one example in many of all the crazy and unpredictable things that happened during summer 1976.
During the summer blood drive, anemia replaced apathy as students rolled up their sleeves to help save lives.
The Recreation Area was, as always, a popular getaway spot for a little relaxation.
Summer news included three FASET sessions and the selection of Tech co-eds as Miss Georgia and Miss Georgia Hemisphere.
Anything can happen during summer quarter!
The Seasons of Tech: Fall

Once a year, early in September, mass confusion arrives on Tech campus, and 1976 was no exception to the rule. This year, a record freshman class enrollment made the beginning of fall quarter even more disorganized than usual. Housing shortages sent some students apartment hunting, while others "lucky" enough to receive a room had to cope with such problems as living in study lounges, inadequate wiring, broken air conditioners, and summer phone bills. Of course, classes started all too soon for most students, who were either finding it hard to readjust to Tech after three months of summer freedom, or trying to forget three months of summer work or studying, at least long enough to concentrate on beginning yet another quarter. For the Rats, there was difficulty in just finding the way to the buildings their classes were in: how many upperclassmen were asked, "How do you get to Lyman Hall?" or "Where is the Physics building, and why do they teach Math there, anyway?" Some people left and some wished they had, but the rest settled in to take the worst — they hoped — that Ma Tech could dish out.

Fall quarter was not without its diversions. The first week of the quarter was a waste for many students in terms of education due to Fraternity-Sorority Rush. Many extracurricular activities got started up again and Tech scholars found that they were able to fill almost all of the demands made on their time except those made by classwork. Saturdays, of course, were dedicated for the most part to football. Although generally disappointing, the season did have its highlights: the wins over Auburn and Notre Dame. The latter was particularly satisfying, as it was the Homecoming game, which as always was the culmination of an exciting and eventful week. The theme of Homecoming this year was "Tech in Tomorrow's World," which encouraged great ingenuity in displays, and brought both extraterrestrial visitors and a friendly little robot to Tech campus.
1976 was an election year, and for the first time a Georgian was elected President of the United States. Jimmy Carter, who attended Tech in his freshman year, was voted into that office on November 2, the same day as the first good Homecoming concert — Seals and Crofts — in recent years. Other entertainment included a videotape week, a Tom Chapin concert, and a lecture by Erich von Daniken. For athletic dorm residents, IDC sponsored an activities day; for hungry residents, Area I sponsored an ox and pig roast.

As usual, rapid moving and eventful as it was, fall quarter left many students dazed and saying, “This is it, the last time! I’m NOT coming back!” There is something about Tech, though, that keeps people returning for more work, and about mid-December in 1976 that something was given a little added push by the realization of the fact that the Student Athletic Complex might open its doors during winter quarter. With this realization came anticipation and an almost masochistic desire to return to campus and get rolling again.
Georgia Tech alumnus reaches Washington.

Jimmy Carter was born on October 1, 1924 in Archery, Ga. He attended Georgia Southwestern College in 1941-1942. He then transferred to the Georgia Institute of Technology for the year 1942-1943. Later, he attended the U.S. Naval Academy where he graduated with a degree in nuclear engineering. He did post-graduate work in nuclear physics at Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. Here he worked under Admiral Hyman Rickover on the development of the world's first atomic submarines.

When his father died in 1953, Jimmy returned to Plains, Ga. to become a farmer and take care of his family. He began his political career there, becoming chairman of the school board, and the first president of the Georgia Planning Association. In 1962, he was elected to the Georgia Senate where he served two terms. He was elected in 1970 to the governorship of the State of Georgia. In 1976, he was elected President of the United States, moving from Plains, Georgia to 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, D.C. With all of this behind him, he still considers his profession to be "peanut farmer and warehouseman."

Mr. Carter demonstrated in his previous public office posts his openness to the people. His presidential platform was also based on this. He promises to be a "people's" president, one that is accessible and sensitive to the feelings of the nation's people. He has expressed the desire to return the government to the people, and reduce the great bureaucracy inherent in our government today.

We here at Ga. Tech have always been proud of our alumni and their accomplishments in making this world a better place. We salute Jimmy Carter for his drive and his dreams, and extend our best wishes to him, his family and the United States of America.
Jimmy Carter, President of the United States
TO THE GEORGIA TECH BLUEPRINT:

This fall it will be thirty five years since I came to Georgia Tech as a freshman.

At the time, my work at Tech did not go down as one of the major events in the school's history. The only thing the alumni records say is that I enrolled. The old dormitory -- Knowles -- where I lived was turned into a barracks and is now an office building.

But all my memories of Tech are proud and happy ones. As I have travelled through the country, I have met hundreds of Tech alumni in top leadership positions in government and business. My own roommate, Robert Ormsby -- who helped me learn to appreciate classical music -- is now President of the Lockheed Corporation.

Tech was the most difficult school I ever attended. I've done my best to make other people know how good it is. Recently I appointed Dr. Harold Brown, the president of the California Institute of Technology, as Secretary of Defense. When he was being sworn in by Chief Justice Burger, I said that he was well qualified for the job, because he came from one of the best technical universities in the country -- second only to Georgia Tech.

At Tech, I also got my first chance for public service as a member of the Naval ROTC.

I am proud of the public service that Tech continues to provide, especially through your research on solar energy. If we are to solve our energy problems, or many of the other challenges before us, we need our best technical minds looking for innovative approaches.

I am proud to claim Tech, and I hope you will be proud of me.

Jimmy Carter
The Interdormitory and Area I Dormitory Councils started the quarter off with an activities day and cookout.
The 1976 football season was a confusing one, met alternately with enthusiasm and total despair.
Homecoming inspired students to participate in everything from the absurd to the extraordinary and have a great time doing it!
“Tech in Tomorrow's World” was the theme of Homecoming 1976, which brought color and excitement to campus as Tech upset Notre Dame in the finale of a full week of activities.
The crafts area remained a creative outlet, with students developing skills ranging from leather working to pottery making.
Since time immemorial, studying has been an integral part of student life at Georgia Tech.
Entertainment for the quarter incorporated lectures and concerts, including the first good Homecoming concert in recent years.
Fall was a season of activity, but with time to be alone for study or relaxation.
The Seasons of Tech: Winter

Winter 1977 will long be remembered at Georgia Tech as yet another one of those crazy and unpredictable winters for which Atlanta is so well known. Record temperature lows were set as the city was treated to ice and snow, but every once in awhile there was a warm, almost springlike day to revive hopes of an eventual permanent thaw. Some adventurous souls, apparently not minding the cold, removed another "T" from the Administration building. Meanwhile, classes went on as usual in spite of energy shortages which forced Ma Tech to use her emergency oil supply.

Of course, the imagination of the Techman — or woman — was only challenged by the adversity of the weather — how to forget the misery of classes while at the same time avoiding the cold outdoors. For the creative and talented, there was the opportunity to participate in Drama Tech's production of Catch 22. For those who wanted to "warm up," there were at least two possibilities: Student Center Travel Committee sponsored trips to Disney World and Mardi Gras, and the IDC Programs Board sponsored wine and cheese tasting. The civic-minded members of the Tech Community could give blood; the Winter Blood Drive was the most successful one in Tech history.

There was a great interest in both national and local politics. Jimmy Carter was inaugurated as President of the United States, and a general housecleaning was initiated in Washington, D.C., sparking much speculation and many predictions. Predictions abounded at Tech, too, as winter quarter once again brought elections for the upcoming year — IFC, IDC, Student Center, and a wild Student Government election with six candidates for president. Time for discussion was plentiful, and was increased by the first Student-Faculty Relations Committee sponsored "Take a Prof to Lunch Day," which brought students and professors together both to eat and to talk.

Aside from politics, a major topic of interest all quarter was the opening of SAC 70, or the Fuller E. Callaway III Student Athletic Complex. Some had expected to be able to use that facility when they returned in January, but work was not completed on the structure until mid-February, when the building was turned over to Tech to occupy. A long awaited "impossibility" had finally become a reality, and with the end of the quarter another year had become a memory.
Tech faced the coldest weather in recent years, but positive attitudes helped overcome what could have been a gloomy quarter.
Students managed to brave the weather, attending classes and outdoor sports events.
Cultural exposure was made possible by the Committee of the Arts presentation of *Feelin' Good* and the Drama Tech production of *Catch 22.*
Chances for new experiences were frequent and varied, including wine tasting, taking a professor to lunch, baking, listening to concert pianist Robert DeGaetano, and attending the musical *Feelin' Good.*
Participation in sports helped relieve the winter doldrums and burn stored energy.
Co-op Club I sponsored a birthday party for George P. Burdell, providing mid-quarter entertainment.
Those who wanted to forget Tech for a few days could travel to Walt Disney World with the Travel Committee.
The Seasons of Tech: Another Year Goes By.

A year at Georgia Tech goes by quickly for some and slowly for others, but always as a kaleidoscopic swirl of classes and homework, lab reports and tests, sports events and special events, traditional activities and unique happenings. Each season and quarter brings its own flavor and excitement to campus as well as a different mood and general outlook to the student body. The year encompassing the seasons of spring, 1976 through winter, 1977 was just such a year of constant change, bringing with it so much to do, and leaving behind it so much to remember.