Nature Through the Eyes of an Engineer
“We are making history every day and I want to be sure it is here to stay.”

— Marilyn J. Somers
Honorary Alumna and Director of the Living History Program

Members of the Georgia Tech community are making a global impact, and the mission of the Living History Program is to collect and preserve their stories. The life experiences of alumni, retired faculty, and friends of Tech are captured on video, documenting the unique, personal stories from history makers, veterans, and captains of industry. The collection currently numbers 800 stories.

Marilyn Somers, who was awarded an honorary degree from Georgia Tech in 2008, founded the Living History Program in 1994. A celebrated storyteller, she teaches student groups and leaders about Tech traditions, and has written and produced numerous documentaries about Tech’s history.

Somers became a member of Founders’ Council when she named the Georgia Tech Foundation a beneficiary of her retirement account to provide perpetual support for the George P. Burdell Endowment Fund for the Living History Program, helping to ensure that Tech’s heritage is preserved for current and future generations. “My hope is that Living History will live on at Tech just as the spirit of George P. Burdell endures.”
"Successful leadership requires focus on the core enterprise while identifying the enterprise's needs for continued growth and progress. We must continually find ways to provide financial support to Tech in order for it to grow and prosper. I know of no better way to provide this support than through Roll Call and increased participation in the Leadership Circle."

John C. Staton, Jr. IM '60
Georgia Tech Foundation Board, Trustee Emeritus and former Chair, Georgia Tech Alumni Association

The Leadership Circle is the cornerstone of Roll Call, Georgia Tech's annual fund. By becoming a member of the Leadership Circle, you help ensure Tech's prominence and adaptability in an ever-changing world.

Join one of our leadership giving clubs and enjoy benefits such as a limited edition tie or scarf and an invitation to the annual President's Dinner.

A tradition of leadership has evolved at the Georgia Institute of Technology over many generations...we hope you'll join us.

Please send your gift or pledge to:
Roll Call, Georgia Tech Alumni Association
190 North Ave., Atlanta, GA 30313-9806

Donate online: www.gtalumni.org or call (800)GT-ALUMS
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The Georgia Tech Global Learning Center in Midtown Atlanta provides a perfect setting for professionals seeking to learn, collaborate, innovate and communicate. Let us make your next event memorable.
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"It's an urban, serious meeting facility with technology overtones. They know how to handle corporate meetings."

— Charles Moseley, founder and general partner, Noro-Moseley Partners and a Georgia Tech graduate

The Event
The Atlanta-based venture capital firm has held its annual meetings at the Global Learning Center since 2004. About 60 to 70 people attend the annual meeting, which attracts investors from around the world.

Why the Global Learning Center
“It’s a technologically advanced facility, and it’s attached to Georgia Tech, which is related to our business in the sense that some of our investing is in technology companies.”

An Amenity that Stands Out
“The amphitheater seating, because everybody can see well and have a writing surface and a comfortable chair. You take it for granted, but when you’re in a meeting room that doesn’t have them, you appreciate those small things.”

How the Center Exceeds Expectations
“It is a unique place in that it is related to a technology university but it’s also the kind of facility that companies and investors are accustomed to visiting.”

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Our world-class professional facility for gathering and learning earns high marks for these features:

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• State-of-the-art technology that enables you and your participants to interact here and from afar
• BuzzBreak, our nonstop food and beverage service
• Full range of media services, from wireless Internet access to videoconferencing

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For details or to take advantage of this offer, visit gtalumni.org/SamsClub

Sam’s Club is a proud sponsor of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association.
46 Freshman Faces
Georgia Tech welcomed its brightest and most diverse class in its history to campus this fall. Meet eight freshmen we plan to follow through graduation in 2014 — or 2015.

56 Handling the Heat
Judith Curry, chair of the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, has been in the hot seat since her stance on global warming put her at odds with fellow climate scientists.

64 Eyes of an Engineer
Kelvin Kuo, ChBE 10, shares his travel pictures, including the one on the cover, which boosted his skills as a photographer and his awareness of the beauty of nature.
It's Football Time!
Time to Vote for the Coach of the Year and
Score Savings on Your Car Insurance.

You could save hundreds of dollars a year on your car and home insurance. Call 1-800-388-6375 for a free no-obligation rate quote, and find out about the special group discount you could receive just for being a GA Tech alum.*

While you're scoring savings, cast your vote for the Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year. More than a million college football fans voted for the football coach they thought best demonstrated responsibility, integrity and excellence, on and off the field.

Be part of this year's action by visiting coachoftheyear.com/savings.
12 Letters

20 Alumni House
   22 Alumni Travel
   25 Life Jackets
   28 Jackets Required

30 Tech Topics
   34 Tech Notes
   38 Office Space
   40 Ten Questions
   42 Student Life

73 Burdell & Friends
   75 Ramblin' Roll
   81 In Memoriam

90 Yellow Jackets
Annual Report

Fellow Ramblin’ Wrecks,

It was a great honor for me to serve as your chair during the 2009-10 fiscal year. We had an amazing year in so many ways, despite the challenges of operating in this very tough economic climate. Our mission is to build support for Tech and its alumni, and I think we can say unequivocally that we accomplished that goal.

We welcomed more than 4,000 new Ramblin’ Wrecks to the alumni family, which now totals more than 126,000 worldwide. “Look to your right, look to your left” is now a phrase as graduation rates climbed to 80 percent, and our freshman retention rate hit an all-time high of 93 percent. Tech is a much better place now than ever before.

In terms of fundraising, we raised $8,043,509 from 29,062 donors in support of Georgia Tech’s academic mission. Of this, more than $5.2 million was unrestricted for strategic use by the Georgia Tech Foundation and the Institute. Our alumni participation rate continues to lead the nation among all public universities. We thank you for your past support of Roll Call and look forward to another terrific year ahead.

We actively engaged 573,605 alumni, family and friends of Tech in more than 1,000 events worldwide. We supportive of Tech through communications, promotion and support of other units to the tune of 5,559,444 impressions to further the message of Georgia Tech.

We operated in a tough fiscal environment, beginning the year with $250,000 less in revenues than the prior year, made midstream corrections to react to further difficult realities and ended the year with $242,000 in profit to help us through the 2010-11 fiscal year. For every dollar spent on the alumni relations efforts at Tech, we returned nearly $1.65—all the while beating the plan for almost each and every category that we measure.

The Georgia Tech Alumni Association is now in its 102nd year of helping to advance the Institute. The results are remarkable, and for that we are grateful to you. Let’s make the next 100 years even better.

Sincerely,

Joe Evans, IM 71
2009-10 Chair
Georgia Tech Alumni Association
2010 Performance

Fundraising

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call Donors</td>
<td>29,062</td>
<td>28,048</td>
<td>3.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call Dollars</td>
<td>$8,043,509</td>
<td>$7,517,194</td>
<td>7.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Active Engagement</td>
<td>573,605</td>
<td>530,763</td>
<td>8.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive Engagement</td>
<td>5,559,444</td>
<td>5,935,912</td>
<td>-6.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Return for Every $1 Spent: $1.648 to $1.441 (14.4%)

Alumni by Decade

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>39,072</td>
<td>29,062</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27,069</td>
<td>19,927</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22,713</td>
<td>16,525</td>
<td>18.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10,979</td>
<td>7,186</td>
<td>13.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7,186</td>
<td>2,265</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,256</td>
<td>458</td>
<td>1.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>458</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>126,258</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alumni by Gender

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>23,989</td>
<td>102,269</td>
<td>126,258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>19.0%</td>
<td>81.0%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Five U.S. States of Alumni Residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>39,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>29,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>19,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>16,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>7,186</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Five Foreign Countries of Residence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>39,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>29,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>19,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>16,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>7,186</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alumni by College

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>7,673</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing</td>
<td>7,389</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>77,040</td>
<td>61.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivan Allen</td>
<td>3,246</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>19,409</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sciences</td>
<td>9,775</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undesignated</td>
<td>1,726</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alumni by Degree Earned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>82,094</td>
<td>65.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate and Graduate</td>
<td>30,650</td>
<td>24.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-degreed Alumni</td>
<td>3,321</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>126,258</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Alumni Philanthropy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Tech</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Participation Rate</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source: CAE 2009</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Association Engagement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twitter followers</td>
<td>635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facebook fans</td>
<td>4,178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YouTube video views</td>
<td>7,831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LinkedIn connections</td>
<td>15,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gtalumni.org visitors</td>
<td>336,584</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>BUDGET</th>
<th>ACTUAL</th>
<th>VARIANCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Tech Foundation</td>
<td>$4,472,000</td>
<td>$4,472,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia Tech</td>
<td>140,737</td>
<td>140,737</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advertising and Sponsorships</td>
<td>292,000</td>
<td>286,601</td>
<td>(5,199)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Services</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>147,341</td>
<td>(17,659)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tours</td>
<td>90,000</td>
<td>84,345</td>
<td>(5,655)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merchandise Sales</td>
<td>58,780</td>
<td>30,224</td>
<td>(28,556)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>699,500</td>
<td>685,949</td>
<td>(13,551)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>112,095</td>
<td>293,431</td>
<td>181,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sources of Revenue</td>
<td>165,000</td>
<td>235,150</td>
<td>70,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocation from Cash Reserves</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>(7,889)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>$6,203,112</td>
<td>$6,376,089</td>
<td>$172,977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>2,283,124</td>
<td>2,353,090</td>
<td>30,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Services</td>
<td>259,475</td>
<td>243,326</td>
<td>(16,149)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>796,070</td>
<td>714,917</td>
<td>(81,153)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni Relations and Tours</td>
<td>432,825</td>
<td>449,546</td>
<td>16,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll Call and Business Development</td>
<td>819,335</td>
<td>815,802</td>
<td>(3,533)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Relations</td>
<td>198,408</td>
<td>134,630</td>
<td>(63,778)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Management</td>
<td>1,021,570</td>
<td>1,052,671</td>
<td>31,101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing Services</td>
<td>412,305</td>
<td>369,944</td>
<td>(42,361)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditures</td>
<td>$6,203,112</td>
<td>$6,376,089</td>
<td>$172,977</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Cash Equivalents</td>
<td>$676,367</td>
<td>$353,986</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable less Allowance for Doubtful Accounts of $3,000 in 2010 and $3,000 in 2009</td>
<td>178,947</td>
<td>157,378</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid Expenses</td>
<td>13,615</td>
<td>11,410</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>2,806</td>
<td>10,287</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, Plant and Equipment, Net</td>
<td>259,934</td>
<td>333,622</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antique Ramblin' Wreck</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td>12,500</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$1,144,169</td>
<td>$879,183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$117,945</td>
<td>$183,433</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>312,381</td>
<td>224,069</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Revenue</td>
<td>310,000</td>
<td>310,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities</td>
<td>$740,326</td>
<td>$717,502</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commitments and contingencies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted net assets:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expended for Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>272,434</td>
<td>346,122</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for operations</td>
<td>131,409</td>
<td>(184,441)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</td>
<td>403,843</td>
<td>161,681</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</td>
<td>$1,144,169</td>
<td>$879,183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Mrs. Heisman Picked Atlanta

Seems to me I read, in a much earlier edition of our magazine, that Heisman left Tech and coached at Auburn for some time before going to New York. The explanation given [in 125 Pieces of Tech History] was that he had to leave Atlanta as part of a divorce settlement because the wife had first choice on remaining in Atlanta.

Marvin Turner, ChE 58
Hixson, Tenn.

Editor’s note: John Heisman coached at Oberlin, Buchtel, Auburn and Clemson before Tech hired him in late 1903. According to Dress Her in White and Gold, Heisman summoned L.W. “Chip” Robert Jr., a member of Tech’s athletic board and a former player, to his home after the close of the 1919 season.

“Nothing most unfortunate thing has happened,” the book quotes Heisman as telling Robert. “Mrs. Heisman and I have decided to get a divorce. There are no hard feelings, however, and I have agreed that wherever Mrs. Heisman wishes to live, I will live in another place. This will prevent any social embarrassment. If she decides to stay in Atlanta, I leave.”

“Robert, almost in shock by now, waited while Mrs. Heisman made up her mind. She selected Atlanta, and Heisman promptly resigned from Tech to accept the head coaching job at the University of Pennsylvania. After 16 years, the most colorful of all the Tech coaches gathered up his belongings and departed.”

Didn’t Maxie Wear the Hat?

I believe you guys put out the best alumni magazine in the country. I compare it regularly to the ones I see in the office. I thought the September/October edition was one of the best. I enjoyed Joe Irwin’s column and read the issue cover to cover.

I thought 125 Pieces of Tech History was one of the best articles I’ve ever read. The work that went into the article is staggering. I learned a lot I didn’t know and enjoyed the trip down memory lane for the ones I was familiar with. Congratulations on a fabulous job to all those who contributed.

Of the 125, I only have one question: Was it really Bud Carson who first wore the engineer’s hat? I thought it was Maxie Baughan, but perhaps I’m too young to recall Coach Carson wore it first. I’m pretty sure that Maxie popularized it. I do recall that after he started wearing an engineer hat, they became known as “Maxie hats.”

Ben Mathis, IM 81
Marietta, Ga.

Uncle Was Watchmaker Too

Just a quick correction to give credit where credit is due [in 125 Pieces of Tech History]. The first Mickey Mouse clock on the Skiles Building was done by Lindsey Smith as well as my uncle, Henry Claxton.

Laura Hutcheson
Huntsville, Ala.

Smaxton Clock Company

After reading the article about 125 pieces of Tech history, I noticed a small detail that was missing. Item number 57 was missing some information. The article attributes the Mickey Mouse clock to Lindsey S. Smith. He didn’t do this alone. The other person’s name was Henry Claxton. The original clock had Smaxton Inc. on the lower edge. That name was a combination of Smith and Claxton. They both were CerE grad students.

Right after they put up the clock, they came to Glenn dorm — it used to be a male dorm in the ’70s — to the section I lived in called the Zoo. They told several of us how they put up the clock. They “borrowed” some two-by-fours from a construction site and made a ladder. They then painted it a rust color so they could put it up against the Skiles Building. They did this so that the ladder would blend in with the bricks and the campus police wouldn’t notice it against the wall while they put up the Mickey Mouse clock.

Edward Jordan, EE 80
Kernersville, N.C.

Drownproofing Invaluable

I entered Tech in the fall of 1969 as a Navy ROTC scholarship midshipman. It was the swimming course we were all required to take in those days that probably made it possible for me to survive the Navy and look back fondly as I near retirement.

The September/October issue highlighting 125 pieces of Tech history includes a drownproofing manual as item 16. When I took the swimming course during my first quarter at Tech, we were required to perform a variety of skills in order to earn a grade. A grade of C could be earned by completing the equivalent of the U.S. Navy first-class swimmer test required of all flight students during survival training at Pensacola.

One skill was to swim a mile wearing a long-sleeved shirt and long pants and then inflate the pants and use them as a life preserver. The skills that had to be demonstrated to earn a higher grade included achieving faster times in the mile swim and 800-yard speed swim; swimming the length of the pool and back underwater without pushing off from the side; and completing a variety of tasks while having our hands tied behind our backs, doing the same tasks with our feet tied together and, finally, doing everything with hands and feet tied.

The one thing I could never do was swim to the bottom of the pool and pick up a rubber ring with my teeth while my hands were tied behind my back. So in order to obtain maximum partial credit, I
spent the remainder of the hour drowning with my hands tied behind me.

Nine years later, on March 1, 1978, I was flying an HH-46A helicopter in the plane guard pattern for the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower at 150 feet and 70 knots when something broke in the flight controls and caused the helo to spin around and crash into the water backward. As I saw the water rushing up at me, I distinctly remember taking a deep breath and thinking, "If I’m awake after we hit, I’ll get out."

Miraculously, I did survive the impact, but the cockpit was completely flooded. My first memory is of cold water and bubbles on my face. I was able to force the escape hatch open and push out, then I inflated my CO2 life vest and rode it to the surface. Reconstruction based on eyewitness accounts of the incident verify that I was underwater between one and two full minutes. It’s also estimated that I was between 30 and 45 feet underwater when I escaped.

Maybe I’m wrong to give credit for my survival to the swimming course I took at Tech, but I learned the important skill of problem solving while avoiding drowning that quarter. Sure, the degree I earned from Tech got me into graduate school later and has given me the opportunity to have several interesting jobs both in and out of the Navy, but it was the comfort I gained while avoiding drowning in the Tech pool that made the difference that day in 1978.

Howard M. Tillison, EES 74
Poulou, Ga.

Budweiser or Song First?
You gave the history of every item in 125 Pieces of Tech History except the Budweiser song. My husband [Scott Pierce, ME 83, MS ME 92, PhD ME 03] and I were both in the band between ’78 and ’82. We believe it was in the fall of either ’78 or ’79 that Budweiser donated a keg of beer to the band for a party. However, we remember the sequence of events differently: One of us remembers the donation came first, then the band played the Bud song during a football game to thank them; the other remembers we played the song first, then the company gave us the keg to thank us. Does anyone remember which came first?

Jane LaPlante Pierce, IE 82
Lynchburg, Va.

Hickersons Saluted
The Navy League, Hawaii Council, recognized Ret. Capt. James Hickerson and his wife, Carole, at its annual dinner with the American Patriot Award. Some 500 people attended the event at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort in Honolulu on Aug. 7. Capt. Hickerson also received the Secretary of the Navy’s Distinguished Public Service Award, and Mrs. Hickerson received the Secretary of Defense’s Medal for Outstanding Public Service.

Capt. Hickerson, CE 56, was a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity and was commissioned in the Navy after ROTC. He became a naval aviator and flew attack aircraft before duty as a test pilot at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, where he was the project officer for bringing the A-7 Corsair II into service. Subsequently, he deployed with the first operational squadron operating in the South China Sea. He was shot down on Dec. 22, 1967, and became a prisoner of war at the infamous Hanoi Hilton.

A classmate and fraternity brother, I was an Air Force major and already a POW. We lived together for about half of our five-plus years there. We reminisced about our days on the Hill and shared stories about Bobby Dodd and Georgia Tech’s golden years of football with our cell mates.

Four other Georgia Tech graduates were POWs: the late Air Force Maj. Dick Dutton, IM 51; Navy Lt. Cmdr. Render Crayton, Text 54; Marine Corps Maj. Orson Swindle, IM 59; and Navy Lt. j.g. Mark Gartley, Phys 66, also a Beta. Only the military academies had more POWs in Hanoi.

Orson and I and our wives attended the dinner in Honolulu, visited with the Hickerson family and posed for photographs.

Wayne Waddell, EE 56
Marietta, Ga.
Gun Was From Submarine

Referencing 125 Pieces of Tech History, I was in the NROTC program in the old armory and was told the 4-inch gun was from a submarine. Available information indicates there were no 4-inch guns on the USS Georgia. However, the old S-class submarines had 4-inch deck guns and were available as salvage at the end of World War II. I think this gun is from an S-boat.

W. Russell Slye, EE 62
Millersville, Md.

Adventures of the Wreck

I thoroughly enjoyed the latest edition of the ALUMNI MAGAZINE, particularly the 125 pieces of Tech history, which brought back lots of good memories.

After reading the magazine, I remembered that years ago I was given an old newspaper article about the original Ramblin’ Wreck being retired. I framed it and hung it in my office for many years. The article was in the Sunday edition of the Atlanta Journal dated Oct. 21, 1928.

The headline reads: “After 150,000 Miles of Adventure, the Ford Touring Car of Dean Floyd Field, of Georgia Tech, Now Rests on Its Laurels, Secure in the Place It Holds in the Hearts of College Boys, and of Agnes Scott Girls, Hauled ‘Twelve High’ to Sunday Night Suppers at the Home of Dean and Mrs. Field.” The full-page article shows a picture of the 1916 Ramblin’ Wreck with Dean Field and his daughter. It is a very interesting article describing the many adventures of the car and Dean Field.

Again, let me say that you hit a home run with your article, and I bet you may hear from other grads who would like to see more pieces of Tech history.

Julian Wade, Text 54
Greenville, S.C.

No Mention of Fred Ajax

I found the latest edition of the GEORGIA TECH ALUMNI MAGAZINE very interesting. However, I was very disappointed to see no reference to my father, Fred Ajax. Not only is he credited with founding the placement center, after his untimely death the center, the old Pickrick restaurant, was named for him. The placement center was located on Hemphill Avenue.

Tech commissioned a portrait of him, and I attended its placement and the dedication. If the portrait is not located in some appropriate place at Tech, I would sure like to have it.

Not only did he serve under several of the presidents named in your article and work closely with Dean Griffin and Dean Dull, he actually hired Joe Guthridge as I recall. He was very dedicated to Tech, and I imagine many who read your story will wonder why he was not included.

Fred W. Ajax Jr., IM 66
Atlanta

Editor’s note: Fred Ajax Sr. joined Tech as an English instructor in 1931. He was appointed assistant dean of students in 1941. After service in World War II, he was promoted to associate dean in charge of placement, veteran affairs and student activities. He was named director of public relations in 1957, director of campus affairs in 1958 and an honorary alumnus of Georgia Tech in 1963. Dean Ajax died on May 22, 1968, at age 59. The Fred W. Ajax Placement Center has been demolished to provide additional campus green space. The portrait now hangs in the Student Success Center.

Griffin’s Life Lessons

Many thanks for the 125 pieces of Tech history. To expand on Dean Griffin, the “Mr. Chips” of Georgia Tech, he was the track coach for a time and still coached the cross-country team until his retirement. It was in that capacity that I got to know him as “Coach.”

Coach taught life lessons. “You have won if you have beaten yourself,” and, “Remember to double knot your shoelaces” have held me in good stead no matter what circumstances I have found myself in.

The Rev. Jim Watkins, IM 65
Decatur, Ga.

Honored to Head the List

I had been traveling extensively for work and hadn’t looked through my pile of mail on my infrequent days at home. Fortunately some friends alerted me to the fact that I was mentioned in the latest ALUMNI MAGAZINE. I was shocked and honored to be listed as the No. 1 item in 125 Pieces of Tech History, ahead of Roosevelt, Heisman, Cink, Carter, astronauts and Sideways (not in that order) and many other more famous people. Thanks for the reminder of one of the highlights of my life, but I don’t feel worthy of being first on the list.

I did want to point out that there has been at least one other female Buzz: Erin Kerr [ME 06]. I met her at a Tech event. She was with her father, Wayne Kerr [ABiol 73, MS ABiol 74]. I was proud to have some small part in encouraging her to try out.

I hope someday to achieve something of greater significance, perhaps through my work in international development, that will make Tech proud.

Susan Davis, ABiol 91
Atlanta

Preserve History

Evidenced by the 125 pieces of Tech history in the September/October issue of the ALUMNI MAGAZINE, Georgia Tech values history. Inasmuch as Tech’s history is Atlanta’s history worth preserving, so is the Crum and Forster building [771 Spring St.] that the Georgia Tech Foundation acquired. How can it be that the Foundation has contemplated demolishing that building?

Crumbs of Crum could be archived for display like the Alexander Coliseum floorboards (number 30). But, luckily, one can continue to enjoy the Crum and Forster intact.

John Evins, BS 77, M Arch 84, CE 94
Atlanta

In Need of a Haircut

I would like to call your attention to [the convocation photo] in the September/October GEORGIA TECH ALUMNI MAGAZINE. The yellow headgear is improperly worn. The bill of the cap should be turned up, and the freshman’s name should be plainly visible, printed with the large word RAT, as in RAT WARNER. In my day, an improperly worn RAT cap would get you a T haircut — your head shaved except for the letter T on the top of your skull.

The bill of the cap should be turned up, and the freshman’s name should be plainly visible, printed with the large word RAT, as in RAT WARNER. In my day, an improperly worn RAT cap would get you a T haircut — your head shaved except for the letter T on the top of your skull.

In the summer of ‘42, I was elected president of the freshman co-op class. We were hazed by the sophomore co-ops. There was a tradition of a tug-of-war at Peachtree Creek when half the quarter was up. The frosh and the soph rode to the site in a big stake truck. The president of each class was at the front of the tug-of-war line. If the freshmen pulled the sophomores into the creek, hazing was over. If the freshmen lost, they pulled the sophomores back to Tech in the truck and hazing continued until the end of the quarter.

As president of the freshman class, I was the first to go into the water, cuff links and all. (I wore a nice shirt with French cuffs as a gesture of confidence.) I will never forget pulling that great big stake truck
full of celebrating sophomores up the steep Peachtree Road Race "cardiac hill."

It was just about a mile downstream from the tug-of-war site that Great-gran'pa Warner wisely surrendered during the Battle of Atlanta. Capt. James Warner spent the rest of the war in Andersonville. The family legend is that a pig somehow got loose among the starving prisoners in Andersonville, and Great-gran'pa Warner got an ear.

Jim Warner, Arch 50
Atlanta

Witness to Flights

I very much enjoyed reading about the famous flying Yellow Jacket in the September/October issue of our GEORGIA TECH ALUMNI MAGAZINE and especially that fateful day of the crash on Grant Field. I was there and witnessed it all.

Mom and Dad always had season tickets for us. We sat in the southwest corner of the field, closest to where the "air shows" took place. It was an ideal position. I do remember a red crepe-paper ribbon flying behind the bulldog. The Yellow Jacket made several passes at the red-and-black plane — and then victory. The Yellow Jacket caught the bulldog in its sights and clipped the ribbon in two. I thought it was great. And I always enjoyed each halftime period in those years expecting to see those Yellow Jackets fly.

In fact, I would encourage a group of volunteer students to again build and fly those Yellow Jackets at halftime. It would be quite a crowd pleaser.

Jim Steed, IM 65
Blairsville, Ga.

Books Helped Develop Techie

The July/August edition of the ALUMNI MAGAZINE was such a home run — knocked all the way out of the park in my book. As soon as I looked at the cover from out of the mailbox, my mind's reality switched to 1992.

I thought about how myriads of students were in the exact same posture reading Les Miserables by Victor Hugo. In the same instant, I prejudged what the actual article would be about. I thought it would finally reveal who the professor was in 1992 who made everybody read Les Miserables. (I bought Les Miserables and read it, and it was great.)

Then I read the article, 101 Books Tech Alums Should Read Before They Lay Dying. It was terrific! Billiee Pendleton-Parker is wonderful. I finally met her around 1999, I think. She is a treasure.

Then there were the pictures of the books in the library that really took me back. Wow! So much joy — the shelves, reading everything I could get my hands on, having to extend study sessions. I could never stop reading those books.

Those books are a part of how I developed as a Techie in 1992. Seeing them within the context of the article was very powerful for me. One of the bricks on the back cover [in the Roll Call ad] summed it up well for me: "Tech is part of who I am."

As you can see, the July/August 2010 GEORGIA TECH ALUMNI MAGAZINE really did it for me.

Karen Starks, MS Chem 94
Atlanta

Tech Attorneys Answer the Question...

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Homecoming 2010
Ms. Georgia Tech Makeda Cyrus, a Student Ambassador, and Mr. Georgia Tech John Hanson, president of the Student Alumni Association, take a ride on the field during halftime of the Homecoming game against Virginia, which Tech won 33-21. Homecoming weekend festivities also included the Ramblin’ Wreck Rally, the Alumni Association’s expanded pregame tailgate on the Tech Tower lawn; affinity group gatherings all over campus; and the 25th, 40th and 50th class reunions. The class of 1960 collected $9,176,468; the class of 1970 raised $24,077,393; and the class of 1985 gave the Georgia Tech Foundation a check for $737,316. See a Homecoming slide show at gtalumnimag.com.

Photos by Joey Cerone
Alumni Travel

Take Off With Tech in 2011

Georgia Tech Alumni Travel has packed an array of high points, from the Alps to the Andes, into a boatload of tours to all seven continents in 2011.

Bookings are filling now. Check out gtalumni.org/tours for the entire schedule and to make reservations. At press time, openings remained on a number of winter, spring and early summer journeys.

Swiss Winter Escapade, Feb. 21-28, will transport travelers to the wonderland of the Jungfrau region. Jungfrau, which means maiden/virgin in German, is one of the main summits in the Bernese Alps. The Alumni Travel group will stay in Interlaken, popularized as an upscale health spa in the 19th century, and enjoy skiing, sledding, skating, sightseeing and shopping. Think chocolate, watches and the Swiss Army Knife stores.

Rome has to be on everyone’s list of places to see, and the Alumni Travel trip there, Feb. 28 to March 8, allows a week to do that. Planned excursions and free time, plus centrally located accommodations for seven nights, will give Tech tourists an opportunity to experience Rome at a relaxed pace. Of course, visits to the Colosseum and the Vatican are included, as is the chance to take a cooking class in the hill town of Orvieto.

Discover your inner Darwin on the Galapagos Islands, where Georgia Tech travelers will be March 3-12. The Alumni Travel group will journey aboard the deluxe La Pinta to what is described as one of the most biologically unique places on Earth. Because the human presence is still relatively minimal, much of the wildlife is remarkably unafraid of visitors. That can make for some priceless pictures.

Springtime in Holland and Belgium is simply spectacular. Cruising the waterways, from April 23 to May 1, allows travelers to see a lot — Antwerp, Delft, The Hague and Deventer — without packing and repacking. The entire city center of
Bruges is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. And there’s much, much more to Amsterdam besides its notorious red light district.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower’s grandson and Sir Winston Churchill’s granddaughter will be aboard the chartered M.S. Le Boreal to present enriching lectures during an eight-night cruise to discover the heritage of the Celtic lands, May 6-15. Other highlights include the opportunity to walk along Normandy’s D-Day landing beaches, see the 9th century Book of Kells in Dublin and visit the 700-year-old Caenarfon Castle. A pre-cruise option in Paris and a post-cruise option in Edinburgh are offered.

A trip to Peru and Machu Picchu, May 9-19, begins in Lima. From there, the Alumni Travel group will fly to Cuzco, considered the archaeological hub of the Americas, tour the beautiful Sacred Valley, the Indian market at Pisac and the extensive ruins at Ollantaytambo. A train will take the group to Machu Picchu, the “lost city of the Incas,” and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. A post-tour option to visit the Amazon rainforest is available.

Cradle of History: Athens to Istanbul has it all — pyramids to palaces. Georgia Tech Alumni Travel has booked passage May 9-22 to give grads and friends the opportunity to sail through thousands of years of history while cruising the Mediterranean on the elegant Oceania Cruises’ Nautica. Travelers will be immersed in the history and cultures of Greece, Egypt, Israel, Cyprus and Turkey.

Chianti and the Italian Riviera, May 16-25, is an Alumni Travel journey that allows exploration from bases in Chianti and on the Levante coast. Points of interest include San Gimignano, Castellina, Florence, Siena, Luca, Carrara, Sestri Levante, Santa Margherita and Portofino.

A trip devoted entirely to Ireland is in store for May 24 to June 4, beginning in Kilkenny and continuing through 9,000 years of Irish history at Brod Tullaroan and ending in the capital city of Dublin. The itinerary also includes a cruise to the Aran Islands to view prehistoric forts and remains of churches.

When summer is in full swing state-side, consider visiting Iceland. Georgia Tech travelers will be experiencing Iceland from July 16 to 24, when they’ll see glittering glaciers, towering fjords, spouting geysers and simmering volcanoes while cruising aboard the recently launched M.S. Le Boreal. A pre-cruise trip to Reykjavik and a post-cruise visit to Greenland are available.

For more information about Alumni Travel or to see the entire tour schedule for 2011 and book a trip, visit gtalumni.org or e-mail director Martin Ludwig at martin.ludwig@alumni.gatech.edu.
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Scholarship Program Graduate Says Mistakes Can Be Undone

Alex Wan stood before a room full of President’s Scholars and said it’s OK to take a nontraditional career path. He used himself as an example.

A President’s Scholar at Tech, Wan earned an industrial engineering degree but went to work on Wall Street after graduating in 1988. He got an MBA from the Wharton School in 1993, then returned to Atlanta to launch his own architectural engineering firm. In 2003, he and a group of friends formed the nonprofit For the Kid in All of Us, which provides toys, backpacks and school supplies to underprivileged children in Georgia.

“I think it was that particular experience that made me realize that my passion wasn’t necessarily engineering or business, it was public service,” said Wan, who ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the Georgia Legislature in 2004.

In 2009, Wan became director of Jerusalem House, a nonprofit sheltering Atlanta’s homeless affected by HIV/AIDS, and won an Atlanta City Council seat as the first Asian-American member.

“You’re going to make a lot of changes throughout your career,” Wan said during the President’s Scholarship Program fall luncheon in the Student Center ballroom. “If you look at my career path, I jumped from engineering to investments, back to engineering, into nonprofit work and now public service. You need to embrace that it will change. Don’t fear it.”

He credited friend Phil Kent, president of Turner Broadcasting, with the statement that “young people today need to remember: Relax, don’t panic. Outside of committing a felony, there’s no mistake that you can make before the age of 30 that you can’t undo.”

Wan confessed that he did experience “the trauma around changing majors. … I started off in chemical engineering. I had all these grand visions of creating this new alternative fuel. Then I hit organic chemistry, and I said, ‘Nope, I’m done.’”

Wan also shared his struggles at Tech. “I ran for interfraternity council president and lost to a guy named Andy McHenry — I can’t believe 22 years later I can still remember this — from Lambda Chi … and the other thing I remember most is my sophomore year almost got kicked out of the President’s Scholars program. I had a couple of really bad quarters.”

He learned from those experiences.

“Academic probation, that was a pretty scary situation, but there’s nothing more motivating than getting to the brink of disaster,” Wan said.

“And there’s nothing more inspiring than knowing that you have the capacity to recover from it, and you can figure out how to correct it.”

— Kimberly Link-Wills

Alumni Pen Books About What Makes Sense and What Doesn’t

Three Georgia Tech graduates recently submitted news of the publication of their nonfiction books.

Jerry Osteryoung, IE 64, of Tallahassee, Fla., is the co-author of If You Have Employees, You Really Need This Book.

Osteryoung is the director of outreach services for the Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship at Florida State University, where he is a professor emeritus.

The guidebook, complete with quizzes and forms for inputting “action steps,” addresses such topics as motivational leadership, trust, mentoring, stress and time management.

“Use this book for selecting key employees to ensure that an applicant is your type of employee. Use it to motivate teams, handle problem employees and get critical buy-in for your projects,” Osteryoung and Tim O’Brien wrote in the introduction. “You will find that this book pays for itself a thousand times over with just one bad hire avoided, one great employee retained or one major benchmark reached by a team.”

More information is available through osteryoungobrien.com.

Kenneth W. Meeks, CE 68, MS CE 69, a Tri-State University professor emeritus, has written Things That Make No Sense, “a collection of 60 of the most ridiculous of these actions and decisions” that he has observed.

“Many of the stories included deal with common events such as unresponsive or poor customer service, which is becoming all too frequent these days. Some of these instances can probably be characterized as funny, some as unbelievable and others as simply irrational,” Meeks said.

Things That Make No Sense is available at iUniverse, Amazon and from the author at meekskw@earthlink.net.


The book includes chapters on getting a job, managing a budget, buying a home, investing and surviving divorce.

Duralia, who now lives in Rock Hill, S.C., uses his personal experiences in his lessons.

“Since I obtained my undergraduate degree, I have lived in four states; bought four houses and sold three; worked for seven different companies, eight if you count my co-op job in undergraduate school; gotten married; gotten a graduate degree; had a child; gotten divorced; gotten married a second time; and gotten divorced again.”

An Engineer’s Obligations
Take ethics, leadership into account when making career choices

By Kimberly Link-Wills

This year’s speaker at the ConocoPhillips C.J. “Pete” Silas Program in Ethics and Leadership in the School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering tipped his hat to the alumnus for whom the lecture series is named.

“Pete’s life is an inspiring reminder of the lasting contributions that engineers make to social progress and economic opportunity in our world. This lecture series is also a reminder that professional integrity plays a foundational role in engineering excellence,” Mike dolan said of Silas, ChE 53, the retired chairman and CEO of ConocoPhillips and the 2006 recipient of a Georgia Tech honorary doctorate.

Dolan, senior vice president of Exxon Mobil Corp., joined Mobil Oil in 1980. When the companies merged in 2000, Dolan, who earned a chemical engineering degree from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and an MBA from Drexel University, became the Middle East and Africa regional director of ExxonMobil Chemical Co.

“Engineering shapes countless aspects of modern life,” Dolan said during his September speech on campus. “Because of the widespread impact of our contributions across society, those of us who choose engineering as a career have a huge opportunity. I would call it a special obligation. It is no exaggeration to say that our way of life could not exist without the contribution of engineers. It is up to us as individual problem solvers, creative thinkers and innovators to ensure that professional integrity and excellence drive everything we do.”

Dolan encouraged students to seek employers that set high standards for personal conduct and reward ethical leadership.

“It is important for us as engineers to integrate into our professional goals not only a relentless drive to solve engineering problems in an efficient, innovative and cost-effective way but also a responsibility to solve these problems in a way that is safe, secure and environmentally responsible. Nowhere is this twin challenge of ingenuity and responsibility felt more than in our energy industry,” he said.

Dolan said over the next two decades energy demand is projected to increase by about 30 percent, and the energy industry must manage financial, technological, market, operational and geopolitical risks as well as environmental concerns. While supplying energy is key to improving the standards of living for people, especially in developing nations, he said that ExxonMobil also is researching ways to further minimize the environmental impact of energy production and use.

He said ExxonMobil has built “a corporate culture that supports ethical leadership beginning from the very first day a new hire joins our company. One of the most important ways ExxonMobil communicates our values to our new employees is through our standards of business conduct.”

New employees at ExxonMobil, the world’s largest publicly traded energy company with about 80,000 employees, receive a copy of a handbook on their first day and are required to review it annually, he said.

“ExxonMobil takes the issue of climate change very seriously, and we believe that the risks of climate change warrant action. That’s why our engineers must integrate environmental risk planning into our projects and into our operations. We believe that the best way to mitigate environmental risks is by developing and deploying new integrated technologies.

“To give you an idea how seriously we take this responsibility, consider that since 2005 we have invested $1.3 billion in activities that improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. As a result, ExxonMobil is now a world leader in cogeneration,” Dolan said.

He told of a ceremony in Canada for new engineers to impart the impact and importance of what they do.

“When an engineering student graduates in Canada, he or she takes part in a special ceremony called the Ritual of the Calling of an Engineer. ... The engineering graduate receives a simple ring to wear on the little finger of their working hand,” Dolan said.

“The ring was designed to rub against the drawings and designs of the engineer, serving as a constant reminder of the ceremony and of the ethical obligations of our profession.”
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1. Dodd's Boys — Yellow Jackets who played football for coach Bobby Dodd — reunited as a group for the first time during Homecoming. There were players representing teams from 1946 to 1966.

2. The Black Alumni Organization kicked off a yearlong commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the matriculation of black students at Georgia Tech during a Homecoming reception that Tech's first two black graduates, Ronald Yancey, EE 65, left, and Fred Espy, AMath 66, attended at Atlantic Station. Sharifa Chinikamwala, IE 10, showed off her handiwork during a Dallas/Fort Worth/North Texas Georgia Tech Club alumnæ painting party.

4. Showing their team pride during a Los Angeles Georgia Tech Club game-watching party were Amy Bynum, IE 97; Kyleen Junier, CE 09; and Carrie Boles, ME 01.

5. Members and friends of the Georgia Tech Lacrosse Alumni affinity group gathered for a photo during its tailgating party near the Student Center before the Homecoming game.
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The French Connection
Georgia Tech’s reputation grows globally with help from Lorraine campus

By Leslie Overman

Last year, The New York Times named Metz, the capital of France’s northeastern Lorraine region, one of 44 Places to Go. The small city offers travelers a mix of treasures ancient and modern, from its towering gothic Cathedrale St. Etienne, boasting stained-glass windows by artist Marc Chagall, to the new Centre Pompidou-Metz, a branch of the Paris modern and contemporary art museum.

While it may not be on the travel itinerary of many tourists, Georgia Tech Lorraine — the European campus of Georgia Tech — for two decades has made Metz a destination for international students wishing to get a first-rate engineering education and students of Tech’s Atlanta campus hoping to do some sightseeing while working toward a degree. And with the recent establishment of a nonprofit foundation to support the campus and the opening of a technology development center by the end of this year, Georgia Tech Lorraine is primed for higher visibility.

Georgia Tech Lorraine, which began offering graduate classes through the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering in 1990, now provides graduate programs in mechanical engineering and computer science as well as undergraduate courses. More than 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students and 100 Georgia Tech faculty members have spent at least a semester on the campus.

In June, more than 260 alumni and friends of the Georgia Tech Lorraine program gathered on the Champs-Elysees in Paris to celebrate the satellite campus’ 20th anniversary. Among them were Georgia Tech President G. P. “Bud” Peterson and his wife, Val, who made their first visit to the Metz campus.

Despite being a relatively small group compared to the more than 125,000 living alumni of the Atlanta campus, Georgia Tech Lorraine’s alumni are energetic and enthusiastic, said Yves Berthelot, president of the campus since 2006. Alumni, most of them in their 20s, 30s or early 40s, already have formed the GT Club de France (gtclubdefrance.com). Membership is open not just to Georgia Tech graduates who spent a semester or more in Lorraine but also to any of the Tech alumni living in Europe.

Club members meet monthly. This past summer, they gathered to watch World Cup matches together.

They’re “very young alumni, very dynamic, and a lot of them are honestly on the fast track, getting into important positions in good global companies,” Berthelot said. “I think that’s a fabulous source of energy to promote Georgia Tech’s values and business overseas and in Georgia Tech research and networking. It’s just a very exciting group.”

Among the program’s earliest graduates is John Ball, who earned a master’s degree in electrical engineering in 1992 through a joint program between Georgia Tech Lorraine and Supelec, one of the top French engineering schools. In a post on the Georgia Tech Lorraine Web site, Ball recalled arriving at Metz as one of the program’s inaugural class of five students in 1990. “I left for France without knowing any French and not knowing exactly where I was going,” he wrote. “The program was so new, there wasn’t even a building when I arrived. Despite the initial physical limitations, my time at GTL proved to be a cultural awakening and an experience that propelled me into international entrepreneurialism.”

By the time he graduated, Ball spoke French fluently and had
developed a “global perspective.” He has held leadership roles with several global software firms and now is CEO at KXEN, a provider of next-generation business-analytics software.

“I developed my global commerce skills at Georgia Tech Lorraine and Supelec, and it’s clear that without my time there, I wouldn’t be in the position I am today,” he wrote.

Berthelot said Georgia Tech Lorraine’s graduates are willing to take risks and be put in unfamiliar territory.

“Students who come back from Georgia Tech Lorraine are often truly transformed in many ways,” he said. “It builds character. And how do you teach that? Well, through experiences. And Georgia Tech Lorraine is one of those experiences that helps build character.”

Berthelot said many of the American students’ studies at Lorraine mark their first trips outside of the United States. With classes held only four days a week, Georgia Tech Lorraine offers students plenty of time to venture off campus on long weekends to explore European culture. From the Metz station, students can board a high-speed train and be whisked away to Paris in about 80 minutes.

This past summer, 220 Atlanta-based Tech students opted to spend 10 weeks studying and sightseeing in France.

“The students who enroll in our program are willing to be pushed a little bit beyond their comfort zone, and that’s really what differentiates them,” Berthelot said. “That’s why companies are so interested in hiring our graduates.”

Berthelot can identify with his students. A native of Paris, he grew up just a mile from the Eiffel Tower but attended colleges in three different countries. After earning degrees in France and the United Kingdom, he moved to the United States, where he received a doctorate from the University of Texas at Austin. Berthelot joined the faculty in the School of Mechanical Engineering at Georgia Tech in 1985.

“It’s great to see your country and your culture in a mirror,” Berthelot said. “You see it through the eyes of others. You see what’s good about it, maybe what others are criticizing. It just forces you to listen and be more in tune with others. It’s just a different viewpoint in many cases, and it’s very enriching.”

Although Georgia Tech Lorraine is attended by American, French and international students, its classes are taught in English by Georgia Tech professors, and the course work is no different than that on the Atlanta campus. This fall, 107 undergraduate and graduate students are enrolled.

“We are Georgia Tech,” Berthelot said. “You walk in the building and everything is in English. ... We don’t yet have a football team, but we do have students who bring a football and teach the French kids how to play. So it’s part of the exchange of culture.”

Berthelot said he hopes the strong tradition of alumni philanthropy at Georgia Tech will extend to the Institute’s Metz campus. Recent changes in French tax laws have made possible the establishment of the Georgia Tech Lorraine Foundation, through which alumni may contribute to the continued success of the program.

And while Tech’s gridiron heritage is not yet established in Europe, its history of cutting-edge research is firmly planted in Metz soil. In 2006, Georgia Tech Lorraine established an international research lab. The UMI, a joint venture between Georgia
"The students who enroll in our program are willing to be pushed a little bit beyond their comfort zone, and that's really what differentiates them."

Tech and the French Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, brings together Lor­raine graduate students and faculty with grad students from French universities for collaborative research in such fields as secure networks, advanced materials and cognitive robotics.

Berthelot said the laboratory’s growth in the past four years has been tremendous, with increased research funding and visibility through publications in research journals.

“A lot of research dollars are flowing through that lab, or I should say research Euros,” he said. “It enables us to be plugged into a network of excellence in educational research and with companies to achieve some great research. It enables us to do some things that we would not necessarily do if we were just in America.”

In 2008, a satellite post of the laboratory was created at Tech’s North Avenue campus, where researchers from Georgia Tech Lorraine and France may team with Institute counterparts in Atlanta.

“It’s truly an international lab without physical boundaries between France and the United States,” Berthelot said. “A lot of exciting things happen with the flow of ideas and people across boundaries. That’s how technology is really developed.”

Earlier this year, Georgia Tech Lorraine announced the establishment of a facility on campus dedicated to bringing technology created in the lab to market. The Lafayette Institute, scheduled to open by the end of the year with funding from the French government, will couple a state-of-the-art clean room with an enterprise innovation center. Berthelot said the facility will be modeled after the Atlanta campus’ Marcus Nanotechnology Building and Enterprise Innovation Institute.

“What we want to do is innovation all the way to commercialization of optoelectronic devices, new semiconductors or organic, flexible electronics, things like that. There’s a huge market for it. Europe is a leader in that field,” Berthelot said.

“Georgia Tech can be placed at the heart of some very stimulating industrial R&D in Europe, and we can bring to the plate the experiences we have from Atlanta … and that gives us instant credibility,” he said. “For the French to see that Georgia Tech wants to come and have researchers and people doing business in this, it’s very exciting for them.”

The creation of the Lafayette Institute will be among the recent developments spotlighted in an upcoming series of events hosted by the Consulate General of France in Atlanta and Georgia Tech to further promote collaborations between France and the Southeastern United States. France-Atlanta: Together Towards Innovation, which will be held Nov. 29 through Dec. 12 in Atlanta, will feature business workshops, scientific symposiums, cultural activities and humanitarian-related events. A number of the events will be held on the Georgia Tech campus. More information may be found at france-atlanta.org.

The president of the Lorraine region, Jean-Pierre Masseret, the mayor of Metz, Dominique Gros, and Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed all are anticipated to attend.

Berthelot expects the event will bring more attention to research at Georgia Tech’s campuses in Atlanta and Metz.

“I would say 20 years ago Georgia Tech’s name was not really recognized in France except by a few engineers. But if you look now, Georgia Tech’s name has really become a known entity,” Berthelot said.

“There are two reasons for that. One, Georgia Tech has done fabulously well in the past 20 years — it’s gone up in the rankings, and it’s just a phenomenal competitor on the international scale. But, in part, it’s also because we have now over 1,100 Georgia Tech alumni in France, most of them being students who went through GTL, and publications, articles, the UMI, the Lafayette Institute. … People hear the name Georgia Tech, and they associate it with excellence. So that’s wonderful. We’re increasing the reputation of Georgia Tech. That’s one very important goal of GTL: We don’t compromise on quality, and we increase the reputation globally.”
Campaign Public Phase Launches

More than 150 alumni, friends, students and staff gathered at Alexander Memorial Coliseum on Sept. 24 to celebrate the launch of the public phase of Campaign Georgia Tech.

With a newly expanded goal of $1.5 billion, the campaign, which had been in the “quiet phase” since July 2004, is the largest and most ambitious in the history of the Institute. It is scheduled to conclude in December 2015.

President G. P. “Bud” Peterson recounted Tech’s track record of achievement and detailed the Institute’s vision for the future.

“Georgia Tech is where it is today because of the commitment and vision of those who have gone before us,” Peterson said. “Now it’s our time. It’s our vision. And it’s up to us to take our Institute to a position of preeminence. Together we can build upon our legendary heritage for a limitless future.”

Al West, AE 64, has stepped down as campaign chair after serving during the quiet phase. Peterson surprised West when he announced during the event that the Institute will award him an honorary doctorate at the December commencement.

West will become only the 19th individual in Georgia Tech’s history to receive the honor.

John Brock, ChE 70, MS ChE 71, who was introduced as the new Campaign Georgia Tech chairman, said that as of that evening, $914 million had been raised — nearly two-thirds of the enhanced $1.5 billion goal.

A series of campaign “roll-outs” will take place over the next two years regionally, nationally and internationally.

President Delivers Campus Update

Georgia Tech’s president shared the Institute’s achievements during a campus update presented to alumni during Homecoming.

President G. P. “Bud” Peterson said The Wall Street Journal recently surveyed recruiters from 49 major industries. The recruiters ranked Tech at the top spot for producing engineering graduates with marketable job skills.

“Payscale.com did an analysis and talked about Georgia Tech and its value,” Peterson said. “On a 30-year return on investment, Georgia Tech was ranked number one.”

He said he was proud to share another statistic. “Among public universities, the percentage of alumni that give back to Georgia Tech is number one. That is really something special.”

Peterson said that since 2007, naming rights have been awarded for 16 buildings at the University System’s four research institutions — Georgia Tech, UGA, Georgia State and the Medical College, recently renamed the Georgia Health Systems University.

“Of those, 10 were from Georgia Tech. ... The total dollars that were committed for naming those facilities was $53.2 million. The 10 buildings from Georgia Tech totaled $53.2 million,” he said.

Peterson said Tech produces more than 300 invention disclosures annually; is the second largest patent producer in the state; and spins off an average of 10 new companies each year.

“Georgia Tech produces more patents in the state of Georgia than anyone else, with the exception of AT&T, and we’re hot on their trail. What’s interesting about the more than 300 invention disclosures annually is that 40 percent of them have a student — an undergraduate or graduate student — as one of the inventors.

“It’s something that we think helps distinguish our graduates from other graduates around the country, and we’re looking at ways to foster that innovative spirit,” Peterson said.

He said Tech is working on “grand challenges: solar energy, renewable energy, environmental and economic sustainability, urban infrastructure, clean water — issues that are going to define what happens in the next 20 to 25 years.”

— Kimberly Link-Wills

Regents Table UGA Engineering Proposal

Ceding to the request of Gov. Sonny Perdue, the Board of Regents voted during its Oct. 12 meeting to table a proposal for the University of Georgia to expand its engineering program.

Perdue addressed the board at the meeting’s start and chastised some members for pushing the measure too aggressively and without notifying him. Georgia president Michael Adams requested the school be allowed to add civil, electrical and mechanical engineering degree programs.

“This could have a significant change to the system,” Perdue said. “I was surprised to hear it viewed a foregone conclusion.”

State Rep. Earl Erhart echoed those sentiments in a letter to regents. “This expensive proposition does not seem to meet the collaborative spirit of our current budget circumstances,” he wrote.

Regent William H. NeSmith Jr., chair of the academic affairs committee, advocated for the expansion and blamed opposition on misinformation. After a sometimes heated discussion, the regents eventually voted to table the proposal until their next meeting.

The Board of Regents’ next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 9-10 at its offices at 270 Washington St. S.W., Atlanta.
Mike Duke Forecasts Walmart's Future

In an auditorium so crowded that latecomers sat in the aisles and huddled in the wings, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. president and CEO Mike Duke spoke about the retail giant’s future.

Duke, IE 71, was invited back to campus in October to deliver a speech in the College of Management IMPACT series. Surveying the packed room, he joked, “Was this intended to be a pep rally?”

Among those in attendance was John Weitnauer Jr., IE 49, who gave Duke his first job out of Tech at Richway, a division of Rich’s Department Stores.

After quickly recapping his time at Tech and rise through the retail industry, Duke looked ahead. He said Walmart will continue to grow around the world, and it’s becoming ever more important to take care of the environment.

The two aren’t mutually exclusive, he said. “The topics of global growth and sustainability are intertwined.”

As the global population continues to increase — Duke expects another 1 billion in population in 20 years — that will bring both opportunities and challenges for the world’s largest retailer.

“That will bring a strain on resources,” he said. “There will be a doubled demand for food.”

Walmart strives to become truly global while knowing its challenges, maintaining its culture and taking an active role in big social issues, Duke said. Part of that can be accomplished through utilizing local resources.

“The customer wants to shop locally, and we want to support that,” he said.

Duke said Walmart, which employs 2 million associates worldwide, plans to hire an additional 500,000 in the next five years.

Before his stop at Tech, Duke was inducted into the National Academy of Engineers in an Oct. 2 ceremony in Washington, D.C. The academy said Duke was chosen for his leadership and contributions to the design and implementation of innovative logistics and retail technologies.

—Van Jensen

Dean Giddens Retiring Next Summer

Don Giddens, dean of the College of Engineering, is retiring effective July 1, 2011.

Giddens, AE 63, MS AE 65, PhD AE 66, has spent most of his more than 40-year career at his alma mater, interrupted only by a five-year tenure as dean of engineering at Johns Hopkins University from 1992 to 1997.

Upon his return to Tech, Giddens led the development of a new type of joint education and research model, partnering with Emory University in the creation of the Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering. The program built on each institution’s respective strengths and was one of the first of its kind in the nation. Giddens served as the inaugural chair of the fledgling department and was subsequently named dean of the college in 2002.

Following his retirement, Giddens will return to the faculty on a part-time basis to continue his research in cardiovascular fluid mechanics. He will divide his time between homes in Atlanta and Kernville, Calif., where his son, Eric Giddens, ABiol 98, is an owner of Kern River Brewing Company.

“The impact that Don has had on this institution is immense,” President G. P. “Bud” Peterson said. “His enthusiasm for engineering cannot be overstated, and we will continue to look to him as a resource in assessing the future of engineering education in the United States.”

Management Program Named for Denning

Management Dean Steve Salbu announced Oct. 11 that the technology and management program will be named for Steven A. Denning, IM 70, who made a $5 million gift in 2007 to launch it.

“Mr. Denning has committed to provide the College of Management with a second $5 million gift, which will be matched dollar for dollar for out of the $20 million challenge funds provided last November by an anonymous donor, elevating total funding of the program to $15 million,” Salbu said.

The program enrolls students from the College of Engineering and the College of Management and is designed to provide a unique academic and experiential environment that sets a global standard in interdisciplinary education.

Tech Hires Diversity Vice President

President G. P. “Bud” Peterson announced on Oct. 5 the appointment of Archie Ervin as Georgia Tech’s inaugural vice president for Institute Diversity. He will start Jan. 1.

Ervin, who has served as the associate provost for diversity and multicultural affairs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill since 2005, will be charged with oversight of all diversity-related matters at Georgia Tech.

In a public address on campus in September, Ervin outlined the responsibilities for the job: to provide dedicated leadership to the diversity mission and functions of the university; to elevate the visibility and establish the credibility of those functions; and to ensure the diversity goals and priorities of the institution are at every level of governance within the university structure.

“If you want to be an excellent institution, then you must have the talent of the world at your doorstep,” he said. “Our challenge is to create a community of scholars and learners who feel valued, respected and welcomed.”

Ervin earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in political science from Appalachian State University and his doctorate in educational organizations and policy studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

University System Chancellor Leasing

University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. announced on Oct. 7 that he will retire at the end of his current contract year, June 30, 2011. Davis has served as chancellor of the system’s 35 colleges and universities since February 2006.

Davis said he promised the Board of Regents a five-year commitment to the job, and he told Gov. Sonny Perdue that he would continue as chancellor until the conclusion of his term in January.

Despite University System budget cuts, Davis is credited with a number of major changes in both its academic and operational structures that have followed the blueprint of the board-approved strategic plan adopted in 2007.
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Georgia Tech Alumni ASSOCIATION

November/December 2010 Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine 37
Nick Feamster: Networking Innovator

By Van Jensen

Nick Feamster, an assistant professor in the School of Computer Science and leader of the Network Operations and Internet Security lab, was named one of the world's top innovators under age 35 by Technology Review magazine. Feamster, who received undergraduate, graduate and doctoral degrees from MIT before coming to Tech, was selected for the prestigious award because of his cutting-edge work on computer networks. He previously received a Sloan fellowship and the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. He works in the Klaus Advanced Computing Building with a window looking out onto Russ Chandler Stadium.

Baseball: I'm a Red Sox fan. I was there in 2004 [when Boston won the World Series].

View of the field: You cannot quite see home plate. It's enough to see what's going on and if it's worth going down to watch. It's a trade-off, though. It gets pretty noisy in the spring.

Relocating south: Atlanta feels like a Northern city. I enjoy being able to bike to work.

Accent: I'm from the San Francisco Bay area. I get accused of being from the Northeast a lot, probably from talking too fast.

Innovator award: I was totally excited of course. It definitely was a nice surprise. It's also good recognition for the students. They did a lot of the hard work.

Networks as a career path: I discovered networking through my studies almost by acci-
dent. It was never an inherent passion; I almost stumbled into it. I was working in video streaming, and it always fascinated me that you could write a program and something would go from one device and almost magically appear somewhere else. My adviser at MIT really got me excited about the area, and I strive to do the same for other students.

**Messiness of the Internet:** One of the most complex systems on Earth is the human body; another is the Internet. Biologists say the human body is amazing that it works at all, and the Internet is the same way. There are a lot of things it doesn’t do well. When things go wrong, it’s utter mayhem. It’s like with a car. You have to take it to the mechanic because you have no idea what’s under the hood. With the Internet, when things go wrong the average user can’t troubleshoot very easily.

**Network threats:** One of the biggest areas where threats emerge is from homes. Attackers like platforms that are well connected. Homes are increasingly connected, which brings about many challenges because home owners are not skilled network administrators.

**Routers as safeguards:** Network devices are becoming almost like personal computers that can run software. That offers an interesting point of control. Every home has a router, so there’s some hope to make them smarter.

**Teaching home owners:** We need to give the average user more visibility. What do you do when vulnerability is detected? If we can turn the router into a flexible device, we can use it to solve problems. It’s a big challenge and opportunity.

**Research at Tech:** One of the things I like is being able to do hands-on work with real networks. The Office of Information Technology is very supportive. Its network is like a test bed. I think that’s very unique. It makes it a fun place to work.

**Old computer:** That’s a recent conversion. That’s my old machine. It’s not fully decommissioned. I used to be a full Ubuntu/Linux guy.

**New Apple:** Productivity is soaring now. When you get busy, it’s nice for things to just work.

**Teaching:** The undergraduates are quite strong. When I was teaching the undergraduate networking class, I felt like many of the students could stand up and give lectures.

**Network excitement:** There can be a tendency to view networking as a boring, textbook topic. It’s so much more. Computer science is at the center of everything we do, and I feel like networking is the same way. It’s really about how we communicate and designing ways to do so efficiently and effectively.

**Problems to overcome:** There are a lot of interesting challenges in policy, economics and human-computer interactions. Networking touches a lot of other fields. It’s a good field for people who want to know about a lot of other things.

**Future questions:** What’s going to happen when the next billion people come online? It’s hard to predict what the Internet will look like. Countries without skilled administrators are going to come online.

**Hobbies:** I like to cycle. I like to run. I’ve run in the Atlanta half marathon for many years in a row.

**Squash racket:** I like to play squash. It’s been a while, though. It’s hard to find people who play in the South. I started playing in grad school. It was a thesis procrastination technique.

**Video games:** I’m not a gamer. I think I played Pong. I like Tetris. My students definitely play games. We have a nice network. They need to take advantage of that.
Ten Questions

Provost Rafael Bras: An Engineer Through and Through

By Kimberly Link-Wills

An institute world renowned for its engineering programs was the perfect fit for Rafael Bras, who became provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs on Sept. 1. A native of Puerto Rico, Bras earned bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering and a doctorate in water resources and hydrology at MIT, where he enjoyed a long tenure — from 1976 to 2008 — on the faculty, including eight years as head of the Ralph M. Parsons Laboratory for Environmental Science and Engineering; a nine-year stint as head of the civil and environmental engineering department; and three years as chair-elect and chair of the MIT faculty. Bras came to Tech from the University of California-Irvine, where he served two years as the dean of the Henry Samueli School of Engineering and as a distinguished professor. Bras is the inaugural holder of the K. Harrison Brown Institute Chair at Georgia Tech, with a joint appointment in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences.

1. What attracted you to Georgia Tech?
   I am convinced that science and engineering not only has been the driver of economic development and growth worldwide in the last 30 years but will continue to be so for the next century. There are just three or four world-class institutions in the United States that have a science and engineering focus. Georgia Tech is one of them. It's a great opportunity.

2. What are the differences in the state of higher education in California, where you came from, and Georgia?
   California historically had what nobody will deny was the best public higher education system in the country. It is an extraordinary collection of extraordinary universities. ... They did it like nobody else has done it. Nevertheless, in the last few years the system has been under enormous stress, and the compact that higher education had with the state and the people of the state is no longer operational.
   I don't want to sound tremendously negative because, in fact, California’s budget problems are bad, but so are the budget problems of most states. So when you look at it in terms of cuts and percents of cuts and the like, they're not completely out of order vis-a-vis what we have seen here. It's very similar.
   I perceive though that the state of Georgia and the system in Georgia recognize that they have a gem in Georgia Tech, a gem that needs to be protected. Most importantly, the government recognizes that it is better to let the system be managed by those that know better rather than attempting to manage it from the outside.

3. How do you feel about the University of Georgia's proposal to expand its engineering offerings?
   I am concerned about finances of the state and the cost of building up an engineering program, which is an expensive proposition at a time when we don't have much to spare and there is no compelling argument of need. I'm fearful about how the state will handle the demands of budget and how we make sure we maintain the excellence that we have. I think we have provided for the education of the engineering demand that exists. I think there are various ways we could expand, when needed, efficiently and at a reasonable cost. I respect the aspirations of other institutions but at the same time have to say this is not the best time to have the pie cut into smaller pieces.

4. Are there certain parts of Tech's new strategic plan that resonate strongly with you?
   It's a visionary document, and that's what it should be. ... The mandate of a more flexible education ... is something I find very attractive. I find the emphasis of the strategic plan on servicing students ... very attractive. That is our reason to exist. The challenge is going to be how we ... translate that visionary statement to an implementation plan that leads to a series of action items to be carried out over the coming years. ... I'm focusing on all of them. I'm nothing but a conductor.

5. Have you set goals to accomplish in your first year as provost?
   We have a lot of important issues to address. One of them we already addressed, implementation of the strategic plan. Our successful international activities must be rationalized, a strategy for engagement must be articulated. We will be pursuing increasing educational collaboration with other institutions in and out of Georgia, but most importantly we want to strengthen and expand our relationship with Emory University. By the end of the academic year we hope to develop a new strategy for our activities in Savannah that will consider and balance the opportunities, challenges and obligations that we have in projecting the Georgia Tech brand outside Atlanta. Selecting a new dean of engineering is very much at the front of my agenda. By the summer I would hope we would have a new dean.

6. You're also looking at Tech's international efforts. Will we see more foreign campuses?
   I want to develop the principles, the guidelines that we will use to decide how we measure success. We have activities in France. We have activities in Ireland. We have activities in Beijing. We have activities in Singapore. We have activities all over the world. ... How do we know whether we're succeeding or
not? What are the metrics? All those things need to be a little more fleshed out to make sure we’re doing it well and we know what we need to change, if we need to change anything.

7. What was your message at the campus diversity symposium?
To me, diversity is good business. It is excellence, an improved environment to work in. It is making sure that we get the most out of each other, that we achieve the maximum. It is well known and proven that in a diverse working environment you just simply do better. This is not something to do because we have to do it. This is not something we do because we want to address injustices of the past. This is something we do because it makes good sense.

8. Where is Georgia Tech in terms of diversity?
In absolute numbers of women and other underrepresented minorities, for example in graduating students, we’re doing very well. In numbers of underrepresented minorities and women in faculty, reasonably well. In percentage vis-a-vis the total population, not tremendously different than many other places. We’re doing OK, better than many, but we’re not outrunning others by a lot. I am very, very intent on making sure that this campus becomes an example of diversity. I want a very diverse student body — at the undergraduate and graduate levels. I would like to see an increasingly diverse staff. I would like to see a significantly more diverse faculty. This is something that is not solved overnight, and it is not something that has anything to do with resources. It is about making sure that everybody understands this is not a passing fad, this is not to be taken lightly. I know President Peterson and I are intent on making Georgia Tech the clear leader and an example of a diversified enterprise. We believe this is the best course of action.

It will give us the best institution possible, and it will happen. That’s the culture of the place.

9. What does the term “endless frontier” mean to you?
The endless frontier is actually a phrase quoted from a report by Vannevar Bush right after the second World War. Vannevar Bush set the science policy that dominated this country and its science and technology for 50 years after it was first suggested. His view was that science, technology and engineering presented that endless frontier, that we were obliged as a nation to pursue it, not to limit it, to let people explore and that societal benefits will follow. I think that idea has eroded ... and has left the nation, in my humble opinion, somewhat lacking of a clear science policy. I wish that we could go back to the ideas and ideals of Vannevar Bush. I don’t think they are outdated. I think people are coming to realize that the endless frontier was a good blueprint of how to move the nation ahead. It was a visionary policy. ... I would hate to adopt a science policy that lacks that vision, that imposes unnecessary or arbitrary limits on our ability to dream.

10. What have you learned about Tech so far?
I have been very pleasantly surprised with two things in the short time that I have been here. One is the incredible collegiality that exists among the leadership and certainly among the deans of the various colleges. The healthy competition that is there, and should be there, is always tempered by an understanding that the good of the institution must always come first. And I’ve been incredibly pleased with the extraordinary loyalty of the alumni. I’ve seen this alumni group and friends really come through in ways that are unique to this place.
SAA Launches
Largest student organization connects future grads with alumni

By Kimberly Link-Wills

During a four-hour sign-up event at five locations on campus Sept. 9, the Student Alumni Association, launched to ready its members for the real world and to seed a lifelong connection to Georgia Tech, became the largest student organization at the Institute.

With a $10 donation, more than 1,600 students have become members. On launch day, the students received branded bags, T-shirts, coupons for free food and discount offers. The Georgia Tech Student Foundation received $5 from every sign-up. The remaining $5 will go toward an SAA gift to Tech.

In addition, the Georgia Tech Alumni Association is matching each monetary donation for the gift, which will be selected by the SAA membership through online voting.

“We’re trying to teach students from day one that giving back to Georgia Tech is what you should think about,” said SAA president John Hanson, a fifth-year industrial engineering major. “Some of the gifts that we’ve talked about are partnering with the GTPD to help out with crime awareness on campus or helping make sure that RAT caps do not disappear. That’s a big tradition, and traditions are something we’re really trying to emphasize in the organization.”

Hanson said the SAA mission statement was carefully crafted over the course of several meetings. It reads: “Our mission is to enhance the experience of each and every Tech student by providing opportunities that broaden the college experience, strengthen traditions, build lifelong loyalty to Georgia Tech and prepare every student for success after college. We achieve this by leveraging our greatest asset, Tech’s alumni, and facilitating continuous interaction and sharing between alumni and students.

Underlying all that we do is a belief in the importance of fostering lifelong participation and philanthropic support while maintaining Georgia Tech spirit and traditions.”

The alumni connection is an integral part of the organization, Hanson said.

“We wanted to make sure it was extremely easy for students to connect to alumni. A lot of people will start their networking with alumni their fourth or fifth year simply because they feel they need a job. While that’s good to network with alumni to find a job, it’s important to start that connection from day one so students can start to learn how alumni become successful,” he said.

In an online testimonial, Al Trujillo, AE 81, chair of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association, said that network of Institute graduates can be beneficial both professionally and personally.

“When people say you make a lifelong connection when you come to Georgia Tech, they aren’t kidding. You not only walk away with a world-class education in your chosen field and some incredible character traits that will serve you all of your days but also with an asset that is even more valuable than I ever thought — a connection to over 126,000 alumni around the world who received a Tech degree just like me,” Trujillo said.
"You wouldn't believe what Tech alumni are willing to do for each other, the Institute and its students," he said. "We are all connected by the challenge of Georgia Tech and know that if you 'get out' you've accomplished an amazing task."

Mentor Jackets, an Alumni Association program pairing students with Tech graduates, is open to all SAA members. Hanson called his own Mentor Jackets experience, in which he was partnered with Georgia Tech Foundation president and COO John Carter, IE 69, "incredible."

"I learned a lot from him, not only about trying to find a job," Hanson said, "but what he did here at Tech, how he still stays connected, some of the challenges he deals with every day."

More than 350 students have signed up to be paired with alumni mentors this fall. Get Ready for the Real World is an SAA program designed to do just that — school members in home buying, job searches and salary negotiations. Students also will get real-world advice through Dinner Jackets, in which SAA members will dine at alums' homes.

Hanson was among a group of SAA members who had dinner at the home of Meade Sutterfield, EE 72, and his wife, Susan.

"They cooked us dinner, which was really good, and we just sat around the dinner table and talked to him about what Tech was like when he was here and how we can develop Tech and where it's going to go in the future," Hanson said. "It was pretty cool to be one-on-one with somebody who's been extremely successful. It makes it feel like you're really connected to somebody sitting across the dinner table."

Throughout the year, the 16-member executive committee will be staging Spirit Days, during which members will be encouraged to wear their SAA T-shirts.

He said the organization is working to instill Tech "spirit, tradition and pride" among students. One initiative is the implementation of an hour-long traditions tour for students that will take them past such landmarks as Sideways' grave and the Mickey Mouse clock and relate why they are there.

The importance of giving back also is being stressed, Hanson said.

"We really would like to promote the philanthropic spirit here at Tech. We want our students to feel like they're giving back," he said, "both in time and resources."

Waffle House, Chick-fil-A, Coca-Cola and Rita's Italian Ice were among the companies that gave to SAA members on launch day with free food and drinks and coupons distributed at the five sign-up stations. On the Fifth Street bridge, near the new Waffle House in Technology Square, the restaurant chain's vice chairman, Bert Thornton, IM 68, signed autographs as samples of a menu staple, Bert's chili, were distributed.

As students sipped iced tea, Thornton answered their questions about how to succeed in the real world.

Joe Irwin, IM 80, Alumni Association president, called the SAA launch "one of those remarkable days in Tech history that will set the stage for future alumni leadership and philanthropy."

More information about SAA, including upcoming events and opportunities for alumni engagement, is available at the organization's Web site, gtsaa.com.
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Drawing Career Is No Monkey Business

By Van Jensen

Tim van de Vall was drawing and creating stories since he was a toddler and always dreamed of a career in illustration and animation.

His parents, neither of them having an artistic bent, supported his creativity but pushed him to enroll in Georgia Tech. If his art dreams didn’t pan out, at least he’d have a degree, they reasoned.

Van de Vall, who will graduate from Tech with a computational media degree in December, decided to show his dedication to drawing by pursuing it whenever he didn’t have to be studying.

“I did everything on the side to show them my commitment to it,” he said.

That dedication has resulted in the publication of van de Vall’s first book, the children’s tale The Monkey Hole. The book, written and illustrated by van de Vall, follows a young girl who finds a hole from which an unending supply of monkeys comes out. She then has to figure out what to do with all of the monkeys.

Van de Vall downplayed the creative story’s origin.

“I was unpacking the dishwasher and for some reason the words ‘monkey hole’ came into my head,” he said. “I started to think about it, ‘What would you do with a cornucopia of monkeys?’”

To learn the answer, one can purchase the book at timvande-vall.com.

Van de Vall created the book during a flurry of activity while on vacation visiting his brother in Houston. He wrote the script and drew pages in pencil at night. Within two weeks, he’d finished it.

After returning to Atlanta, van de Vall used a Wacom tablet — a digital drawing board — to “ink” the story. He self-published the story through printing company CreateSpace.

Van de Vall has held signings at Atlanta-area coffee shops and was an exhibitor at Anime Weekend Atlanta in September. He has nearly sold out of the book’s first printing of 200 copies and plans to reprint it after coloring the now black-and-white pages.

The art in the book is a clean and cartoony style. Van de Vall said he was influenced by newspaper comic strips Calvin and Hobbes and Pogo as well as European comics such as Asterix and Obelix.

Though his parents aren’t artists, van de Vall said his ability does have “genetic inspiration.” His great-great uncle was Nico Bulder, a famous Dutch wood-carver.

Van de Vall was born in the Netherlands, and the family relocated to Johns Creek, Ga., when he was 4. His father works for Philips, the Dutch electronics company, and his career brought the family to the Atlanta area.

After graduating, van de Vall plans to pursue a master’s degree in sequential art. For a master’s project, he hopes to scan all of Bulder’s work and build a Web site for it. “Right now, it’s just sitting in a warehouse,” he said.

Van de Vall’s next book, Kao, will be the story of an oak tree’s life, starting with it being an acorn. He plans to self-publish it through his new company, Dutch Renaissance Press.

“It’s an allegory for life and how people wander as children,” he said. “I thought it would be a challenge to tell a story where the character can’t move for half of it. ... I want it to feel like an old classic Disney movie.”

Van de Vall grew up on more recent Disney films like The Lion King and Aladdin, and he said that child-friendly aesthetic informs his work. He’s also starting an online adventure comic for kids called Timo.

Disney inspires not just van de Vall’s stories but also his future plans.

“I’d like to create an animation studio and build it up similar to how Walt Disney did it,” he said. “It sounds ambitious, I know. Eventually I’d like to create a school for kids to learn illustration and animation. I have a lot of goals, but those are very long term.”

For now, he’s happy just to use art to tell more stories.

“I’ve just always had a passion for it,” he said. “I have to draw, I have to write and I have to create.”
FACES

Class of 2014 (or '15)
Is Tech’s Brightest,
Most Diverse
This year's freshman class is the best qualified and most diverse in Tech's history according to statistics from the president's office. The Alumni Magazine found eight students to follow from convocation to commencement. We want to see how they evolve over the course of their Georgia Tech careers — and if they still love physics and calculus when they graduate.

Text by Kimberly Link-Wills • Photos by James K. Holder II

Hope Brown

Hope Brown was born in Birmingham, Ala., but moved to Cincinnati at a very young age. She graduated from The Seven Hills School, where she was involved in numerous clubs and activities and was an honor roll student. Brown received a scholarship from the Georgia Tech Black Alumni Organization.

What's your major?
Chemical and biomolecular engineering.

Where are you living on campus?
I am on east campus in the Field honors dorm.

What extracurricular activities are you pursuing?
I have become involved in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, National Society of Black Engineers, Engineers Without Borders, Society of Women Engineers and the African-American Student Union.

What has been your greatest accomplishment in life so far?
Achieving so much while I was in high school.

What has been the biggest surprise at Tech?
How difficult the classes are.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?
They are coping with my absence. They spend a lot more time together now than before.

What's the hardest part about life at Tech?
The classes and the style of teaching can be at times difficult.

What do you plan to do after earning your bachelor's degree?
I intend to work while possibly earning my master’s.

What do you hope to accomplish while at Tech?
I hope to become involved in the Georgia Tech community while maintaining a good GPA.

What's your favorite class so far?
GT 1000.

What's your favorite place on campus?
Bobby Dodd Stadium.

Where's your favorite place to eat on or around campus?
Woody’s.

Are you following Tech sports?
I love Tech sports. I follow the football team and the basketball team.
Anirudh Sundararaghavan

Anirudh Sundararaghavan grew up in Alpharetta, Ga., and graduated from Alpharetta High School, where he was the saxophone section leader in the marching band and a member of the 2009-10 All-Bands. He also was a member of the varsity track and field team. He is a President’s Scholar at Tech.

What’s your major?
Biomedical engineering.

Where are you living on campus?
Hefner on west campus.

What extracurricular activities are you pursuing?
I love all sports so I am doing the flag football and Frisbee intramurals for my hall. Since I am interested in medicine, I have also joined AMSA [American Medical Student Association] at Tech as well as the MOVE [Mobilizing Opportunities for Volunteer Experience] program for medical assistance. In order to continue helping the underprivileged, I joined Vibha GT, which is dedicated to helping the underprivileged get an education.

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment in life so far?
I founded a club in high school to help underprivileged children and sponsor a school in India. Two summers ago, I visited a school in a village in India that had its government funding rescinded. In order to stay open, the school needed monetary support, and the club I founded in high school provided that support by raising over $5,000. If the school was closed down, the children in the village would lose their only opportunity to leave the poverty cycle by getting an education. Being able to give them hope is likely the most rewarding experience one can have.

What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?
The huge variety of activities that one can get involved in. It can be overwhelming.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?
My parents have handled my departure well because I have gone back to visit them about once every two weeks.

What’s the hardest part about life at Tech?
Trying to manage all my activities with all of the class work that I have.

What do you intend to do after earning your undergraduate degree?
I intend to go to medical school.

What do you hope to accomplish while at Tech?
I hope to pass with a 4.0 and to get a degree in biomedical engineering on a premed track to get into a med school.

What is something about you that your classmates at Georgia Tech don’t know?
The people who have never eaten with me do not know that I am a vegetarian.

What’s your favorite class so far?
English 1102 B on postmodernism.

What’s your favorite place on campus?
Bobby Dodd Stadium, because I love all sports, especially college football.

Where’s your favorite place to eat on or around the Georgia Tech campus?
The food court on the second floor of the Student Center.
Mike Jasper

A native of Jacksonville, Fla., Mike Jasper graduated from Allen D. Nease High School. In July, he was pictured in the St. Augustine Record in full scuba gear as he stepped off a boat into the Atlantic Ocean to help a Lighthouse Archaeology Maritime Program team bring an 18th century cauldron to the surface. Jasper was one of the divers who discovered the object nearly two miles off the St. Augustine shore in August 2009.

What’s your major?
Mechanical engineering/premedicine.

Where are you living on campus?
Field Hall.

What extracurricular activities are you pursuing?
I am a member of GT Motorsports and a volunteer at Atlanta Medical Center.

What do you consider to have been your greatest accomplishment in life so far?
Getting accepted to Georgia Tech.

What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?
How fast the time has gone by. It feels like it’s only been a week.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?
I have an older sister who is a biomedical engineer. I think my parents miss having us around the house, but they’re happy that we are having a blast. I also think my dad misses having someone to mow the grass.

What’s the hardest part about life at Georgia Tech?
Finding time to sleep.

What do you intend to do after earning your undergraduate degree?
I intend to apply to medical school, though I’m not quite sure what area of medicine I want to specialize in. I’ve been considering either radiology or emergency medicine.

What do you hope to accomplish while at Tech?
I’d like to study abroad in a Spanish-speaking country.

What is something about you that your classmates at Georgia Tech don’t know?
I’m an Eagle Scout.

What’s your favorite class so far?
Math 1512 (Calculus II) with Dr. Andrew.

What’s your favorite place on campus?
The CRC.

Where’s your favorite place to eat on or around campus?
The Waffle House in Tech Square. It’s cheap and open 24 hours.

What more can a college student ask for?

Are you following Tech sports?
I’m a big college sports fan. I have season football tickets, and I’m also looking forward to basketball season. But that’s the extent of my current involvement, though I am planning on playing an intramural sport in the spring.
Brandon Lutz

Brandon Lutz grew up in Dacula, Ga., and graduated from the state’s largest high school, Mill Creek, where he had the highest SAT score. He also was named one of only two STAR students at the school for 2009-10.

What’s your major?
Physics.

Where are you living on campus?
I’m living in Glenn, right on Techwood Drive.

What extracurriculars are you pursuing?
I am in the marching band. Later at Tech, I hope to join the Yellow Jacket Flying Club and learn how to pilot.

What has been your greatest accomplishment in life thus far?
I am an Eagle Scout.

What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?
I was surprised at how much goes on at night on campus.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?
My parents have been fine, though my mom had trouble at first. I have a twin brother, Aaron, who goes to Georgia State.

What’s been the hardest part about life at Tech?
Balancing all of my work.

What do you plan to do after you earn your undergraduate degree?
I might get my master’s or go directly into a job.

What do you hope to accomplish at Tech?
I hope to have a solid GPA and take courses that stimulate my mind the most.

What is something that your classmates don’t know about you?
I am an avid gamer.

What’s your favorite class?
Physics.

What’s your favorite place on campus?
I love the area outside Brittain dining hall and my dorm right next to the street. I look forward to walking to breakfast every morning.

Where’s your favorite place to eat?
I love Chick-fil-A.
Born in Atlanta, Tanner Smith grew up in Suwanee, Ga., and graduated from Peachtree Ridge High School, where he was part of the FIRST robotics team. In early August, Smith, who earned his pilot's license at 16, flew his family's single-engine Piper Cherokee from Georgia to California and back with an uncle as his only passenger. The Gwinnett Daily Post did a front-page story on Smith's achievement.

What's your major?  
Computer science.

Where are you living on campus?  
Matheson.

What extracurricular activities are you involved in or planning to pursue?  
The Yellow Jacket Flying Club, RoboJackets and a few CS clubs.

What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishment in life so far?  
Piloting a plane across the country.

What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?  
How friendly everyone is generally and how it has not been that much of a drastic change for me — at least not yet.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?  
My parents have handled it well despite having two kids leave for Georgia Tech at the same time. My twin sister, Carly, attends Tech too. She lives in the same dorm in the room right below mine.

What's the hardest part about life at Tech?  
Walking up Freshman Hill and ensuring that homework gets done before play.

What do you want to do after earning your undergraduate degree?  
I would like to get a degree in aerospace engineering and maybe, just maybe, pursue a PhD.

What do you hope to accomplish at Tech?  
I hope to figure out my place in the world and make good friends.

What's your favorite class so far?  
CS 1331.

What's your favorite place on campus?  
Klaus — the nicest building and the nicest, greenest lawn.

Where's your favorite place to eat on or around campus?  
Brittain.

Are you following Tech sports?  
I do follow Tech football, despite being a geek in high school and barely knowing how football works. I am learning as I go.
Lily Ponitz
grew up in Sarasota, Fla., and graduated from Pine View School. She was a coxswain for the Sarasota Scullers and captain of the rowing team her junior and senior years.

**What's your major?**
Environmental engineering.

**Where are you living on campus?**
I live in Field, the honors dorm on east campus.

**What extracurricular activities are you pursuing?**
Right now I'm a member of the Georgia Tech women's Ultimate Frisbee team and chapter of Engineers Without Borders. I joined Engineers Without Borders because I plan to use my engineering degree to bring wastewater treatment, sanitation and clean drinking water to people in need across the globe.

Tech's chapter of Engineers Without Borders is working to establish a water distribution system for a small village called Mungo-go in Cameroon, on the western coast of Africa. The problem that we are working to solve is that the upper third of this village does not have access to drinking water. There is an implementation trip planned for this December. The aspect of the project that I am working on is fundraising, which is an integral part of the process because $60,000 is needed in order to travel to Cameroon, build the well and set up the distribution system. I plan to continue to be involved in Engineers Without Borders throughout my time here at Tech and hopefully lead one of these projects one day.

**What has been your greatest accomplishment in life so far?**
I consider running two half marathons my greatest accomplishment so far. I ran my first with a group of friends during my junior year of high school, and even though it wasn't particularly fun, we decided to do it again the next year. Training for it and running it taught me a lot about overcoming mental and physical obstacles.

**What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?**
Honestly, it's been the amount of work there is. I thought I knew what stress was in high school, but I was wrong.

**How have your parents handled your departure from home?**
My parents have handled my departure from home pretty well. My mom might be a little lonely because I have two older brothers who moved out years ago, and my dad works at the University of Florida during the week.

**What's been the hardest part about life at Tech?**
Balancing time between doing homework and having fun. I have a lot of time each day outside of class, but it's hard to sit down and study when there are so many other things to do on campus.

**What do you plan to do after earning your bachelor's degree?**
I'm participating in the co-op program here, so I hope to get a job after graduation as a water resource engineer.

**What do you hope to accomplish while you're at Tech?**
I hope that during my time at Tech I will learn a lot, gain real-world experience in my field, meet people who will be friends for life and have fun.

**What is something that your classmates don't know about you?**
I'm a pescatarian, and I'm lactose intolerant. (Brittain doesn't have a lot of options for me.)

**What's your favorite class?**
Honors English 1102, or as I like to call it, "Birds and Trees 101." Despite this limited subject matter, I really enjoy the class because it's far more interesting than any English class I've ever taken, and I read material that I would have never read on my own or in any other class.

**What's your favorite place on campus?**
I'm not sure if it's technically part of campus, but my favorite place is the Salvation Army store next to Engineer's Bookstore.

**Where's your favorite place to eat on or around campus?**
Tin Drum in Tech Square. My two favorite foods are fried tofu and curry, so this place is heaven. Plus, they accept Buzz Cards.

**Are you following Tech sports?**
I'm a member of the SWARM so I've been following Tech football, but I'm really looking forward to basketball season.
Ronnie Foreman

Veronica "Ronnie" Foreman was born in Denver and lived in Littleton, Colo., until she was 8, when her family relocated to Bethesda, Md. A President’s Scholar at Tech, she graduated from Walt Whitman High School.

What's your major?
Aerospace engineering with the international plan. My focus language is French.

Where are you living on campus?
Hopkins Hall on east campus, right across from the stadium.

What extracurricular activities are you pursuing?
Currently, I’m a member of the Student Library Advisory Board and Freshman Council. I am planning on joining WREK and the Society of Women Engineers. I’m also hoping to join an a cappella group or the Technique within the coming year.

What has been your greatest accomplishment in life so far?
Other than learning to drive stick shift, I would have to say that getting into Tech has been my greatest accomplishment. The steps that it took to get here were not always easy ones to take, but I can honestly say my acceptance was, to me, recognition of all I have done so far and all I am capable of.

What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?
Honestly, the biggest surprise to me upon arriving at Tech was the overwhelming sense of community. Despite being in the heart of Atlanta, Tech felt like home right away. I made great friends and was instantly comfortable around campus. Tech is genuinely a community of students, and the student-to-student connections here are invaluable.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?
My parents handled my departure from home extremely well. We keep in close contact and e-mail or talk on the phone almost every day. I’m the first in my family to attend Tech, but I’m working on getting my little sister, who is a sophomore in high school now, to apply.

What's the hardest part about life at Tech?
I think the hardest thing about living at Tech is also the greatest asset to the campus. Everything here is hands-on, and each organization has a way for anyone and everyone to get involved. Consequently, it’s been a bit of a struggle to find a balance between work and play. The lifestyle here is a great incentive to work hard and play hard.

What do you intend to do after earning your bachelor's degree?
Ideally, I will get my master's degree through the five-year BS/MS program here at Tech and then pursue a second master’s and/or doctorate overseas.

What do you hope to accomplish while at Tech?
Too many things to count. Among other things, I hope to study and/or work abroad and participate in undergraduate research. The real beauty of Tech is that while I know what I want to do in a general sense, I have a great number of opportunities coming my way. I know the list of things I hope to accomplish is only going to grow.

What is something about you that your classmates don't know?
I once walked in on a private presidential dinner being held in a local ballroom in my hometown, just outside of Washington D.C. I stood in the back of the room while President Bush addressed the members of his cabinet on his last night in office. Boy was the Secret Service surprised.

What's your favorite class so far?
Dr. Greco's Physics I. It's fascinating and fun to learn. It's been a great class to take as a first-semester freshman, in many ways because it's a challenge I'm rising to meet. I'm working hard not only because I am receiving a grade but also because I genuinely want to learn and master the material.

What's your favorite place on campus?
The campanile. It's a great place to study, eat lunch or just sit and talk with friends.

Where's your favorite place to eat on or around campus?
Waffle House in Tech Square. My friends and I go about once a week, and it's always a fun change of pace. The atmosphere is really the biggest draw, I think. Not only are you bound to run into friends, but the wall in the back waiting room has pictures of a multitude of famous alumni. It's a great way to remind yourself where you're coming from and where Tech can help you go.

Are you following Tech sports?
I'm following Tech sports from the SWARM student section, white and gold face paint and all.
Norquata Allen

President’s Scholar Norquata Allen grew up in Chattanooga, Tenn., and graduated from Girls Preparatory School.

How did you distinguish yourself in high school?
In high school I was a leader, a volunteer, an athlete and an effective student. On top of all of my schoolwork, I served as student council president my senior year and was vice president of the African-American Alliance. I founded the football club, and I ran track and played lacrosse. A lot of my time was spent doing community service. I was a member of the Girls Inc. leadership team, advocating for the empowerment of girls in our community.

What’s your major?
I am currently in aerospace engineering.

Where are you living on campus?
I live in Caldwell on west campus.

What extracurricular activities are you pursuing?
As of now, I am a member of the African-American Student-Union, National Society of Black Engineers and Lambda Delta Rho, a subset of NSBE, and I am currently vice president. I plan to participate in other clubs and activities such as the Student Government Association, flag football, Greek life and fencing.

What has been your greatest accomplishment in life so far?
Showing my community that success can come with hard work. I try to set an example for young people and let them know that they really can pursue their dreams.

What has been your biggest surprise at Tech?
I believe the biggest surprise was the degree of animosity between Tech and georgia (notice the lowercase letter). My cousin attends UGA, but I was still unaware of how far back the history between the two schools went.

How have your parents handled your departure from home?
My mom misses me a lot because she texts me every day.

What’s the hardest part about life at Tech?
There are so many clubs and activities going on, but I can’t do them all.

What do you intend to do after earning your bachelor’s degree?
I would like to pursue a graduate degree.

What do you hope to accomplish while at Tech?
I want to graduate with honors and be an active and informed citizen of the Georgia Tech community. I also want to make some kind of meaningful mark on the people I meet.

What is something about you that your classmates don’t know?
When I am leaving a place for an extended amount of time, I have to hold back tears because I get attached to my friendships very easily.

What’s your favorite class so far?
Definitely calculus!!! I love my professor.

What’s your favorite place on campus?
My favorite place is OMED [Office of Minority Educational Development]. I feel so loved when I go there because I get the help I need, and I get to socialize with people who care about me and how I perform academically.

Where’s your favorite place to eat on or around campus?
I really like Junior’s Grill, but Tin Drum is pretty tasty as well.

Are you following Tech sports?
I am the ultimate sports fan. I wanted to be a varsity football player, but Tech wouldn’t recruit me.
Handling the Heat

Judith Curry’s stance on global warming has put her at odds with fellow climate scientists.

It is hot outside. This might not be notable except that it is late September and still in the mid-90s Fahrenheit, some 10 degrees warmer than usual for Atlanta according to the Weather Channel.

It is another hot day in a hot year. And it comes on the heels of the 2000s, which NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies declared the hottest decade on record. It is, to many, one more piece of proof that the world is heating with unnatural rapidity as human industries churn out greenhouse gases.

Judith Curry doesn’t seem to notice the heat. As the afternoon sun beats down, she stands in a patch of grass on the Georgia Tech campus and poses for a photographer. Beads of sweat form on the photographer’s brow while maneuvering around Curry, snapping one photo after another. She is stoic, unbothered. Truth is, in the past year, Curry has grown accustomed to the heat.

In addition to serving as chair of Tech’s School of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Curry has become a renowned climate scientist. And when the debate over global warming erupted into all-out war with last year’s theft of private e-mails from climate scientists — known as Climategate — Curry had the temerity to break ranks and join those criticizing the scientists.

Staking out a position smack dab in the middle of those who warn of global warming’s existential threat to humanity and those who call it a hoax — alarmists and deniers, as they call each other — Curry has made herself a target of both camps. One science blogger labeled her climate change’s “inconvenient provocateur.” Climate modeler and blogger William Connelly suggested she’d suffered “a failure to think.”

Many of those who’ve criticized Curry have demanded she offer facts to support her assertions. They want to know what she thinks, what she believes about the climate.

The irony is that Curry isn’t caught up on what is known, what the research really shows. What drives her is all that remains uncertain.
“Many of my peers thought it was just an illegal hack that we could ignore. I saw it as a threat to the IPCC and all of climate science.”

Curry grew up in a suburb of Chicago. She says neither of her parents had any scientific inclination.

Her first push into science came in the fifth grade when a geologist spoke to her class. While a sophomore at Northern Illinois University, Curry was mulling a future in earth science when she took an introduction to meteorology class with a professor named Clayton Reitan.

“I ended up going the meteorology/climatology route,” Curry says. “It had a good teacher and a nice combination of physics, chemistry and earth science.”

At that point in the early 1970s, climate change “wasn’t on the table,” she says. Curry’s interest was the Arctic. Her PhD thesis at the University of Chicago was on the impact of sea ice and clouds on the radiation balance of the Arctic. She continued that research for a decade while serving as a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin, Purdue and eventually Penn State.

“That set me up very much to be involved in the climate change problem when, in the ’80s, that became more on the front burner,” Curry says.

Global warming became front-page news in 1988 when James Hansen, head of the Goddard Institute, delivered testimony to congressional committees that carbon dioxide in the atmosphere would cause increased temperatures, and that the impact would happen soon.

That same year, the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Program, both under the umbrella of the United Nations, established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. The IPCC’s mission was to evaluate the risk of human-caused climate change and recommend policies to lessen its impact.

At that point, Curry wasn’t closely involved with the public debate on climate change.

“The IPCC, they were the visible people,” she says. “As a rank-and-file scientist, I didn’t pay close attention and didn’t feel any particular reason to take a stand one way or the other. I was rather skeptical of some of the things Jim Hansen was saying. I didn’t think they were justified by the data we had.”

A select group of climate scientists from different countries formed the IPCC’s leadership, collaborating on climate change assessment reports. The first was released in 1990 and served as the foundation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, a 1992 nonbinding international treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Looking back, Curry sees the establishment of the IPCC as a harbinger of the trouble to come. Because the IPCC was tied to the United Nations treaty framework, the policy discussion influenced the scientists, she says. And environmental advocacy groups heavily supported the global warming movement, which further shaded the view of climate change.

As one of the IPCC’s lead authors, Keith Shine was quoted at the time in a Reuters article, “We produce a draft, and then the policymakers go through it line by line and change the way it is presented. ... It’s peculiar that they have the final say in what goes into a scientist’s report.”

Climate change had become not a scientific question but a tool to push for environmental reform.

“The IPCC changed the way the entire topic has been framed,” Curry says. “With those kinds of roots, this is what you get.”

The debate over climate change was just heating up.

In 1995, the IPCC released a second assessment report, which forecast catastrophic global warming. Two years later, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was updated with the better-known Kyoto Protocol. As part of the treaty, 37 industrialized countries and the European Union committed to cutting production of greenhouse gases.

While the scientific community appeared committed to the belief in global warming, an opposition movement was beginning to form. Industries opposed the limiting of greenhouse gas emissions, claiming it would cause economic damage. Some politicians and economists warned that Third World countries could suffer because the protocol would limit their ability to generate energy.

Those who doubted global warming and opposed the protocol began to receive funding from utility companies and particularly the oil industry. A 2010 Greenpeace report found that Koch Industries, which owns refineries and operates pipelines, donated nearly $48 million to climate change opposition groups from 1997 to 2008. The skeptics seized on comments like those of S. Fred Singer, an emeritus professor of environmental science at the University of Virginia, who in 1995 wrote a letter to IPCC contributing scientists to complain of changes made to the second assessment report by policymakers.

Singer noted that some phrases expressing doubt about global warming were deleted. One excised sentence stated, “Any claims of positive detection of significant climate change are likely to remain controversial until uncertainties in the total natural variability of the climate system are reduced.”

Singer concluded, “I believe we have here a clear example of the misuse of science — and of scientists.”

Then came the direst climate warning yet. In 1999, Michael Mann, a professor at Penn State University, released a paper that examined temperatures from the past thousand years. The temperatures remained flat until about 1900, when they spiked up suddenly and continued escalating. The chart’s shape earned it the nickname the hockey stick graph.
The graph was featured prominently in the IPCC’s third assessment report in 2001, and Mann became one of the leading figures of climate science. His research became a subject of inquiry for those who doubted global warming. One of the most well known of these, Stephen McIntyre, began requesting Mann release the data that went into the report.

The 2001 report also received criticism from one of its lead authors. Richard Lindzen, an MIT meteorology professor, wrote that IPCC officials and policymakers significantly changed a draft prepared by scientists to play up the threat of global warming.

“There may not have been any significant warming in the last 60 years,” Lindzen wrote. “Moreover, such warming as may have occurred was associated with jumps that are inconsistent with greenhouse warming.”

In 2002, Curry was appointed to her current position at Georgia Tech. Through her research and appointments to prestigious committees and boards of the World Meteorological Organization, the National Research Council, NASA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, she was becoming increasingly known in the climate change community.

She was tapped in 2003 to suggest ideas for a workshop on uncertainty in climate science, and she suggested a focus on characterizing and understanding uncertainty in data and climate models. But the workshop ended up focusing on communicating uncertainty to policymakers rather than trying to understand it.

“I wasn’t criticized in 2003, I was ignored,” Curry says. “It was an idea that was floated, and nobody wanted to hear it at the time. They were on a different wavelength."

At that point, Curry’s research had shifted from the Arctic to tropical storms. Particularly, she had found that tropical storms and hurricanes were increasing in intensity and that global warming would only exacerbate the storms. The findings were published in the journal Science in 2005, three weeks after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans.

The timing was “uncanny,” Curry says. It instantly brought her media attention and, for the first time, a prominent place among climate scientists engaged in the public debate on climate change.

“Maybe for a few years I was adopted into that clique circa 2005 after the hurricane paper,” Curry says. “I made public statements supporting the IPCC findings. I had my questions, but I felt like that was the responsible thing to do.”

Curry wasn’t alone in supporting the IPCC. In 2007, the panel released its fourth assessment report, which stated “warming of the climate system is unequivocal” and had the support of thousands of scientists from dozens of countries.

The IPCC shared that year’s Nobel Peace Prize with Al Gore, who was the primary subject of the 2006 global warming documentary An Inconvenient Truth.

Public opinion polls showed that belief in global warming as a threat was higher than it had ever been. But the nonbelievers were far from giving up.

On Nov. 17, 2009, the servers of several climate science blogs were hacked, and the hackers attempted to post more than 1,000 e-mails and 3,000 other documents.

It was quickly discovered that the e-mails and documents had been stolen from a server used by the Climatic Research Unit at East Anglia University, the British holder of global temperature records. The e-mails were private correspondence between several of the top climate scientists, most of them closely involved with the IPCC. Soon, claims were made that the e-mails poked holes in the certainty of global warming.

The hacker had copied the data to several locations around the Internet, including some Web sites of global warming skeptics, by Nov. 19. The hack soon began receiving mention online and in the mainstream media. In the following days and weeks, several of the involved scientists received death threats. The disclosure of the e-mails became known as Climategate.

Shortly after the e-mails were leaked, Curry saw some online and knew they were real.

“Many of my peers thought it was just an illegal hack that we could ignore,” she says. “I saw it as a threat to the IPCC and all of climate science, largely because of this trust issue.”

The trust issue, Curry says, is that scientists are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards and not let outside influences shape their findings.

According to Fact Check and other independent organizations, the e-mails don’t invalidate global warming research. Many skeptics seized on the phrase “hide the decline” in one e-mail, but given proper context, the quote didn’t reflect a willful mischaracterization of data.

The e-mails do shed light on a group of scientists who were perhaps overly certain of themselves and overly caustic toward critics. Global warming criticism was referred to as “fraud” and “pure crap” in some messages.

Curry says the scientists had “some hubris in having too much confidence in what they were doing” and were too engaged with the politics of the debate. Scientists also made efforts to block Freedom of Information Act requests from McIntyre and other skeptics, the e-mails show.

“I had trusted those guys,” Curry says. “But when I saw all this about what really goes on behind closed doors, how these conclusions are reached, how they try to put down skeptics, I felt like the...
IPCC had lost the moral high ground. I didn’t feel the same obligation to support their findings, particularly their conclusions based on expert judgment.”

Curry decided to publicly voice her viewpoint on the e-mails. While many scientists were taking a “circle the wagons” approach, she says she recognized that climate scientists needed to work quickly to regain the public trust.

Her first writing on the subject was published Nov. 22, 2009, on McIntyre’s Web site climateaudit.org. She warned of significant damage to public credibility caused by a lack of transparency, “tribalism” among some in the climate research community and unwillingness to engage with skeptics.

A week later, Curry wrote a second missive, an open letter to graduate students and young scientists to reaffirm basic research values.

She wrote, “A better understanding of the enormous policy implications of our field should imbue in all of us a greater responsibility for upholding the highest standards of research ethics.”

“What bothered me the most was how climate researchers looked to the public, especially to educated and technical people,” Curry says of posting the messages. “They expect higher standards.”

Curry expected that other scientists would come forward with similar responses, but she was nearly alone.

Needless to say, Curry lost her place in the IPCC clique. At the 2010 Google Science Foo Camp in August, Curry and Mann, whose work she has criticized, were both in attendance. The two avoided each other, Curry says.

Climateprogress.org, which has been called the most influential climate blog by *Time* magazine, responded critically to Curry’s essays. Her opinions were called “unconstructive,” full of “factual misstatements” and “completely at odds” with her previous position on global warming.

Her stance didn’t completely defrost her relationship with global warming skeptics either. Blogger and skeptic Anthony Watts only grudgingly published one of Curry’s essays, with the caveat that he opposed her use of the term “deniers” to describe skeptics.

Meanwhile, investigations into Climategate explored both the crime of the hack and whether the e-mails revealed any scientific wrongdoing. The criminal inquiries have yet to turn up the hacker, and the various other investigations — conducted by institutions such as the British House of Commons and Penn State University — vindicated the scientists aside from some “misleading” conclusions.

That did little to temper the criticism of the IPCC, Mann and other top climate scientists. Clive Crook, a senior editor at *The Atlantic,* wrote of the inquiries, “At best they are mealy mouthed apologies; at worst they are patently incompetent and even willfully wrong.” John Tierney of *The New York Times* added, “When a journal publishes a skeptic’s paper, the scientists e-mail one another to ignore it. They focus instead on retaliation against the journal and the editor.”

As Curry predicted, Climategate also led to a heightened distrust of climate scientists from the American public. A December 2009 Rasmussen Reports poll showed that 52 percent of Americans believed there existed significant disagreement among scientists
about global warming. And 59 percent believed it was somewhat likely scientists had falsified data, while 35 percent believed it was very likely.

For her part, Curry doesn’t believe any scientists acted maliciously.

“I don’t think anybody’s come at this with bad motives,” she says. “It’s really about believing their models and thinking we should do something about it based on what the models say. … And even if you could have 100 percent confidence in the models, that doesn’t necessarily prescribe what you should do in terms of policy.”

During the fallout of Climategate, policymakers and politicians from around the world slowed or stopped pushes for climate legislation, Curry says. “There are all sorts of reasons to work toward clean energy, but as far as climate change being a driver of that, I think it’s lost an enormous amount of traction.”

Instead of simply trying to curb greenhouse gas emissions on a global scale, Curry advocates making humanity less vulnerable to extreme events such as hurricanes and focusing on regional issues. In Atlanta, for example, global warming is less of a concern than water. Droughts and floods create significant problems for the rapidly growing population.

While scientists shouldn’t be afraid to engage with the public or policymakers, Curry says the climate debate reveals the downside of scientists becoming too involved in politics.

“The sad thing is what should’ve been a political debate was fought over details of the science,” she says. “Part of this is the fault of the scientists. Scientists recommended policy for greenhouse gas stabilization. … The scientists became the pawns in the political debate over energy policy.”

Curry doesn’t blame individual scientists but rather institutions such as the IPCC. Her view was echoed in an August 2010 report by the InterAcademy Council that stated the IPCC “needs to fundamentally reform its management structure and strengthen its procedures.”

Curry says the panel “needs to change the way they do business or they risk becoming irrelevant. The IPCC relies more on experts than science. They put forth a lot of circumstantial evidence, but they don’t put it forward in an argument with the uncertainty, which is needed to make their arguments more airtight.”

Despite those in the climate change camp who question Curry’s allegiance, she’s concerned about her own impact on the environment. She drives a Toyota Prius hybrid and walks from her midtown Atlanta home to her office on the Tech campus.

Her office isn’t overly decorated, though two large paintings hang from the walls. One shows an island, gray and dead, with two volcanoes rising into the dark sky. It has a vaguely apocalyptic feel. The other is dominated by an orange-red globe that seems to be on a stage.

The paintings were done by Curry’s daughter, Meredith. Curry says she chose them for the abstract way they evoke Earth and surrounding planets.

Another wall displays framed editorial cartoons. One features Curry popping out of a trash can labeled “Climate Science.” She’s holding a piece of paper and saying, “I found a good bit.” Another cartoon features Curry as Joan of Arc. She wears chain mail armor and is labeled the patron saint of climate science as she literally throws down her gauntlet.

In the past year, that often has been the perception of Curry: a scientist out picking fights, an inconvenient provocateur. But
"The scientists became the pawns in the political debate over energy policy."

that hasn’t been her mission at all, she says. Instead, she is trying to bring together the polarized sides of climate debate and return scientists’ focus to thorough research.

"The criticism [of the essays] was from the mainstream climate blogosphere," Curry says. "In terms of scientists who stay out of the public debate, I feel like I got a lot of support.

"Scientists involved in the public debate mainly were trying to protect the UN treaty and were worried my post was going to make things worse. But that’s about policy and not about science. If that’s what was making these people tick, they’re part of the problem. That’s how we got in this trouble in the first place."

Curry also says she felt supported in her efforts by colleagues and the administration at Tech, as well as the Institute’s alumni, who have sent Curry supportive e-mails and commented positively on her posts on climate blogs.

Asked if she felt any regrets about her responses to Climategate, Curry says she only wished she had started her own blog initially instead of submitting posts to different sites and getting into debates with commenters.

"I’ve gotten caught up in lots of little blogospheric tempests," she says of her online forays. "I think the blogosphere can be potentially very important, but most scientists don’t like to do it because it can be blood sport."

In September, she started her own blog, Climate Etc., hosted at judithcurry.com. From the beginning, her posts were receiving hundreds of views and comments.

Her public engagement has driven Curry’s research interests into the sociology and philosophy of science. She’s begun looking into the process of group learning and the wisdom of crowds as well as the potential pitfalls of highly charged research areas like climate change, in which statements can become political fodder or affect funding.

Beyond her administrative, research and blogging duties, Curry also is the president of the Climate Forecast Applications Network, a clean technology company she founded with Peter Webster, a professor of earth and atmospheric sciences at Georgia Tech.

That leaves little free time, though she says she tries to fit in her only hobbies: hiking with her dogs, yoga and reading. And she makes time for posing for photos, as on a particularly hot September day.

She’s asked about these bits of news, that the temperature has been hovering well above historic averages, that NASA is calling the 2000s the hottest decade on record. After Climategate, what do pronouncements such as those mean?

"An individual record doesn’t say anything about climate change," Curry says.

"The historical records are pretty short, and we don’t have a lot of data over the oceans prior to 1960. There’s not a lot of context for some of these statements. You can’t read too much into them."

One of the great frustrations over climate change is that it seems there would be consensus. Is the climate warming or not? Are humans causing it? Don’t the scientists have a conclusive answer?

The climate is an extremely chaotic system, one affected by solar variations, volcanic activity, ocean oscillations and other factors, Curry says.

The major problem with the IPCC reports and some research that was exposed during Climategate was unwarranted confidence, she says.

"The climate’s natural variability is unpredictable. Greenhouse gas emissions could offset a natural cooling trend or amplify a heating trend. It could even mean the plausible worst-case scenario is worse than anything we’ve imagined," Curry says.

"It’s a very complex scientific problem. There’s a lot of uncertainty," she says. "It’s not that we’re incompetent, there’s just a lot of inherent variability. A lot of that is unknowable."

The question then naturally arises. What is Judith Curry sure about?

She pauses before giving an answer in three parts.

"Climate always changes," she says.

"Carbon dioxide, all other things being equal, will contribute to a warmer planet."

And lastly, "Whether in the coming century greenhouse gas will dominate natural variability remains to be seen."

Asked what she is certain of, her most definitive answer is uncertainty itself.
am an engineer. I am proud of it.

Georgia Tech taught me to approach life holistically, which has translated into an artistic eye. I am passionate about engineering future technologies to save lives. I also am passionate about photography and helping others to appreciate the world in which we live.

Curious, unconfined, observant, persistent, audacious, perfectionistic. These are traits used to describe engineers, but these also are traits associated with photographers.

A photographer must be curious and persistent as he patiently extracts the beauty and nature from his subjects.

One cannot be confined in order to discover new and interesting points of view. Interesting points of view are rooted in the ability to be observant. Environments may be cluttered and hard to reproduce into a “picture-perfect” moment. Granted, perfect moments seldomly arise, which is why a photographer must be persistent as well as a perfectionist.

I continuously try learning different techniques, striving to illustrate my perspective. I never become complacent with where I am. There are always other angles to approach any problem that I face.

Most people let the simple things pass...
them by. I believe I can make others realize that beauty is all around them. It is through my lens that I am able to capture a moment, allowing others to absorb the entire scene, milliseconds at a time. Our minds process the environment too quickly, therefore neglecting the subtleties we forget to appreciate.

Backpacking has become my outlet. I am able to surround myself with nature and seemingly step back to simpler times. And through my camera, I am able to take people with me.

My first trip this past summer took me to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, which is arguably one of "America's best ideas." This was one of my first adventures through the wilderness, and I was accompanied by my older brother, Marvin. It was a long three days in the summer heat, but the views were well worth it.

On the last day of our point-A-to-B itinerary, we hiked up the tallest hill to catch a view. I saw a lone tree, at right, and composited it to where a trail would lead to it. Not the perfect time of day, as a more vibrant photo would have come during sunrise or sunset, but the solitude summed up what I was feeling during our trip.

My connection with nature continued later while driving across the country to the West Coast, where my new life as a doctoral student at the University of Southern California would begin. But this wasn't just a trip with the destination in mind, rather a trip with the way of traveling in mind. I realized throughout the journey that life is short, and we should find joy and live with laughter whenever and wherever we can.

I found the Rocky Mountain National Park particularly freeing. All the wildlife roam free and coexist. All of these creatures, although thought of as unsophisticated, follow schedules and roam in territories.

I was patient enough to wait for deer to appear — on their schedule. But any shot wouldn't make the photo I had in mind. I wanted to truly capture a real moment of wildlife within the environment.
A silhouette photo, above, against the setting sun took advantage of the lighting. It took me roughly an hour to get a few shots of deer looking in the same direction. Again, a photographer must be patient and persistent in order to capture the perfect moments.

I also ventured through the Rockies to get unique views of the most beautiful landscapes. This takes a willingness to wake up at 4 a.m. and hike in the dark. Sunrise creates unique lighting ideal for landscape photography, and the lack of sleep is worth it.

Lighting is key to making any photograph; with improper lighting, a long exposure shot such as running water cannot be made. Photography is all about picking the right time of day for your subject or picking the right lighting in order to enhance your subject.

I use a neutral density filter to create a dreamy look. The filter allows for longer daytime shutters to create unique shots.

My next adventure was to discover the wonders of Yellowstone National Park, with the largest active site of thermal wells. Organisms called extremophiles thrive in these high-temperature environments where others could only dream to survive. The geothermal wells, which glow blue, are lined with vibrant orange bacteria to create a beautifully colored pond.

These bodies of water are found everywhere on the southwest side of the park, but more unusual geothermal wells are found all around the park. Mammoth Springs is an example. Although the same sulphur-rich water nourishes these bacteria extremophiles, a unique pattern is formed. This shows that, like humans, nature rejects the third law of thermodynamics and creates sophisticated networks.

I ventured north to Glacier National Park to discover the last few glaciers within the United States. They are predicted to disappear by 2030 because of climate changes. The bodies of water in this area, including Two Medicine Lake, have colorful rocks as well as massive mountain ranges.

All shots were planned for sunrise because of the calm nature of lakes during the early morning, but I had walked into surprisingly inclement weather. I used a longer exposure to create a calm, serene look, which is the antithesis of the cold, windy weather that I had to endure.

As was the case throughout my summer photography missions, persistence was key. It's likely I will visit these locations again someday for slightly different variations of these shots.
After camping by St. Mary's Lake, I took another early morning to hike to the water line. I accidently hiked into knee-deep water, which soaked both my shoes and pants. I brushed off this minor nuisance and waited for the best light, which arrived an hour later.

My last journey of the summer took me to simpler times within the Amazon River region of Peru. This is where the quintessential man lives. He has not been corrupted by the modern trappings of fast food, computers and social networking sites. It is fascinating how the people are able to live life, day to day, without our modern conveniences. Instead, they have what I imagine are real-life screen savers right out their back doors.

I savored every moment in awe. Sunsets were beautiful, clouds whispered for me to stop and look. My shots during this trip were not set up, and time was not on my side. But I took what I was given and tried to make the best out of it.

Wildlife here is best described as just that — wild. Animals act on instinct, not a command to pose for the camera. Anticipation for the unexpected moments is key to capturing the second when, for instance, a frog jumps onto a fellow traveler’s camera and seems to rest so briefly before moving on or a llama decides to get a closer look at an unusual-looking creature with a camera in hand.

A piranha’s gaping mouth offered a glimpse into a wonder of nature — a creature built to feed and protect itself with its razorlike teeth. We are reminded that every species is built for a specific function to keep the circle of life intact. The circle of life also was seen as a hawk swooped down, avoiding other predators as it caught its prey. A capybara avoided interaction with potential predators, in this case visiting humans with cameras. Was I built and put on Earth to witness and record these moments?

Wildlife does whatever it takes to survive and to feed its young. We see animals yawn, play and display curiosity. They call out warnings to intruders. They congregate as societies.

It is amazing to me that human beings believe we are a higher entity, that only we can think and communicate. With my camera, I can tell you that really we are all just the same.
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Composer's music expresses emotion behind HIV

By Leslie Overman

For most musicians, the launch of a new album calls for a tour of stops at local record shops and smoky music venues. But for Alexandra Pajak, MS HTS 07, a promotional circuit is much different. Over the next couple of years, the composer will be visiting scientific conferences across the country to promote her latest album, Sounds of HIV.

Listeners who play the 17-track CD from start to finish hear the entire virus genome in 52 minutes. The album, which was released by Azica Records in October, is Pajak's third CD of DNA-inspired classical music. Her songwriting process begins not at the piano but at her computer. She locates gene sequences on an online database run by the National Institutes of Health and then assigns pitches to the nucleotides and amino acids.

So what does HIV sound like? “It sounds strangely good,” Pajak said. “I don’t know what it is about DNA that sounds so good. It’s not random when you listen to it. It’s like you’re actually hearing the characteristics of the gene, the parts of the gene as you listen to it.”

Music for Pajak’s previous CD, based on the herpes B virus, was written while she was an intern at the National B Virus Resource Center at Georgia State University. She chose to focus on HIV this time in the hopes of attracting a wider audience. “A lot of the DNA-based music I’ve found on the Internet was based on genomes that would appeal more to scientists than the general public. ... Most all of us have been touched in some way by the HIV virus, whether that be an infected family member or friend or simply an awareness of the virus’ impact on the world,” she said.

“I also wanted to steer away from the previous DNA-based music composed. Many of the pieces online are MIDI sounds. I wanted a real instrument played by a human to express the human emotion behind the disease.”

Brought to life by a chamber group
I don’t know what it is about DNA that sounds so good. ... It’s like you’re actually hearing the characteristics of the gene."

called the Sequence Ensemble, Pajak’s HIV sounds somber, sometimes peaceful and soothing and at times startlingly urgent. She likened the sound to compositions by Philip Glass, particularly his *Einstein on the Beach*, Hildegard of Bingen and monks of the early 12th century.

“IT’s kind of formalist,” she said. “It feels open and the music’s wandering a bit, but there’s a structure. It’s kind of peaceful.”

Pajak’s songwriting career began as a teenager. Raised in Athens, Ga., she started playing instruments in middle school — she now plays seven — and received her first commissions while a student at Oconee County High School in Watkinsville, penning children’s songs for CDs released by the Ocean Society and the International Primatological Society.

Her first foray into DNA music came at Agnes Scott College, from which she received a bachelor’s degree in music. She also took countless biology courses. A genetics professor at the college learned about DNA-based music being written by scientists and approached her about composing some. Pajak, who was the pianist for the Agnes Scott Orchestra, at first found the prospect of writing music for instruments she was not familiar with daunting. But in 2003, the orchestra performed her symphony based on the DNA of the college’s namesake.

Though Pajak did not perform with any campus music groups as a graduate student at Georgia Tech, she played keyboard for the Let’s Try This! improv comedy troupe. It was an experience that taught her to think on her feet and work quickly, skills she found helpful when her record label asked her to compose enough music for a full-length CD in just a few months.

She said her education at Georgia Tech also prepared her well, instilling in her a work ethic and a drive for precision.

“It’s hard work at the time, but it’s like a mind-set that you get into. And it’s helped me with so much, especially the music writing,” Pajak said, citing School of History, Technology and Society professors Ron Bayor, Doug Flamming and Willie Pearson as role models and mentors from her time at Tech.

It was also at Tech that she met her future husband, Chris Dalbec, EE 07. The couple were married in July.

“He’s really supportive of my composing and encouraged me to compose music on a virus that has a real human element to it,” she said.

Even if her latest CD is a huge success, Pajak doesn’t plan to quit her day job anytime soon. Since graduating from Tech, she has been working as the coordinator for the Communities in Schools program at Bethune Elementary in Atlanta, helping provide community resources to inner-city school students. Her projects have included working with Borders to provide books to students and inviting state representatives to classrooms to speak about the government and the importance of going to college.

“It’s kind of a smorgasbord of things, but the basic idea is to provide interventions for those students who need it,” she said. “I’m applying a lot of what I learned at Georgia Tech. I’m using my technical writing skills I learned there, some sociology skills and I’m doing my music as well. So it’s great. I could not be happier.”

Sounds of HIV now is available through iTunes and Amazon and at retail stores, including the Barnes & Noble at Technology Square. In an effort to repay Georgia Tech for everything it taught her, Pajak will be donating a portion of the royalties from the CD to Roll Call, the Alumni Association’s annual fund.

“My mentors told me again and again growing up that you should always remember and recognize those who have helped you along the way and helped you become who you are,” she said. “I have felt so supported by Tech as a student and now as an alum. I want to contribute to a school that helped contribute to my growth and future.”
1950s

Herb Lindsay, IE 58, and his wife, Dagmar, are about to begin their 12th season working in the guest services department for the Aspen Skiing Co. at Snowmass, Colo. The department will be open Nov. 25 through April 24. Lindsay wrote that he and his wife “would love to have those with ties to Georgia Tech stop by and say hello.”

Jerry L. Terrell, IM 56, has been elected Professor of the Year for 2010-11 by the faculty at Jacksonville University in Jacksonville, Fla., where he is a professor of aeronautics. It is a second career for Terrell, who retired from the Navy with the rank of captain after a long and successful career as a naval aviator.

Homer V. “Vaughn” Wagnon Jr., ME 51, a retired professional engineer and World War II veteran, helps people find information about living and deceased vets through the 102nd Infantry Division Web site. He recently helped return an ID bracelet belonging to an Army buddy to the soldier’s family. The bracelet, which was lost 65 years ago, was found by a Dutch relic collector on a German battlefield. An article about the incident was published in the Daily Progress in Charlottesville, Va., where Wagnon lives.

1960s

Thomas F. Christian Jr., AE 68, MS AE 70, PhD AE 74, an Air Force senior level technical adviser for systems engineering, was elected a fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He also received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award from the Air Force Materiel Command.

Al Kroemer, IE 66, has been elected president of the Classic Car Club of America, which is headquartered in Des Plaines, Ill. Kroemer is a partner in the law firm of Cantey Hanger LLP in Dallas.

Randy Nordin, AE 69, retired as Georgia Tech’s chief legal adviser in September. He joined the Institute’s Office of Legal Affairs in 1991. As head of the office, he provided legal advice to all Institute administrators and researchers. Nordin has been a member of the Georgia State Bar since 1973, the year he graduated from Emory University’s School of Law. He served as general counsel of the Georgia Department of Administrative Services before returning to Tech.

William A. “Bill” Snellgrove III, ME 69, has been elected governor-elect for the Ohio district of Kiwanis International. Snellgrove will serve a one-year term and then become governor for the administrative year beginning Oct. 1, 2011. The district has 255 clubs and 9,000 members. Snellgrove, who earned an MBA from the University of Dayton, retired following a 38-year career with Ashland Inc. in 2007 as a manager with responsibility for evaluating and negotiating acquisitions and joint ventures for the company’s chemical division. He has been active in community service for 25 years, serving as a trustee on the Ohio Business Week and Ohio district of Kiwanis foundations. He and his wife, Cheryl, have five children/stepchildren and 17 grandchildren. The couple live in Columbus.

Joe Stoner, CHE 66, received an Outstanding Service Award from the Georgia section of the American Chemical Society in recognition of his years of outstanding leadership through service as chair and counselor of the organization and as a contributor to numerous Georgia and national ACS committees.

Alan Willson, EE 61, received the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ 2010 Leon K. Kirchmayer Graduate Teaching Award in June for exemplary teaching and curriculum development and for inspirational guidance of PhD student research in circuits and systems. Willson holds the Charles P. Reames endowed chair as a distinguished professor of electrical engineering at UCLA, at which he has been a faculty member for 38 years, having also served as assistant dean for graduate studies and as associate dean of engineering. He created and taught UCLA’s first courses in digital signal processing in the 1970s and is noted for his research in nonlinear circuit theory. In 1991, Willson founded Pentomics Inc., a California corporation focused on IP development and licensing.

1970s

Bill Chastain, IM 79, has written a novel, Peachtree Corvette Club, which will be released by Stanley Publishing in November. The story takes place at Georgia Tech in the fall of 1977. Chastain works for MLB.com, covering the American League’s Tampa Bay Rays.

Douglas Darch, Psy 73, has been named the compensation and employment law coordinator for the Chicago office of Baker & McKenzie. Darch currently is a partner in the North American compensation, labor and employment law practice group.

Carl V. “Van” Mauney, EE 75, a vice admiral in the Navy, and his wife, Debby, will transition from the Navy in January following 35 years of military service. Mauney has served on and commanded nuclear submarines and on Navy and joint service shore operational commands and staffs. Debby, a graduate of Berry College, in addition to serving as a Navy spouse and mother, has overseen the numerous moves between New England, the Southeastern coast, Washington, D.C., Hawaii, Bahrain, Italy and Nebraska. Mauney last served as the deputy commander of U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha, Neb.

Thomas A. Reed, MS AE 72, was awarded the rank of fellow in the Society for Technical Communication for his contributions in both industry and academe and for mentoring students and new professionals in the field. Reed is president of reedinfo.com, a technical communications and training company in Arlington Heights, Ill.

Stefan V. Stein, EE 77, was selected for inclusion in the 2011 edition of Best Lawyers in America. Stein practices intellectual property law as an attorney in the Tampa, Fla., office of GrayRobinson PA.

1980s

Kelly Barrett, IM 86, has been named 2010 Volunteer of the Year by the YMCA of metro Atlanta. Barrett is serving her sixth year as a Y volunteer. She is an executive committee member.
member, treasurer and chairperson of the finance and audit committee. She also serves as a member of the Partnership Against Domestic Violence board, Georgia Tech Business School advisory board and The Carter Center Board of Councilors. She is vice president of internal audit and corporate compliance for The Home Depot. She and her husband live in Marietta, Ga.

Alice P. Clements, IM 83, of Rome, Ga., was appointed to the Professional Standards Commission by Gov. Sonny Perdue. Clements is a third-grade teacher at the Darlington School, at which she was awarded the Brown Faculty Award. Clements received a master's degree from Berry College and is a member of the Kappa Delta Pi education honor society and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.

Herbert V. Congdon II, EE 86, manager of standards and technology for Tyco Electronics, was elected president of Professional Engineers of North Carolina for 2010-11. Officers were installed in June during the organization's summer conference. He lives in Conover, N.C., with his wife, Julie.

John K. Dewberry, IM 86, was appointed to the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority by Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle. Dewberry is chairman and CEO of the real estate firm Dewberry Capital Corp. He is a member of the Georgia Tech Sports Hall of Fame and the Georgia Tech Foundation board.

Geoffrey Morris, CerE 82, a professional engineer, has been hired as a senior specialist in 3M's Energy and Advanced Materials Division, which develops and manufactures lightweight hollow glass and ceramic microspheres, continuous high temperature ceramic fibers and specialty chemicals. He previously was with 3M Unitek and remains at the corporation's global R&D headquarters in St. Paul, Minn.

Tracy Turnipseed Neal, IM 83, a certified professional accountant, has joined SUN n FUN Fly-In and Florida Air Museum Inc. in Lakeland, Fla., as chief financial officer. The SUN n FUN International Fly-In and Expo is the second-largest general aviation event in North America. She and Steven G. Neal, IM 83, have two children and one grandchild.

Parri "Scrapy" Olmstead, AE 84, a first officer flying the 767 with Delta Air Lines, has been elected as negotiating committee chairman for the Delta Master Executive Council of the Air Line Pilots Association. Olmstead, who flew the A-10 and F-117 stealth fighter in Desert Storm, retired from the Air Force as a colonel after 23 years of service.

Jeffrey W. Shaw, ME 88, was elected by the Virginia General Assembly to a six-year term as a district judge. Shaw is the presiding general district court judge in Gloucester, Mathews, Middlesex and New Kent counties. He and his wife, Barbara, live in Locust Hill, Va.

James Teoflik, ME 83, has been named fleet outage performance manager for the nuclear generation group of Progress Energy, headquartered in Raleigh, N.C. He joined Progress Energy after 26 years working for Duke Energy, most recently as fleet outage manager for the nuclear generation department. He and his wife, Trish, have two sons, Coleman, 16, and Alex, 18, who is a freshman at Auburn majoring in aerospace engineering.

1990s

Amy Underwood Aponick, Biol 99, and husband Aaron celebrated the first birthday of their daughter, Elizabeth Audrey "Ellie," on Sept. 20. Aponick is a registered dietitian/nutritionist with Shands Healthcare at the University of Florida. The family lives in Gainesville, Fla.

Donny Comer, IsyE 99, is the executive director and founder of the GROW Initiative, a program that implements international community development projects throughout the developing world. Having particularly focused thus far on Latin America, Comer will be traveling to Asia with GROW to continue these efforts, focusing primarily on water and sanitation systems as well as the environment.

Holly L. Davis, Cls 95, received an Outstanding Service Award from the Georgia section of the American Chemical Society for her service to the organization as a treasurer and chair, a committee member and an advocate of numerous public relations and outreach programs.

Mark Ehrhart, Psy 96, and his wife, Karen, announce the birth of a son, Evan Gregory, on May 1. Ehrhart is an associate professor of industrial/organizational psychology at San Diego State University.

James Emery, CE 96, led a team of Troup County civil engineers in pushing a 324-ton concrete slab into West Point Lake near Lagrange, Ga., in July, perhaps setting a world record for the largest boat ramp ever moved into a body of water. The three-lane ramp connects with another in the lake to form a six-lane ramp funded with a $400,000 state grant as part of Gov. Sonny Perdue's Go Fish Georgia project aimed at attracting fishing tournaments to boost local economies. Emery, county engineer and head of the Troup County roads and engineering department, led the ramp project. Troup County's board of commissioners honored Emery's achievements by presenting him with a plaque in August. He recently was selected to serve as first president of the new south metro branch of the Georgia section of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

J. Clay Fowler, Econ 92, has been recognized by the American College of Healthcare Executives and Georgia Association of Healthcare Executives with theACHE Service Award.

David E. Gibson, ABIol 98, and his wife, Jessica, announce the birth of twin daughters Abigail Elise and Sophie Elizabeth on Jan. 25. Gibson is a physician with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mark Harclerode, Arch 93, a licensed senior project architect at HDR Architecture, Atlanta, has been recognized as a professional associate for his expertise in science and technology architecture. A house he and his wife, Melody, designed has been featured on the Western Red Cedar Web site, wrca.org, as a fine example of the use of cedar in residential design.

Justin C. Honaman, IE 96, the director of customer intelligence for Coca-Cola Customer Business Solutions, has released a second album, Let Go & Let God. It has 10 tracks spanning the contemporary Christian and country music genres, all written by Honaman. He plans to donate a percentage of the proceeds to the United Service Organizations. The album is available through iTunes.
Strong Mind, Strong Body

Ninety-year-old a champion in discus, hammer throw and shot put

By Torian Parker

Seymour Lampert had a long and distinguished career in the space industry and academia. At 90, he’s probably entitled to sit back and reflect on his professional accomplishments. Not Sy Lampert. He’s too busy racking up athletics medals, including four golds this year in the National Masters Track and Field Championship.

Getting out in October 1943, Lampert was one of the first to graduate from Tech’s accelerated AE program during World War II. He stayed on to teach math.

“It’s kinda unique to be on the other side,” Lampert said. “Having been a student you pretty much know what the hell is going on there so I had quite a bit of empathy for them.”

Lampert, who now lives in Irvine, Calif., did research for NACA (soon to be renamed NASA) in the Navy and landed at CalTech, where he worked as a teaching assistant in applied mathematics and received a doctorate in aeronautics. Next to cross off his to-do list was work at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

He also was the manager of aerospace mechanics at Ford Aeronutronic, director of advance systems research at North American Space Division and vice president of Systems Associates. These days he’s a University of Southern California professor emeritus.

As he continued discussing his career with in-depth explanations of subsonic, transonic and supersonic aerodynamics in relation to aerospace calculations, Lampert illustrated that his 90-year-old mind is as strong as his body.

He never needed any arm-twisting to join the ranks of senior athletes.

“I was teaching at USC at that time, and my colleague down the hall was a vaulter. He came down and said, ‘Why the hell don’t you come out?’” Lampert recalled. “I did play some football at Georgia Tech.”

So about 20 years ago, when Lampert was in his late 60s, he was recruited by the Trojan Masters Track Club and competed in discus, hammer throw (his favorite) and shot put.

“The first meet I took third in the shot put, and I thought, ‘Gee they got me hooked.’ They gave me a medal,” Lampert said.

More than 200 medals later, he still gets a thrill when he beats the “young guys” in SoCal Track Club meets. He also is training for next year’s World Games as the national champion in the 90-94 age group.

“Sitting on the couch is insidious,” Lampert said. “You’re watching a lousy program anyway. Do some farming or something.”

Lampert has something else in mind.

“You know what I’m working on now? Swimming.”
James Wallace, CE 61, MS CE 62, pauses in front of the National Wallace Monument in Stirling, Scotland, to catch up on his reading during an Alumni Travel tour.

What have you been up to?

To have your news included in the Ramblin' Roll, send us the details at Ramblin' Roll, 190 North Ave. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30313, or e-mail us at ramblinroll@gtalumni.org. Photos may be submitted for inclusion in the online Ramblin' Roll.

Who: __________________________________________

What: __________________________________________

When: _________________________________________ Occupation: ______________________

Degree: __________________________ Year: ________

Phone: __________________________ E-mail: __________________________

Street: __________________________

City: __________________________ State: ________ ZIP: ________

and the Tate Music Group. For more information, visit honaman.com.

Leslie King, ME 92, is a senior member of the technical staff in the fluid mechanics department of the Aerospace Corp. King received a PhD in mechanical engineering from the University of Southern California in 2009. He was an Aerospace Corp. fellow. He lives in Carson, Calif., with his wife, Kim, and daughters Nailah, 1, and Nia, 9.

Nagesh Kukunoor, MS ChE 91, a Bollywood film director, released his latest film, Aashayein, in the United States in August.

Scott Loughrey, M CP 95, is the owner of Office Furniture Concierge Inc. based in Atlanta.

Jennifer Powers, PhD Chem 93, was presented an Outstanding Service Award from the Georgia section of the American Chemical Society for her years of service as treasurer, a member of committees and an organizer of a symposium at the 2003 Southeast regional ACS meeting.

Kevin Prevost, ChE 99, has been promoted to senior manager in the strategy practice at Accenture. Prevost lives in Marietta, Ga., with his wife, Sara, and two children, Parker and Mason.

William H. Robinson, MS EE 98, PhD ECE 03, was promoted to associate professor of electrical engineering with tenure at Vanderbilt University. He is the first African-American to earn promotion and win tenure in the Vanderbilt University School of Engineering. Robinson was selected for a National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development Program Award and named to the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency Computer Science Study Panel in 2008. A year later, he was elevated to senior member of both the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the Association for Computing Machinery. Robinson also is a member of the American Society of Engineering Educators and National Society of Black Engineers.

Craig R. Schwetje, Mgt 94, was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps on Oct. 1.

Victoria Selfridge, IE 96, has edited and self-published When Women First Wore Army Shoes, her great-aunt Ethel A. Starbird's memoir of service as a member of the Women's
Photographers Raise Money and Hope for Haiti

Amid the photos of happy couples celebrating engagements and weddings on the Esther JuLee Photography Web site (estherjulee.com) are pictures taken by the company's owners, Esther Lee, Chem 06, and Jacob Fu, Mgt 05, on their recent honeymoon in Fiji.

Look closely at the photos of the beaming bride, and you'll notice her ring finger is bare. In March, Lee walked into a Solomon Brothers jewelry store, with her fiance at her side, and returned her diamond engagement ring. The couple used the money to pay their way on a July mission trip to Haiti with Victory World Church.

During their eight-day stay in Haiti, Lee and Fu distributed food to residents of mountain villages, worked with women in the red light district and visited three orphanages, at which they performed handyman work, built seesaws and played with children. The couple posted pictures from their travels on their blog. There are photos of orphanages in ruins, gravesites for children and tents erected as shelter for those who survived the January earthquake. But there also are photos of smiling children hugging volunteers and clasping balloon animals.

"The devastation was huge, but it was hard to tell how much of the poverty was from the earthquake and how much of it had always been that way. We encountered a lot of tent cities, where entire populations lived in tents. It was supposed to be a temporary solution, but for a nation in such poverty, it becomes the only solution," Lee said.

"A lot of people asked if it felt as if the trip was like throwing a tiny rock into the ocean knowing that there is so much to be done, and not just in Haiti, but all over the world. It's easy to get discouraged, but I genuinely believe that as long as we touched one person's life, we did our part," Fu said.

"In just one week, we fell in love with all the people we met on the trip and left a part of our hearts in Haiti."

The couple returned from the trip just two weeks before their Aug. 6 wedding in Decatur, Ga. And the newlyweds already are planning a second trip to Haiti. To get them there they have started a promotion called Hope for Haiti in which they are offering hour-long portrait sessions for $99 and selling prints from their mission trip.

All proceeds go toward the photographers' next trip to Haiti and to help care for the children they met there.

Upon their return to the states, the couple became sponsors of one of the first orphans they befriended through International Crisis Aid. They said it costs $40 a month to sponsor one child, and they hope to be sponsoring three by the end of the year.

In her blog, Lee wrote, "Giving up my engagement ring to meet these kids was the best decision I ever made. I really don't even think about it anymore."

The couple already have raised more than $1,500. More information may be obtained by e-mailing Fu at jacoboestherjulee.com.
Army Corps during World War II. The book is available as a paperback and an e-book through Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

**Chrstya Stotts**, IE 95, of Centreville, Va., is a software test engineer consulting to the Department of State, at which her husband, Corey Nightengale Sr., is a supervisor. The couple have three children, Tiffany, Corey Jr. and Hayden.

**Jill Tucker Whittington**, MatE 98, is in Texarkana, Texas, where she serves as the executive director of Harvest Texarkana, the food bank responsible for hunger relief for northeast Texas and southwest Arkansas. She and her husband, James, have two sons, Nathan and Seth.

**Wendi Sturgis Yong**, IM 90, was promoted to the head of North American account management for Yahoo! She is responsible for all account management functions for Yahoo! search, display, video and mobile advertising. She previously was a vice president in the strategic partnerships group at Yahoo! in New York City.

### 2000s

**Chinmay S. Bhide**, MS QCF 06, a risk analyst for Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis, has been awarded the chartered financial analyst designation by the CFA Institute. Bhide married Bhagyashri Phansalkar on June 26.

**Ben Entrekin**, ME 02, a professional engineer and certified fire protection specialist, has become the senior fire protection engineer for Kinder Morgan Energy Partners-Products Pipelines. Entrekin is responsible for flammable and combustible liquid code compliance for 38,000 miles of transmission pipeline and 180 bulk-storage facilities in the United States and Canada.

**Conor Flannery**, MS ME 05, completed a 2,500-mile, 133-day trek from Seattle to Anchorage, Alaska, aboard a kayak. Through the trip, which he called Cause to Paddle, he raised $20,000 for MedShare, which distributes medical supplies to poor hospitals and clinics. Flannery, who volunteered with MedShare while a student at Tech, is a medical device design engineer in Los Angeles.

**Rebekah Henry**, Mgt 05, has been named one of “40 Under 40” by Georgia Trend magazine. She is executive director of the Gertrude Herbert Institute of Art in Augusta, Ga., and will complete her MBA at Augusta State University in December.

**Katie Hunley**, CE 06, a senior construction engineer with Juneau Construction Co., has been appointed to the board of trustees of the National Association of Women in Construction Atlanta Scholarship Foundation. Hunley is one of four trustees helping to lead the foundation as it distributes scholarships to women seeking construction-related education. For more information about the foundation or to apply for a scholarship, visit nawicatlantascholarships.org.

**Ryan Kaysen**, ME 05, was promoted to manager in the supply chain management consulting practice of Accenture. Kaysen is based out of Atlanta and currently lives in the Vinings area.

**Lei Deng Lan**, IE 05, MS IE 06, and her husband, **Michael Lan**, BME 04, announce the birth of son Ethan Daniel Lan on Aug. 30.

**Yulong “Clark” Li**, MBA 02, the global investment research director of the Atlanta-based wealth management firm Balentine, twice has spoken at the Shanghai Stock Exchange. He discussed stock index futures in March. In July, he spoke on the application of index futures in the asset management industry. Li served as executive manager of the research department of the Shanghai Stock Exchange before joining Balentine.

**Alison McKelvie**, Arch 04, is in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, working with the United Nations’ volunteer program in its rebuilding efforts. She will be doing AutoCAD work for the infrastructure and building projects of MINUSTAH, the United Nations’ stabilization mission in Haiti.

**Feifei Pan**, PhD CE 02, an assistant professor of geography at the University of North Texas, has been selected to receive one of 32 Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Awards from Oak Ridge Associated Universities. The award will support Pan’s research on “inversely retrieving the spatial variability of soil particle size distribution from remotely sensed soil moisture.”

**Amy Phuong**, IntA 05, has joined the administration of Atlanta’s mayor, Kasim Reed, as the city’s chief service officer. In the new position, funded by a $200,000 grant from the Rockefeller Foundation and Bloomberg Philanthropies, she will direct a plan to increase volunteerism in the city. Phuong has served on the boards of Dad’s Garage Theatre, Keep Atlanta Beautiful and the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta’s Cole Society.

**Greg Popowitz**, ME 02, joined the business litigation group of the law firm of Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart. Popowitz also is a registered patent attorney located in south Florida. He may be contacted at gpopowitz@gunster.com.

**Jonathan Robert Rosenfield**, Phys 08, was awarded master’s degrees in physics and medical physics from the University of Pennsylvania in May. Since graduation, he has worked as a consulting physicist for Life Engineered Antibody Products LLC, a Georgia-based antibody engineering firm, to extend image reconstruction methods for electrical impedance tomography to pathologic systems. A former President’s Scholar at Georgia Tech and fellow of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine, Rosenfield began doctoral studies in medical physics at the University of Chicago this fall.

**Jacquelyn Renee Schneider**, BC 06, was accepted to the University of California, Davis transportation technology and policy doctoral program in the spring and hopes to strengthen the nation’s alternative transportation networks and rejuvenate the urban fabric. She recently worked as an environmental consultant on Capitol Hill, representing the Architect of the Capitol. In 2008, she finished her master’s degree in environmental science and policy at Johns Hopkins University.

**Ginger Tsai**, BME 10, has joined the faculty of Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School in Rabun Gap, Ga. Tsai, who minored in Chinese at Georgia Tech, will teach in the science and language departments.

**Courtney Ratto Wright**, ChE 01, and **Mike Wright**, ChE 00, announce the birth of a son, Wyatt Alexander, on July 21. Wyatt joins sister Savannah at the family’s home in Chattanooga, Tenn.
In Memoriam

1920s

Benson Leeroy Skelton Sr., Cls 27, of Tallahassee, Fla., on Aug. 20 at the age of 105. Mr. Skelton worked for bakery companies in Georgia, Alabama and Florida and eventually became president of the Southern Bakers Association in Atlanta. Mr. Skelton was a life member of the American Society of Bakery Engineers and the American Society of Association Executives. The Georgia Society of Association Executives each year presents an award named in his honor.

1930s

Frampton Erroll Ellis Jr., AE 36, of St. Simons Island, Ga., on Aug. 9. Mr. Ellis retired from the Federal Aviation Administration after serving as director of the Supersonic Transport Office. A member of Chi Phi fraternity while at Georgia Tech, he received a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from Catholic University in Washington, D.C. Mr. Ellis began his career at the Glenn L. Martin Co. in Baltimore and later became dean of engineering at the Aeronautical University of Chicago. He obtained a private pilot’s license in 1942, served as a flight test engineer during World War II and retired as a captain in the Navy Reserve. After the war, he served in the Navy Bureau of Aeronautics' research division and later became director of the weapons systems division. He received a Navy League Medal for his leadership in the development of a vertical-takeoff airplane.

Harold J. Freedman, EE 39, a resident of Great Neck, N.Y., on March 5. During his time at Tech, he was the official motion picture photographer of football games, standing on the rooftop of the west stands. He was active in a New York alumni group. He spent his career in the film industry, working in the sound department of 20th Century Fox before joining Deluxe Laboratories in New York, at which he established the sound department to record magnetic tracks on the Cinemascope prints distributed to theaters. Mr. Freedman was a life fellow of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers and a member of the Will Rogers/Motion Picture Pioneers Foundation. He was commissioned in the Army Signal Corps and served in the North Pacific as a radar and electronics officer aboard the USS Trenton during World War II and received the Bronze Star. He retired from the Navy Reserve as a lieutenant commander.

In 1971, the Mark II received the Meritorious Award for Engineering Innovation at the International Petroleum Exposition. The machine was chosen for permanent exhibition in the Smithsonian during the 1976 bicentennial celebration, according to the 1990 Alumni Magazine article, which said, "Although the pump in the Smithsonian is the smallest unit in the line, it is one of the largest man-made items in the museum."

A native of Tulsa, Okla., Mr. Byrd was a member of the track and cross-country teams at Georgia Tech, as well as the Technique staff and Phi Delta Theta fraternity. As an alumnus, he organized the Georgia Tech Club of Tulsa in 1949.

He worked as a naval architect and marine engineer with the government before resigning in the 1940s to join the Navy. He served in the North Pacific as a radar and electronics officer aboard the USS Trenton during World War II and received the Bronze Star. He retired from the Navy Reserve as a lieutenant commander.

In 2003, he gave Georgia Tech memorial plaques honoring the heroism of the Institute’s four Medal of Honor recipients. The plaques are on display near the plaza entrance of the campus’ Wardlaw Center.

Mr. Byrd, who was a former member of the Georgia Tech National Advisory Board, was inducted into the Institute’s Engineering Hall of Fame in 1994.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Elizabeth Mead Byrd; sons William E. Byrd, JE 69, and Joseph P. Byrd IV; and daughter Susan Merrill.
spent 1942 assigned to the British Royal Air Force to study its development of Identification Friend or Foe. Upon returning to the Signal Corps research laboratories, he was one of the project leaders in the development of IFF for the U.S. Air Corps. Survivors include his brother Irwin B. Freedman, IE 44.

**Samuel R. Phillips**, TE 38, of Peachtree City, Ga., on Sept. 19. Mr. Phillips, who received an advanced management degree from Harvard, was assistant director of the textile division of Uniroyal in New York City and later president of Latex Fiber Industries in Beaver Falls, N.Y. While in Beaver Falls, he served as the Lewis County Chamber of Commerce president. In 1980, he retired to Peachtree City, where he and his wife started a Japanese ministry at their church.

**David Comfort Watkins Sr.**, IM 39, of Charlotte Courthouse, Va., on Aug. 10. He was a founder of Virginia Crafts Inc. and served as its treasurer for more than 20 years. After selling MacDougald Construction Co., participating in the development of the first sections of interstate highways through downtown Atlanta. He was a past president of the Georgia Highway Contractors Association, serving as its treasurer for more than 20 years. After selling MacDougald Construction Co. and subsidiaries in 1977, he stayed on with the new company, APAC, becoming responsible for all operations in Georgia, Alabama and Florida and some large-scale bridge and subway projects in Alabama, Virginia and Maryland. He retired in 1989. Mr. Inman was a member of many organizations, including the Commerce Club, Society of Colonial Wars, 300 Club of Atlanta and the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem. Survivors include grandson Samuel Walker Inman, ME 04.

**Joseph Edmund Mann**, ME 43, of Clinton, Tenn., on Aug. 3. He retired from Martin Marietta in 1984 after working on the development of nuclear cyclotrons, accelerators and reactors and the electron microscope. Following graduation from Tech, Mr. Mann worked at the Y-12 plant in Oak Ridge, Tenn., as part of the war effort and entered the Army Corps of Engineers’ Manhattan District, becoming involved in work essential to production of the atomic bomb.

**Ernest W. “Ernie” Millen**, AE 46, of Newport News, Va., on April 26. A Navy veteran, he worked for NASA’s nuclear research department for 32 years and was the owner and president of Chancelwyn Research and Almega Universal. He enjoyed fishing and playing the violin.

**Murray Stein**, Cls 46, of Rome, Ga., on Sept. 24. He attended Georgia Tech before serving in the Army during World War II. After earning a dental degree from Northwestern University in 1951, he entered into practice in Rome. Dr. Stein was a life member and honorable fellow of the Georgia Dental Association and served as president of the Northwestern Dental Society. He also was a life member of the American Dental Association, American Association of Endodontists, American Academy of Oral Medicine, Alpha Omega Dental fraternity, American College of Dentists, Southern Academy of Oral Surgery and Atlanta Cranial Mandibular Society. He served three terms
Gathered together in California in the early 1990s were, left to right, Bill Moore, Desiree Moore, Bud Parker, Phyllis Rice, Homer Rice and Robin Parker.

Desiree Moore Continued Husband’s Legacy of Giving

When the Bill Moore Student Success Center was dedicated on campus in 1993, the man for whom it was named said, “When I first saw the building, tears came into my eyes.”

Moore’s $5 million contribution, which made the building possible, was at the time the single largest gift given to the Institute from a living alumnus.

After Moore’s death in 2004, his family, guided by his wife of 58 years, Desiree Moore, helped preserve his memory on campus through continuing his philanthropic work to improve athletics and student life.

Desiree “Des” Buchanan Moore, who lived in Woodside, Calif., and served as chair of Kelly-Moore Paint Co. Inc., died Sept. 14. She was 89.

Bill Moore, IM 38, attended Tech on a tennis scholarship. He took on countless odd jobs around campus as a student — including babysitting professors’ children, delivering mail to dormitories and working as a soda jerk at the Robbery — to cover living expenses and help pay for his younger sister’s college tuition.

But the student who struggled to make ends meet went on to co-found Kelly-Moore Paint Co., which eventually became the largest privately held company in the country. In addition to his philanthropic contributions, he also gave back to his alma mater through service on boards and committees over the years. In 1988, the campus’ tennis center was named for Moore, a member of the Georgia Tech Athletics Hall of Fame who as a star tennis player lost only one singles match in his collegiate career.

Upon the Student Success Center’s dedication, he said, “It’s a tremendous achievement for me to be associated with this at all. I feel like I owe Tech a lot, and this is the way I have been able to repay part of it. Without Tech I would not have had an education.”

It was during the closing days of World War II that Moore met his future wife. A Long Island native, she was working with the Red Cross in Honolulu. A naval officer stationed in the South Pacific on a destroyer, Moore was in Hawaii on shore leave.

In a 2009 article for the Athletic Association’s magazine, The Buzz, Mrs. Moore recalled how she first refused a friend’s offer to arrange her a date with the naval officer. But when she later met Moore at a dance, she was struck by how handsome he was. They had their first date over free ice cream and movies at the commissary. The couple were married July 18, 1946, and settled in California.

In the years following her husband’s death, Mrs. Moore created the William E. Moore Athletic Scholarship endowment at Georgia Tech and a support fund for the tennis center. And following Tech’s first NCAA championship win by the women’s tennis team in 2007, she and her children, daughter Chris McCall and son William Moore II, made a seven-figure gift to endow the Moore Family Scholarship Fund for women’s tennis.

Mrs. Moore later made gifts to fund expansion of the Bill Moore Tennis Center and new lighting for outdoor courts.

“It’s all because of Bill,” she told The Buzz, “Georgia Tech meant a great deal, and I want to continue in any way that I can.”

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the Institute, Mrs. Moore was named an honorary alumna of Georgia Tech at the Alumni Association’s Gold & White Honors ceremony earlier this year.
as president of Rodeph Sholom Congregation and served on the board of directors and taught in the religious school. He also served as president of the Rome chapter of B’nai B’rith and on the advisory committee for the Georgia Holocaust Commission. He was appointed by then-Gov. Jimmy Carter to the State Board of Dentistry, on which he served for more than five years, the last year as president of the Board of Examiners.

James Edward Stitt, EE 47, of Anniston, Ala., on Aug. 15. He was chairman or co-authored several textbooks; and served as editor of the Journal of Quality Technology. He received numerous awards and honors, as president of the Rome chapter of B’nai B’rith and on the advisory committee for the Georgia Holocaust Commission. He was appointed by then-Gov. Jimmy Carter to the State Board of Dentistry, on which he served for more than five years, the last year as president of the Board of Examiners.

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Martin Lewis Wakefield, IM 47, of Anniston, Ala., on Aug. 15. He was chairman of the board and CEO of Wakefield’s Inc., a chain of family clothing stores throughout northern Alabama. Mr. Wakefield returned to his hometown of Anniston after graduating from Tech to work with his father at Wakefield's, a men’s clothing store, and later expanded it to include women’s and children’s clothing. He opened the first Martin’s Family Clothing store in 1961 and over the years operated nine Martin’s stores in addition to the original Wakefield’s. He served on the board of Regions Bank and as chairman of the retail merchants division of the Anniston Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Wakefield attended Georgia Tech on a football scholarship and was a member of the Sugar Bowl championship team of 1944. He also was a member of ROTC, earning his commission in the Navy in 1944. During World War II, he served in southern France and in the Pacific aboard the USS Raymond during the invasion of Okinawa, achieving the rank of lieutenant junior grade. Memorials in his name may be made to the Alexander-Tharpe Fund, Georgia Tech Athletic Association, 150 Bobby Dodd Way N.W., Atlanta, GA 30332-0455 for the Martin L. Wakefield Athletic Scholarship.

Frank Harrison Wallace, IE 47, of Lancaster, S.C., in September. During his career, Mr. Wallace worked at Springs Industries, Springs Mills and M. Lowenstein & Sons. He was an accomplished wood-carver and furniture maker and won several awards at arts shows. He was a member of the St. Andrew’s Society of Columbia and the Rock Hill Elks Club, at which he was a past exalted ruler of the lodge and member of the ritual team. He served as a deacon and an elder at his church.

Joel Quitman "J.Q." Williams, MS Phys 48, of Marietta, Ga., on Sept. 7. After receiving a PhD in physics from Duke University in 1951, Dr. Williams returned to Tech to teach astronomy, electronics and physics. Following retirement in 1983, he was a volunteer with the Fernbank Museum. He attended Centenary College before serving as an electronics officer in the Army Air Forces during World War II. Memorials in his name may be made to the Georgia Tech Foundation for the J.Q. Williams Memorial Fund.

Ralston Brockinton Woods, IM 47, of Atlanta, on Aug. 29. He served in the Navy during World War I and in the Korean War. After joining the Lockheed Corp., he attended night classes at the Atlanta Law School and received a law degree in 1956.

1950s

Michael Cady, Chem 55, of Buford, Ga., on Aug. 26. During his career, Mr. Cady was co-owner and president of Pet Village, Richway Pet World, Precision Builders, Olympic Swimmers, Cady Management and K-D Farms. He helped found the Pet Industry Association of Georgia and served as its president for many years. From 1966 to 1970, he trained and flew the Atlanta Falcons mascot. Mr. Cady served four years as a lieutenant in the Army after graduating from Tech, at which he lettered in track and served as a member of the student council, president of his class and president of Sigma Chi. He was a board member of the Georgia Tech Executive Roundtable from 1995 to 99.

Isaac Sewell "Ike" Camp, IM 50, a resident of Camden, S.C., on Sept. 6. He began work for E.I. du Pont at the Savannah River Plant and transferred to the May Plant in Camden in 1966. He retired in 1984. A member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity at Georgia Tech, he served in the Army and was stationed at Aberdeen, Md., Huntsville, Ala., and White Sands Proving Ground, N.M., attaining the rank of first lieutenant. He was a volunteer with the Boy Scouts and Junior Achievement. He read to young schoolchildren and was a mentor to older children. He also served as a docent at the South Carolina State Museum and was a lay leader and Sunday school teacher at his church.

Charles W. Farr, Cls 55, of Chesapeake, Va., on Aug. 26. Mr. Farr retired from IBM in 1989. He was a member of the Great Bridge Senior and Sassy Senior clubs.

Walter Bennett "Ben" Gentry Jr., ME 53, a resident of Richmond, Va., on Aug. 26. During his career, Mr. Gentry served in the Army Signal Corps during World War II. After training at the radar school in Florida, he was deployed to North Africa to help install relay stations for Allied troops. He was an accomplished wood-carver and furniture maker and won several awards at arts shows. He was a member of the St. Andrews Society of Columbia and the Rock Hill Elks Club, at which he was a past exalted ruler of the lodge and member of the ritual team. He served as a deacon and an elder at his church.

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Ralston Brockinton Woods, IM 47, of Atlanta, on Aug. 29. He served in the Navy during World War II and in the Korean War. After joining the Lockheed Corp., he attended night classes at the Atlanta Law School and received a law degree in 1956.
Kappa Phi fraternity while at Tech, he also was a member of the Pershing Rifles and a life member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He served in the Army Reserve for 28 years, retiring as a lieutenant colonel.

Jimmy Hill, IE 53, of Greenville, Ga., on Sept. 8. After graduating from Georgia Tech, he began a more than 30-year career with U.S. Steel during which he served as general superintendent of a plant in Birmingham, Ala., and the Homestead Works in Pittsburgh and as vice president of operations. He retired in 1984 as executive vice president. He served in World War II with a tour of duty in the Army of Occupation in Japan in 1945-46. He was a member of the AmSouth Bank Corp. board of directors from 1983 to '88. In the early 1990s, he acquired controlling interest in Greenville Banking Co. He served as chairman of its board until he became ill. He was a member of American Legion Post 186. He served many years on Meriwether County's zoning appeals board and was a past trustee of the Roosevelt Warm Springs Rehabilitation Development Fund Inc.

Charles W. Hutchins Jr., CE 54, of Sandy Springs, Ga., on Aug. 2. Mr. Hutchins was an aeronautical engineer with Lockheed for 40 years. He was a member of the Society of Allied Weight Engineers and a deacon and Sunday school teacher at his church. He had attended every Georgia Tech home football game since 1949.

Richard Wayne Jennings, IM 59, of Augusta, Ga., on Sept. 15. He received a master's degree from Augusta College and was past president of the college's alumni association. He was past chairman of the administrative board of trustees, finance committee and mission committee at his church; a Paul Harris fellow with the Augusta West Rotary Club; a member of Delta Tau Delta fraternity; and grand treasurer of the Order of St. John.

Francis Milton "Milt" Jessup Jr., IE 51, of Birmingham, Ala., on Sept. 27. Dr. Jessup had a 32-year career with Southern Natural Gas Co. After retiring from Sonat in 1983, he taught economics at Samford University and then statistics and economics at Wallace State Community College until 1992. Dr. Jessup received an MBA from Samford in 1971 and a PhD in public administration from Nova University in 1979 at the age of 56. Dr. Jessup joined the Army Air Corps in 1942 and served in the Pacific theater in the 458th Bombardment Squadron until the end of World War II. He enjoyed studying the Bible and just a few months before his death completed a 300-page book, which included his thoughts on the Bible.

Roy Woody Johnson Jr., ME 53, a resident of Greenwood, S.C., on Sept. 9. Upon graduation from Georgia Tech, he reported to Fort Bragg, N.C., where he served as the officer in charge of the dining facility. Mr. Johnson completed his tour of service working with the Army Chemical Corps in Edgewood, Md. Mr. Johnson then began a long career with the Trane Co., specializing in sales of heating and air conditioning systems. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity at Tech, Mr. Johnson was an Eagle Scout and Boy Scout leader. He enjoyed camping, canoeing and bird watching and played softball for the 200s in Kirkwood, Mo., for more than 25 years.

Foy Edmond Johnston Jr., Cls 56, of Bear, Del., formerly of Tucker, Ga., on Sept. 15. Mr. Johnston retired from Simons-Eastern Co. of Atlanta as supervising field engineer on major industrial construction projects. A 58-year master Mason, Mr. Johnston was a member of Masonic Lodge No. 42 of Tucker, Metro-Daylight Masonic Lodge No. 743 of Chamblee and the Knights Templar in the York Rite Atlanta area. He also was a 32-degree Scottish Rite Mason and a noble in the Yaarab Shrine of Atlanta. He was a life member of the National Model Railroad Association and National Rifle Association. Survivors include his son Foy E. "Eddie" Johnston III, ChE 75.

Joseph E. Lavelle Jr., AE 53, of Sudbury, Mass., on Aug. 1. Mr. Lavelle retired from a 36-year career with Textron Systems in 2007 at the age of 76. He served as president of the New England section of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics from 1964 to '66 and was a longtime member of the Air Force Association. He was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox and Celtics in addition to the Yellow Jackets.

John Venable Linn Jr., Text 56, of Cartersville, Ga., on Sept. 9. He had a 21-year career with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. before teaching textile engineering and related courses at Southern Polytechnic State University and Georgia Tech. He also worked as a quality and productivity consultant. He served as an officer in the Navy and as a deacon and an elder at various churches. He was an Eagle Scout and a licensed pilot.

John MacPherson, ChE 53, MS ChE 59, of Gulf Breeze, Fla., on Aug. 4, after a seven-year battle with cancer. After retiring from a 37-year career as an engineering consultant and a manufacturing technologist with Monsanto/Solutia, he served as a process control consultant for Don Stuart & Associates. He received a master's degree in systems analysis from the University of West Florida and served 30 years in the Navy on active duty and in the Reserve, retiring as a captain. During the early 1980s, he served on the founding committee and board of directors of Hospice of Northwest Florida. He was a board member and former treasurer of the Pensacola Council of the Navy League, a member of the Gulf Breeze Rotary Club and a Paul Harris fellow. He enjoyed sailboat racing and in retirement sailed to the Bahamas, Bermuda, the Caribbean Islands, Venezuela and Trinidad. He served two years as commodore of the Pensacola Yacht Club and was a member of the Florida Commodores Association. He also was a member and former officer of the Emerald Coast Georgia Tech Club.

Eugene A. "Gene" Mann, CE 56, of Eastman, Ga., on Aug. 8. Mr. Mann was the former owner and operator of E.A. Mann & Co. Inc. He was named a Paul Harris fellow by the Rotarians and in 2007 received a lifetime achievement award from the Georgia Highway Contractors Association, of which he was a former director and past president. A Navy veteran, he served aboard the USS Bunker Hill during World War II.

John W. Marbut Jr., IM 56, of Macon, Ga., on Sept. 20. Following service in the Navy, he moved to Macon and began working for Marbut and Co., at which he later became president. He served on the boards of directors of the Macon chapter of the American Red Cross, the Georgia Industrial Home and
C&S Bank of Atlanta and on the vestry and committees at his church. Mr. Marbut was an Eagle Scout, a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity at Tech and a member of the Young Presidents' Organization. An avid golfer, he belonged to several golf clubs and served on the planning committee of the Walker Cup when it came to Atlanta.

James Marvin "Jim" McCleskey Jr., ME 59, of Leeds, Ala., on Sept. 15. He began working with U.S. Steel as a co-op student at Tech and retired from the company after 45 years of service. He served as a drill sergeant in the Army at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and Fort Belvoir, Va. He was a deacon at his church and a member of the Sunshine Singers.

Clyde Orr Jr., PhD ChE 53, of Dunwoody, Ga., on Sept. 15. Dr. Orr retired from Georgia Tech in 1979 to dedicate his efforts to the Gwinnett County-based Micromeritics Instrument Corp., a company he co-founded in 1962 with another Tech researcher, Warren P. Hendrix, after the two developed a method and device to determine surface area and pore volume of materials. In the Fall 1999 issue of Georgia Tech's Research Horizons, the invention was listed by faculty and administrators as one of the "significant contributions made by Georgia Tech researchers in the 20th century." Dr. Orr served as board chairman of Micromeritics, which now has annual sales topping $50 million and offices in Germany, France, Italy, Japan, China and the United Kingdom, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported. Dr. Orr received bachelor's and master's degrees in chemical engineering from the University of Tennessee and served in the Navy during World War II. After receiving his doctorate, he stayed on at Tech to work in research positions in the Engineering Experiment Station and teach chemical engineering. In 1962 he became a full professor and in 1966 was named a Regents' professor. Dr. Orr was inducted into the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame in 1995.

David Elliott Pinkston, IE 57, of Macon, Ga., on Aug. 2. After retiring as general manager of the Macon Water Authority in 1981, he played golf, volunteered with Meals on Wheels and Mercer University's English Language Institute, traveled with his wife and spent time with his grandchildren. Mr. Pinkston, who served in the Air Force from 1951 to '55, flew fighter planes on night intruder missions while stationed in South Korea during the Korean War.

Joseph William "Jay" Rabern, ChE 51, of Brigham City, Utah, on Nov. 21, 2007. He enlisted in the Navy in 1943 and served as an electronic technician's mate onboard the USS Wasatch during World War II. He worked for Thiokol Chemical Corp. for 27 years, retiring in 1987. He was active in the Brigham City Jeep Patrol for many years. Survivors include his brother Thomas J. Rabern, IM 58.

Glover Mood Robinson Jr., ME 56, of Cocoa, Fla., on Aug. 22. He began working for the Missile Firing Lab of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency in 1959 and later worked as a ground operations engineer for NASA at the Kennedy Space Center on the Redstone, Jupiter, Saturn I and IB, Apollo/Saturn V, Skylab and space shuttle programs. He was active in the Boy Scouts growing up and attained the rank of Eagle Scout with gold palm. He received a master's degree from the University of Central Florida and was stationed at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., while serving in the Army.

Robert P. Scott Jr., CE 51, a resident of Signal Mountain, Tenn., on Feb. 16. A Navy veteran and a member of Sigma Chi fraternity at Georgia Tech, Mr. Scott was president of R.P. Scott Contracting Co.

J. Frank Smith Jr., IM 55, of Atlanta, on Oct. 2. Mr. Smith worked in executive sales and management with IBM, receiving numerous One Hundred Percent Club awards during his time with the company. In the early 1970s, he was one of the founders of Computer Management Inc. He later held executive sales positions in information technology with American Software and General Electric. He also co-founded the University Financing Foundation, a nonprofit dedicated to helping universities obtain capital funding for campus development projects. Mr. Smith, who was a member and president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity while at Tech, served as president of the National Alumni Association in 1979-80 and as a trustee of the Georgia Tech Foundation. The College of Management awarded him its Distinguished Alumni Award. He also served as chair of the Georgia Tech Facilities Corp. During the 1970s, Mr. Smith was a board member of the Atlanta Public Schools and Citizens for Better Government, president of the Northside Kiwanis Club, chairman of the Metropolitan Atlanta YMCA and director and vice president of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. Memorials in his name may be made to the Georgia Tech Foundation.

Robert M. Stamps II, IM 53, of Cleveland, Ga., on Aug. 6. He was a retired Navy lieutenant commander.

Richard Bruce Stewart, IE 51, of Decatur, Ga., on Sept. 27. He served in the Army during World War II and worked for Lockheed Aircraft, from which he retired in 1988 after 34 years with the company. He served in the Army Air Corps from 1944 to 1946. In retirement, he volunteered with Gideon's International and made several trips to the Caribbean islands to place scriptures in schools and jails.

Edwin Bennett Upchurch, IE 51, of Decatur, Ga., on Sept. 4. He was employed by the Ohio Department of Transportation for 42 years, retiring from the District 9 office after serving more than nine years as deputy director. He served as a first lieutenant in the Army. He was a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers and Ohio Society of Professional Engineers; the board of directors of the American Red Cross; and several bridge clubs. He was active in the YMCA Indian Guides program and the Boy Scouts, serving at the pack and council levels and as assistant Scoutmaster of Troop 3. He and his wife were active participants in the Belles and Beaus Square Dance Club. Survivors include his son Michael Watkins, M Arch 08.

Carl Arthur Weston Jr., ME 54, a resident of Monett, Mo., on July 14. A member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Georgia Tech,
Mr. Weston earned a master's degree from MIT and spent his career working as a metallurgical engineer.

James William “Bill” Whitaker Sr., IM 53, of Dawson, Ga., on Aug. 1. A resident of Terrell County since 1952, Mr. Whitaker had served as president of Terrell County Tractor Co., Farmers Gin, Georgia Cotton Co., Standard Oil of Dawson and Georgia Tractor and Implement Co. He served on the boards of the Federal Land Bank, Bank of Terrell, Albany Oil Mill and Chem Nut of Georgia and was a member and past president of the Rotary Club. A member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity while at Tech, he served as a master sergeant in the Army Combat Engineers during the Korean War.

Floyd Eric Williams Jr., MS CE 50, of Pineville, N.C., on Sept. 18. He worked for Monsanto and later for Springs Industries, from which he retired in 1988. He served in the Marine Corps during World War II and graduated from The Citadel.

1960s

Leigh Robert Burns Jr., AE 68, of Troy, Ill., on Sept. 1. Mr. Burns began his career at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft and spent the past 19 years working as a mechanical engineer for Hunter Engineering in Bridgeport, Mo. He was active with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Boy Scouts of America.

Louis P. de Give, IM 60, of Saratoga, Calif., on March 25. He retired from Hewlett-Packard.

William “Hoyt” Ford, MS EM 62, of Charlotte, N.C., on Aug. 13. He worked for Lockheed Aircraft Corp. as an engineer and, for a time, was on loan to the Atomic Energy Commission for a special assignment. Following retirement, he taught mathematics at Ogletorpe University in Atlanta. A World War II veteran, he graduated from the Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y., and received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from New York University.

H. Richard “Dick” Freeland, EE 64, of Naples, Fla., on Sept. 4. He worked for Digital, Wang Laboratories and the SCM Corp. before serving as president of Computer Preferred Inc. of Schiller Park, Ill., from 1983 to 1985. He then ventured out on his own, becoming a computer support manager and supplier. In Naples, he was a computer administrator for the New England Insurance Agency and later a licensed sales assistant for Premier Properties. He served in the Air Force with the 442nd Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

James Rush Freeman, ME 66, of Phoenix, on Aug. 4. After graduating from Tech, he received an MBA from Harvard Business School and served two years in Vietnam as a second lieutenant in the Army. A residential and multifamily home builder, he was a regional partner of Lincoln Property Co., CEO of Gemini Development and president of Keepsake Homes during his career. He served on boards for the Phoenix Symphony and Harvard Business School alumni in addition to those for Junior Achievement and the Arizona Multihousing Association, both of which he also chaired. He also was active in Habitat for Humanity. A pilot of 38 years, he earned single-engine, IFR and multiengine ratings.

Andrew D. Harris, Phys 61, of Woodbridge, Va., on July 28. A Marine, he served in Okinawa and volunteered for a tour in Vietnam. He played guitar, sang in his church choir and was a certified lay minister and a ham radio operator. An Eagle Scout in his youth, he later served as a Scoutmaster.

Roy T.Y. Liang, MS CE 60, of Norcross, Ga., on May 16. Mr. Liang graduated from the civil engineering department of St. John’s University, Shanghai, in 1943.

Joe McCurdy, IE 67, of Richardson, Texas, on Sept. 21. Mr. McCurdy was an engineer with E-Systems’ Garland Division.

William H. “Bill” Nessmith, IM 65, of Atlanta, on Aug. 10, after a battle with acute myeloid leukemia. Mr. Nessmith worked for Avon Products before taking over his father’s insurance business, which he ran for 20 years in Bulloch County. He became consulting for Cotton States Insurance in 1987 and consulted on various business projects until his death. Before graduating from Georgia Tech, he served in an intelligence capacity with the Army in Africa, during which time he climbed Mount Kilimanjaro.

Herbert Judson Pugh Jr., IE 69, of Bumpass, Va., on Sept. 12. He served in the Navy and was a farmer.

Robert Isaac Schwartz, AMath 68, of Marietta, Ga., on Aug. 15. A member of Alpha Epsilon Pi while at Georgia Tech, Mr. Schwartz received a master’s degree in statistics from the University of Georgia in 1971. He worked for 24 years at Kenwin Shops Inc., serving as vice president and assistant treasurer and as president. Mr. Schwartz also served on the company’s board of directors. He retired after working as a network technician for New Energy/Ventyx.

Roger Wheatley Sudbury, EE 60, a resident of Winchester, Mass., on Aug. 22, after living for many years with pancreatic cancer. Also an MIT graduate, he was a longtime employee of the MIT Lincoln Laboratory, at which he rose from a technical staff member, researching solid-state devices for modern radars, to executive officer in his 41 years there. From 1976 to 1978, he served as the lab’s associate site manager of the Kwajalein missile range in the Marshall Islands. An asteroid discovered by the lab in 2002 was named for him. In 2004, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers elected him a fellow for his contributions to leadership in gallium-arsenide integrated circuits. He served as president of IEEE’s Microwave Theory and Techniques Society, which this year presented him its distinguished service award. He served in the Army during the Vietnam era, attaining the rank of captain. He also served as chairman of Boy Scout Troop 506, a lighting technician for the Winchester Players and an emeritus board member of the Winchester Committee for a Better Chance.

1970s

Ken Rogers, MS ChE 70, PhD ChE 73, of Marietta, Ga., on Sept. 17. Dr. Rogers, who received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Northwestern University, held a professional engineering license for most of his career, during which he worked in both the public and private sectors. He served with the 11th Airborne Infantry Division from 1946 to 47 during the occupation of Japan.
Robert Malcolm Semmes, MS ICS 77, of Minneapolis, on Sept. 6, after a long battle with cancer. Mr. Semmes, who received a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Emory University, moved to San Francisco and worked in computer programming for Bank of America after graduating from Tech. He moved to Minneapolis in 1982 to pursue research at the University of Minnesota and an advanced degree in psychometrics and statistics. His research involved detailed aspects of intelligence testing. He was a member of the American Psychological Association, American Statistical Association and the Psychometric Society.

Brian Bethea Smith, M Arch 79, of Atlanta, and Beaufort, S.C., on Aug. 20, after a nine-month battle with lung cancer. Mr. Smith, who earned a bachelor’s degree in architecture from Clemson University, worked for Niles Bolton Associates in Atlanta for 10 years as a lead designer and manager for such clients as Post Properties, Selig Enterprises and Julian LeCraw Co. He started his own firm in 1991. He focused on new custom home construction and major renovations and received numerous awards for his designs. His work has been featured on HGTV.

Addison Dent Sullivan, Text 70, a resident of Lenoir, N.C., on Feb. 1.

1990s

Eugene David Schmitt, MS ME 97, of Hampton, Ga., on Aug. 13. He was active in the Catholic Church and was a fourth-degree member of the Knights of Columbus.

2000s

Eric S. Obermann, Cls 04, of Huntsville, Ala., on Aug. 10, after a 10-year battle with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig’s disease. Mr. Obermann was diagnosed with the disease during his freshman year at Georgia Tech, where he studied computer science and played in the symphonic band. He helped raise awareness about the disease and funding to help pay for services for patients and research for a cure. He participated in more than 10 Walk to Defeat ALS events in Alabama and traveled to Washington, D.C., every May to meet with congressmen and attend ALS Advocacy Day. He testified before a U.S. Senate subcommittee hearing on ALS in 2005. He received a commendation from the governor of Alabama for his efforts and honors from the ALS Association for his advocacy work.

Friends

Rebecca “Becky” Jacobs Barlow, of Jackson, Miss., on Sept. 19. Mrs. Barlow’s survivors include her husband of 58 years, Charles C. Barlow, BS 52, Arch 53. Her family wrote in an obituary published in the Clarion-Ledger that although Mrs. Barlow was a graduate of Central High in Jackson, “her most cherished academic achievement was an honorary PHT degree,” or a “put hubby through” degree, that she received from Georgia Tech.

James L. Caldwell, 79, of Monroe, La., on Aug. 7. Dr. Caldwell taught finance at Georgia Tech in the 1960s and retired from the University of Louisiana at Monroe as professor emeritus. He participated in many trips through the Georgia Tech Alumni Association’s Travel program.

Hasson Calloway, 93, of Atlanta, on Aug. 9. After retiring from Eastern Air Lines as senior Atlanta captain on the Lockheed 1011 in 1977, he began a 13-year career at the Georgia Tech Engineering Experiment Station, now GTRI, as chief pilot for the Institute’s Airborne Electronics Laboratories. Capt. Calloway, who overcame polio as a child, earned a pilot’s license at 17. A graduate of Oak Ridge Military Academy in North Carolina, he joined Eastern Air Lines and was recruited by the government to fly military air transport in South America during World War II. In 1959, he and three friends founded the Arlington School, now Arlington Christian School, in Fairburn, Ga. He served as the first president of its board of directors. Capt. Calloway was a member of the Retired Eastern Air Lines Pilots Association, Experimental Aircraft Association and Quiet Birdmen. He built two aerobatic airplanes and painted aviation portraits that have been displayed at museums. He continued to fly until age 90, recording more than 35,000 hours of flight time in his logbook.

James Beaupre Dodd, 83, a resident of Atlanta, on Sept. 20. He retired from Georgia Tech in 1997 after 30 years at the Institute. He received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in English from Southern Illinois University and a master’s in library science from the University of Illinois. He was active in the Special Libraries Association, serving as national president from 1980 to ’81. For many years, he was a volunteer with Public Broadcasting Atlanta in support of WABE National Public Radio.

Jane Gaines, of Braselton, Ga., on Sept. 6. After graduating from Tift College in Forsyth, Ga., in 1949, she taught school in Columbus, where she met her husband of 47 years, Deane Gaines, ME 48. Mrs. Gaines was preceded in death by her husband, who had been a football letterman at Georgia Tech. She became a loyal fan of the Tech athletics program and attended football and basketball games from the late 1950s until her illness in 2009. Survivors include sons Dale Gaines, ME 74, and Jack Gaines, IM 79.

Patricia Murphey Huskisson, 82, of Savannah, Ga., on Aug. 30. She attended the University of Georgia and Harrison-Draughon School of Commerce before working at Georgia Tech as secretary to the dean of students. While at Tech, she was named Valentine Queen by the Technique and met and married John C. Huskisson Jr., IM 51. Mr. Huskisson died May 30.

James H. “Jim” Milsap Jr., 77, of Atlanta, on Aug. 16. He served as a captain and chief of radiology in the Army and received the Army Commendation Medal before going into private practice at DeKalb General and later Piedmont Hospital. In 30 years with Piedmont, Dr. Milsap served as president of Radiology Associates of Atlanta, director of Piedmont Hospital Radiology School and medical director of the radiology department. He became a fellow of the American College of Radiology in 1984. Dr. Milsap was chief radiologist for the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and then served as chief radiologist at the Georgia Tech Student Health Center. A musician, he played the upright bass and for many years performed with the Atlanta Seventeen Orchestra.
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Bill Ransom is a graduate of The Georgia Institute of Technology with a degree in industrial engineering, and a former track and field school record holder. He is a REALTOR and founding partner of Atlanta Fine Homes Sotheby's International Realty. Bill specializes in properties in Brookhaven, Buckhead, Sandy Springs, Chastain Park, North Buckhead, Vinings and many other neighborhoods throughout metro Atlanta.

Stephanie Nuesse is currently the Branch Manager for Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, in their Buckhead Branch. She has been in the mortgage lending community since 1985 in Atlanta.

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More Thrills Promised in New Basketball Pavilion

At the completion of the 2010-11 men's and women's basketball seasons, the 50-plus-year-old Alexander Memorial Coliseum will be completely replaced with one significant and highly visible exception: Those characteristic steel girders that have defined the “Thriller Dome” for so many years will remain and be prominently featured.

A new building on the northeast corner of the Georgia Tech campus, anticipated to cost about $45 million, will be built around the girders.

The Hank McCamish Pavilion is estimated to be completed in time for the 2012-13 basketball season.

“There’s been a convergence of factors that have helped us to decide to take on a project of this magnitude. First and foremost, the family of one of Tech’s great alumni, Hank McCamish, IM 50, was looking for an opportunity to honor Hank," said Dan Radakovich, director of Athletics.

Athletics senior development officer Jim Hall, working with Steve Merlin and Gordon Beckham of the McCamish family, developed a number of ideas for philanthropic support. The idea of replacing Tech’s main basketball facility was “out of the box,” Radakovich said, but one that the family embraced to the tune of a $15 million gift to Georgia Tech Athletics.

The lead gift from the McCamish family was transformational, but there were other critical factors that contributed to the decision to replace the facility, Radakovich said.

First among these was a recent study indicating that repair and maintenance of the existing coliseum would cost more than $20 million over the next 10 years, with more than $10 million of that required for safety and required maintenance in the next five years.

Radakovich said required maintenance projects would include replacement of the HVAC plant and systems, repair and replacement of the roof and reconfiguration of the interior in response to life-safety issues.

“It is exceedingly difficult if not impossible to successfully raise funds for repair and maintenance issues,” Radakovich noted.

He said the current environment for total building replacement is favorable in a couple of other significant ways. The recession has caused enormous retraction in the building trades, and there are high-quality construction firms and suppliers looking for projects, making construction costs very competitive.

If there is indeed a time to “get more for your money,” it’s today, Radakovich said.

Long-term interest rates also are at near-historical lows. And refinancing some higher interest-bearing debt into a new bond issue to include the facility means the project can be completed without increasing the Athletic Association’s annual debt service.

Key to the plan is to leverage the McCamish gift and other capital gifts that the Athletic Association has obtained into a separate facilities investment portfolio managed by the Georgia Tech Foundation to help fund the debt service, Radakovich said.

“Recognizing that we have to commit significant funds to the existing facility anyway, coupled with these factors, led us to the conclusion that this is the right time to do this and has set the stage for this project to go forward,” he said.
“While putting bandages on the old facility was always an option, when these factors all aligned, it was clearly a good decision for Tech to move forward with major changes,” Radakovich said. “Men’s and women’s basketball are the most visible users of the new facility, but commencements, speakers and other events will also take place in the new building.

“It’s not being built as a concert venue though,” Radakovich said. “The costs and infrastructure required to compete in that arena in the metro Atlanta market are incompatible with Georgia Tech’s plans, desires or financial palate.”

The winning design concept was presented by Populous and Whiting-Turner. The corner of 10th and Fowler streets is one of Tech’s signature gateways, and the new building is designed to serve as a striking and an impressive northeast entry to campus.

The planned seating capacity will remain about 9,000 on two levels. An open concourse will surround the seating area. While it won’t extend all the way around, it will be easier to navigate the building than with the current walled division of concourse and stadia. The seating bowl will feature handrails in every aisle and be completely accessible to the disabled.

There will be both lower and upper decks, and all seats will have chair backs. The sight-line distance from each seat to center court will improve significantly. A large video scoreboard will hover over center court as well.

“The excitement on the floor will be clearly felt on the concourse,” Radakovich said.

No individual suites will be included in the design, although there will be a large 5,000-square-foot club available to donors and special guests on the east side of the lower deck.

The configuration virtually guarantees a home-court advantage reminiscent of the old Thriller Dome days, Radakovich said, and the fan experience will be enhanced substantially as a result.

It was important to Radakovich to reach out to remaining members of the William Alexander family when discussion of the new building began.

“Coach Alexander was one of Tech’s earliest leaders and coached one of our national champions in football. Recognizing this, a courtyard on the outside of the new arena will be built called the Alexander Memorial Courtyard. Students will enter through this courtyard at their gate. The courtyard will recognize coach William Alexander as one of our early athletic leaders as well as the many historical events that took place in the old Alexander Memorial Coliseum — the hundreds of basketball games, the commencements, the ‘96 Olympic boxing competition and others,” Radakovich said.

The Board of Regents approved the project at its October meeting. Bonds will be issued in December, with the proceeds residing in a Georgia Tech Foundation fund for investment and distribution as construction proceeds.

Construction will begin after the 2010-11 season and continue until October 2012. The 2011-12 men’s and women’s basketball seasons will be played off site. A final determination of location will come in the spring.

Radakovich and his team are trying to optimize the home schedule. Eight ACC games must be played for each sport as well as other obligations like the ACC-Big 10 Challenge. Twenty-four men’s and women’s games likely will be played at other venues.

This season, basketball ticket holders will see a variety of materials on display at the coliseum that will showcase the new facility. Seating conversion plans will be developed in 2011 and finalized in early 2012, Radakovich said. “Past season ticket purchases as well as Alexander-Tharpe Fund points will play a key role in those conversion plans.

“The Athletic Association is grateful for past support and knows that the new building will enhance the tradition of Tech basketball for the next 50 years,” Radakovich said.
Brock Family Gift Paves Way for Indoor Practice Facility

Georgia Tech's football program will have an indoor practice facility thanks to a commitment from Mary R. and John F. Brock III, ChE 70, MS ChE 71. An 80,000-square-foot facility will be built on the current site of Rose Bowl Field, Tech's current practice facility off of Fowler Street. The cost of the facility is estimated at between $6 million and $7 million, and the Brocks have committed to fund half the total project cost, up to $3.5 million.

"Early in coach Paul Johnson's tenure, we discussed the importance of having a place where the team could practice away from the elements," Athletics director Dan Radakovich said. "There have been times recently when we have used the Georgia Dome or the Falcons' practice facility in Flowery Branch for practice, but it has become increasingly difficult for us to utilize those spaces efficiently.

"This new facility will provide us with significantly more efficiency in scheduling our practice sessions," Radakovich said.

Johnson knows the impact that the facility can have on the football program.

"Having a new facility will give us many more options," Johnson said. "Throughout the year, we have thunderstorms that make it unsafe to practice outdoors, and Atlanta summers are well known for their incredible heat. This new facility will prevent any disruption of our practice routine. It will also significantly help with recruiting."

Construction is expected to begin in early 2011 and be completed in time for preseason practice next August.

"We are confident that our gift will encourage other alumni to provide additional financial giving across both academic and athletic opportunities," said Brock, chairman and CEO of Atlanta-based Coca-Cola Enterprises. "For many years, Georgia Tech football has been a tremendous source of pride and enjoyment for Mary and me, and we look forward to its continued winning program."

A member of both the Georgia Tech Foundation and the Alexander-Tharpe Fund boards, Brock also chaired his 40th reunion committee this year.

He previously served as a member of the Georgia Tech Advisory Board and his 25th reunion committee, and he was named a College of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus in 1996.

Brock also recently provided funding for two Georgia Research Alliance chairs and eminent scholars in cancer research at both Georgia Tech and Emory University.

Additionally, the Brocks have established the Brock Family Fund, which supports the Child and Adolescent Mood Disorder Program at Emory, and an undergraduate scholarship for the Georgia Tech School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering.

"John and Mary Brock are tremendous friends of Georgia Tech and its athletic program," said Radakovich. "They genuinely enjoy supporting our athletes and watching them compete. We are elated that they have chosen to build this state-of-the-art facility on our campus."
Kuchar Enjoys Best Year as a Pro

Matt Kuchar, Mgt 00, has had a successful if not superlative career in the PGA Tour since graduating from Tech, at least until this year.

During the 2010 FedEx Cup season, Kuchar was one of golf's most consistent players in a dominant run — he boasted a 69.59 scoring average — that eventually fell just short of the FedEx Cup.

Kuchar had led the FedEx points standings for much of the season. He finished second in points after finishing 25th at the Sept. 26 Tour Championship in Atlanta. Jim Furyk knocked in a clutch par on the final hole to claim the cup.

At one point, Kuchar played 11 tournaments in 13 weeks, a grueling stretch. He won the Barclays in August, which was his third win as a pro.

Despite not claiming the FedEx Cup, Kuchar can claim to be the Tour's top earner on the year. He finished with $4,881,227 to be the Tour's money leader.

Kuchar has rocketed up the points list in recent years, from 115th in 2008 to 40th in 2009 to second in 2010.

Kuchar and Stewart Cink, Mgt 95, however, weren't able to lead the United States team to victory in a rainy 2010 Ryder Cup in early October.

The U.S. team had rallied from a three-point deficit on the final day, but a 20-foot downhill putt from the European team's Graeme McDowell on the final hole sealed the team's victory.

Cink split his matches against Rory McIlroy, while Kuchar dropped both of his matches to Ian Poulter. This was Kuchar's Ryder Cup debut.

In October, Kuchar was inducted into the 2010 class of the Georgia Tech Sports Hall of Fame.

Other Yellow Jackets inducted during the ceremony were basketball player Drew Barry, football player Chris Brown, baseball player Chuck Crowder and track stars Beth O'ki and Jonas Motiejunas.

Atlantis Hosting Basketball Squad

When Lea Miller's superiors at the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas assigned her to pick four teams for the resort's first college basketball games, there was little doubt which team would fill one slot.

Miller, Mgt 02, tapped her alma mater to play in the Dec. 18 event. The Yellow Jackets men's team will play Richmond, and in the other game of the double header Virginia Tech will play Mississippi State.

These will be the first games played at the Atlantis, which is converting a conference center into a 3,500-seat arena. The teams will receive a financial guarantee and full travel and lodging expenses.
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