The Art of Games
"I could not have afforded college without the support of donor-funded scholarships, so one of my priorities is to provide similar opportunities for future generations of students."

Joseph L. A. Hughes,
Senior Associate Chair and Professor
Electrical and Computer Engineering

- Born in Colorado Springs and grew up in Kansas City, Missouri; Stuttgart, Germany; and Leavenworth, Kansas, before returning to Colorado Springs at age 9.
- BS in Electrical Engineering, Illinois Institute of Technology; MS and PhD in Electrical Engineering, Stanford University.
- Joined Georgia Tech in 1986 as assistant professor, specializing in integrated circuit design and testing; Georgia Tech Outstanding Service Award, 1998.
- Associate Chair of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) since 1997; Senior Associate Chair of ECE since November 2006.
- Fellow, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE); President, IEEE Education Society, 2007, 2008.
- Fellow, American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE); ECE Distinguished Educator Award, 2005.
- Actively involved in engineering accreditation since 1995 through IEEE and ABET Inc.
- More than twenty years of judging at the Georgia Science and Engineering Fair; Judging Co-chair for 2008 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held in Atlanta.
- Hobbies include audio-visual work for theatrical and musical performances, and singing tenor in church choir.

Gifts to Georgia Tech
Bequest provision to establish the Joseph L. A. Hughes Endowment Funds for scholarships for students with financial need, as well as general support for the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering and the College of Engineering.

Thoughts on Giving to Tech
"Much of my estate will support religious, medical, and educational organizations in which I have invested my time, energy, and money for many years. Although I am not an alumnus, Georgia Tech has enabled me to have a successful career of twenty-four years as a faculty member. My bequest is a way of giving back to Tech. I could not have afforded college without the support of donor-funded scholarships, so one of my priorities is to provide similar opportunities for future generations of students."

Joseph L. A. Hughes is among Founders’ Council’s 1,042 members who have made estate provisions or life-income gifts in support of Georgia Tech’s future.
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John C. Staton, Jr. IM ’60
Georgia Tech Foundation Board, Trustee Emeritus and former Chair, Georgia Tech Alumni Association

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40 Burdell Needs a Home
Born on the Georgia Tech campus, George P. Burdell is just one of the rescued kittens now ready for adoption through the unofficial trap-neuter-return program at the Institute.

48 The Art of Games
Faculty members at Tech view video games as an art form and see beauty in the movement of the pieces and the interactions between players. 

54 Technically Aging
Because of aging research, someday it may not be remarkable to recount century-old experiences, although it's hard to imagine Jim Tipton's story being anything but remarkable.

Cover illustration by Torian Parker.
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Building Loyalty

After 10 years, I continue to be awed by the breadth and depth of all that gets accomplished at Georgia Tech by students, faculty and staff and even more afterward by our alumni. Within the Institute so much great work is under way, there is simply no way to grasp and understand it all. Outside, our alumni bring their abilities and skills to do great good in all walks of life. We cover just a smattering of those things here in our publications, and we hope you enjoy reading about what we learn about your school and your fellow alumni. Let me share a few of our recent activities that should interest you.

Our Mentor Jackets program (alumni/student mentoring) held its final session recently, and, without a doubt, this is one of the finest services that we as individual alumni and collectively as an Association can bring to the Institute. This year’s program was our largest ever and engaged more than 500 students and alumni. We paired them up and gave them guidelines about the mentoring process, and now both parties have new, vibrant, gratifying relationships that benefit all involved.

As Troy Rice, IE 01, Alumni Association trustee and one of our mentors states it, “My vision is for all students to have alumni mentors in the next five to 10 years. What an engaged young alumni base we would have!” And no doubt there would be an engaged student population learning the value of the GT alumni network long before they graduate. Rice’s student mentee, Jeremiah James, IE 10, heartily agrees. His comment to me was, “This has been one of the most meaningful experiences I’ve had at Tech, and I’m so happy I decided to try it.” That fits perfectly with our strategy of building loyalty to Tech among students while they’re here on campus.

The 27th Georgia Tech Alumni Association Career Fair was staged at the Cobb Galleria recently, and we saw a nice uptick in the number of participating companies and the number of jobs they were offering. Almost 1,000 alumni joined us seeking new opportunities — as you’d expect in this tough environment. Looking for a new job is real work, and we hosted President Bud Peterson and professor Nate Bennett to help encourage those alumni. I believe they walked away with renewed faith that their search will be fruitful.

We’re deep into our 63rd campaign for Roll Call. We need your help and support! The goals are $8 million and 28,895 donors. To those of you who have already made a gift, we’re very grateful. For those of you who haven’t, please do so! June 30 is our deadline, and Tech’s No. 1 ranking for alumni participation among public universities is at stake. Your participation is crucial.

Finally, as the academic year ends, we salute you all for supporting Georgia Tech in these most interesting of times. I’m winding up my term as president of the Council of Alumni Association Executives, a professional organization that includes the hundred or so largest alumni associations across North America, and I can say with great certainty that no university has more loyal alumni than Georgia Tech. For that, we’re grateful and blessed. Go Jackets!
Roll Call, Georgia Tech’s annual fund, has benefitted generations of students and alumni. Roll Call gifts support Tech’s academic mission, funding scholarships, groundbreaking research, curriculum enhancements and everything in between. **Tech needs your support in order to thrive.** With your matching gift eligibility, you have the opportunity to significantly increase the impact of your gift at Georgia Tech!

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During this school year, Georgia Tech Music students and faculty have benefited from the use of quality new Yamaha Pianos, Yamaha Disklaviers, and Yamaha Clavinovas. These superb instruments have been loaned to us at no cost by Yamaha Corporation of America. This generous program has allowed us to use outstanding pianos on a daily basis; pianos that are well beyond our budget capacity. At the end of this school year, these instruments will be made available for purchase at very reduced prices for Georgia Tech Alumni, Faculty, and Staff. These pianos are less than one year old, have been meticulously maintained, and come with a new warranty. Please support the Georgia Tech Music Department with your purchase. Having quality pianos is essential to providing the best education for our Georgia Tech students.

Preview Appointments for GT Faculty, Staff, & Alumni. Call 866-595-8044 Now to schedule your Appointment

Event will be held at the Couch Music Building
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tiffany.norman@alumni.gatech.edu
Letters

Johnson’s Legendary Tests
It was with sadness that I read of the passing of ISyE professor Cecil Johnson [January/February.] I took two classes from Professor Johnson during my stay at Tech. It was late in his career, and he imparted engineering wisdom and knowledge no young professor could teach. He quietly demanded respect and cast an icy, old-school glare if somehow you interrupted his class.

Some IE majors tried to avoid his classes — you couldn’t. His tests were legendary — one or more open-ended questions that required a complete mind dump into your blue book. My hand hurt afterward from writing so much. Woe be to those who didn’t study or responded with a flippant answer — an F double minus or perhaps an F zero awaited. I’ve never seen those grades before or since.

Cecil Johnson was easily my most memorable Tech professor, and I’m sure, like me, other IE majors soon won’t forget him.

Stuart F. Humphries, IE 91
Roswell, Ga.

Bikini Girl Cover Was Mine
I enjoyed reading your article about the Yellow Jacket humor magazine in the November/December Alumni Magazine. As the art editor of the Yellow Jacket in 1953-54, I may have contributed in some small way to its demise.

Many of the covers and cartoons were mine, including the June ’54 “drop-the-hankie” bikini girl cover you showed in the article. Looking back, though, most of our cartoons and illustrations, while they may have been suggestive, were pretty innocent.

Tilmon Chamlee’s follow-up letter in the January/February issue put the two of us back in touch — after 56 years! (That was me sitting behind the juror in the photo that accompanied Tilmon’s letter.) While we had lots of memories to share, one fact remains in dispute: his claim that he got paid $35 per cover. When I told Tilmon I never got paid a dime, he suggested I contact the school and demand what was due me.

Bob Lee, Arch 54
Pound Ridge, N.Y.

Rushing the Field at 67
Perhaps it is my age, but I found the January/February issue to be the best I can remember. It was full of remembrances of campus life and Homecoming events. Most of my time since I got out in 1966 has been spent in northern California and, as a result, I have been unable to spend time on campus.

I did see Tech play in the Silicon Valley Classic and the San Francisco Bowl, but the less said about those games the better. However, in 2004 I finally got back to Atlanta for a football game and Letterwinners Club event and have been able to do so virtually every year since; 2009 was the best yet as I attended the Jacksonville State, Clemson and Virginia Tech games.

While the Clemson game was extremely exciting, the Virginia Tech game was the most important because of the national significance. The Jackets played with fire and focus on national TV, and Bobby Dodd Stadium rocked all night.

After the game I was one of the thousands who rushed the field. I guarantee that I was the only 67-year-old out there. The students were a blast. I don’t remember hearing Ramblin’ Wreck sung with more gusto.

My only regret was leaving the football field before the goalpost came down. I had met President Peterson that morning at the co-op breakfast and would have enjoyed being part of the crowd that delivered him the goalpost.

It was interesting reading how long it had been since Tech had beaten a top-five ranked team at home, the Virginia Tech game being the first such victory since Alabama in 1962. I am proud to say that I was at both games. Since I have spent much of my wife’s and kids’ inheritance collecting Tech memorabilia, I have the game-day programs for both. See the picture of the old guy with the programs.

I trust Tech won’t wait another 47 years to beat another top-five team. I doubt that I can rush the field in 2056.

Jim Harberson, ME 66
Petaluma, Calif.

Lesson in Forgiveness
I was truly moved by [Donnie Davis’ story in the January/February issue] as he suffered a lot during his college years at Tech and then for many more because of his bad experience with his passion, football, and his loss of standing due to the coaching staff. Right or wrong, I do not pretend to know, but the suffering was real, and it was intense and it ruled Donnie’s life for years.
Then somehow Donnie learned the art of forgiveness. And that, my friends, is the secret to life. First he forgave Georgia Tech. That was his first baby step. That allowed him to enroll and finish something he truly wanted. Then he forgave himself, I believe, for not being the star that he was supposed to be and letting that go. And then he has even forgiven the coach.

Like Donnie said, if the first thing you planned to shine in doesn’t work out, move on and find that other thing. Never carry the weight of unforgiveness in your heart. It is too heavy, and it will cloud your present and your future. Learn to let it go as quickly as you can with prayer, and it will set you free. Way to go, Donnie!

Kathy Kells
Cumming, Ga.


Engineering Solutions On Hold

In response to two letters [Solution to Water Woes, January/February and Another Water Solution, March/April] I would propose that the engineering solutions to water problems in the United States could only come after the financing and political solutions are met.

I have worked on these issues from 1960 to 1983 as regional director of the Water Quality Control Administration in the Northeast and Southeast; chief of Army Corps of Engineers environmental planning in the South Atlantic Division; and as a consultant to the Army Corps of Engineers.

The problems can best be illustrated by the following examples:

1. The Southeast River Basin Study of 1960-62 in which a 50-year comprehensive water and related land use plan was developed for the river basins extending from the Savannah River to and including the Chattahoochee River and south of the Tennessee River. The plan was developed by all interested federal and state agencies. At the end of the 50 years, in 2010, some of the engineering solutions have not been done because of political problems, even though the financial problems could have been solved.

2. A second problem has occurred in the Chattahoochee River basin, where the

Kiss Recipient Identified

There was an article in the September/October 2009 GEORGIA TECH ALUMNI MAGAZINE about my grandfather, Professor Folk. I wrote a letter that was printed in the next issue. [In the March/April issue, there was] a letter, My First Kiss, from Ed Rainey, whose father, Glenn Rainey, was an English professor at Tech during the same time as my grandfather.

The “Allison” about whom he wrote was my mother. Actually, her name was Ellison. I have a group photo taken outside in what appears to be the entrance to the alley between Harris and Brown dorms. It’s from my mother’s birthday in August 1942. My mother is the girl in the middle of the row of kids who are standing. My uncle, Hugh Folk [IM 55, MS IM 57], is the older boy standing at the top left.

Mom died almost three years ago after a two-year bout with esophageal cancer. She was a great mother, and it was really a nice surprise to read a story about her out of the blue that none of us (my dad, two sisters and me) had heard.

Ted Baskin, CS 96
Marietta, Ga.

The Kisser’s Response

I am the second from the left in the front row of the photograph. The concrete ramp on which we were posed led to my family’s backyard and back door of the faculty apartment in the dorm, at the corner of Techwood Drive and North Avenue.

Although we didn’t move in until 1946, I knew Ellison from about 1940 through my parents’ friendship with Ed and Ruby Folk, and I frequently visited Ellison at her place, as was the case when this picture was taken and when “the kiss” took place [in the old west stands of Grant Field during a Georgia Tech football game about 1943].

I was so very sorry to hear of Ellison’s passing. She was a very special person to me in my early life. Because my December birthday fell in the middle of the school year, I fell behind Ellison in grade levels and we lost touch during our high school years. But I have often thought of her and our special friendship in our relative social isolation of growing up on campus.

Ed Rainey, CerE 60
Hilton Head, S.C.
Flying the Legends

On March 9, I flew a U.S. Navy DC-9 aircraft into Doha, Qatar, to pick up passengers to take to Muscat, Oman. It wasn’t until I arrived in Doha and the passengers started to board the aircraft that I realized it was going to be a very special mission. I was flying the “Legends of Aerospace” — astronauts Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon; Gene Cernan, the last man on the moon; and Jim Lovell, the Apollo 13 commander, with panel host David Hartman, the former Good Morning America host.

I flew them to Muscat, where carrier airborne aircraft, C-2s, were waiting to take them out to USS Eisenhower.

The next day proved to be even better when I returned to Muscat to pick up the legends and fly them to Bahrain. This flight was much longer, allowing each of the astronauts time to sit in the cockpit and share their experiences. In 20 years of flying for the Navy, this proved to be the biggest honor this lieutenant commander has experienced.

I’m stationed in Fort Worth, Texas, and was on a five-week deployment in Bahrain. I’m set to retire from the Navy at the end of June.

Herbert Hasell, ME 90
Fort Worth, Texas

Herbert Hasell flew the “Legends of Aerospace,” including Gene Cernan, the last man on the moon, left, and Jim Lovell, the Apollo 13 commander.

Mistresses of Patience

“Mistress of patience in husband engineering” degrees were awarded to the wives of WWII veterans receiving their degrees. Lila, my dear late wife of over 62 years, really earned her degree by earning a living, handling the household, caring for the social obligations and raising our son to kindergarten graduation while pushing me through Tech.

Many others probably did likewise and many are, like the veterans, leaving the scene.

Carroll C. Underwood, EE 56
Douglasville, Ga.

Creationism Left Out of Article

I read [the January/February] article Science Road Show, and I am disappointed by the bias shown in the article. While I believe it is hard not to reveal one’s views and opinions in their writing, it appeared to me Harry Kroto’s visit to Georgia Tech was used as a platform for Darwinism.

While Mr. Kroto is one authority on this topic, I believe the article attempted to squelch other views of how our universe and man was created. There are respected scientists throughout the world that strongly endorse a Christian approach to creation. While it is difficult to answer this question in a one-page article, I think it is important not to discount others who hold this opinion as backward and nonsensical.

I feel a better approach would be a dialogue that fosters revealing the “truths” of both viewpoints. My opinion is our Alumni Magazine is a place where we foster our passion for the Institute and address the problems our society faces by using science, technology and logic, not just opinions.

Stephen Watts, IE 01
Marietta, Ga.

Humbling Occasion

May I please add my comments to Foster Watkin’s letter [Reflections of a ‘Golden Oldie,’ January/February]? The events for our 50th reunion Oct. 16-17 were well planned and executed by Jessica Battista and Jennifer Eames; our fearless fundraiser, John Howard; and our outstanding supporter, Pam Trube, who frequently reminded the committee members to encourage attendance and giving.

Dr. Peterson is a real mover and will be an outstanding president and advocate for Georgia Tech. Just read his vision for our school! Our reputation as one of the best institutions of higher learning in the world surely will only get better.

I still wonder where 50 years has gone since my father put me on a train in Monroe, La., gave me $5 for a cab and told me to get off in Atlanta and that the driver would help with my trunk. (Fat chance.)

My Homecoming was a memorable and humbling occasion. How did I ever get this wonderful education, enjoy the many activities and meet so many great people from all corners of the country?

Armand E. Breard, ME 59, MS IM 62
Monroe, La.

Fencing Legacy

It was great to see the article in the November/December magazine on fencing [Good Swordsmanship] as well as the alumni responses full of memories of fencing at Tech in times before. As one of the students who founded the current version of the fencing club, I was dismayed to see that there was no fencing presence on campus when I got there in 2003. I’m so glad that the club is thriving and continuing to grow.

If I might be so bold, seeing this article made me feel like I left a legacy on campus, one that hopefully many more generations of Tech students will be able to experience. I’d also like to thank the current club leaders for keeping everything going so well.

Haining “Helen” Yu, BME 07
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The Iceman Cometh
Suncoast club member Fred Carlson keeps it cool in Tampa

By Leslie Overman

A career in the bagged ice business is not what Fred Carlson had envisioned for his future. But while he was pursuing an MBA at Tech, a pretty cool business opportunity came his way.

Carlson, CE 01, MBA 04, now is the chief operating officer of Ice House USA, which owns and operates ice-vending kiosks across the country. Unlike the ice coolers often found outside gas stations, Ice House’s automated machines produce, bag and vend ice 24 hours a day. And by eliminating much of the manpower in the traditional bagged ice trade, Ice House is able to offer its product at about half the price of most retail stores.

Carlson teamed up with his father, Doug Cone, CE 50, and a friend to fund the machine’s inventors, a couple of farmers in south Georgia. As part of an entrepreneurial finance class at Tech, Carlson and some classmates later developed a business plan for the automated ice-vending kiosks as an entry for a competition. They won second place.

Georgia Tech’s Economic Development Institute also played a part in Ice House USA’s birth, sending consulting engineers to the company’s manufacturer to help streamline operations.

Ice House USA was founded in December 2003, and its first unit was in operation two months later. Carlson moved to Ocala, Fla., to run the business after earning his MBA.

Now Ice House units can be found at 14 spots on Florida’s west coast and at about 1,400 locations throughout the country. The company has just five employees. It hires independent contractors, who visit machines in their areas once a day to clean them, add bags and make sure they’re running properly.

Carlson credits much of his business success to his undergraduate involvement in the Georgia Tech Student Foundation, which invests in the stock market and raises money to award grants to student organizations. It was in various roles with the foundation that he picked up negotiation and public speaking skills and learned about “the importance of giving back, not just to Tech and not just monetarily.”

Giving back to Tech is something Carlson is very passionate about. Now living in his native Tampa, he is a member of the Suncoast Georgia Tech Club, a top-tier Alumni club for which he currently serves as the young alumni representative.

Carlson wants young alumni to realize that staying connected to Tech can mean performing volunteer work, networking with fellow grads or just having fun. In addition to student send-off picnics, events with guest speakers and a golf tournament to raise money for its scholarship fund, the Suncoast club hosts game-watching parties and monthly happy hours to bring together the more than 1,400 alumni living in the Tampa area.

But it’s interviewing club scholarship candidates and meeting prospective Tech students through local college fairs that Carlson finds most rewarding.

“Getting to see the newest talent going into Tech,” he said, “that just always reinforces how great Tech is. They’re attracting these kids who are 20 times better than we were.”

He sees some of those talented kids during his yearly pilgrimages to campus for Homecoming. This past year, he and his wife, Marie, brought along daughter Lyndsey then not yet a year old, to participate in the first-ever stroller division of the Ramblin’ Wreck Parade.

“She goes to every game watching and every Alumni club function we have,” Carlson said. “She’s always wearing Tech gear. She has a little baby buzz. They’re inseparable.”
Alumni Board of Trustees Nominations

Executive Committee:

Chair: Al Trujillo, AE 81, of Sandy Springs, Ga., is an adviser and investor and director of NUBAC LLP after a career in various industries. Trujillo is a former member of Georgia Tech’s Council of Outstanding Young Engineers and is a current member of the College of Engineering’s advisory board. Trujillo and his wife, Melba, have two daughters, Amanda and Jacqueline, who is a first-year engineering student at Georgia Tech. Trujillo is a former member of Georgia Tech’s Council of Outstanding Young Engineers and is a current member of the College of Engineering’s advisory board. Trujillo and his wife, Melba, have two daughters, Amanda and Jacqueline, who is a first-year engineering student at Georgia Tech.

Chair-elect: C. Dean Alford, EE 76, of Conyers, Ga., is the president and CEO of Allied Energy Services LLC. He received the Dean Griffin Community Service Award in 2006 and is a College of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus. Gov. Sonny Perdue appointed him to the board of directors of the Technical College System, for which he currently serves as chair. He also is chairman of the Miracle League, an organization that builds baseball fields for children with special needs across the country. He was a member of Beta Theta Pi as a student. Alford has a daughter, Jacquelyn, and a son, Chandler, ME 09.

Vice Chair for Roll Call: Walt Ehmer, IE 89, of Atlanta, is the president and chief operating officer of Waffle House. Ehmer joined the company in 1992. He also serves as the chairman of Ozark Waffles, an operation of 38 Waffle House restaurants in Arkansas. President of Alpha Tau Omega while a student, Ehmer continues to be involved with the fraternity. He was co-chair of the Thousand Club for the 54th Roll Call and is a past trustee and executive committee member of the Alumni Association. Ehmer is an active philanthropist, raising money for research of cancer and cystic fibrosis. Ehmer is a member of the Alumni Association. Ehmer continues to be involved with the fraternity. He was co-chair of the Thousand Club for the 54th Roll Call and is a past trustee and executive committee member of the Alumni Association. Ehmer is an active philanthropist, raising money for research of cancer and cystic fibrosis. Ehmer is a past trustee.

Past Chair: Joe Evans, IM 71, of Atlanta, is the chairman and chief executive officer of the State Bank and Trust Company. Evans was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon while a student and is a College of Management Distinguished Alumnus. He and his wife, Raena, have two children and seven grandchildren.

Members at Large:

Laurie Bagley, IM 84, of Fairfield, Conn., is the managing director of Commonfund Securities. Bagley has participated in several Alumni events, including travel tours, and served on her 25th reunion committee. She is a past trustee.

Ben Mathis, IM 81, is managing partner of the law firm Freeman Mathis & Gary LLP. Mathis is a member of the Georgia Tech Bar Association affinity group and has served on his Roll Call class steering committee. He received the 2006 Ramblin’ Wreck Volunteer of the Year award. While a student, he participated in student government, ANAK and Phi Delta Theta fraternity. He lives in Marietta, Ga., with his wife, Mary Anne, and four children, Ben, Joe, Annabelle and Patty.

Jimmy Trimble, Mgt 91, of Atlanta, is the senior vice president and director of private banking at Fidelity Bank. He frequently speaks to Alumni clubs about the economy and banking. While a student, he was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity and served as the Interfraternity Council president. He and his wife, Laura, have two children, Tripp and Kate.

Trustees:

Rich Crutchfield, IM 69, of Atlanta, retired as vice president of Equifax in 2001 and founded two companies. He has participated in Alumni Travel tours and on his 40th reunion planning committee. He is a member of the College of Management advisory board. He and his wife, Donna, have two sons, Bob and Tommy.

Paul Goggin, Phys 91, of Atlanta, is vice president of technology for Free All Music. Goggin is a College of the College of Sciences advisory board. As a student, he participated in student government and was president of the Society of Physics Students.

Richard Guthman Jr., IE 56, of Hiawassee, Ga., is retired after a career in banking and business. Guthman received the Joseph Mayo Pettit Alumni Distinguished Service Award at the 2010 Gold & White Honors. In 1996, he established the Margaret A. Guthman Keyboard Competition, which in 2009 was expanded to showcase new music technology. He formerly served on the Atlanta City Council. He is a current trustee and served on his 40th and 50th reunion committees. As a student, he participated in the Army ROTC and was in the rifle club. The Guthmans have three sons, Dan, Richard Guthman III and William.

Troy Ivey, CmpE 90, and his wife, Ella, live in Chattanooga, Tenn. He is systems project leader at Unum Group. As a student, he was a President's Scholar and a member of student government, Chi Psi, FASET Council and the Executive Round Table.

Cayman James, CE 99, MS EnV 01, of Peachtree Corners, Ga., is an environmental engineer at CH2M HILL. James is the former president of the Young Alumni Council, and she was named the Outstanding Young Alumna at the 2010 Gold & White Honors. As a student she was a President's Scholar and student ambassador and was a member of Tau Beta Pi, Omicron Delta Kappa, FASET council and Lambda Sigma. She and her husband, Daniel, EE 00, have two sons, Ethan and Riley.

Jesus Leon, CIs 74, of Atlanta, recently retired as chief executive officer of Tepyt Technologies. Leon is a College of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus. As a student, he was president of the Graduate Student Senate and a member of ANAK. He and his wife,
Consuelo, have three children, Consuelo, Lorenzo and Cristina, Mgt 92.

Errika Mallett, ISyE 96, of Stone Mountain, Ga., is the managing partner of EBS Inc., a marketing logistics company. She is president of the Georgia Tech Black Alumni Organization. While a student, she was a member of ANAK and Delta Sigma Theta and a chapter and national officer of the Georgia Tech Society of Black Engineers. She has participated in Pi Mile and the Alumni Family Program and supported the growth and development of the affinity group program. She and her husband, Keith, have two children, Jaylen and Jordan.

John McKenney, IE 90, of Sandy Springs, Ga., is president and chief executive officer of McKenney’s Inc. McKenney’s was named co-op employer of the year in 2005. He is a College of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus. As a student, he was a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. McKenney and his wife, Janine, have two children.

Phil Williams, Text 70, of Johns Creek, Ga., is vice president of Consultants and Builders Inc. He spent more than 30 years in business management in the chemical industry with BASF Corp. and Exxon Chemicals. He is currently president of the North Metro Georgia Tech Club and has been an active leader in Alumni clubs in Jacksonville, Fla., Columbus, Ga., and Charlotte, N.C., over the past 35 years. He also served on his 25th reunion committee. He is on the board of the St. Andrew Rowing Club in Roswell, Ga. Williams and his wife, Deborah, have two sons, Wesley and Mitchell.

Ronald Yancey, EE 65, of Columbia, Md., was the first black student to graduate from Georgia Tech, setting an example for the many who followed. An Atlanta native, Yancey was an active opponent of segregation. Yancey worked for the Department of Defense, then in the private sector and ultimately with Engineering Solutions. He and his wife, Sheila, have four grown sons.

**Ballot for Election of Trustees**

☐ I approve the nominees listed.

The nominating committee comprised of the current Alumni Association chair and chairs from the previous three years selected the final list of candidates for the board of trustees.

Mail ballot to Jolie Rosenberg at:
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190 North Ave. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30313

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1. The Alumni Association sent Tech gear to the fifth-graders at Palomino Intermediate School who adopted the Institute in a program to encourage the pursuit of college. 2. Yaming Lin and Emily Xu rode on Georgia Tech Savannah’s float in the St. Patrick’s Day parade. 3. David Ascano, Lauren Janeway and Esther Robbins, all ID 09, attended the Alumni Career Fair in April. 4. Jill Pollyniak, Mgt 01, and her husband, John Wells, were among the crowd that turned out at a Boston Georgia Tech Club mixer with President G. P. “Bud” Peterson. 5. Wayne Clough spoke to the National Capital Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers in late March. On hand were Stephen S. Kelly, CE 01; Larry Memberg, CE 00; Liz Foster, CE 07; and Fernando Pons, CE 90. 6. Former Jacket Anthony Morrow answered questions from the Northern California Georgia Tech Club, which hosted an outing to see a Golden State Warriors game.
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The walls of Burge once reverberated with the sounds of Georgia Tech students quizzing each other before an exam, newlyweds clinking glasses in celebration of the completion of finals and children bouncing balls and testing their parents’ patience. The tenants are all gone from the building that opened in 1947 to house married students and faculty. The North Avenue apartments were shuttered in June 2007 and demolished this year.

The building was named for 1916 architecture graduate Flippen David Burge, who designed the neighboring Techwood Homes, the first federal public housing project in the United States. His firm, Burge & Stevens Associates of Atlanta, also designed the apartment building. Burge, however, did not get to see the first couples move into the apartments. He died in April 1946.

Peters Family, Apartment 18

John P. Peters, Chem 67, PhD Chem 74, was 3 years old when his family moved into Burge in 1947.

“My late father, Herbert P. Peters, worked for Westinghouse in Pittsburgh and helped design and build the first AC Network Calculator in the country,” he said. “When Georgia Tech purchased the calculator from Westinghouse, my dad moved his family along with the calculator and came to Tech to work at the Engineering Experiment Station.

“We lived in a three-bedroom apartment on the first floor on the end away from North Avenue. Uncle Heinie lived across the hall from us, but I had no idea at the time who he was,” Peters said.

J.H. Henika arrived on campus as an instructor in the wood shop in 1892. Remembered for his long white beard, Henika retired at age 85 but, according to the book Dress Her in White and Gold, continued to show up at the shop until he sustained a hip injury in 1950.

Peters’ brother, Charles “Cap” Peters, ChE 64, MS ChE 65, remembered when Henika was taken from Burge by ambulance in 1951. He died that year at age 95.

“It was my first experience with such a medical situation,” Cap Peters said. “We were not close friends with him, but we watched over him because of his advanced age and he lived alone.”

He remembered another well-known neighbor, retired Tech President M.L. Brittain. Brittain was named president emeritus by the Board of Regents in 1944, and he continued to occupy the residence built for the Institute’s top man at the corner of Fowler Street and North Avenue until his death in 1953. The house, which could be seen from the Peters family’s kitchen, later was demolished to make way for the Burge parking deck.

The boys also could see much of Atlanta from the Burge rooftop. John Peters remembered watching the Masonic Temple fire in 1950 from that vantage point with his mother.

“I always thought the roof of Burge was a ‘cool’ place, although I was not allowed to go there alone. The basement was also interesting, with wire cages for personal possessions. You could see what everyone had stored, and there was some interesting stuff to see there for a young child. I was especially enthralled by the stick model buildings built by the architectural students and by the occasional model airplane.”

The family moved to property in Cobb County in 1957, but John Peters did return to the apartment during his student days.

“When I was married and in grad school, our old apartment at Burge was available for rent, and I had the pleasure of touring it again. Unfortunately, the housing powers of the time had no time for sentiment or nostalgia and deemed a three-bedroom apartment unsuitable for a couple without children.”

When told this winter that demolition of Burge had begun to make way for additional campus parking, Cap Peters said, “It’s a sad day but, understandably, a necessary day too. Burge was a huge and very important part of my childhood.”

The Saportas, Apartment 72

Isaac Saporta arrived at Georgia Tech in 1948 to begin a long tenure as an architecture professor. He and his wife, Nora, moved into Burge and welcomed daughter Elena into the world in 1952, followed three years later by Maria.

“It was a fun place to grow up. We played a lot on the roof. There was a ping-pong table up there. We’d play detective on...
Walter and Margot Hunziker enjoyed the roof while living in Burge in 1953-54. The Saporta girls, opposite page, hosted a party on their balcony.

the stairwell. And the campus was a huge playground,” said Maria Saporta, now a business writer in Atlanta.

“We broke every rule in the book,” she said. “Pets weren’t allowed, but we got a dog. His name was Medor. Because he couldn’t live in the apartment, his doghouse was underneath this beautiful old tree near the architecture building. He’d go with Papa to classes, and we’d go over there to feed him.

“Medor was a very smart dog. He quickly learned where we lived, and he would come on his own. He would get on the elevator and he’d wait until the seventh floor was hit and we’d hear this [scratching sound] at the door. He got to be such a well-known visitor that when people saw him they’d just press seven,” Saporta said.

She recalled life in Burge as one filled with social gatherings. “My parents became the points of contact for any international students or professors who came. Koreans, Indians, Japanese, Colombians — our apartment ended up becoming a bit like a little United Nations.

“Each of them spoke six or seven languages each,” Saporta said of her parents, both captured in their native Greece by the Nazis during World War II. Isaac Saporta escaped and joined the Greek resistance movement. Nora Saporta survived imprisonment at the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp for a year before it was liberated by the Americans.

Elena Saporta, now a landscape architect in Cambridge, Mass., credited her Burge upbringing with directing her career path. She recalled looking out her bedroom window to watch the squirrels scampering in a tall oak tree. “There also were foundation plants that got to be huge. There were cherry laurel trees. They had these buds that we used to collect and throw at each other. There was a variegated aucuba. There were big Burford hollies. There were also really gorgeous formosa azaleas.”

She said the landscaping around the architecture building particularly attracted her. “There was a fellow there who had planted amazing, one-of-a-kind specimens. I learned a lot from that. I remember one in particular was a swampbay magnolia. It was really, really fragrant. Normally they’re like 20 feet high, and this thing was about 40 feet high.

“We had a pretty rich life,” Elena Saporta said.

The Saportas moved to a home on Eighth Street in Atlanta in 1970.

The Caldwells, Apartment 68

The Harmon W. Caldwell family moved into Burge Apartments in January 1949.

“My father was the chancellor of the University System. He wanted to be able to walk to his office down on Courtland Street. It was a good walk, about a mile and a half. He enjoyed walking to and from work, and Georgia Tech was good enough to let us live there,” said Harmon Caldwell Jr., an Atlanta attorney.

He was only an infant when the family moved in, and Jeanne McKown, a former associate director of Development and Stewardship at Georgia Tech, agreed that the Caldwells chose to live in Burge.

“Dr. Caldwell was a former dean of the UGA law school and former UGA president,” McKown said. “His widow told me Dr. Caldwell moved the family into Burge after telling the Regents to put the funds allotted for an Atlanta home for the chancellor into the Georgia Tech library.”

Caldwell was president of the University of Georgia from 1935 to 1948 and chancellor of the University System of Georgia until his retirement in 1964, when he moved his family to Sandy Springs, Ga.

Regardless of the circumstances of the
family’s residency, the chancellor’s son said he and his sister and brother had a wonderful upbringing in Burge. “It was a really good environment. There was a grass yard on the McAfee Street side. We played football, hide-and-seek and army. We dropped little parachute men off the roof. There were not too many other kids — Maria and Elena and the three DallaValle boys, Henry, William and John.”

The boys were the sons of chemical engineering professor J.M. DallaValle, who died in 1958. His wife, Carolyn, is remembered as having a campus job, and the family was able to remain in the Burge apartment after the professor’s death.

Memories of holiday seasons past resonate with Caldwell. “You could look out our window, and you could see the Rich’s Christmas tree. That was always a highlight.”

The Honeymooners

Jack Quick, IM 68, recalled a different view. “Some wives sunbathed on the ledges outside their units in the summer, which was interesting.”

Quick and his wife moved into “an efficiency with no air conditioning” in June 1966 and lived there until he graduated.

“Our furnishings included a sofa bed, a table with three chairs, an armchair and a chest of drawers,” Quick said. “The kitchen was so small you couldn’t have the oven door and refrigerator door open at the same time. But we were proud of it.”

“Rent was $65 per month and included water and electricity,” Quick said. “We would have grilling parties where everyone brought their own food, and we took turns providing the charcoal.”

Walter Hunziker, BS 51, Arch 54, M CP 58, and his bride, Margot, lived in Burge in 1953-54, following his Army Corps of Engineers service in Washington, D.C., and Heidelberg, Germany.

A longtime resident of France, Hunziker also remembered pleasant parties on the Burge roof.

“Burge was a great project and a great home for many of us young married veterans,” he said. “As a city planner, I believe in working and living in the same environment, reducing unnecessary commuting. Georgia Tech’s expansion was part of large urban renewal efforts.”

Leonard Lowe, EE 77, and his wife, Vicki, moved into Burge as newlyweds in June 1971.

“After several months of seeing the drab battleship gray doors on all the apartments, we requested permission to repaint our door orange,” Leonard Lowe said. “We were given permission as long as we agreed to repaint it with the ‘standard color’ when we moved.”

“Surprise, surprise, within a couple of months all the doors were repainted in various bright colors. We were never asked to repaint it when we moved.”

Share your Burge memories and see additional photographs during its demolition at gtaumniimag.com.
Nunn Forum Envisions Nuclear Weapon-free Future

By Van Jensen

Improving the relationship between the United States, Russia and Europe was the timely topic of the Sam Nunn Policy Forum, held at the Global Learning Center on the Georgia Tech campus March 29.

The forum came as President Barack Obama prepared to sign a new strategic arms reduction treaty with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev. And on the morning of the forum, terrorists bombed a subway in Moscow, killing 39 people.

Those events pointed to a brighter future for partnership, attendees said, as well as the need for developed countries to secure nuclear weapons and facilities to keep them out of terrorists’ hands.

"Today the risk of a nuclear accident is higher" than during the Cold War, said Nunn, Cls 60. "When you have this many nuclear weapons around, things can go badly wrong."

Nunn, co-chair and CEO of the Nuclear Threat Initiative, championed nuclear security while a U.S. senator. The forum, held every other year, is hosted by the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

Nunn told the dignitaries, researchers and students in attendance that Russia and the United States need to improve their communication on nuclear issues, reduce the number of nuclear missiles on ready status and improve their posture toward each other. Those steps will “determine whether we live in a world of promise or peril,” he said.

The forum’s featured speaker was Sergey Kislyak, the Russian ambassador to the United States. Kislyak stressed the common interests of the United States and Russia while also providing the Russian perspective on contentious issues.

“We don’t see any threat coming from the United States and hope they see no threat coming from us,” he said. “But concerns about the stability of Europe remain. We want to be part of a Europe that is stable and secure for everyone.”

Kislyak repeatedly mentioned NATO and how its members had held Russia at a distance. He said the 1999 NATO intervention in Kosovo was seen as illegal by Russia. And he called Georgia President Mikheil Saakashvili “a criminal with the blood of Russians on his hands.” NATO and the United States supported Georgia when Russian troops invaded the country in 2008.

Kislyak attributed lasting disagreements to unresolved issues from the Cold War. Overcoming those issues is central to replacing mutually assured destruction with “mutually assured security.”

“Nuclear armament is just part of this,” he said. “We need to work on the issues that prompted us to have nuclear weapons.”

In a later panel discussion, Kislyak introduced Charles Boyd, a retired U.S. Air Force pilot, commander in chief of the U.S. European Command and NATO executive director. Kislyak suggested Boyd had flown spy missions during the Cold War and asked if Boyd was haunted by it.

“Flow’s that for an introduction?” Boyd joked before saying he had been stationed in Turkey during the Cold War, ready to fly a bombing mission at a moment’s notice.

The two former opponents enjoyed a friendly discussion on nuclear policy, highlighting the improved relations between the United States and Russia.

The event also featured the introduction of disarmament guidelines from the International Crisis Group in a video message from Gareth Evans, president emeritus of the group.

“The world is riding a wave as opposed to resisting a tide,” Evans said of disarmament. “It’s sheer dumb luck that we’ve managed to survive without a nuclear explosion catastrophe. The status quo is not an option.

“We have to go for absolute abolition. If any nation has nuclear weapons, others will desire them.”
Todd Presented Progress Prize

President G. P. “Bud” Peterson called Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Progress and Service recipient Bill Todd an “extraordinary humanitarian and community leader and a proud Georgia Tech alum.”

Todd, IM 71, president and CEO of the Georgia Alumni Association, was presented the award during the Ivan Allen College Founder’s Day luncheon at the Biltmore Hotel on March 15, the birthday of the college and award namesake. Allen, Com 33, mayor of Atlanta during the tumultuous days of the civil rights movement, died in 2003.

“Bill has devoted his career to health care and technology management in Atlanta,” Peterson said, lauding Todd as “a man of great vision.”

Earlier in his career, Todd founded Encina Technology Ventures and was founding president of the Georgia Research Alliance.

“In every challenge we face as people, leadership is the key ingredient in success and the missing element in failure,” Todd said during his acceptance speech.

In September 1966, Todd happened upon an angry mob and witnessed Mayor Allen climb atop a car and calm the protesters with his words of tolerance during the tense era of desegregation.

Todd has been part of the Institute’s strategic planning process, and he took the opportunity at the podium to look ahead.

“In 25 years Georgia Tech will be the institution that develops, nurtures and enables the top leaders in every field and endeavor and every community in which its alumni serve,” he said, acknowledging that he had delivered a bold statement: “The inspirational leadership of Ivan Allen Jr. is the ideal foundation for such an ambitious undertaking.”

Todd was the final recipient of the Prize for Progress and Service, awarded annually since 2001. Interim dean Ken Knoespel announced that beginning next year the college will award the Ivan Allen Jr. Prize for Social Courage to a member of the “global community who has advocated and affected change ... [and] demonstrated moral and ethical courage consistent with Allen’s values.”

The award will include a $100,000 stipend, funded in perpetuity by the Wilbur, Com 32, and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation.

Ivan Allen Jr. Legacy Awards also were presented during the Founder’s Day luncheon. Winners were Trey Birch, an economics and international affairs undergraduate student; Cate Powell, an international affairs graduate student; Sarah Kenagy, MS IntA ’07, program coordinator for CARE’s Hope for African Children Initiative; and Adam Stulberg, an associate professor in the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs.

—— Kimberly Link-Wills

Computing Hires Dean

An international search has led to the selection of Zvi Galil as dean of the College of Computing. Galil joins the Institute after serving as president of his alma mater, Tel-Aviv University in Israel, since 2007.

Galil is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a fellow of the Association of Computing Machinery and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. His main research interests are in the design and analysis of algorithms, computational complexity and cryptography.

From 1995 to 2007, Galil was a professor and dean of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences at Columbia University. He will lead the Tech faculty’s goal of defining a new generation of computing through the college’s three schools.

Galil takes office July 1.

Cross Overseeing All Research

Stephen Cross, who has served as vice president and director of the Georgia Tech Research Institute since 2003, has been named the Institute’s executive vice president for research.

The position will provide leadership, strategic focus and support for Tech’s multifaceted research and economic development efforts.

Cross will be the Institute’s principal research officer and will oversee Tech’s interdisciplinary research centers, the Enterprise Innovation Institute, GTRI and the Georgia Tech Research Corp. He will be a member of the new executive leadership team, consisting of the president, the provost and the executive vice president for administration and finance.
President Emeritus Clough Breaks Ground on Commons

Former Georgia Tech president G. Wayne Clough returned to campus April 5 for the formal groundbreaking of the Undergraduate Learning Commons that will be named in his honor.

But that wasn’t the only honor in store for Clough, as he was named president emeritus of the Institute. Erroll B. Davis Jr., the chancellor of the University System of Georgia, presented Clough with a proclamation declaring him president emeritus. Davis praised Clough’s leadership in bringing several new facilities to campus during his 14 years as president.

“But none of them has his name over the front door,” Davis said of those buildings. “We’re going to change that today.”

Clough is the only alumnus to serve as president of the Institute. The $85 million Clough Commons will feature technologically advanced classrooms, science labs, undergraduate advising and environmentally friendly design. It is being constructed between the Kessler Campanile and the Price Gilbert Library.

The facility was funded through private donations and $60 million in state funding. President G. P. “Bud” Peterson thanked those whose gifts made the project possible. But most of the day was spent celebrating Clough, who left the Institute in 2008 to become secretary of the Smithsonian.

Peterson said Clough “knew that the rapid growth of the student body required the creation of a campus community invested in their success. This building is part of Dr. Clough’s vision and will be an important part of his legacy.”

With the sounds of the campus construction in the background, Clough addressed the crowd.

“This learning center epitomizes Georgia Tech’s commitment to the success and growth of its undergraduate students,” Clough said. “I am humbled that the building will carry my name. I accept this honor on behalf of the students of Georgia Tech to whom this building is truly dedicated.”

Tech Becomes AAU Member

Georgia Tech has joined the Association of American Universities.

The AAU membership approved the invitation to Georgia Tech on April 20 at the association’s annual spring meeting in Washington, D.C. The invitation was extended to President G. P. “Bud” Peterson the same day, and he accepted on behalf of the Institute.

Georgia Tech is the first new AAU member in nine years. AAU membership includes 35 public universities, 26 private and two Canadian universities.

“We are proud to be selected to join this prestigious group,” Peterson said. “It is truly a credit to those who have worked so hard to make Georgia Tech the institution it is today. In particular, President Emeritus Wayne Clough and former Georgia Tech provost Jean-Lou Chameau played a vital role in Georgia Tech achieving this wonderful accomplishment.”

University System of Georgia Chancellor Erroll B. Davis Jr. said, “We are delighted that the AAU has recognized Tech’s national and international scope and role in research. This is really a well-deserved recognition of Georgia Tech by its peers.”

An invitation to join AAU requires approval by three-fourths of the current members. The association considers universities for membership periodically, using a set of factors to assess the caliber of a university’s faculty, research enterprise and education programs.

AAU, which is based in Washington, D.C., was founded in 1900.

The organization develops and promotes national and institutional policies that support research and scholarship, graduate and professional education, undergraduate education and public service in research universities.
By Leslie Overman

Dozens of framed movie posters line a hallway of the Technology Square Research Building. Each is autographed, not by actors but by the Tech students and faculty who worked on the films. The most recent poster in this informal hall of fame is for Disney’s The Princess and the Frog signed by College of Computing professor Jarek Rossignac, now in his 14th year at Tech, and alumnus Brian Whited. With funding from Disney, they developed software to make the animators’ jobs easier. Whited, CS 03, MS CS 05, PhD CS 09, now works for Disney. But the bright lights of Hollywood have not lured Rossignac from Tech, where he teaches courses in computer graphics and animation and in an office adjoining his MAGIC lab (that is the Modeling, Animation, Graphic, Interaction & Compression Lab) ponders the behaviors and perplexities of various shapes.

The Disney artist’s dilemma: The lead artist produces drawings. That’s where the character’s appearance is born. But they don’t produce all the drawings that you see in the movie. They produce only a few sparse drawings. Since there are 24 frames per second in the movies, somebody has to generate the missing ones. There’s a process of producing the in-between frames, the missing frames that need to be there for a smooth transition from one to the next. This is a tedious job.

The solution: The artist draws complicated curves, not just points or little edges but nice curves that might represent the shape of the human face, or a mouse that moves, or a hand or some trees that sway. And now what we need to do is understand what portion of this drawing goes to which portion of the other drawing, so that’s called correspondence. And correspondence is easier for humans to understand. ... This is a challenge for software to try to put together automatically. Let’s suppose that we only were given this initial drawing and this final drawing. What we do is produce automatically all these frames. And the idea is that if these frames are OK with the artists, then they don’t have to waste their time doing this tedious part.
Engineering beauty: If the lead artist puts a point here and says 24 frames later, a second later, it has to be there, then a good Georgia Tech engineer would say, ‘Oh, I understand. I have two constraints. I have a constant velocity, zero acceleration — linear path.’ We solve that very nicely, except the artist will not like it at all. They prefer curved, interesting paths. They like beautiful motions. Working with a colleague of mine in Barcelona, Spain, we have developed what we call the ‘equation of beautiful motion.’ Of course, it’s very pretentious to say we have the equation of beauty. But from a mathematical perspective, it’s a very nice formulation of what we call the most beautiful motion. What we’re using with Disney in part is based on this principle of a very steady motion, which has a nice arcing trajectory and no surprises.

On working with artists: It was very interesting because they come from a different perspective than we do. We want everything to be algorithmically correct, and they have all this understanding of the different subjective matters that come to play. ... Sometimes what we propose is happily accepted, and sometimes they say, “No, no way. We’re never going to do that.”

Hometown: I was born in Poland, in Warsaw, and my parents and I moved to Paris when I was a kid. So I grew up in Paris, between the ages of 10 and 18 or so. And then I studied in France, engineering, and came to the U.S. and did my PhD in EE at the University of Rochester and then stayed here.

On his Klein bottle: It’s a mathematical, bizarre contraption that makes our lives more complicated because it goes through itself but it doesn’t have an inside or an outside. Typically when you do 3-D graphics, the surfaces are oriented. This guy doesn’t have an inside, so not all surfaces are orientable. When [students] think all of them are orientable, I show them the Klein bottle and we have to discuss what to do about it. It’s nice to actually have tangible things to show students when trying to talk them into writing an algorithm for it.

Choosing a career: When I was growing up, I was very bored. So I had to invent things to keep busy. My parents bought me one of those first computers, a TRS. So I learned to program with that, and I always wanted to be an engineer.

On TV: We don’t have a television at home, so I haven’t been watching television for a long time. We decided not to have a television when we had children. ... And they didn’t miss it too much. We were concerned that they would be diminished somehow, but it gives them more time to do things. And they grew to be happy, smart and successful.

Recently solved problem: I went to a nice workshop that was organized by McGill University in Barbados, and we spent five days with senior faculty talking about ideas. Everybody was proposing a set of problems or projects, so I proposed a few. And we worked on one of them. The problem was when I give you a set of numbers, you can compute the average. But what if I give you a set of shapes? What’s the average of a set of shapes? And this is important, for example, in medical studies. ... We actually have a nice formulation of how to compute an average.

What he could do without: I can live without a cell phone. ... I try to limit the bandwidth between my brain and the rest of the world. I do e-mail twice a day, but I don’t check it all the time. I’m using Skype because I have collaborations with people in different countries. It’s a convenient way of working together. But I do try to be careful and carve some time for me to think and to work on research or talk with students.
Alex Gutierrez: Officer of the Year

A Tech cop since 2004, Alex Gutierrez is the Georgia Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators’ Officer of the Year. Even in his off-duty hours, Gutierrez conducts crime prevention seminars — in English or Spanish — and volunteers for Institute events. He also is the Tech department’s first gang and graffiti specialist. As a full-time crime prevention officer, Gutierrez has reached out to Atlanta officials to better the community surrounding the campus. His award nomination also noted that he compiled a recommendation for the Tech police chief on how Segways could be used most effectively in the line of duty.

1. Is working for a university police department different than working for a municipal department?
   I would say yes. Our community differs in the age group we serve compared to a municipal police department. The majority of the campus population is traditional college-age students. Municipal police departments deal with anywhere from 0 to 100. However, crime is wherever you are, and we treat it as so.

2. Can you outline your duties in the crime prevention unit?
   As crime prevention officer it is my role to educate the community; develop and organize crime prevention programs for students, faculty and staff; and conduct presentations to fraternities, sororities, associations, clubs and community groups off campus. I also serve as a liaison with city, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

3. What are the top two crime prevention tips you tell students?
   Always be aware of your surroundings and do not leave valuables unattended. For the most part, our most frequent crimes on campus are thefts or “crimes of opportunity.” Usually if a car is broken into, it’s because the individual left a laptop or GPS unit out in plain view, or if something is stolen, it’s because it was left unattended.

4. Has crime increased on and around the Georgia Tech campus in the last year? In the last two years?
   In the last year, on-campus crime has decreased by approximately 16 percent. In 2008, crime increased 22 percent. Georgia Tech is located in Zone 5 within the Atlanta Police Department jurisdiction zones. If you go to the Atlanta police Web site, there are statistics showing that they had a decrease of 11 percent in the last year. In 2008, there was no change.

5. Do you believe students should be able to carry concealed weapons?
   As a sworn police officer for the state of Georgia, I have to uphold the law regardless of what my personal thoughts are. By being a police officer now for six years here at Georgia Tech, I believe that students having guns would not be the solution for crime.

6. What is the most rewarding part about being a Tech officer?
   When I see someone I helped in the recent past, they have a huge smile on their face of thankfulness.

7. What is the most frustrating part of your job?
   To see individuals in the community be a victim of a crime when the crime is an opportunistic one that could have been avoided by applying common sense and street smarts.

8. How important is it for Tech to reach out to the surrounding community to prevent crime?
   We work closely with the Atlanta Police Department, Midtown Blue Officers and the Georgia State Patrol to deter crime in the surrounding areas of campus. We also work with nearby neighborhoods to do what we can to help reduce crime on the boundaries of campus.

9. How does your fluency in Spanish help you in your job?
   It has helped me be a part of recruiting minorities of Hispanic descent to Georgia Tech. From time to time I work with the Admissions office, and they invite me so the potential students may have an opportunity to meet with me [to discuss] any questions or concerns they may have.

10. Where did you grow up?
    New York City — Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, the Bronx and Manhattan. I’m a true New Yorker!

— Kimberly Link-Wills
Like most girls, Kristy Stengard loved horses as a child. "But some of us don't grow out of it," she said.

Stengard began riding competitively and even owned her own horse, a palomino with the admittedly uncreative name Pal. When Stengard was accepted to Georgia Tech, she realized she wouldn't have time to care for Pal and sold him.

Giving up riding completely wasn't an option, so Stengard quickly joined Tech's all-female Equestrian Club, a team of about 30 riders that competes in 28 events a year across the Southeast. Stengard became president of the club, which also hosts a benefit show to raise money and goes on camping trips and trail rides.

The club, founded in 1995, uses horses owned by trainers in Woodstock and Conyers, meaning members have to drive nearly an hour from campus to practice sessions.

But members recently formed a new partnership that allows them to ride much closer to Tech. Last fall, the boyfriend of a club member saw a member of the Atlanta Police Department's mounted division and suggested he contact the club.

Since then, club members have provided almost daily assistance with the department's 16 horses, which are stationed near Zoo Atlanta. They ride and groom the horses, making sure they're properly exercised.

"The APD barn is a lot closer, and they have really nice horses," Stengard said. "They've embraced us wholeheartedly."

In February, the police department named Stengard and six other club members as honorary members of the mounted patrol.

While Stengard enjoys working with the police horses, she still holds a goal of again owning her own horses. That goal came a step closer when she graduated with a management degree in December.
She works at Medium Blue, a marketing company near Georgia Tech's campus.

Alumnae are allowed to compete in Intercollegiate Horse Show Association events, so Stengard has continued to be involved. She also is the secretary of the new Equestrian Alumni Affinity Group.

One member of the group who still competes is Megan Heaphy, Biol 07. She will be representing Tech at the IHSA Nationals in Lexington, Ky., May 6-9. Heaphy is only the second Tech representative to take part in the national competition.

A schedule of IHSA shows is available at gtequestrian.com.

More information about the affinity group is available from the organization's president, Erika Larson, ME 04, MS BioE 06, at larson.erika@gmail.com.

With Stengard having so many new responsibilities with the affinity group and her career, she turned the club's presidency over to Jessica Solana, a second-year biology major.

"I'm happy to turn the reins over," Stengard said.
Stories You’ll Hear ‘Only at Tech’

While procrastinating on a group assignment for a computer science class, four students started talking about the sites textsfromlastnight.com and fmylife.com and thought a Tech-centric version would be fun. A week later they launched onlyattech.net as their group presentation in CS 2340.

The site allows anyone to submit a 300-character entry that starts out with an observation and ends with “Only at Tech.”

“Twenty four hours later, to our complete surprise, we broke 1 million hits,” said Holden Link, a third-year computational media major.

The other students working on the project are Andrew Ash, a third-year computer science major; David Turk, a third-year computational media major; and Kaliyana Finney, a fourth-year computational media major.

About 70 percent of campus visits the site over the course of a week, Link said, with as many as 3,000 unique daily visitors.

Here are some recent posts:

“Today I saw a kid who had integrated three small solar panels into his backpack so he could charge his laptop while walking to class. Only at Tech.”

“I got my Calc III test back. The bad news? I got a 45. The good news? It was the highest grade in the class. Only at Tech.”

“I was playing beer pong last night. The other team wanted a re-rack with four cups left. They asked for a rhombus formation. Only at Tech.”

“I made a random sound in my first CS lecture; the guy in front of me turns around and says, ‘Indeed.’ During break he asks me where I learned to speak Klingon. Apparently I said ‘success’ in Klingon at an appropriate time, and someone noticed. Only at Tech.”

“While students were having a tough time tearing down the goalposts at the end of the Virginia Tech game, someone yelled, ‘You all have to get on one end! Your moments are summing to zero! It’s a simple statics problem!’ Everyone around him cheered in agreement. That someone was me. Only at Tech.”

“The freshman guys on my floor at Smith figured out that they could keep playing Xbox during a power outage by wiring their TV and Xbox directly into the emergency fluorescent lighting. Only at Tech.”

“01010100 01001111 00100000 01001000 01000101 01001100 01001100 00100000 01010111 01001001 01010100 01001000 00100000 01000111 01000101 01001111 01010010 01000111 01001001 01000001 00100001 00100001 00100001. That’s ‘To Hell With Georgia!!’ in binary. Only at Tech.”

“Overheard the following at the Clemson football game from a student sitting in front of me: ‘I just don’t understand girls. I wish I could trade my girlfriend in for a helicopter.’ Only at Tech.”

“I walked past a very good-looking girl today and realized I was staring ... not at her but at her new MacBook Pro. Only at Tech.”

“My roommate bought an antique engagement ring for his fiancee. In order to make sure that it was really a diamond, he took it into his lab over at the MSE department and performed a Raman spectroscopy on it. Only at Tech.”

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Inventions Pay Off

Patrick Whaley, above left, the fifth-year mechanical engineering student who survived a gunshot to the chest in a May 2009 robbery, claimed the InVenture Prize in March. His invention, OmegaWear strengthening apparel, modeled by friend De La Rey Oosthuizen, bested seven other student finalists. Whaley received $15,000 for coming in first place, plus $5,000 for winning the People’s Choice Award, voted on by the Ferst Center audience. Sarah Vaden, a second-year aerospace engineering major, won second place and $10,000 for her novel drum invention. Both winners will receive a free U.S. patent filing from the Georgia Tech Office of Technology Licensing, each valued at approximately $20,000.

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George P. Burdell Needs a Home

Feline friends corral campus cats

Story by Leslie Overman
Photographs by Kelvin Kuo

A mischievous calico roams the grounds of north campus. If there was a Most Wanted list for the cats that live at Georgia Tech, she would top it. Over the years, she has given birth to dozens of litters. While most of those kittens have found homes off campus thanks to the tireless after-school efforts of some Tech faculty and staff members, like an outlaw, this feline, aka Mama Calico, eludes them.

"It's been six years," Steven Johnson said, "and I still haven't been able to catch her."

Of the roughly 50 abandoned or feral cats that wander about campus, Mama Calico is one of only a handful that have not yet been caught and spayed or neutered by Johnson or his cohort in campus cat trapping, Josie Giles.

These two are no rookies when it comes to catching cats. Combined, they have captured more than 1,000 felines on and off campus.

In addition to his full-time job as Auxiliary Services' project manager, Johnson serves as Georgia Tech's go-to guy for all things cat, an unofficial post for which he is not compensated. If a litter of kittens or an injured cat is spotted on campus or if a cat falls through the ceiling of an office — it has happened — he gets a call.

By day, Giles is an information specialist for the School of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering. But as night falls, this longtime cat rescuer and tamer is scanning the grounds of the north end of campus and the parking lots and alleyways of metro Atlanta in search of homeless felines.

With help from other members of the Tech community, including professors, librarians, maintenance workers and deans, Giles and Johnson work to keep the campus cat population in check.

Kittens and tame abandoned cats are caught and cared for by foster parents, often Tech faculty or staff, until permanent homes are found for them. Adult feral cats are trapped, spayed or neutered, vaccinated for rabies and returned to campus, where they live out the rest of their lives. Giles, Johnson and three other Tech employees act as caregivers for these cats, keeping an eye on their health and providing them with dry food and fresh water at seven discreet feeding stations.

Even though many people at the Institute know of its existence, this under-the-radar, volunteer-based cat management program receives no campus funding. Caregivers buy the food and until recently paid for all veterinary visits. Johnson said Fulton County Animal Services now covers the cost of spaying and neu-
Steven Johnson, photographed here with Burdell, has been caring for the cats at Tech for nearly 14 years.
The cats are here because the environment supports them, not because we feed them. All our feeding stations do is bring the cats together so we can monitor them.

tering the animals because it recognizes Georgia Tech as having a managed cat colony.

With its lush landscaping and endless nooks and crannies, the Georgia Tech campus provides a perfect respite for homeless felines seeking some peace and quiet from the hustle of the Atlanta streets. Most of the cats are feral, that is the wild offspring of abandoned cats, and are frightened by humans. They sunbathe in the secluded grassy knolls around the Architecture Building and seek shelter in the storm drains of the library or crawlspace of Tech Tower.

“The cats are here because the environment supports them, not because we feed them,” Johnson said. “All our feeding stations do is bring the cats together so we can monitor them.”

Trapper Johnson

Librarian Jeff Carrico watches over the cats living near the library’s loading dock. He tops off bowls with food and fresh water each day at the library feeding station and on three-day weekends drives to campus from his home in Douglasville to feed the cats.

One afternoon in March, he spotted an unfamiliar gray tabby nibbling on the food. The cat was frail and had trouble walking and eating. Concerned, Carrico e-mailed Johnson and gave him a description of the cat. Johnson told Carrico not to worry, that he’d be on the lookout for the tabby.

The following day, Johnson stepped out of the Student Center into the afternoon sun, walked to the parking lot and pulled a metal cage from the bed of his pickup truck. Kneeling on the sidewalk, he emptied a can of wet cat food onto a paper plate. He dropped a spoonful of the food just inside the cage door and put the plate near the back. He crossed the lawn and placed the cage near a bench, under which the gray tabby lay nestled in the shade.

Johnson stepped back several feet. The trap was set. Now all he had to do was wait. He stood with arms crossed and eyes set on the cat, waiting for the aroma of a Fancy Feast dinner to tempt him into the cage.

The enticement worked. In less than a minute the cat finished the few morsels at the front, made his way to the back and stepped over the trip lever that dropped the cage door.

“We’ve got a trapped cat,” Johnson said. Johnson placed a blanket over the cage and returned it to the bed of his truck. “We put the cover over it in order to calm him down, and he’s going to go back to eating that food. He’s been having trouble eating, … That gives us an idea it might be one of his teeth.

“That’s pretty much it for trapping the cat,” Johnson said. “That’s one of the easier ones.”

For catching kittens, which tend to work themselves into the hardest-to-reach places, Johnson has a long pole affixed with a net. And for trapping the more wily feral cats or the occasional raccoon, fox or opossum that shows up at a feeding station, Johnson arms himself with a pair of coveralls, gloves, boots and a hat. He’s already guarded against rabies. (He has trapped so many feral cats over the years that his veterinarian insisted he receive the pre-rabies exposure vaccine.)

Trapping usually takes place at night, when cats are most active. Johnson recalled one Friday night expedition to trap a litter of kittens living in containers on the Student Center loading dock. To his surprise, the mother cat darted into the cage within a few minutes. But it took him until 4:30 in the morning to get the last kitten into the cage.

“I’m sitting on the loading dock, and … before I know it, I’ve got two police cars with the blue lights flashing pulling up because the Dining Services security camera saw somebody hanging around the loading dock,” he said.

Luckily for Johnson, officers in the second cruiser knew him.

“That’s one of the things we’ve learned, to call the desk sergeant so they can tell the shift, ‘Oh, by the way, over by the stadium or up by the president’s house, you’ve got crazy people with cages that are draped that look like bombs who are going to be hiding in the bushes,’” Johnson said. “It’s a matter of getting to know people and getting the word out.”

There’s probably a lot more trapping to be done in the coming months.

Johnson said college campuses are the No. 3 spot for dumping unwanted cats, right after veterinary offices and animal shelters. Students often abandon cats when their parents won’t allow them to bring home the pets they’ve been keeping. And Johnson thinks people outside of campus...
probably dump off unwanted cats because they consider college students to be kind-hearted souls who will feed the cats.

The cat program volunteers have found countless kittens dropped off near trash containers or at the recycling center after move-out time.

Johnson has one of those cats at home. Scamper was just 4 weeks old when he was fished out of a garbage bin by a maintenance man after students left campus one year for summer break.

Scamper, now 12 years old, was Johnson’s first Tech cat. Of the seven cats he has at home, five are from campus.

“I did not intend on having that many, but I also socialize the kittens. Through the course of that, there’s always that one in the litter that’s a little special ... so out of the four kittens you socialize, only three go up for adoption. That’s one of the hazards of this.”

In the Beginning

Johnson first became aware that Georgia Tech had a cat problem back in 1997. He was working in the housing department at the time and receiving a number of calls from students who had spotted kittens and injured cats near dorms. After countless visits to animal control and the Atlanta Humane Society to drop off cats, Johnson and a co-worker in Facilities, Susan Wardrope, realized they needed to go after the root of the problem — the mating queens and tomcats. They learned about the trap-neuter-return method of feral cat management through the Web site for the Alley Cat Allies advocacy group.

Socializing a feral cat sometimes can be done but requires dedication and patience. When taken to shelters, even no-kill adoption centers, these cats often are euthanized because they cannot be placed in homes.

According to the LifeLine Animal Project, an advocate of trap-neuter-return programs that provides low-cost spay and neuter services through its clinic in Avondale Estates, animal control spends an average of $110 for every feral cat it traps, impounds and euthanizes.

Supporters of the trap-neuter-return philosophy also argue that removing feral cats from an area only exacerbates the problem; new cats will move into the area, and those left in the colony will continue to breed.

The Humane Society of the United States now is an advocate of community-based trap-neuter-return programs, calling them “the most viable, long-term approach available at this time to reduce feral cat populations.”

Johnson and Wardrope began wrangling cats on the east side of campus, where a colony of 19 cats was producing about five litters of kittens each year. They soon expanded their operations to the west side of campus, which had a colony of eight cats.

Johnson recalled in the early days of the program once having five pregnant cats in cages at his home. “They all gave birth the same night. I immediately went from five cats to five cats plus 19 kittens.”

In 2000, Johnson placed an ad in the faculty/staff newspaper inviting all those interested in the welfare of the campus cats to a meeting at the Student Center. Only six or seven staff members and professors showed up, but Johnson realized he and Wardrope were not alone and that Tech’s cat problem was much worse than he originally had thought.

Shortly thereafter, they conducted a survey and discovered Tech had 179 cats.

Though Wardrope since has moved on from Tech, Johnson has been practicing the trap-neuter-return basics for nearly 14 years. During that time, the Tech cat population has been reduced to between 44 and 48 cats.

Several feral cats in the program have lived happily on campus for years. Marmalade, an orange and white cat, has dwelled in the drainage system by the Student Center for about six years. And then there was Marmalade’s companion, a gray tabby named Melanie that died just last year. She was thought to be 16 years old, the oldest campus cat.

Johnson recalled luring Melanie into a trap after her litter of five kittens went into it. The kittens were adopted, and Melanie was returned to campus after being spayed.

Eventually Melanie could identify her caregiver’s car when he pulled into the parking lot. The campus volunteers took Melanie to the vet as she developed health issues and began giving her antibiotics in her final days.

“When it came time for us to pick her up and take her in, she came to us,”
Johnson said. “She actually died in my lap at home. At least she knew who was caring for her.”

A Home for Burdell

Giles’ office is littered with cat stuff. There are photos of her cats — she has five and fosters several more, many of them from Georgia Tech — and there is a Crazy Cat Lady action figure. The knickknacks sometimes serve as conversation starters with the engineering students she meets working in communications for the School of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, giving her the opportunity to educate more students about the campus cat program and the importance of being responsible pet owners.

Giles goes through about 10 bags of cat food each week. That’s not just for the cats she cares for at her two feeding stations on the north end of campus but for the dozens of other cats she monitors around metro Atlanta.

She began working with her first cat rescue group in 1998 and for 10 years volunteered after work and on weekends as an adoption counselor at PetSmart. Giles said she developed a reputation of being able to tame adult feral cats and often was sent the wild ones.

“A lot of people have jokingly called me a cat whisperer. Some ‘listen,’ others don’t, of course,” Giles said. “Sometimes if you tame them when they’re too old, they’ll be a baby with you, but with anyone else they’re under the bed.”

Although Giles has worked at Tech since 2000, it wasn’t until her department moved to the Ford Environmental Science & Technology Building in 2003 that she became aware of the number of cats on campus. She remembered leaving the office late one afternoon and seeing five cats perched on a wall.

Giles now cares for cats living in the president’s glade and the recycling center. Her feeding stations are two of the most trafficked because of their proximity to 10th Street and Home Park. She hopes to soon be able to make a bigger commitment to the campus cats.

After years of work, Giles and business partner Kathy Thornton opened a no-kill, cage-free cat adoption center at the end of April. The nonprofit Krazy About Kats Foundation (krazyaboutkats.com), located in Gwinnett County, will serve as a halfway house for many of the kittens found on the Georgia Tech campus.

Kittens that are under 8 weeks old, considered young enough to be socialized, are
Friends and Foes

After trapping the gray tabby, Johnson toured the campus feeding stations. Caregivers avoid setting them up near building entrances and places where people congregate. Instead they are hidden away in less-traveled spots, often camouflaged by trees and shrubbery.

Johnson's eyes scanned bushes, ditches and storm drains in search of cats not in the program. They're easy enough to identify. Once spayed or neutered and vaccinated, the cats are ear-tipped to let animal control and caregivers know they've already been fixed.

Johnson paused when he came to a quiet clearing on the east end of the Skiles building in which a couple of students sat on benches poring over books and eating lunch.

"This is one of the places we have to go when we police because we have to make sure no one's put out food for them. This is not a feeding station for the cats. We don't want them drawn here because we don't want complaints," he said.

When Johnson or Giles find that someone has been leaving out leftover food for the cats, they either will track that person down or leave a note to let him know someone is looking after the cats and feeding them nutritional food. It is not just the students who leave out food. Construction workers also have soft spots for kittens and are known to leave out chicken wings, a big no-no.

"Don't bring out chicken, don't bring food out of the dining facilities to feed the cats," Johnson warned. "Number one, it looks messy on campus, and that's one of the things we try to maintain is a clean feeding station so it doesn't become an eyesore. Because if it becomes an eyesore, all it takes is a vice president or someone to snap his fingers and say, 'Go away.'"

The campus cat program has its friends and its foes.

There are about 30 or so cat lovers on campus who are kept up-to-date on the cats via e-mail and who serve as backup feeders when caregivers are on vacation. Then there are the critics who have tried to shut down the program. Perhaps the most outspoken are a few members of the American Bird Conservancy who work at Tech.

"The American Bird Conservancy ... basically will not understand that cats are not killing every songbird they see," Johnson said. "Cats, they mainly go after rodents. That's their primary prey."

Johnson said in all of his years caring for the campus cats, he has seen only one cat catch a bird. Instead, the "presents" the felines leave their caregivers often are squirrels, chipmunks and rats.

"They're doing exactly what they're supposed to do. They're predators that have found a niche in this environment. And when you look at the natural balance of it, if you remove one of the predators, you'll have an explosion of the prey animals," said Johnson, who claims that the campus cats consistently outperform Tech's pest control company.

Johnson said Tech's program has become a model for cat management initiatives nationwide. His expertise in the trapping trade has led Atlanta animal shelters to recruit him to help out with cat issues across town and to speak to groups interested in starting community-based management programs of their own.

He's even spoken to groups at area colleges and universities, including Oglethorpe, Georgia State and the University of Georgia, which has a nonprofit organization dedicated to caring for and prohibiting the growth of the feral cat colony on its campus as well as a sister organization run by students.

Although Johnson, Giles and company may not have their work sanctioned by the Institute, a new student organization does. Just this past fall, the Animal Welfare Association (awa-gt.blogspot.com) was chartered on campus.

"With hundreds of thousands of animals being euthanized in metro Atlanta alone simply due to lack of homes, we felt that it was our duty as students to do what we
could for the animals on our campus and in our community," said club founder Mary Piantadosi, an international affairs major who has volunteered with the Atlanta and Georgia humane societies.

Now more than 50 members strong, the club already has helped out the campus cat program volunteers. In October, the students rescued three feral kittens, which they domesticated. Two already have found permanent homes with help from the Georgia Humane Society.

**A Last Refuge**

George P. Burdell, the orange and white feline, recently returned to his "alma mater" for a photo shoot. He was accompanied by Trasher, a deaf, blue-eyed, white polydactyl, or six-toed Hemingway cat, found near the Tech recycling center and adopted by Giles.

Several students and professors passing through the atrium of the Ford building stopped to pet the cats on their way out. Unfortunately, not all of the cats found on the Tech campus have such happy endings. Later that same day, the gray tabby that Johnson had trapped just hours before was found to have a number of terminal health issues during a visit to the vet.

In an e-mail to the other cat program volunteers a couple of days later, Giles said she had decided the most humane thing to do was to "end his misery." She hoped they all agreed with her decision.

In response, Johnson wrote, "It's not the first cat on campus that we were able to be their last refuge and send them safely on their way in peace."

He invited caregivers to contribute to the cost of cremating the cat, which he had named Aero for the database he keeps.

Though Aero’s stay on campus was short-lived, he befriended several Tech employees nonetheless. In response to the news, Carrico recounted a visit he'd had with the cat just days before at the library’s feeding station.

"After he ate, which he had a hard time doing, I sat under the tree with him as we had before, and we talked for a while," Carrico wrote. "He always was a good listener and seemed to enjoy the companionship. ... I guess I was the last person who was able to hang out with Aero. He really was a sweetheart, and I'll miss having him stop by to visit and hang out under the tree.

"Thank you all for helping these animals. I hate to think what their lives might be like if it wasn’t for all of your interventions.”
Most photos of the famed French painter Marcel Duchamp show him at a chessboard. Duchamp began focusing less on art in 1918 and dedicated himself to the game, a preoccupation that led members of the art community to criticize him for wasting his time. Duchamp’s wife was so annoyed with his habit she once glued the chess pieces to the board of his set.

“The chess pieces are the block alphabet which shapes thoughts; and these thoughts, although making a visual design on the chessboard, express their beauty abstractly, like a poem,” Duchamp said. “I have come to the personal conclusion that while all artists are not chess players, all chess players are artists.”

Duchamp’s name arose time and again at the Art History of Games symposium, held jointly by Georgia Tech’s Ivan Allen College and the Savannah College of Art and Design at the High Museum of Art earlier this year. The event served to credit video games with the same regard Duchamp gave to chess. Thus, he was referred to repeatedly as “the patron saint of gamers.”

One of those to canonize Duchamp was Celia Pearce, an assistant professor of digital media at Tech and director of the Experimental Game Lab and the Emergent Game Group. Originally a writer who went on to design video games, board games and amusement park rides, Pearce has been a champion of games as an art form since the 1980s.

But, she said, much of academia has long looked at video games as “the medium that dare not speak its name.”

When she turned in a curriculum for a proposed master’s program in interactive art at the University of Southern California, other faculty members excised every use of the word “game,” Pearce said.

“I left there in part because I was a bit disgruntled about that,” she said.

Early on, she would hear from journalists only if they were writing articles about how video games supposedly made children violent. She remarked that none of her video game-obsessed students has ever been violent.

Pearce joined Tech’s games program in 2006. While Pearce continued to strive to earn games mainstream respect, the younger generations that made up her students needed no convincing. She said every class she’s ever taught has been overenrolled.

“We want to elevate games to the cultural status they...
We want to elevate games to the cultural status they deserve. They’re on par with books or movies. I feel like I’m on the side of the future.”

The question “Are games art?” never was discussed at the Art History of Games symposium. Instead, the leading game designers and theorists from around the world in attendance talked about the artistry of games.

Not only must the games refrain from having central characters kill enemies to advance, but Pearce also pushes students to not allow the main character to die. “What things beyond death signify a restart?” she asks them.

Students work through those constraints in the Experimental Games Lab on the third floor of the Skiles building. It’s a shared room for faculty and students with computers for programming, board games, nearly every gaming console ever created and a library of games. Pearce noted that the lab accepts donated games. On another shelf a book about game theory sits next to a Max Payne strategy guide.

The projects that come out of the lab tend to redefine games in significant ways, such as professor Ian Bogost’s combination of video games and journalism. Other developing games include one about Ellis Island, one called Mermaids with an ecological focus and a PhD thesis based on Pride and Prejudice.

Illustration by Torion Parker

We want to elevate games to the cultural status they deserve. They’re on par with books or movies. I feel like I’m on the side of the future.”

They’ve been ruined in a way by their success,” she said. “For game design, I have a commitment to innovation.”

Students in Pearce’s game design class have a surprise coming if they expect just to learn the technical demands of creating a video game. For the first four weeks of class, they don’t even talk about video games, much less play or design them.

Instead, they study folk games that were handed down from one generation to the next. The first assigned book is a history of the queen chess piece and how its role in the game corresponded to cultural changes as queens came to wield more influence.

Pearce said the effort corresponds to the broader mission of the School of Literature, Communication and Culture to take a humanistic approach to technology.

“I’m trying to get them to wrap their heads around the idea that video games are part of a tradition that goes back much farther,” Pearce said. “With computer games, I talk about who made them and why.”

She said most gamers know all of the technical aspects of Space Wars, the first vector graphics arcade game released in 1977. But few know it was inspired by a science fiction novel.

Once students finally start coming up with their own games, they’re forced to abide by Pearce’s rules that prohibit cliches. And of those, one is central: No killing.

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The Art of Gaming

The question “Are games art?” never was discussed at the Art History of Games symposium. Instead, the leading game designers and theorists from around the world in attendance talked about the artistry of games.

“Games are a dynamic and alive form of art,” said Michael Nitsche, one of the event organizers and an assistant professor at Tech. “We only lose time if we return to a debate on whether they are art or not. This conference was a milestone of the discussion.”
Presenters focused on the influence of other art forms on games and the past, present and future of games as an art form. Tech professor Jay David Bolter and postdoctoral researcher Brian Schrank presented research on avant-garde video games, including the Jodi art collective's work in stripping down the code of games such as Doom until they become almost abstract forms.

"It forces you to become conscious of the game's conventions," Schrank said of such games. "They make the familiar unfamiliar."

Frank Lantz, a game developer and director of the New York University Game Center, called for theorists and developers to not forcibly group games with other mediums of art but to embrace the wildness of games.

"Instead of formalizing them, we should embrace games as weird," Lantz said. "Games are like an art form for Asperger sufferers."

The event also featured commissioned games. While watching the attendees play on computers and on an oversized game board and unite in discussion, Nitsche said he was energized about the medium.

"The symposium will provide a good foundation for future work — both in academia and game design practice," Nitsche said. "This is my hope."

PLAYING TOGETHER

Pearce looks at video games in the same way that Duchamp looked at chess — that there is beauty in the movement of the pieces, the flow of the game and the interaction of the players.

"Spore is one of the most innovative uses of computer science ever," Pearce said. "It isn't thought of as computer science."

Though a staunch supporter of games now, Pearce said she didn't care for them much when she began working for a game design company in 1983. She had preferred pinball as a youth, but when Pong debuted in 1972, she took an interest.

"I really liked Pong," she said. "I still think it's one of the best games ever."

The next game to capture her attention was the original SimCity, released in 1989. There was artistry in the design of the game and the way it utilized the computer, Pearce said.

Later, she became a fan of the immersive fantasy game Myst and then began both participating in and researching massive multiplayer online role-playing games and virtual worlds such as Uru, Lineage and Second Life.

Her most recent book, Communities of Play, follows a group that united in one virtual world, Uru, and relocated to another world, There.com, after Uru shut down. When There.com closed down in March, Pearce eulogized the site for Gamasutra.com.

"The long-term sustainability of a community rests largely on the social bonds between its members," she wrote. "One of the most important findings of my MMORPG research has been that players come for the game but stay for the people."

The growth of online multiplayer games has given people with disabilities or with social phobias a way to interact with others, she said. These games also return the medium to its board game roots.

When arcade games first popularized video games, it established gaming as a solitary activity, Pearce said.

"All games used to be multiplayer," she said. "Solitaire was an anomaly."

In recent years, that trend is turning. Between online role-playing games, multiplayer games like Wii Bowling and interactive systems like Xbox Live, video games are full of opportunities to socialize.

Another type of socializing is crucial to advancing games, Pearce said, and that is bringing game developers and researchers together.

While the Art History of Games symposium united like-minded people from different countries, a new effort is rallying those on Tech's campus. Games at Georgia Tech is a new overarching brand that will encompass all video game-related work done at the Institute.

Pearce said faculty from several colleges and departments are working on different aspects of gaming, but often they don't work together.

"We all have informal relationships, but then we find some music guy who has a game," she said. "We want to find the people who are hidden and make [our work] more coherent to the outside world."

DEVELOPING THE FUTURE

While gaming has come a long way since Pearce became an academic, she still sees areas of improvement.

She'd like to see better discourse and writing about games, for one.

"Most is like, 'This version has 17 more weapons available than the last one,'" she said. "There's a lot of interesting stuff to be
said more than how many guns there are.”

Pearce praised the establishment of the iPhone and other mobile devices as gaming platforms for leading to a boom in more creative independent games. She expects the merging of alternative reality games with mobile devices will be the next evolution in gaming.

She also still sees a lot of room for improvement in game developers’ treatment of women. While most board games were marketed to males and females, video games often are targeted at young males.

Pearce was pleased when, in a recent class, a female and male student both turned in papers disparaging the gender stereotypes in a recently released game.

As her students graduate and go on to work at big studios like EA and Zynga, Pearce is encouraged that mainstream games also will become more diverse.

“Hopefully they take that level of enlightenment and make better games,” she said.

Pearce at least can take comfort in one development. Her old department at Southern California, once so game averse, is now called the Electronic Arts Interactive Entertainment Program — named for the gaming studio.
If it were not for the walker that helps get him from place to place, 99-year-old James Tipton would appear to be a much younger man. He carries on a conversation without the use of hearing aids. When he smiles, he shows the teeth that erupted from his own gums.

He doesn’t tire as he shares the story of his life over a nearly five-hour interview. How can he have vivid memories of an experience in 1915 but a 50-something can’t remember where he left his car keys?

Technically, Tipton is aging — aged even. Why doesn’t he act like he’s an old man?

Research at Georgia Tech seeks answers to a wealth of questions regarding cognitive aging. Could playing a Wii game help slow mental deterioration more effectively than doing a crossword puzzle?

Studies in the School of Applied Physiology could lead to products designed specifically to help improve older adults’ neuromuscular functions.

A glove developed at the Georgia Tech Research Institute allows anyone to feel what it’s like to have arthritis and provides incentives to find effective treatments and develop assistive technologies.

Someday it may not be so remarkable to recount century-old experiences, although it’s hard to imagine Jim Tipton’s story being anything but remarkable.
He closes his eyes and sees himself, a young boy of 6 or so, standing outside the courthouse, its windows thrown open, an attempt to catch any breeze that may be sneaking through the summer scorch. He can hear the lawyer’s booming trial voice, his father’s voice, arguing the case before the jury. He smiles. The memory is as clear as the crystal south Georgia sky that day more than 90 years ago.

James Tipton, Com 31, opens his eyes. He’s 99 now, 100 come Aug. 25, telling his story in a sunroom of the stately assisted living home in which he resides in Cambridge, Mass.

He nods when told the boyhood memory sounds like a scene from To Kill a Mockingbird. That brings to mind another recollection from that time, one not so pleasant. He remembers walking to the courthouse hand in hand with his father. They happened upon a Ku Klux Klan march.

“His hand tightened on mine,” says Tipton, who never could understand the disparate treatment of blacks and whites. Even before starting kindergarten, he asked his mother why he must refer to the neighborhood women as Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Jones, but the black washerwoman was called by her first name only. “That’s just the way it is,” he was told.

His visitor leans forward and asks for the secret to remembering so clearly the way it was. Tipton refers to a New Yorker article he read once. It was an interview with a 110-year-old Soviet Georgian man, who boasted he had always indulged in alcohol, cigarettes and women.

Tipton believes his long life and long memory have more to do with his genes than lifestyle. He too drinks now and then. He smoked for four or five years. “And I’ve enjoyed women of various ages.”

Through his reflections, Tipton helps
I would go down to talk to Dot Crosland fairly frequently. On one occasion, she said, ‘Jimmy, why don’t you ask Betty Reynolds for a date?’ I said, ‘Well, she’s 10 years younger than me.’ But I did. It worked its way fairly quickly.

keep his mind sharp. He tests himself about dates and names. He recites facts about his hometown, Sylvester, Ga., by rote. “Sylvester was halfway between the Atlantic coast and the Alabama line and about 100 miles north of Florida. My memory is that it was the highest piece of land in that area, 250 feet above sea level.

“I had four brothers, one died in infancy,” he continues. “The three others lived into adulthood. I was the third of the four who lived, but they’re all gone now.”

He remembers Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1918, and says the news came prematurely to Sylvester, a false alarm a couple of days early. The Tipton family was ecstatic that World War I had ended. His father had been called to serve, and his pressed uniform was laid out on a bed.


Tipton played football in high school and at South Georgia A&M, now Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, until he sustained a career-ending shoulder injury. He transferred to Georgia Tech as a junior.

His early days at Tech support the notion that his direct ties to the Alumni Association go back farther than anyone else living.

“My two older brothers had gone to school at Mercer College and had joined a fraternity. When I got to Tech, with their help, I was invited to join the fraternity, SAE. The then-secretary of the Alumni Association was Jack Thiesen, who was a member of that same fraternity. So I met Mr. Thiesen on two or three occasions during my first year,” Tipton begins.

“During that summer after my junior year when I went home to Sylvester it was the Depression. The Depression started in south Georgia long before the rest of the country. I learned on that visit that my family would not be able to afford to send me back for my senior year.

“I wrote Mr. Thiesen a letter explaining that I would not be able to come back. I very quickly got a letter back from him saying, ‘Would you be able to come back if I offered you a job as my secretary?’ My memory is it paid $100 a month. Anyway, it was enough. I was able to go back to Tech and graduate by working in his office. It was a help to me, a real big help.”

Tipton’s first residence in Atlanta was just a room off campus. The rent did not include meals, so he ate most frequently at “Frank Gordy’s restaurant, the Varsity. The Yellow Jacket was on the corner of West Peachtree, as I recall. The Varsity was cheaper than the Yellow Jacket. That’s my memory. I used to sit on a couch at the Varsity and read the Atlanta Constitution in the morning.”

After graduation in 1931, Tipton stayed on as Thiesen’s secretary. In time, however, the Depression affected operations of the Alumni Association, which could no longer afford Tipton’s salary.

“One of my jobs was to remind alumni who made pledges that they owed money. When he turned me out, he told me he could continue to have me raise money from alumni, so I set myself up in one of my lawyer friend’s offices. That paid some money,” Tipton says.

He played tennis at Piedmont Park with Georgia Tech’s assistant treasurer, who suggested Tipton apply for the job when he
resigned. The tip led to landing the position under treasurer Frank H. Houston. "The job of assistant treasurer did not include living expenses, but I had gotten to know Arthur Armstrong extremely well. At that time he was secretary of the Athletic Association. In addition to that, he had responsibility for the dormitories," says Tipton, who became a live-in residence hall supervisor and was the first at Techwood Dorm.

"The president was still Brittain when I was in the treasurer’s office. I had a driver’s license, as I recall, and I would drive him on occasion on trips he would take. I have a letter from him recommending me,” says Tipton, who remembers Brittain as “not really too fat but a little bit stout and a very friendly man.”

"He had a lot of friends scattered over the state of Georgia. When he had a speech or something, he could have a state car drive him. Every time he arrived at a new location, wherever I’d driven him to, he would bow down and pick up a little piece of the Georgia earth and stick it to his [lips] because he loved the state of Georgia so much.”

Tipton knew everyone at Tech at that time, “most of them favorably, one or two not so. It was because of being in the treasurer’s office. People came into the treasurer’s office to get their paychecks and various other things, so I got to know them and they got to know me.

"George Griffin was a very good personal friend. George Griffin was a Reserve officer in the Navy. In order to keep that up, he had to go on cruises,” says Tipton, chuckling as he delivers the punch line: "He got seasick on every one of those cruises. He told me that.”

Another good friend was librarian Dorothy Crosland, who hired "three quite attractive assistants," newly graduated women from the University of Georgia, during Tipton’s days in the treasurer’s office. One of those young ladies was named Betty Reynolds.

"I would go down to talk to Dot Crosland fairly frequently. On one occasion, she said, ‘Jimmy, why don’t you ask Betty Reynolds for a date?’ I said, ‘Well, she’s 10 years younger than me.’ But I did. It worked its way fairly quickly,” Tipton says. By that time, Tipton owned a car, and he recalls once driving Betty to her family’s home in Jonesboro via a back road. “I remember parking with the lights on and simply talking — talking,” he says emphatically. “All of a sudden a car rolled up and it was a cop. He inquired about what was going on here. Someone had complained. So we moved along.”

On another drive, he took her to see the house he owned in Marietta and, once there, asked her to marry him. She accepted.

Tipton’s job in the treasurer’s office led to other opportunities as well. During a two-year absence of the regular moderator, economics and social science professor John A. Griffin, Tipton hosted a weekly 30-minute talk show on WGST, Georgia Tech Round Table, that, according to the Technique, was “one of the oldest, if not the oldest, public service programs being broadcast over any Atlanta radio station.”

An article in the student newspaper in the fall of 1939 listed Tipton’s upcoming discussion topics, including international relations, public health engineering and college life.

Tipton also did some public speaking and says he was discussing pacifism at the YMCA, now the Alumni House, on Dec. 7, 1941, when someone burst into the room with news that Pearl Harbor had been attacked.

Two months earlier, Tipton had been reassigned from the treasurer’s office to the Georgia Tech College Inn, “what we called the Robbery, the bookstore and cafeteria. I was the manager, until I was taken to the Army,” he says, not mentioning an April 1942 Technique article that refers to the establishment as Tipton’s Tea Tavern.

“The draft took me to Fort Benjamin Harrison just outside Indianapolis. I arrived there in January of ’43. I was sent to be checked physically, and the weather was something like 20 below zero. I stood in line, and you know, lines were long. By the time I got
Boom Blox Generation

Team studying video game benefits for senior set

By Kimberly Link-Wills

Video game developers may have 15-year-old boys in mind, but game researchers at Georgia Tech are putting controllers in the hands of 85-year-olds in hopes of developing cognitive decline interventions for the elderly.

“Conventional wisdom in our society [says], ‘If I do a crossword, it will keep my mind sharp,’ but research shows it doesn’t have a real general effect on your cognitive ability in terms of working memory, spatial reasoning and all these other measures. ... This idea that I sit down with a brain game and I do simple arithmetic and that’s going to stave off cognitive decline is unfortunately not true,” said Georgia Tech research scientist Maribeth Gandy, CmpE 98, MS CS 99.

Gandy is part of a four-year, $1.25 million, National Science Foundation-funded project between Georgia Tech and North Carolina State University that began with the selection of a game to introduce to study participants, more than 100 assisted living facility residents with an average age of 88.

“We did a pilot study to see what kinds of games older people liked. It was kind of surprising. The game Spore, they hated it. One of the quotes was: ‘I don’t have much time left on this Earth, and I don’t want to spend it playing Spore,’” Gandy said.

Researchers instead are using the Wii game Boom Blox, which involves knocking things down but also has a puzzle component, Gandy said, “kind of like reverse Jenga.”

“It requires them to think in three dimensions. They have to move this virtual camera around, look at the scene. They have to strategize about what they’re going to do,” she said.

Once the game was selected, the Georgia Tech team built a test kit contained in a rolling cart, Gandy said. “There is a little sensor pack that’s in the Wiimote that captures data like their galvanic skin response and their pulse ox. This mobile station lets us gather quantitative and qualitative data about people playing games. We’ve got cameras and microphones. We’re trying to get as much data as we can while these people are playing Boom Blox.”

Gandy said the N.C. State team will determine the components of a successful brain game. “Then here at Georgia Tech we’re going to create an example of one of these games that not only has cognitive benefits but is actually accessible and compelling for older people.

“This is a huge games study of older people to find out not only what helps them cognitively but what they like in a game, what they don’t like, what kinds of interfaces they like and don’t like, what kinds of interfaces are accessible to them physically.”

Gandy said if the researchers determine that playing games such as Boom Blox even slows mental deterioration in older people, “that’s a great finding.”

She acknowledged that game play studies aren’t always taken seriously.

“But we’re taking tasks that would be very beneficial to people and putting them in a context that keeps them motivated, makes them excited to do the activity. They’re doing serious things, they’re just inside this game context.”

She pointed to another of her projects, this one funded by the Health Systems Institute and involving the Georgia Tech Research Institute, focusing on stroke rehabilitation.

The GTRI team is tracking movements, while Gandy and others at the Interactive Media Technology Center are building a game that will require those movements necessary in rehabilitation.

“If you tell someone, ‘Well, you’ve had a stroke, now we want you to go home and every day spend an hour where you [move] your arm,’ no one is going to do that. But if you tell them, ‘We’re going to give you this cheap system you can take home, and it’s going to be kind of a fun thing and track your progress and when your grandson comes over he can play with you,’” the outcome may be different, she said.

Gandy herself is a longtime player of video games.

“My favorite game of all time is probably Super Mario Kart for Nintendo. That came out right about when I started college. I was very good at that,” she said. “Now I play Nintendo DS games because I can play on an airplane, or I’ll play that while my husband plays Xbox. I tend to like puzzle games and things like that, although the game I spend the most time on right now is Rock Band 2. I like to play the drums.”

“A game is any sort of activity that has a goal to it. The activity itself can be very beneficial,” Gandy said. “Playing games is not always a waste of time. We’re looking at how to make game playing very productive.”
Although there are computers with Internet accessibility available at his assisted living facility, Tipton prefers writing letters on his electric typewriter.

One of Tipton’s best friends while at Tech and many years afterward was English professor Glenn Rainey. "Through him, my life changed eminently. He introduced me to people at Atlanta University and Morehouse College. The dean at Morehouse, B.R. Brazeal, became a personal friend because of Glenn Rainey," says Tipton, noting that in the 1930s and ’40s, treasured friendships between blacks and whites were rare, particularly in the South.

"Glenn Rainey introduced me to Lillian Smith while we were both at Georgia Tech. She changed my life enormously. If you don’t know about her, you should. Her father ran a girls camp just outside Clayton, Laurel Falls Camp for Girls. Lillian took over the camp after her father’s death and continued to write as a social critic, particularly of segregation, Tipton says.

After he was drafted, Tipton’s wife stayed on in the rooms they were renting, until she was “kicked out for carrying on a business against the wishes of the owner. She was helping Lillian Smith get her magazine distributed from Atlanta. When I came out of the Army, my wife had moved to Clayton to work as Lillian Smith's secretary. The magazine was called The South Today then. It went through several names.”

Tipton joined Betty in Clayton after he received a medical discharge in 1944 and taught at Rabun County High School for a short time until Rainey helped him acquire a job with the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Tipton was a good candidate, he says, because he was “liberal enough” and had established relationships within the black community. Some memos Tipton wrote while at the FEPC are cited in the book Labor in the Modern South.

The FEPC was established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in an effort to improve job opportunities for blacks and their treatment by employers. Tipton twice saw Roosevelt in person, the first time while he was at Tech.

“My memory is that Franklin Roosevelt came in a limousine and rode around on the track waving his hat,” says Tipton, who was only about 10 feet from the president. He saw him again after he and his wife had moved to New York City through the FEPC.
Aging in a Technological World

When psychology professor Wendy Rogers brings older adults in for studies on technology, she said the participants benefit the researchers, not the other way around.

"Think they help us out more," said Rogers, MS Psy 89, PhD Psy 91. "The participants need to be very blunt."

Rogers said the perception is that older adults dislike or are afraid of technology, but the opposite is true, studies have shown. The key is helping them understand the usefulness of technology and improving the interfaces of robots, computers, medical devices and other technology.

The School of Psychology emphasizes cognitive aging as one of its five research areas and has several labs focusing on cognition, memory, emotional development and technology. Rogers is one of the directors of the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory along with professor Dan Fisk. Much of the lab's research is funded by the National Institute on Aging.

The school has been a national leader on aging for decades. Anderson Smith, a Regents professor of psychology and associate dean of the College of Sciences, established the annual Cognitive Aging Conference in 1986, and Tech has hosted it ever since.

"For the growing aging population, the goal is to help them remain in their own homes," Rogers said. "I've worked with my parents and grandparents and seen the difference in their lives."

Psychology researchers collaborate with faculty members across campus. In one effort, they bring older adults into the Aware Home to study their needs in a home setting.

Rogers said one challenge older people face with technology is their potential over-reliance on automated systems. Whereas people more familiar with technologies such as GPS, when an automated device makes a mistake, older adults are more likely to follow incorrect instructions.

"They rely more heavily on the technology, even when it's faulty," Rogers said. "You have to understand the context to know when it's wrong."

Another project tests older adults' interaction with robots.

Charlie Kemp, director of the Center for Healthcare Robotics, works with psychology researchers to have older adults observe robots that pick things up and do other functions. The goal is to design the robots to assist older adults with everyday activities.

In addition to designing future technology, psychology professors help older adults interact with existing technology such as computers. Their studies found that older people are interested in computers but become frustrated with the complexity of them.

"There's too much expectation," Rogers said. "If they've never worked on a computer, they need a lot of special training."

Another approach is to create special computers with limited functions. To that end, Tech is partnering with Big Screen Live, a company that has designed a computer with a simplified interface.

The school also is preparing a field trial to put computers in the homes of older adults who live on their own and are at risk of social isolation. Researchers believe the computers will allow these people to increase their social connectivity.

Georgia Tech alumni or others interested in taking part in aging research in the School of Psychology may call the Human Factors and Aging Laboratory at (404) 385-0798 or visit aging.org for more information.

— Van Jensen

job. "He was running for re-election for the fourth time. He was already sick. He also drove in his limousine with the top down. It was a very cold, damp, wet day. He took off his hat and waved it to the crowds. That helped him die too early, I think. He died shortly after he was elected the fourth time."

Tipton's life changed dramatically after moving to New York. He acquired master's and doctoral degrees in education at the Teachers College of Columbia University. Copies of his 1953 dissertation, Community in Crisis: The Elimination of Segregation From a Public School System, still are in circulation. And he and Betty, who had been told she would never bear children, adopted first a daughter, then a son. Tipton counts the day he met the baby girl as one of the happiest of his life.

"We got a call from the social worker to come and see a child. When we were shown the 2-month-old, the social worker said, 'Why don't you pick her up?' I reached down, nervously, and picked her up, and she went to sleep on my shoulder," he says.

While a professor at Eastern Connecticut State University, Tipton obtained a Fulbright fellowship to teach overseas. "I applied for one in India. I had read books by Nehru and Ghandi. But I was asked would I accept one in Pakistan? The job was in the sociology department in a master's degree program at the University of Punjab for one year."

So the Tipton family spent 1958-59 in Pakistan. They returned home via a side trip to England. While there, Betty began feeling poorly. Once home, she visited the family doctor, who told her she needed to consult an obstetrician. She gave birth to a healthy daughter, then a son. Tipton counts the day the family was reunited as one of the happiest of his life.

"I have preferred Hillary for various reasons. I've been disappointed with Obama, over this nuclear business especially," says Tipton, who for many years was on the board of the Streit Council for a Union of Democracies. "I voted many times for losers. Adlai Stevenson, I cried when he lost. I thought he would have been
far better than Eisenhower, though Eisenhower did surprise me a bit.”

During his tenure at Eastern Connecticut State, Tipton continued to speak out for civil rights, and tears welled in his eyes as he remembers April 4, 1968, the day the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. was slain in Memphis. A black friend slipped into a meeting Tipton was attending on the university campus, leaned down and whispered in his ear, “Martin has been shot.”

Life marched forward. Eventually, the Tiptons divorced. He felt he should leave the university, where Betty, now deceased, also worked and where today a room and scholarship are named for her.

“I already had friends in Puerto Rico, so I took a part-time teaching position at a private university,” where he taught social science for a decade. He moved to Cambridge, where daughter Laura lives, after he realized his Spanish wasn’t good enough to allow him to live out his retirement years in Puerto Rico.

 Until a few years ago, when a fall left him dependent on a walker and curbed his frequent outings, Tipton routinely attended brown bag seminars given by Henry Louis Gates Jr. at Harvard.

These days he reads a lot, a variety of material. On his coffee table is a hardbound edition of Huckleberry Finn, which he is rereading, the Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine and a novel, So Far Back, which Tipton instructs won the Lillian Smith Book Award in 2001.

Tipton is leaving the planning of his 100th birthday party to his daughter. “She had one with a fairly large number for my 90th. We’ve been talking about it. It will be a smaller number of people. She wants to do something, if I live so long.”

He and his visitor smile. Technically, he’s aging — aged even. But both Tipton and his visitor think there are stories yet to tell.

“I voted many times for losers. Adlai Stevenson, I cried when he lost. I thought he would have been far better than Eisenhower, though Eisenhower did surprise me a bit.”
Neuromuscular Studies Paving Way to Maximizing Body’s Adaptability

By Kimberly Link-Wills

M inoru Shinohara’s lab is housed in one crowded room of the Centennial Research Building, where he and three doctoral students monitor the neuromuscular functions of healthy older adults.

Finding study volunteers in their late 60s and older with no medical issues is difficult. Finding funding is harder.

A National Institutes of Health grant has expired, although Shinohara’s lab still receives some funding from Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense.

The lab sometimes studies individuals with clinical issues, including spinal cord injury, stroke, peripheral neuropathy and amputation. But Shinohara emphasizes the need to understand the physiological mechanisms in healthy people so they may be applied to the clinical population.

“We are mostly dealing with the healthy population. The government is not that interested in giving money for real healthy aging,” Shinohara said. “And we do more basic science than clinical.”

An associate professor in the School of Applied Physiology for four years, Shinohara noted that it was easier to find healthy seniors when he was at the University of Colorado at Boulder than in Atlanta, where he believes there are fewer bike trails, walking paths and organic food stores.

An article in a local newsletter for seniors did bring volunteers — the oldest healthy enough for testing was 86 — and attention to Shinohara’s lab. The clipped-out article is taped to the door to the lab.

Inside, Shinohara and his students press on, conducting hand function studies to look at how the association between brain and muscle activity changes as people age.

Another study examines posture control. “Older adults usually have greater sway,”
Shinohara said, “We’re trying to see if that might be improved by applying some kind of stimulation to the foot. If it works, it might eventually lead to the development of special shoes.”

With both the feet and the hands, “our hypothesis is that stimulation, like a subsensory vibration, may enhance tactile sensation.”

Bringing those vibrating shoes or gloves to market again depends on funding, said Shinohara, who smiled as he suggested, “If there are some Georgia Tech alumni who are interested in donating to us for a particular study to enhance motor functions, then we can hire more students or researchers so that we can make rapid advances.”

In his native Japan, which has the most rapidly aging population on the planet, Shinohara said research-to-market initiatives focus on assistive technology.

“My interest is in humans. I want to use other systems to facilitate or maximize the body’s adaptability,” Shinohara said. “Our bodies have a lot of unused adaptability at any age.”

On one side of the lab, in a contraption that looks like a hollowed-out water heater, a volunteer’s lower body is sealed and the air sucked out.

“Then we stimulate the autonomic nervous system to constrict the blood vessels to maintain blood pressure. In this study we look at the effect of heightened sympathetic nerve activity on motor function. There is the possibility that hypertensive adults may have problems manipulating, not just because of their muscle control, but their autonomic nervous system may be interfering with their motor system,” Shinohara said. “Counterintuitively, we are trying to utilize a positive interference between the autonomic and motor systems to improve motor functions.”

In another area, the volunteer undergoes an electroencephalogram while exercising a finger to document the correlation between brain activity and muscle movement.

“What we usually see is older people use more muscles” to perform functions than young people do as they become more rigid, he said, and thus, “brain activity will be heightened.”

Shinohara also tests muscle function and stiffness through micro-vibration. “Interestingly, the muscular function in older adults is similar to that of young kids. Kids, when they move, use more muscles than necessary. Then they fine-tune their movements as they age. But then after age 65, in a way they come back, not as much as in young kids, but the observation is similar. It gets difficult to isolate those movements.”

It’s all very intriguing to Shinohara.

“The human system is very complicated,” he said, “and so attractive for research.”

To volunteer for a study in the Neuromuscular Physiology Laboratory, telephone (404) 894-9985, e-mail shinohara@gatech.edu or visit the researcher’s Web site ap.gatech.edu/shinohara.
Gloves Simulate Arthritis for Product Developers

The number of Americans with arthritis or chronic joint pain has increased by more than 11 million in the past 25 years. As the country’s population ages, that number will only increase.

To help manufacturers of consumer goods better design products for customers who suffer from arthritis, researchers at the Georgia Tech Research Institute developed arthritis simulation gloves.

The gloves allow wearers to feel the reduced ability to grasp, pinch, turn, lift and twist objects caused by arthritis. Metal wires between layers of neoprene and other fabrics create finger stiffness and reduce finger strength.

The gloves can be used with a variety of consumer products, including medicine bottles, beverage containers, office supplies, medical devices, vehicles and cell phones. They can also be used with many different types of packaging, including clamshell packages, cardboard boxes, cereal containers and foil packages.

Kraft Foods is one of three companies using the gloves to test products and packaging.

“Maxwell House always keeps our consumers’ needs in mind when designing packaging,” said Linda Roman, senior group leader for packaging strategic research at Kraft Foods. “For example, we used the gloves created by the Georgia Tech Research Institute to verify that the lid on our new instant coffee jar is accessible for those who have difficulty opening jars with regular caps. The gloves helped us evaluate the EZ Grip lid to be sure that our lid is, in fact, easy for our consumers to use.”

In addition to identifying ease-of-use issues with products, the gloves are also intended to raise awareness about issues faced by people with disabilities and to support programs focused on ease of use in design. Currently, the Arthritis Foundation in the United States and Arthritis Australia are using the gloves for such educational purposes.

The gloves can be purchased alone, or as part of GTRI’s disability awareness kit, which also includes a low-vision simulation kit, a finger strength simulation kit and a CD training program. The finger strength simulation kit consists of finger exercises that are calibrated to certain amounts of force recommended for packaging and the training program teaches individuals how to use the gloves.

The low-vision simulation kit contains a pair of glasses that simulate common visual disabilities, including various degrees of cataracts, visual acuity problems, contrast sensitivity issues and age-related macular degeneration.

The gloves were created through funding by GTRI’s independent research and development program.

To purchase the arthritis simulation gloves or the disability awareness kit, visit gtri.gatech.edu/facilities/aef.

— Abby Vogel

Alumnus Brings Stroke Prediction Testing to Market

Robert Rhinehart, EE 63, had retired after a career in investment when he met Russian scientist Svetlana Dambinova, who was looking to create a business out of her many inventions. Dambinova, the holder of 36 international patents, discovered that a biomarker called NR2 is more prevalent in the blood when blood flow is restricted to the brain.

In Russia, Dambinova had developed a simple, quick blood test kit for the biomarker. The kit needed to be tested for approval in the United States, and Rhinehart volunteered to be a test subject himself.

Rhinehart had had surgery for aortic stenosis more than a decade earlier and had begun feeling symptoms of heart trouble. Standard tests couldn’t pinpoint the problem, but Dambinova found an increase of NR2 in his blood.

Rhinehart immediately scheduled an angiogram, and his doctor found that a major artery was 95 percent blocked. After a procedure to clear the blockage, Rhinehart was quickly back to full health. Without it, he almost certainly would have suffered a stroke within months.

“My life was saved,” he said. “I’ve become a medical missionary.”

Rhinehart joined Dambinova’s fledgling company, CIS Biotech Inc., and the two have filed for FDA approval for a diagnostic version of the test. They also are developing a predictive test. They have received certification allowing the test to be done at authorized labs. Independent studies have proved the test to be 98 percent accurate.

CIS Biotech recently signed a partnership to have the test available at the Piedmont Heart Institute at Piedmont Hospital in Atlanta.

Those interested in having the test done may contact CIS Biotech at (404) 402-6772 or the Piedmont Heart Institute at (404) 605-5222.

— Van Jensen
TILTING at a Game Design Career

By Van Jensen

Tilt to Live is a deceptively simple game. Designed for the iPhone, it allows players to control an arrow onscreen by tilting the device. The arrow must avoid waves of red dots to survive.

Earning the game dozens of rave reviews are the seemingly endless fun details and bits of personality and humor. The arrow can pick up an armory of weapons to slay the marauding dots, which turn and flee when faced with nuclear bombs or spikes.

"Stop reading this review and get it. Get it now," urged the editors of iphoneappreviews.net, sharing a common sentiment.

Alex Okafor, CS 09, programmed the game with help from an artist friend. Okafor had developed the rough idea of Tilt to Live while at Tech. He said a video game design course taught by Jeff Wilson, CS 99, MS CS 01, and Maribeth Gandy, CmpE 98, MS CS 99, both research scientists in the Interactive Technology Media Center, sealed his fate as a game designer. [For more on Gandy's work, see page 59.]

"Looking back, classes like film history, literature, even world history to me seem like interesting subjects to explore when looking for game ideas," Okafor said. "One of my roommates, who happened to love games and game design as well, really helped push me further along technically and creatively."

Okafor grew up playing video games and was particularly drawn to the first-person shooter genre. He credited the Tribes series of games as pushing him as a designer to create interesting movement controls.

It was the establishment of the iPhone as a gaming platform that pushed Okafor into creating Tilt to Live and abandoning the PC game prototypes he had been developing. The iPhone has capabilities such as Wi-Fi access, GPS, a camera and an accelerometer that other platforms don’t have. The Apple app store also allows small developers like Okafor to compete on a level playing field with big game studios, he said.

"It's almost like a game designer's playground," Okafor said of the iPhone. "I'm excited to see what games will come to this device once more designers start shedding their PC/console paradigms and really start taking advantage of the technologies available."

The accelerometer — which registers the orientation and movement of the device for use as a control — in particular seemed promising.

The central idea of Tilt to Live came to him quickly, and he knocked out "a quick and dirty prototype," he said. With such a basic concept, Okafor knew he needed fun details to make it popular.

"A good bit of the early development was spent creating weapons, but a large chunk of it also was spent on simply trying to polish every detail of the game as much as possible," Okafor said. "With the game being so simple mechanically I felt it was important to make it eye-catching so people who did see it would be intrigued and hopefully give it a try. Trying to sell someone on the concept of tilting an arrow to avoid and kill dots doesn't come across as exciting as seeing it in action."

To that end, he developed behaviors for the dots. When the arrow picks up a weapon, the dots will panic and flee. Other times, the dots assemble into larger shapes such as Pong paddles. Okafor said his goal was to make the
He fleshed out the game over 2009, finally launching it in February. Thanks in part to strong reviews, the game was a hit, becoming one of the most downloaded games in the app store. The success surprised Okafor.

“We initially just hoped we could break even on this game,” he said. “All our play testers thoroughly enjoyed the game, but I didn’t think it’d make as big a splash as it did. A couple of days after launch when all the positive reviews and e-mails started pouring in is when we finally realized Tilt to Live was a bit special.”

Okafor published Tilt to Live through his One Man Left Studios, which he operates part time from Alexandria, Va. The app sells for $1.99 and has a rating of four and a half out of five stars by customers.

Okafor has been pushed to respond to feedback on Tilt to Live, fixing a few bugs and adjusting the game play. He’s preparing to launch some “interesting updates” to add a side-scrolling version of the game and a more difficult mode.

“Every day brings up new challenges I haven’t crossed before since this is our first commercial release,” he said. “It’s a huge learning experience that no amount of classroom time can prepare you for.”

Eventually, though, Okafor, a software engineer by day, plans to move on to new games.

Okafor said he doesn’t have concrete plans yet, though he has “lots of ideas.”

“With the iPad around the corner, I hope to get something on that platform as well very soon, but I’m trying not to bite off more than I can chew right now.”

Attention New Parents...

and grandparents, aunts, uncles, sisters, brothers and friends!
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Georgia Tech Alumni Association
190 North Avenue, NW
Atlanta, GA 30313
or order online at gtalumni.org/shop
1940s

George “Bill” Rogers, AE 45, MS IM 48, of Columbia, S.C., was honored for his lifetime of service by the United Way of the Midlands as 2009 Humanitarian of the Year in February. Rogers, co-founder and chairman of the board of Bonitz Inc. and chairman emeritus of Consolidated Systems, has served on the board of directors of Carolina Children’s Home for more than 20 years. He also has served as a board member of Claflin University and in leadership roles with the Salvation Army and Central Carolina Community Foundation.

1960s

Kenneth G. Byers Jr., EE 66, MS EE 68, has been inducted into the Technology Hall of Fame of Georgia and appointed chair of the Carter Center’s board of councilors for 2010. He joined the board in 2005. The founder and president of Byers Engineering Co., Byers is a Georgia Tech Foundation trustee; a director of The Alpine Group Inc.; and chair of eQuorum Corp.

Joel Doobrow, EE 64, and his wife of 46 years, Phyllis, have moved from his native Charleston, S.C., to Weston, Fla., to be near family. They were active community volunteers in Charleston.

Walter E. Gilbert, IE 66, has served as CEO of a nonprofit Christian adoption agency in Thomasville, Ga., for 15 years. Following graduation, Gilbert earned an MBA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; worked for the Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C., and Fibreboard Corp. in San Francisco; and helped develop Southeast Capital Assets with Lanigan Associates. An active Rotarian for the past 20 years, he received the Paul Harris award for his work in obtaining international grants to assist the poor in various capacities. He and his wife, Jane, Greek Goddess and Sigma Chi Sweetheart of 1966, have been married for 43 years and have two children.

G. Scott “Scotty” McCoy, IM 66, of Sandersville, Ga., has been appointed to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority by Gov. Sonny Perdue. McCoy is a grain merchandising specialist with White Commercial Corp. and past president of McCoy Grain Exchange. He and his wife, Pendery, have two children and four grandchildren.

1970s

Keith J. Aspray, ChE 75, has been promoted to vice president and general manager of the Middle East for Honeywell’s UOP business group. Aspray, who has been with UOP since graduation, will be relocating to Dubai. He most recently was managing director of UOP India, located in New Delhi, and business director for Petrochemicals. He earned an MBA from Northwestern University in 1984 and currently is living in Palatine, Ill., with his wife, JoAnn.

Tom Bacon, MS CE 78, of Ruther Glen, Va., re-
tired from the Navy in 1991 and from the city of Corpus Christi, Texas, in 2007. He now works as director of the operations and maintenance division of the Army at Fort A.P. Hill, Va.

Annie Hunt Burriss, M CP 79, of Augusta, Ga., has been appointed to the Georgia Medical Center Authority by Gov. Sonny Perdue. Burriss serves as special assistant to the president of the Medical College of Georgia. She previously was the executive director of Perdue’s Commission for a New Georgia, the governor’s deputy chief of staff and the University System of Georgia’s associate vice chancellor for economic development. She now is pursuing a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania. She and her husband, Wood, have two children.

Lauralee Cromarty, IM 78, has been named to the advisory board committee for the University of New Haven’s newly reorganized industrial, system and multidisciplinary department. She will serve a three-year term.

Gregory G. Dess, IE 71, received an honorary doctorate from the University of Bern in Switzerland in December. He is the Andrew R. Cecil endowed chair in applied ethics at the University of Texas at Dallas. He and his wife, Margie, and daughter, Taylor, live in Frisco, Texas.

Kurt Hoge, Psy 79, earned a master of divinity degree from Biblical Theological Seminary in Hatfield, Pa. Hoge is an IT manager for New York Life Insurance Co. in Lebanon, N.J.

Craig Jones, MS AE 71, is the senior structures engineer at the Missile Defense Agency’s airborne laser test bed program office at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. Jones spent 20 years at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, N.M., and retired as a lieutenant colonel after 26 years in the Air Force and Air Force Reserve.

1980s

E. Steve DeWeese, IE 84, of Vienna, Va., led a team that wrote “Capability of the People’s Republic of China To Conduct Cyber Warfare and Computer Network Exploitation.” The report has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, New York Times and Washington Post. It was written for the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission and is available at uscc.gov. As program director at the Prospective Group in Washington, D.C., DeWeese advises State Department executives of the Bureau of Information Resource Management. His son, Jack, attends Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and his daughter, Kate, attends Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology.

Eugene “Gene” D. Dunwody Jr., Arch 85, of Macon, Ga., has been appointed to the state licensing board for residential and general contractors as an architect representative by Gov. Sonny Perdue. Dunwody is an architect and partner at Dunwody/Beeland Architects Inc. He is married to B.J. Dunwody and has three children and three stepchildren.

Frank Fuerst, MS IM 83, of Atlanta, is in training for a cross-country cycling tour in June as part of the Race Across America. He has teamed up with three friends to raise $200,000 for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Fuerst is the co-founder and CEO of B2B Technologies, an IT professional services company. Donate at gachaingang.org.

Kenn Gardner, Arch 80, M Arch 83, has been elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects. He will be recognized at the organization’s national convention in June. Gardner practices in Raleigh, N.C. He and his wife, Betty Brinkley Gardner, Biol 80, who teaches genetics at North Carolina State University, have three daughters.

Steven Justice, AE 80, has been named director of Georgia’s Center of Innovation for Aerospace. Justice is the founder of Aviation Science & Commerce and Advanced Aviation Products LLC and most recently was vice president of engineering for the Ginn Group in Peachtree City.

Stanton Lanier, Chem 86, a pianist, released his sixth CD in December. December Peace was named the 2009 Best Holiday Album by the ZMR Music Awards.

Marcus Lewis, Che 83, was named industrial vice president for Rhodia, North America, in Cranbury, N.J., in January. He is responsible for health, safety, environmental and security programs for the North American zone and oversees the manufacturing services activities, including the North American engineering and reliability functions. He has been with Rhodia for more than 12 years, most recently as plant manager for the Baton Rouge, La., site. He and his wife, Laurie Miller Lewis, IsyE 83, have two children, Erica, a junior at Davidson College, and Matt, a freshman at Elon University.

Theresa Maldonado, EE 81, MS EE 82, PhD EE 90, was named director of the Energy Engineering Institute in the Texas Engineering Experiment Station and selected as associate vice chancellor for research for the Texas A&M University System. Maldonado has been at Texas A&M since 2003.

Gary Miller, MS Mgt 85, of Sheridan, Wyo., is the founder and chief investment officer of Frontier Asset Management LLC, which outperformed its benchmark, the S&P 500 Index, for the 11th consecutive year.

Kevin H. Posey, IM 86, of Alexandria, Va., was appointed to the citizens advisory committee of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments’ transportation planning board. Posey, who recently completed the board’s leadership training institute, also is a member of the Alexandria traffic and parking board and the city’s new transportation com-
mission. Posey acquired emergency response certification through the Community Anti-Terrorism Training Institute and weather spotter training through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. In 2009, Posey was appointed to the Alexandria regional board of the United Way.

Galen Kilpatrick Smith, IE 82, has achieved both internal and external certification from the Project Management Institute as a project management professional and IBM certified executive project manager. For 2009, her project was awarded IBM Project of the Year.

Robert N. “Bob” Stargel Jr., EE 83, vice president of global nonwovens for Kimberly-Clark Corp., has been named to Savoy Professional magazine’s 2010 list of the top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America. Stargel is a member of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association board of trustees.

Mark O. Wilson, EE 85, and his wife, Maria, announce the birth of a daughter, Pricilla Maria, on Dec. 22. Wilson works for Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Peter H. Wright, NE 85, in February joined the Department of Defense’s Missile Defense Agency as chief of the requirements and verification division under the system engineering and integration directorate for the ground-based midcourse defense program in Huntsville, Ala. Previously, he was a principal system engineer with more than 25 years of experience in private industry, the Air Force and the Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

1990s

Dwight Alcala, BC 95, and his wife, Kristy, of Kennesaw, Ga., announce the birth of a son, Miles Samson, on Feb. 11. Alcala is director of construction management for Perennial Properties Inc., an Atlanta-based multifamily developer.

Dana Camp Austin, TE 93, and husband Todd Austin, BC 92, announce the birth of a daughter, Mia Lou, on Feb. 9. Mia joins siblings Jacob, Callie, Jalen and Luke at the family’s home in Ball Ground, Ga. Dana is a full-time mother, and Todd is self-employed.

Scott P. Belanger, PhD EE 96, is employed as a principal engineer with SRI International in Ann Arbor, Mich. SRI International is an independent, nonprofit research institute that conducts client-sponsored research and development. Belanger’s responsibilities at SRI include business development, project management and systems engineering of remote sensing systems.

Kelly Briggs, Mgt 99, recently founded Strategi Staffing, a woman-owned professional staffing organization that serves clients in central and north Florida on a temporary, temporary-to-hire and direct-hire basis. She and her husband, Scott Jackson, Mgt 00, live in Orlando.

JaCee M. Burnes, Mgt 93, has been promoted to vice president of treasury operations and assistant treasurer at Exelon. Burnes is responsible for cash management, liquidity and credit analysis. She also oversees rating agency relationships and serves as treasury liaison between Exelon and the corporate and investment banking community. Burnes joined Exelon in 2003.

LaCresha Denise Chatman, ABiol 99, a microbiologist with the Food and Drug Administration’s Southeast regional laboratory, now is a registrant of the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. In December, she became certified as a registered microbiologist in consumer product quality assurance microbiology specializing in food.

Ronald L. Collins, Arch 94, has been promoted to senior associate at KPS Group Inc. Collins, who was one of the first LEED-accredited professionals in Alabama, chairs KPS Group’s green team. He joined the firm in 2000.

Lisa Crockett Richmond, Mgt 99, and her husband, Jason, announce the birth of a son, Ambrose Carvossa, on Oct. 9. Crockett Richmond, a certified public accountant, will begin her own accounting consulting business, working part time from home, this year. The family lives in Marietta, Ga.

Brett Cunningham, EE 92, was given the Golden Quill Award from the Button Gwinnett district of the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America in February at the Gwinnett district’s 12th annual awards and recognition banquet.

Jason Hong, CS 97, DMath 97, of Pittsburgh, has been awarded a Sloan fellowship for his work in human-computer interaction. Hong is an assistant professor at Carnegie Mellon University in the School of Computer Science.
Kevin Hurewitz, CmpE 96, and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of a daughter, Lena Natalie, on Feb. 28. Lena joins brother Ian Myles, 3, at the family’s home in Marietta, Ga. Hurewitz is employed as a senior software engineer with Nokia.

Patrick J. Kelly, PhD Abiol 91, who is a partner in the patents and life sciences/technology practices at Ballard Spahr, has been appointed to the advisory board of the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering, which is a joint program at Georgia Tech and Emory University.

Tawnya Plummer Laughinghouse, ChE 96, and her husband, Scott, of Huntsville, Ala., will celebrate the first birthday of son Scott Alan “Scotty” Laughinghouse II on June 16. The couple also have a daughter, Tai, 3. Laughinghouse is a nozzle materials engineer for NASA at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

Meredith Moore, IsyE 98, was named to the Atlanta Business Chronicle’s “40 Under 40 Rising Stars” list in 2009. Moore also was nationally named one of “Four Under Forty” by the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors for 2010.

Heather S. Rocker, IsyE 98, was presented the 2009 Leadership Character Award in the Inspiritor category at the seventh annual Turknett Leadership Character Awards in February in Atlanta. Rocker is the executive director of Women in Technology; a trustee of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association; board chair of the Atlanta Women’s Alliance; committee chair and training director at Junior League University; and state chair of the Georgia Junior Miss Scholarship Program.

James Stevens, IntA 98, a partner in Kilpatrick Stockton’s corporate department, was named one of Atlanta’s “40 Under 40 Rising Stars” by the Atlanta Business Chronicle in 2009. He annually has been recognized as a Georgia “Rising Star” in business, corporate and banking law by Super Lawyers magazine since 2006. He and his wife, Melanie Overstreet Stevens, Mgt 00, live in Smyrna, Ga.

Jennifer Fordham Treadwell, Mgt 91, and her husband, Jay, announce the birth of a daughter, Audrey Lane, on Jan. 27. She joins her brother, Austin, 3, at the family’s home in Smyrna, Ga.

Ben Callner, STC 07, won $5,000 and a handheld HD camcorder as the grand prize winner in the Georgia Lottery’s Powerball: Lights, Camera, Action contest for a 30-second commercial he made. In a post on its YouTube channel, the Georgia Lottery said, “We received so many great submissions and it was a hard choice, but this spot really made us laugh out loud!” Maybe it was the afro-sporting, talking hamsters that won them over. While at Tech, Callner, his brother, Adam, ID 04, and some friends made a couple of prize-winning films for the Campus Movie Fest competition. Those videos prompted Georgia Tech to recruit Callner to produce films for freshman orientation on such topics as Bobby Jones and copyright infringement. He now works for Pogo Active, which specializes in developing and producing interactive, cross-platform advertising. Callner, who along with his parents has a cameo in the Powerball promo, confessed he doesn’t watch that much TV and has seen his commercial air only a couple of times. “But my friends and family have let me know when it’s on,” he said, “some of them seemingly every time they see it!”

Treadwell is the assistant controller for Troutman Sanders LLP.

2000s

June Cai, Psy 02, and Jason Shelton, CS 02, announce the birth of a son, Jet Cai Shelton, on Jan. 12. Cai is a senior program manager at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and Shelton is a senior software developer with the Oil Price Information System. The family lives in Gaithersburg, Md.

Wendy Stone Crisman, Mgt 04, and her husband, Mike, of Houston, announce the birth of a son, Carter Robert, on Feb. 3.

Joey Depa, IE 05, and brother Michael Depa, Mgt 09, started an organic fertilizer service, Boost of Nature LLC (boostofnature.com). Through a partnership with Adopt a Golden, the company is giving the nonprofit $50 for every referral from the organization’s members. Boost of Nature was a Tech Beattification Day sponsor. Joey serves on the Young Alumni Council.

Teresa Hungeling Ebbs, IE 01, and Arthur Ebbs, IE 00, announce the birth of daughter Audrey Virginia on Oct. 23. Audrey joins brothers Arthur, 2, and Liam, 4, at the family’s home in Atlanta. Teresa works part time as the director of operations for Hungeling & Sons CPAs. Arthur is a commercial litigation attorney for Freeman Mathis & Gary.

Alexis Nicole Fairweather, ChBE 06, and Craig Alan Simpson, ChBe 06, were married Aug. 1. Buzz directed traffic at the wedding, and the Ramblin’ Wreck served as the couple’s getaway vehicle. Fairweather, who graduated from law school in December, accepted a position as a patent attorney with Finnegan. Simpson is a Flash developer for EyeWonder. The couple live in Atlanta.

Allison Roberts Fix, ME 00, and her husband, Sam, announce the birth of a son, Colin James, on Feb. 26. Fix is a process engineer with McCormick & Company in Hunt Valley, Md.

David H. Horton, MS BC 08, relaunched his publishing Web site, negropublishing.com, and has released his second book, Black Princess, a follow-up to his book Negro Intellect. He also recently celebrated the opening of Hartsfield-Jackson Airport’s new rental car facility as part of the construction management team.

Sung-Hoon Kim, EE 02, a first-year student at the University of Wisconsin Law School, was awarded the 2010 McAndrews Diversity in Patent Law fellowship by the Chicago-based
I Ramblin' Roll

Sara Ballard, IE 09, and Steven Blackwood, Biol 07, were married Jan. 16. Ballard is a systems analyst for SunTrust Bank, and Blackwood, a former Tech baseball player, is a student at the Medical College of Georgia. The couple live in Augusta.

Send Us Your News and Photos

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. Please include your graduation class, degree and up-to-date contact information. Photos may be submitted for inclusion in the online Ramblin' Roll at gtalumnimag.com.

McAndrews, Held & Malloy. Kim, who has a master's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Illinois, previously was a research engineer for LG Electronics in Seoul, South Korea.

Mary Beth Lake, ID 04, a sales associate in the Buckhead Northwest office of Harry Norman, Realtors, received the President's Award in recognition of her distinguished service to the real estate industry, the community and her professional, civic and religious organizations. She volunteers for the American Red Cross and helps organize and raise funds for Alpha Chi Omega sorority's annual Golden Lyre Gala, which benefits the Partnership Against Domestic Violence. As a founding member and past chair of the Harry Norman, Realtors Young Realtors Council, she has helped grant two wishes annually for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Porsche Hodge Page, IE 03, of Sterling Heights, Mich., is a senior systems engineer for General Dynamics Land Systems. In 2008, she was honored as a Modern Day Technology Leader at the Black Engineer of the Year Awards conference.

Sophoria N. Renchie-Westmoreland, ME 03, was named graduate student of the year and female Mike Shinn distinguished member of the year by the National Society of Black Engineers at the 13th annual Golden Torch Awards ceremony in April. She is a graduate student in the master's/PhD program in the department of mechanical engineering at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and Society for Women Engineers.

Michelle Clark Stille, ME 07, and Ryan Stille, IntA 07, announce the birth of a daughter, Susanna Michelle, on Sept 19. Susanna joins brother Gabriel Ryan, 2, at the family's home in Virginia Beach, Va. Michelle is a full-time mother, and Ryan is a pilot in the Navy.

Melissa Bell Wheeler, Mgt 04, has been promoted to senior staff accountant at GI&I.

Lindsay Whitehead, BC 03, and Zachary Wyatt, EE 05, were married Aug. 15. Their wedding reception was held at the Georgia Tech Alumni House. Whitehead is a property manager for Meadows & Oilty LLC. Wyatt, son of Marvin Wyatt, CE 70, is a consultant for Pallas Technology. The couple live in Atlanta.
1930s

**Orrin Lea Harrison Jr.,** Cls 38, of Dallas, on March 15. He retired from American Airlines in 1980 after more than 30 years with the company. He was a civilian instructor for the military in aerodynamics, hydraulics and aircraft electronics and an employee with Lockheed and American Airlines before joining the Army Air Corps in 1943. He was involved in atomic bomb drops in the Pacific with the 313th Bomb Wing and 20th Air Force. He was a church thrift shop volunteer, lay reader and vestry member.

**Thomas E. Lawson Sr.,** TE 32, of Columbia, S.C., on Jan. 30. He served as vice president, corporate secretary and a board member until the company was sold in 1980. In Columbia, he was a past president and director of the Lions Club and former vice president of the Red Cross and United Way chapters. He was a Sunday school class president and chief financial officer at his church.

**Alexander Hewatt McGraw,** ChE 34, of Doerun, Ga., on Feb. 16. He managed Shepard Fertilizer Co. for many years. He later earned a master's degree in education from Valdosta State and taught chemistry and physics at Westover High School in Albany for 10 years. Survivors include grandson Lex McGraw, Mgt 93.

1940s

**John Stiles “Jack” Baldwin, ChE 46, of Houston,** in March. He retired as vice president of Exxon's Far Eastern operations, headquartered in Texas, in 1983. An ROTC member at Tech, he was commissioned as an ensign in 1943 and served on the USS Sea Cat. He retired from the Navy Reserve as a lieutenant in 1954. He was inducted into the inaugural class of the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame in 1994. He twice visited Nepal, climbing to the Everest Base Camp at 19,200 feet, and later climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, Huayna Picchu and Mount Rainier. Mr. Baldwin also bungee jumped from the Queenstown, New Zealand, bridge.

**Carlos Edwin Byrd,** TE 49, of Spartanburg, S.C., on Feb. 8. Mr. Byrd retired from Whittier Mills Co. A Navy veteran of World War II, he served on the USS Yorktown CV-5, which was sunk in the Battle of Midway in June 1942.

**George Ray Chesnut Jr.,** IE 48, of Modoc, S.C., on Feb. 24. He retired as plant manager at Babcock and Wilcox. A Sigma Nu member and Navy Air Corps veteran, he was on the YMCA and Chamber of Commerce boards and chaired the Manufacturers Council in Augusta, Ga.

**John Corry,** EE 43, of DeBary, Fla., on May 24. A member of Phi Delta Theta at Tech, he was a self-employed real estate appraiser.

**James Russell DeBardelaben,** Cls 42, of Atlanta, on Feb. 22. He was a captain in the Army Air Corps during World War II and later was a captain for Delta Air Lines. He retired in 1979.

**Oscar Diehl “O.D.” Glaus Jr.,** Cls 47, of Nashville, Tenn., on Feb. 16. He worked for Genesco for 49 years and taught classes in credit management. A Mason and Shriner, he graduated from Vanderbilt and served in the Army's

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**Annemarie Eaton, Oldest Alumna**

After earning a master's degree in sociology from Georgia State University at age 70, Annemarie Eaton began writing books on aging. Her advice must be golden, as Mrs. Eaton, a former student at Georgia Tech, died April 3 at age 102.

Mrs. Eaton's central belief was to live a full life, and hers certainly qualified. She was born and raised in Mannheim, Germany, which was the frequent target of bombings during World War I. Her father was called to service, and her mother died during the war.

She married Paul Eaton in 1929. She had earned a bachelor's degree before the couple, fearing the ascent of the Nazi party, immigrated to the United States with only $200 in their pockets. They settled in Atlanta in 1938.

Then 31, Mrs. Eaton and her husband enrolled in Tech's evening school to study industrial engineering. She did not graduate before leaving to work for Sears. Later, she worked for J.P. Allen, Lockheed and Rich's.

In 1948, Paul Eaton joined Tech's faculty. He went on to be a Fulbright professor in industrial engineering before retiring in 1972. He passed away in 1987.

It was 1968 when Mrs. Eaton began volunteering at a nursing home, which sparked her interest in gerontology. She retired in 1972, though that was only the beginning of her second career as a researcher and writer.

Her minor at Georgia State was in gerontology, the first such degree the school had awarded. Mrs. Eaton then started the nonprofit Life Enrichment Services, providing recreation, nursing care and other services to seniors around Atlanta.

In the late 1980s, the Georgia State Institute on Aging established a scholarship in Mrs. Eaton's name. In 1999, she was named Distinguished Senior Georgian by the state Senate. She was a Tech Woman of Distinction.

On her 100th birthday, Georgia Tech and Georgia State threw Mrs. Eaton a party to celebrate her as both institutions' oldest alumna.

Of her life philosophy, Mrs. Eaton said in an interview with the Alumni Association's Living History program that "you must replace anything you lose with something else."

"She felt that everyone's job as a human being was to live, and she lived that philosophy every day," granddaughter Catherine Neiner told the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. "She felt it was really important that, as people age, they stay intellectually, physically and socially engaged so that they can age gracefully."
In Memoriam

Nuclear Engineering Authority Thomas Pigford

Thomas Pigford, ChE 43, a nuclear engineer who pushed for stronger safety standards for nuclear reactors, died Feb. 28 at his home in Oakland, Calif. He was 87 years old.

Dr. Pigford, professor emeritus and founding chair of the department of nuclear engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, served on the 12-member presidential commission that investigated the 1979 accident at the Three Mile Island power plant in Pennsylvania. He later served on the Secretary of Energy’s expert consultant group that evaluated the 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl plant in the Ukraine.

His daughter, Julie Pigford Earnest, told Berkeley media, “My father spoke truth to power, which gained him respect from both proponents and opponents of the nuclear power industry. Everything he said or did was based on analysis of the data and not on politics or emotion. That said, he was also insightful about the impact of politics on scientific decisions and had a sense of how human error and concerns contribute to scientific policy.”

Born in Meridian, Miss., Dr. Pigford’s studies at MIT were interrupted by service in the Navy during World War II. He earned master’s and doctoral degrees from MIT, where he became an associate professor of nuclear and chemical engineering. He helped launch the graduate program in nuclear engineering and served two years as director of its graduate school of engineering practice at Oak Ridge, Tenn.

He was a founding staff member of the General Atomic laboratory in La Jolla, Calif., before joining Berkeley as a full professor in 1959.

According to an article on the Berkeley Web site, Dr. Pigford led a research program at the university to develop means for predicting long-term behavior of radioactive and chemical waste that resulted in the design of underground radioactive waste repositories in the United States and abroad. He retired from the university in 1991.

Dr. Pigford was inducted into the Georgia Tech Engineering Hall of Fame in 1995.

Donald Carter Jenkins, EE 47, of Fairfax, Va., on Feb. 9. His career as an engineer included service to the Navy department at Norfolk Naval Shipyard and in Washington, D.C., and Arlington, Va., and work with General Electric. Until his retirement from Naval Air Systems Command Ground Support, he had been assigned to the HARM program, which developed the high-speed anti-radiation missile used in Desert Storm. A co-op student and Army ROTC member, he served in the Army Signal Corps.

Malcolm Eugene “Gene” Kemph, EE 48, of Bamberg, S.C., on March 11. A Navy veteran, he was a first lieutenant with the 1st Marine Division and received the Purple Heart.

Joseph Heath Laughlin Jr., Arch 49, of Big Canoe, Ga., on Feb. 10. Mr. Laughlin worked for R.P. Farnsworth Co., Gulf Oil and Delta Air Lines before becoming a project manager and later an estimator at Hardin Construction. He retired in 1986. An Army Air Corps veteran, he was a charter member of the Friendship Force of Big Canoe/North Georgia. He served on Big Canoe’s Smoke Signals staff for many years.

David Gawley Lewis Jr., Cls 43, of Columbus, Ga., on March 16. He was president of B & B Beverage Co. A member of Phi Delta Theta at Tech, he graduated from Auburn University after Army Air Corps service. He served as president of the Georgia Beer Wholesalers Association, Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home and Kiwanis Club of Greater Columbus and as the Mardi Gras king of the St. Francis Auxiliary. Survivors include son David G. Lewis III, Mgt 90; daughter Lisa Lewis Armstrong, M5 Mgt 86; and son-in-law Brad Armstrong, IM 82.

Robert Herman “Bobby” Maurer, ChE 47, of Dallas, on Feb. 18. He was a longtime Celanese Chemical Corp. employee. A Korean War veteran, he was a first lieutenant with the 1st Marine Division and received the Purple Heart.

John E. McDaniel Jr., IE 48, of Chesterfield, Mo., on March 12. He retired as the River Cement Co. vice president of sales in 1981. He was a life member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and was president of the Memphis, Tenn., branch; past president of the Memphis Engineers Club; and a member of the Engineers Club of St. Louis and the American Legion. President of Beta Theta Pi at Tech, he served in the 44th Infantry Division during World War II and received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

Harry K. Morrow, ME 43, of Rochester, N.Y., on March 27. His 60-year career included positions at General Electric, Peerless Electric Co. and the Eiger Sales Corp. He played football at Tech.
Professor Emeritus, Poetry Chair Founder Henry Bourne

Henry C. Bourne Jr., who was hired by Tech President Joseph Pettit to recruit top-notch faculty in the 1980s and later led the Institute for more than a year after the president's death, died March 25. He lived in Winston-Salem, N.C., and was 88 years old.

Dr. Bourne came to Tech in 1981 to serve as vice president of Academic Affairs. He was recruited by Pettit from the National Science Foundation, where as deputy assistant director of engineering and applied science he "had helped pioneer programs in microelectronics that brought the government, universities and industry together as partners," according to the Georgia Tech history book Images & Memories.

During his time at Tech, Dr. Bourne interviewed countless prospective professors and was involved in the Centennial Campaign, touring the country with Bobby Dodd on the Alumni Club circuit to raise money and support for the campaign.

When Pettit died of cancer in 1986, Dr. Bourne was appointed acting president, a position he held for 13 months. He returned to his post as vice president of Academic Affairs after John P. Crecine was appointed president. About a year later, Dr. Bourne returned to teaching. He taught electrical engineering at Tech for four years.

An avid reader and book lover, Dr. Bourne thought it was important that students of technical fields also nurture their artistic sides through the humanities. He and his wife, named honorary alumni in 1987, established the Margaret T. and Henry C. Bourne Jr. chair in poetry at Georgia Tech.

"I, along with lots of other people, want Georgia Tech to be very strong in liberal arts because it is an important component of the education of science and engineering and management majors. I endowed the chair to help strengthen creative writing and poetry at Tech," he said at the first Bourne Poetry Reading in 2002.

Henry Clark Bourne Jr. was born in Tarboro, N.C., and earned his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering from MIT. His studies there were interrupted by service in the Army Corps of Engineers from 1943 to '46.

Following graduation, he served on the MIT faculty until joining the University of California, Berkeley, at which he was a professor of electrical engineering from 1954 to 1963. He then went to Rice University, where he was a professor for 16 years and chair of the electrical engineering department for 11 of those years, before leaving for the NSF in Washington, D.C. It was there that he met Pettit, who served on the National Science Board.

In a 2001 interview with the Living History program, Dr. Bourne said, "I tell people, I've been to all those different universities, but number one in my heart is Georgia Tech. It just sort of got to me."

"I think if I had to describe the strength of Georgia Tech, I would say that in addition to the very, very bright students and the very, very competent faculty, it's that alumni body out there, the most dedicated, loyal bunch of people that you'd ever want to meet. You can't help but [let] that kind of thing rub off on you, and then you get emotionally involved."

Survivors include sons Henry Clark Bourne III, MS Mgt 90, and Thomas Franklin Bourne, Abiol 86, MS Abiol 89, PhD Abiol 93.

Memorials may be made to the Georgia Tech Foundation for the Henry and Margaret Bourne Scholarship Fund.

He was a veteran of World War II and the Korean War and a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve.

Oris Leroy O'Daniel, ME 49, of Farmington Hills, Mich., on Feb. 11. Mr. O'Daniel worked in various truck engineering departments in a 30-year career with the Ford Motor Co. His efforts laid the groundwork for the design and production of the F-150 line of trucks. In retirement, he was a volunteer at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Mich., and a docent at Historic Spanish Point in Osprey, Fla. Prior to attending Tech, he served four years in the Navy submarine corps during World War II.

Harry Popkin, TE 43, of Atlanta, on March 23. A World War II veteran, he and his brothers created Camp Blue Star in 1948 after recognizing the need for a summer camp for Jewish children in the Southeast. After retiring from the operations of Blue Star Camps, he did youth work for B'nai B'rith and served as president of the temple in Atlanta. He also worked with his son in his business, Active Parenting Publishers.

John Joseph Rowe, Cls 45, of Bowie, Md., on Jan. 16. He retired in the late 1980s after working at ERCO and later ACF Industries; the Link Division of the Singer Corp.; and CAE and in simulation in Florida and Norway. A University of Maryland graduate, he worked as an engineer in the shipbuilding programs in Georgia and Rhode Island before serving as a Merchant Marine radio officer during World War II.

Charles Carlton Scruggs, IM 43, of Pensacola, Fla., on March 26. He owned a Krispy Kreme shop from 1951 to 1984. He served in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II. A captain of the baseball and basketball teams at Tech, he later played fast-pitch softball with the Clearwater Bombers and coached Little League.

Russell William Spreen, ME 42, of Houston, on March 20. He began his career with Tidewater Oil and held various positions in an 18-year career with M.W. Kellogg Co. in New York before joining Stone & Webster Process Industries in 1970. He returned to M.W. Kellogg in 1981 and from 1983 to '86 served as president of Associated Kellogg Ltd. in Calgary, Alberta. Mr. Spreen served in the Navy as a lieutenant.
In Memoriam

John G. Gaines Jr., ChE 40, of Prairie Village, Kan., a prolific writer of letters to the editors of a number of publications, died March 18, two days after his final e-mail to the Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine and five days after his 92nd birthday.

Mr. Gaines’ last published letter to the Alumni Magazine appeared in the March/April issue. In it, he asked to hear from members of the class of 1940.

“John Gaines’ interest in his classmates did pay off by nudging them to reach out to each other,” said Living History director Marilyn Somers. “A classmate of his, Dr. Burney Huff, contacted me and asked if I would help him contact the other surviving members of the ChE class of 1940. I sent a letter to every member we had an address for — 17. Since then Dr. Huff has reported the responses are coming in.”

One of Mr. Gaines’ six surviving children, Marianne Gaines, said her father’s letters were published frequently in the Kansas City Star. “Since his passing we have come across responses to his letters from people such as Bill Clinton, Richard Nixon and Lamar Hunt, owner of his beloved Kansas City Chiefs.” She was not surprised to learn her father also wrote regularly to the Alumni Magazine.

“He loved his time at Georgia Tech and spoke about it frequently,” she said. “When the funeral home asked which prayer we would like to have printed on the back of the prayer cards, my brother knew immediately what it should be. I know that [Ramblin’ Wreck] wasn’t exactly what the church had in mind for a prayer, but it was a very fitting tribute to our dad and the school that he loved.”

Mr. Gaines married his sweetheart from Agnes Scott College, Nina Broughton, who survives him, on Aug. 11, 1941.

“Dad was in Dutch Harbor when the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and just outside Berlin when the Germans surrendered. He led Company C of the 132nd Engineers, the first black troops into Europe” after D-Day, son Mark Gaines said.

Mr. Gaines was awarded battle stars for the Battle of Midway and for five major battles in Europe. He retired from the military in 1968 after serving reserve duty in the Field Artillery.

He was a self-employed manufacturer’s representative in the Kansas City area for 15 years before going to work for Devine Lighting. He retired in 1982, then traveled extensively, including to visit a Belgian family that had befriended him during the Battle of the Bulge.

commander in the Pacific fleet and later in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

Edward Alva Strausser Sr., EE 48, of Villa Rica, Ga., on March 25. He was a registered engineer in Pennsylvania and Georgia and a registered engineer surveyor in Georgia. In his career, he was involved in supplying electrical service in rural north Georgia while at Patterson and Dewar Engineering and served as director of the computer center at Southwire. He served in the Pacific theater in the Army. Survivors include son Edward A. Strausser Jr., ABiol 74.

Joel William Thompson, ME 42, of Seabrook Island, S.C., on March 3. A naval officer during World War II, he joined Babcock and Wilcox as an engineer in 1942 and retired as vice president of sales in 1984. He led homeowners of Seabrook Island to incorporate it as a town and was elected its first mayor in 1987. A trumpet and cornet player with a love for jazz and big band music, Mr. Thompson formed The Barrier Islanders, a band that performed locally.

Lenox Thompson “Tom” Thornton, EE 48, of Basset, Ga., on March 22. Mr. Thornton, who earned a master’s degree in journalism from Emory University and later a teaching certificate, was a teacher at Cross Keys High School in Atlanta from 1958 to 1975. A member of the Army ROTC at Tech, he served in the Army during World War II. He was a deacon and elder at his church and photographed more than 1,000 courthouses across the country.

Thomas R. Turner, IE 47, of Memphis, Tenn., on March 27. He retired from Buckeye Cellulose as division manager for external affairs after 40 years with the company. An Army Air Corps lieutenant during World War II, he was a Sunday school teacher at his church and a recipient of the Volunteer Center of Memphis’ Golden Rule Award. He was chairman of the boards of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, Junior Achievement and Goodwill Industries.

David Ellery Willis, ME 42, of Rock Hill, S.C., formerly of Oak Ridge, Tenn., on Feb. 17. Mr. Willis retired from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. A co-op student at Tech, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Army Air Corps and served in North Africa and Italy during World War II. He was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

1950s

Denny Shermer Alford, IM 57, of Houston, on Feb. 10. He co-owned Lighting & Electrical Sales Co. An Eagle Scout in his youth, he was an elder at his church and a frequent Georgia Tech Alumni Travel participant.

Robert Bruce Bailey Sr., EE 52, of Birmingham, Ala., on March 18. He retired from Southern Company Services. In the Army in World War II, he maintained and repaired radios on jeeps, halftracks and tanks, then was attached to the 150th Signal Company, 10th Armored Division and was part of the crusade to free Europe. He attended Tech on the GI Bill.
Harry Frederick Boyce Jr., IM 58, of Columbus, Ga., on Feb. 5. He was president of Valuation Services; an Appraisal Institute member and officer of its Georgia chapter; past president of the Columbus Society of Real Estate Appraisers and Columbus Board of Realtors; and an officer of the Georgia Association of Realtors.

Jerry Eaton Clark, ME 58, of Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 27. He was an engineer for Martin Marietta for more than 30 years, retiring in 1998. A member of Lambda Chi Alpha at Tech, he was commissioned in the Army Corps of Engineers, sent to Germany and promoted to captain.

Harry Ware DeMille III, IM 50, of Decatur, Ga., on Feb. 25. He retired as an account executive with Sentry Insurance following a 37-year career. A member of Sigma Chi at Tech, he served as a B-25 crew chief in the Army Air Corps during World War II. A Boy Scouts leader for 65 years, his numerous scouting awards included the Eagle Scout and Silver Beaver awards.

Allan H. Eitel Jr., Arch 56, of Savannah, Ga., on Feb. 9. An Air Force veteran, he practiced architecture in Savannah before working for the Corps of Engineers, from which he retired in 1994. He then worked in private practice until 2002. A member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity at Tech, he also was a member of the Jaycees, Civilian Club, AMBUCS and American Institute of Architects and served as president of the Savannah Georgia Tech Club in 1972-73.

John William Freeman, BS 51, Arch 52, of Douglasville, Ga., on March 10. A registered professional engineer in Georgia, he retired from J.W. Freeman & Associates. He was a member of Phi Kappa Alpha fraternity at Tech. In the Navy, he was stationed at the Admiral Islands Navy Air Base while serving in the Asia Pacific area.

Alexander John Gordon III, IM 52, of Lawrenceville, Ga., on Feb. 2. He spent 38 years working for Southern Bell and BellSouth Telecommunications, retiring as engineering manager of the East district in Atlanta in 1993. A member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity at Tech, he was commissioned at the Quantico Marine Corps base after graduation and served on active duty in Korea and stateside. He retired from the Marine Corps Reserve as a colonel in 1983.

Arthur “Art” Haywood, CE 51, of Tallahassee, Fla., on Feb. 27. Mr. Haywood retired from the Florida Department of Transportation bridge department as a deputy design engineer in 1985 and opened Haywood Engineering Inc., serving as a consulting engineer until 2004. He was a member of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials for more than 25 years and a lifetime member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and Chi Epsilon. He served in the Army Air Forces before attending Tech, at which he was a member of the Bulldog Club. He participated in mission projects in Spain and the Dominican Republic and was a member of Gideons International.

William Robert “Bob” Henry Jr., BS 51, Arch 52, of Rockvale, Tenn., on Jan. 28. A retired architect, Mr. Henry was a fellow of the American Institute of Architects and served as president of the organization’s Mississippi chapter. He was instrumental in the creation of Mississippi State University’s School of Architecture. A Navy veteran of World War II, he served in the Seabees in Saipan and the Marshall Islands.

Virgil Davis Hunt, IE 50, of Ruston, La., on Feb. 19. After serving as an Army officer during the Korean War, he returned to his hometown of Ruston and became a principal in the family business, Hunt Lumber Co. During his career, he served as president of the Southern Forest Products Association and Southern Pine Association. In retirement, he was a partner in a variety of business ventures. Survivors include his son Virgil Davis Hunt Jr., IM 83.

Ralph Anthony Johnson, IM 55, of Villa Rica, Ga., on March 2. Mr. Johnson, who had an MBA from Syracuse University, worked for General Electric for 28 years before becoming executive vice president of manufacturing at Phelps Dodge Inc. He became the owner of the Kendalville Castings foundry in the early 1990s and later worked in global sourcing for Eaton Corp. A member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity at Tech, he served 10 years in the Army after graduation. Mr. Johnson was a catechist, lector and Eucharistic minister at his church and a member and past president of the Kwanis Club of Fairfield Plantation.

Alton Scott Little Sr., MS CE 50, of Auburn, Ala., on Feb. 3. He was an Auburn University College of Engineering professor for 35 years and later a campus planner and engineer there. He served several terms as president of the American Society of Professional Engineers and was instrumental in starting the Auburn chapter. While an undergraduate student at Auburn, he served in the Civilian Conservation Corps. He served in the Army during World War II and was stationed in France as a surveyor.

John R. Lowe, IM 51, of Hot Springs Village, Ark., on March 14. Mr. Lowe, a retired industrial engineer, served in the Army.

Hugh Carter McCullough, IM 50, of Duluth, Ga., on Feb. 14. Mr. McCullough was a retired vice president of VMC Products Inc., an Atlanta-based manufacturing company. A member of Alpha Tau Omega fraternity at Tech, he was stationed in France for two years as an Air Force lieutenant following graduation.

D.H. “Mac” McFarland, CerE 50, of Montrose, Ala., on Feb. 28. Mr. McFarland worked with such firms as U.S. Steel during his career as a ceramic engineer and retired as vice president of sales for International Refractory Co. in 1984. A member of Kappa Sigma fraternity at Tech, he served as a pilot and flight instructor in the Army Air Corps during World War II and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

George B. Moore, CE 53, of Naples, Fla., on Feb. 20. Mr. Moore traveled across the world in a 31-year career as an executive with Armco Steel’s international division, spending 16 years living in Germany, Spain, Mexico and Argentina. He was a Tau Beta Pi honor society member.

Lawrence H. Myers Jr., Cls 51, of Melbourne Beach, Fla., on Jan. 23.

Carter Northen Paden Jr., IM 51, of Lookout Mountain, Tenn., on Feb. 11. A member of Sigma Chi fraternity at Tech, he joined his father at Moccasin Bushing Co. in Chattanooga, Tenn., after graduation and in 1974 founded Southern Centrifugal Inc., now Metaltech International. At Georgia Tech, he established a chair in metals processing in the College of Engineering and a scholarship. During World War II, he served in the Navy as a radar operator on a destroyer.

Dewey Pendley, CE 53, of Bristol, Tenn., on Jan. 29. He moved to Bristol in 1960 and was president of Pendley Constructors for many years. He was a co-op student at Tech and later served in the Army Corps of Engineers.

Klaus Ritter, EE 58, on Oct. 25. He served in the military as a measurement engineer for experimental nuclear detonation for ballistic research laboratories in Baltimore, Eniwetok and
In Memoriam

Douglas W. Robertson, EE 50, MS EE 57, of Tucker, Ga., on Feb. 18. He retired from the Georgia Tech Research Institute as director of the electronics and computer systems laboratory in 1982. Mr. Robertson specialized in speech systems, communication techniques and electromagnetic compatibility. Born in Crawford, Ga., he left home in 1941 to attend radar school and joined the Air Force, performing early radar research and repair during World War II. He enjoyed gardening and taught Sunday school for many years. Survivors include his son Don, ChE 74, MS ChE 76. Mr. Robertson was preceded in death by his son Julian Robertson, A Biol 74.

Otis Sanders, BS 50, Arch 52, of Statenville, Ga., on March 23. He worked as an architect for Zeb Lackey, Thompson and Sanders, and TMA Inc. International. He also taught drafting at Valdosta Technical College for 10 years. Mr. Sanders served in the Navy during World War II.

James Edward Scoobey III, EE 53, of Clemmons, N.C., on Feb. 14. He was a retired NASA engineer and a Navy veteran of World War II.

William D. "Dan" Sheppard Jr., ME 57, of Duluth, Ga., on Feb. 5. He was an instrument engineer with the Tennessee Valley Authority in Florence, Ala., and retired in 1994. A member of Sigma Nu at Tech, he served as an engineer in the Navy and was commander of the Huntsville Power Squadron in 1999.

William G. Tucker, CE 54, of Georgetown, Texas, on Jan. 27. He retired from a 32-year career with J.A. Jones Construction Co. in 1993 as vice president and construction manager. He joined the Army Corps of Engineers following graduation from Tech and served in France during the postwar reconstruction. He was involved with the Military Order of the World Wars.

Samuel Joseph "Joe" Ward, IM 51, of Midlothian, Va., on March 9. In 1972, he joined the Bank of Virginia/Signet Banking Corp., for which he was in charge of public relations and community affairs until his retirement in 1993. A member of Alpha Tau Omega and Air Force ROTC at Tech, he served in the Air Force during the Korean War and retired from the Air Force Reserve as a colonel. A former member of the Georgia Tech Alumni Association's board of trustees, he also served on boards and committees of the Virginia Banker's Association, Virginia Chamber of Commerce and the Urban League of Richmond, from which he received a lifetime achievement award. Survivors include nephew Stephen P. Zelnak Jr., IM 69. Memorials may be sent to the Georgia Tech Scholarship Fund, Attention: Joe Ward Scholarship Fund, 760 Spring St., Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30307.

1960s

William Pearsall "Pearce" Brown, Cls 61, on March 27. Mr. Brown, who lived in New York for 35 years, was a writer who had stories published by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was an Eagle Scout.

Jackson Moody "Jack" Gissendaner, CerE 65, of Chattahoochee, Fla., on March 22. He worked at Gissendaner Mortgage Co. Following graduation, he was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force, stationed in Biloxi, Miss., and Orlando, Fla. He was a member of the Chattahoochee Rotary International Club and an avid photographer. Some of his photos were published by the Georgia Department of Tourism.

Marshall Highsmith, MS IS 67, of San Antonio, on Feb. 2. He entered the Air Force after receiving a bachelor's degree in mathematics from Southern Illinois University and served 20 years in various assignments as an officer in the computer science field. He then served in management positions in information services at the United Services Automobile Association. He also served as an adjunct computer science professor at several universities. For more than 30 years, he taught Sunday school classes and sang tenor in the choir at his church.

Allen E. Hyre, IM 63, of Roswell, Ga., on Jan. 20. A member of Kappa Sigma at Tech, he served in the Marine Corps and worked for Alcoa Inc.

1970s

Ralph L. Buice Jr., PhD Chem 72, of Mableton, Ga., on Feb. 24. He was a 39-year Fernbank Science Center and DeKalb County School System veteran. Dr. Buice worked with NASA to develop tracking of satellites. He led hundreds of years with the company. He served in the Navy for a year and a half as a first lieutenant before joining his father in partnership as an independent insurance agent. He attended Georgia Tech on a football scholarship and played football under Bobby Dodd.

Robert Stephen Solomon, IM 62, of Mobile, Ala., on March 20. Following graduation, he served in the Army for four years and was a past president of the Appalachian Trail Club's Mobile chapter.

John N. White, IM 64, of Macon, Ga., on Feb. 5. Mr. White was the owner and operator of Dixie Cleaners for 41 years. A co-op student at Tech, he was a former member of the Macon Jaycees and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police "Sparky" O'Cain Lodge.

James E. Winborn, EE 61, of Boca Raton, Fla., on Jan. 27. A member of Tech's Air Force ROTC, he retired as a senior engineer with IBM. Survivors include his son Jeff Winborn, EE 85.

Yoshio Yamaki, ME 62, of Mechanicsville, Va., formerly of Honolulu, on Feb. 9. Mr. Yamaki retired from NASA in Hampton, Va. Before graduating from Tech, he worked for many years at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
**Architect Clifford Nahser**

The next time you sit down to a platter of hash browns scattered, smothered and covered, be sure to raise your cup of coffee to toast Clifford Nahser.

Mr. Nahser, BS 51, Arch 52, who contributed to the look of the Waffle House restaurants so popular to truck drivers and late-night revelers in the South, died Feb. 1 at the age of 82. He lived in Roswell, Ga.

According to the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, Mr. Nahser was approached by Waffle House co-founder Joe Rogers Sr. to help design new restaurants based off of the very first eatery, which opened in Avondale Estates in 1955. Mr. Nahser worked on a blueprint for one of the early restaurants and later helped design hundreds of them.

He served in the Navy aboard the USS Oklahoma City during World War II and attended Tech on the GI Bill. He spent several years working for an Atlanta architectural firm before overseeing the construction of schools as architect for the Atlanta Public School System, a position he held for 26 years.

Mr. Nahser opened a private practice, Clifford Nahser & Associates, in 1988 in Roswell and continued his work with Waffle House.

His brother Donald Nahser, Cls 62, recently told the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, "I used to say, 'Anybody who's ever traveled through the South by car has been in one of my buildings.'"

Other survivors include his brother Philip Nahser, Phys 59.

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**Friends**

**Frank Lawrence Murphy**, 77, of Stone Mountain, Ga., on Feb. 8. He retired as risk manager at Georgia Tech. A Southern Connecticut University graduate, he was a chief warrant officer in the Air Force during the Korean War and Berlin crisis and was chief of reliability and maintainability at Avco Lycoming in Connecticut.

**Edwena Thompson**, 87, of Savannah, Ga., in February. Mrs. Thompson, who received a bachelor's degree from Georgia Teachers College, was awarded a mistress of patience degree from Tech when her husband, Earl Thompson, received an industrial management degree in 1930. She later earned a master's degree at Georgia College and taught junior high and middle grades mathematics in Wilkinson County. She was a member of the Georgia Council of Teachers of Mathematics and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a professional honor society of women educators, and served as the librarian of McIntyre, Ga. She is survived by her husband and their five children, including Frank, EE 74; Clint, ME 87; Cindy Thompson Erwin, HS 78; and Ken, ME 82.

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of students through Fernbank as a chemistry instructor. He also was instrumental in developing its partnership with NASA's Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy.

**Michael N. Charnigo**, GMgt 73, of Salem, Mass., on Feb. 2. He was an area manager of performance chemicals with Buckman USA, based out of Memphis, Tenn.

**Thomas C. Giles III**, ME 73, of Lula, Ga., on March 9. Mr. Giles was a senior mechanical engineer with Stanley Engineering.

**Paul Edward Nelson**, MCP 77, of Salt Lake City, on March 9. A city planner and owner of Paul Nelson Associates consulting firm, he served in the Army; received a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Utah; served in the Army; received a bachelor’s degree from Utah State University; and served in the British mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

**Paul Nelson Associates**, in 1988 in Roswell and continued his work with Waffle House.

**Monojit Ghosal**, MS Mgt 83, of Atlanta, on Feb. 27. A native of India, he moved to Atlanta in 1976 to serve as a postdoctoral fellow at Tech. Dr. Ghosal, who had a PhD in chemistry as well as degrees in computer science and accounting, was a certified public accountant and retired from teaching at Valdosta State University in 2001.

**1990s**

**Allen Tate Smith**, ME 95, of Brunswick, Ga., on Feb. 5. Mr. Smith worked for Brunswick Celulose. A member of Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity and a co-op student at Tech, he was a member of the Golden Isles Georgia Tech Club.

**Student**

**Tyler Robert Rowland**, 21, of Tallahassee, Fla., on March 26, after a three-year battle with cancer. An industrial engineering major, he won many awards in botany in high school and in 2007 was interviewed by National Public Radio after his kudzu research was featured in a *Tallahassee Democrat* article. He received a *Tallahassee/Thomasville Georgia Tech Club* scholarship.

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**Leigh Bielenberg**, ChE 83, of Atlanta, on March 8, from metastatic colon cancer. She was a chemical engineer for industrial and manufacturing firms in Georgia and Louisiana before working for Forsyth Fabrics in Atlanta and as a designer of fabric trims for Passementerie Europa, a job that included travel to Cairo to oversee the manufacturing of her designs. She was executive director of the Georgia National Abortion Rights Action League in the 1990s.

**Thomas C. Giles III**, ME 73, of Lula, Ga., on March 9. Mr. Giles was a senior mechanical engineer with Stanley Engineering.

**Paul Edward Nelson**, MCP 77, of Salt Lake City, on March 9. A city planner and owner of Paul Nelson Associates consulting firm, he served in the Army; received a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Utah; served in the Army; received a bachelor’s degree from Utah State University; and served in the British mission of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.


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Road to Redemption

Climb out of the depths of addiction takes Anthony Hargrove to Super Bowl high

By Van Jensen

As the final seconds ticked off the scoreboard on Super Bowl XLIV, with New Orleans winning over Indianapolis 31-17, Saints defensive tackle Anthony Hargrove lay on the grass of Sun Life Stadium. He breathed deeply, soaked in the cheers and said, “Thank you, God.”

For any football player, a Super Bowl victory is a monumental occasion, the culmination of a life’s work. For Hargrove, it marked a larger triumph. He had overcome a homeless childhood, flunking out of Georgia Tech and alcohol and drug addiction.

Less than a year earlier, Hargrove had been in treatment at a Miami halfway house after being suspended for a season by the NFL. The Transitions Recovery Program sits only a few miles from where Hargrove was celebrating with his teammates.

“I could never lie down in my bed and dream this up,” Hargrove said. “I couldn’t have written a better story myself. I don’t know if anybody could. ... How does something like this happen?”

Hargrove’s journey began in Brooklyn, where he grew up with his single mother, Rosa, and two half siblings. He hardly can remember his father, who wasn’t around.

When Hargrove was 6, the tenement where the family lived burned down. His mother died of AIDS three years later.

He bounced between foster care and the streets until 1993, when an aunt adopted him. Hargrove moved in with her in Florida and threw himself into football. He was a prodigious talent as a quarterback and safety at Port Charlotte High in Punta Gorda and also twice was MVP of the school’s basketball squad.

Former Georgia Tech defensive coordinator Ted Roof recruited Hargrove as a linebacker and thought he was skilled enough to help the Yellow Jackets right away as a defensive end.

Hargrove had flashes of brilliance from the start. In 2001, against the Citadel, he dominated with four tackles, two for loss, one sack and a fumble recovery. Against North Carolina State that same season, he had six tackles, one sack, two forced fumbles and a defensive touchdown.

But with so many unresolved emotional issues, Hargrove wasn’t prepared to handle all of the success and made some bad decisions. He “had a great time at Georgia Tech, maybe too much fun.” After his sophomore season, he flunked out.

“It was another learning block for me,” Hargrove said. “And I was learning the hard way.”
By that point, the then 19-year-old Hargrove had two children of his own. He worked as a ramp agent for Delta at Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. Still, he held onto his goal of making the NFL.

"I could've quit, but I kept going. Delta was a great job," Hargrove said. "It wasn't too hard loading luggage. Lifting all day for a football player isn't bad. Being in that Georgia heat, that's a monster."

Through a former Georgia Tech teammate, Hargrove met Phil Williams, a former Florida State football player who'd become an agent. Williams was just the latest person to see Hargrove's abundance of talent, and he began preparing him for the 2004 NFL draft.

After working out with Williams, Hargrove ran the 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds — blazing for a 300-pound defensive lineman. Despite Hargrove's checkered past, his talent was enough for the St. Louis Rams to select him in the third round.

Only 20 years old, Hargrove jumped right in, starting at defensive end and notch in six and a half sacks. But, again, the added attention — and now millions of dollars — did nothing to fill the void he felt in his life.

The casual drug and alcohol use that had begun in high school and continued at Tech grew into habitual use. Hargrove said he was depressed and trying to self medicate. He began disappearing for days on cocaine binges.

During the 2006 season, the Rams traded Hargrove to the Buffalo Bills. The trouble followed him, and he was arrested after a nightclub fight and suspended for four games in the 2007 season for violating the league's drug policy.

He failed yet another test later that year, earning an automatic suspension for the entire 2008 season. The drug use continued as Hargrove descended as far as he could spiral.

"They call it a bottom," he said. "I was out at a friend's house. I remember walking past a mirror and not really recognizing myself. For a minute I sobered up, and life flashed real quick, past and present. A future picture went by. 'Man, I need to stop. I need to get help.'"

"He was a diabetic with only 10 percent of one lung," he said. "An addict. He chose to leave. He came back to my apartment one night just loaded. He needed some money. I had a few bucks, and I gave it to him. I remember watching him drive off, and I couldn't do [drugs]. I couldn't do it no more."

After 10 months, Hargrove had completed the program. He'd been cut by the Bills and didn't know if he'd get yet another chance. Williams helped him film a video that they sent to every NFL team. Only the Saints asked him in for an interview.

The team offered a one-year deal worth the veteran minimum of $620,000. Owner Tom Benson charged Hargrove with making the most of the opportunity. To avoid distraction, Hargrove moved into a spartan apartment near the Saints' practice building. He lives with his brother and attends Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

As the 2009 season progressed, Hargrove's role increased, and the Saints won game after game. Finally, in the NFC championship game against Minnesota, Hargrove delivered some of the most crushing blows to Vikings quarterback Brett Favre.

After that victory, Hargrove felt the spotlight once again shining his way. He was featured in The New York Times and on ESPN with stories highlighting his troubled past. He began hearing about the well-known stories of Barret Robbins and Eugene Robinson, players who found trouble in the pre-Super Bowl excitement.

To avoid their footsteps, Hargrove went in with a plan. He had to schedule his day so he would know where he would be and with whom. He said he needed to organize life so he didn't feel like he had to run.

"I'm the kind of person who needs a little help," Hargrove said. "Very easily something could happen, and I'm in the middle of a bad situation. And if something does happen, I have to have the right response instead of flipping the whole ship."

A central piece of Hargrove's plan was to return to Transitions. He said he started laughing the second he stepped inside the door. All of the slogans on the posters that he'd once derided had become integral...
Anthony Hargrove’s defensive talents were never in question. But until joining the Saints before the 2009 season, he couldn’t avoid off-field trouble.

parts of his daily life. They were mantras to his sobriety.

“You start working humility, and you’re honest,” he said. “And you don’t even realize it because it’s part of you. You think you can never do it. But it shows you how strong the mind is. It shows you that it works when you don’t even realize that you’re doing it. Those things stay with you.”

Most of the people he’d known at Transitions were gone. Some had graduated, some had relapsed and some had died.

“You have to know how to deal with it in this program,” Hargrove said. “It’s not an easy feeling, especially when it’s people you know. You get to know people at the utmost levels, who they are on the inside.”

The program’s directors had asked him to speak to current residents, and he said he began by giving them a simple choice: life or death.

“Are you going to choose life, or are you going to choose death? If you choose life, there are endless possibilities. If you choose death, there’s only one fate to that, and it’s 6 feet under. That’s the reality,” he told them. “They looked at me when I said it like, ‘How can you say that?’”

Rehab taught Hargrove there’s nothing easy about the road back. It is exhausting emotionally and physically. But, he stressed, it is worth the fight, as his life shows.

“Our job as those who have recovered is to go back and tell,” he said. “You’ve got to be a strength to them. You weren’t the first one, and you damn sure aren’t going to be the last one. It’s a family, and it’s a blessing to be a part of this, just to give some hope. And it’s going to empower me to keep going.

“There was nothing heartbreaking about going back. Unfortunately, a lot of times you go back it’s to get more help. I was going back to see happy faces.”

It was a full-circle moment for Hargrove, but he still had a game to play. The Saints, like Hargrove, struggled early before improbably coming back against the favored Colts in the Super Bowl.

Colts quarterback Peyton Manning was marching down to what looked like a tying touchdown in the fourth quarter when Hargrove felt his leg seize up with cramps. He had to be assisted off the field.
From the sideline, Hargrove watched as Manning dropped back and looked left. He saw Saints corner Tracy Porter shuffle inside, lunge for the interception, clinch the ball and blaze across the field. All that was left was for time to run out.

“Man, hats off to our coaches,” Hargrove said. “The plan of attack and the way [Saints head coach] Sean Payton kept us fresh and relaxed, it was incredible. The game itself was a reflection of the coaching staff. When the plays were there to be made, we had to make them.”

Looking back, Hargrove said he couldn’t put into words the emotional release of realizing he was a world champion. He called out favorite memories rapid-fire, as if struggling to pick a favorite.

“I remember Jeremy Shockey’s slant touchdown,” he said. “I remember our locker room at halftime, just so poised and calm. Everybody looking at each other like, ‘We’re about to do this.’ Oh, man, the confetti at the end. I remember me and Bobby McCray at the front of the line, waiting for the Lombardi trophy to come by.”

Hargrove also knew that, as much as the victory was more than just a game for him, it was also more than a game for New Orleans, a beleaguered city that still struggles to recover from Hurricane Katrina.

He looked to the stands and imagined the celebrations breaking out in New Orleans.

“You could see the smiles, and everybody’s eyes lit up. What had just happened was far more than two football teams playing,” he said. “It was a city that was breathing, that was following us. A large amount of love erupted. Everybody that was part of that got a lot more than they realized.”

About playing for a team that was the only one to give him another chance, Hargrove said, “I was just happy I could repay the favor. All I can do is smile about it. I don’t have all the words to describe how it feels. This is not going to be forgotten.”

That would mark a fitting conclusion to Hargrove’s redemptive journey. But he’s quick to point out that, with a new lease on life, his journey is just beginning.

Instead of following the cliched post-Super Bowl pattern of touring Disney World, he opted instead to visit Swaziland, Africa, which has the world’s highest per capita rate of AIDS.

His plan, he said, was to visit children and spread “joy and hope, to bring a blessing however we could.” He was sure that, as an NFL star and Super Bowl champ, he would have much to offer.

“And then you get there and figure out you have it all wrong,” he said. “In the midst of AIDS and poverty, these people are very happy people. They sing, they dance; their faith is unbelievable.

“The human spirit rises above everything. They don’t have running water, electricity, any of the stuff we have. I realized I’m blessed. I came back, and I have no reason to ever complain about anything ever again. It was 10 of the best days of my life.”

The people there hardly knew of the NFL, much less Hargrove’s career. He said he could just be himself and pour himself into the people. The experience reinforced the importance of life beyond football. It made him think about Georgia Tech and how big of an accomplishment it would be
for him to return and earn his degree.
And it gave him another singular, if not simple, goal.

"You might laugh at me when I say this, but I want to change the world," he said. "The last few years of my life, and then going to Africa, I see we have it all wrong. We all have selfish wants, and I have my own. Shoes — I love Jordans. I don't mind a fresh white T-shirt or some nice jeans. But that's not what it's about.

"We all hurt, we all laugh. We feel pain. We're forced when we fall off the horse to get back up. We're more connected than we think, and we need to start acting like it."

Accomplishing that is as simple as changing one's attitude, Hargrove said.

"We feed on the nastiness of others. We judge people way too fast. We're more about discrediting a person than crediting him," he said. "We're on this earth to better each other. We can make this one hell of a place, where people aren't dying because they can't get a medication or we blow up a country because of a priceless metal.

"There are young children who will never be able to throw a pitch or read a Dr. Seuss book, who won't be able to be another Michael Jordan or a Bill Gates. I think that if we can grow together as human beings and really unite, the sky is the limit. Eighteen hours away there are kids dying of AIDS, and it's not their fault. Who are we to stand by and do nothing because we're just a few hours away?"

For now, Hargrove is spreading the message to one person at a time.

"We can start one little ripple. Where that ripple goes, we'll see."
Inside the Super Bowl Scrum

By Van Jensen

In one of the most daring moments in Super Bowl history, the New Orleans Saints opted for an onside kick to start the game’s second half.

Chris Reis, a Georgia Tech defensive star in the 2004 and 2005 seasons, knew the ball could be coming his way. A special teams player for the Saints, Reis was on the kickoff coverage team, which had been practicing onside kicks for weeks.

Rookie kicker Thomas Morstead knocked the ball to his left, and it caromed off the chest of Colts player Hank Baskett and straight at Reis.

“We knew Thomas was going to kick a great ball,” Reis said. “But nothing goes exactly as you plan it. We didn’t know if I was going to get it, if Roman Harper was going to get it.

“It bounced off [Baskett], and it was coming real fast for me. I just threw my hands up and turned to slow it down. It fell beneath me, and I pulled it up right at the end and kept fighting for it.”

At that point, nearly every Colts and Saints player dove into the scrum for the ball. The players jostled for more than a minute — with Reis at the bottom of the pile.

“It’s not fun,” Reis said of being in a dog pile, “but when you know you have an opportunity to do something great and this play is going to set the tone, I knew I wasn’t going to let it slip out of my hands. It felt like forever for me.”

Finally the referees pulled all of the players up, leaving Reis alone with the ball. The Saints took possession, and the daring play served as a turning point in the team’s upset victory.

“Watching the play on TV later, I saw my teammates pulling people off of the pile,” Reis said. “That’s why we won the Super Bowl, we’re that kind of team.”

Reis said he couldn’t put into words the feeling of being a Super Bowl champion. After the win, he was back in New Orleans for the championship parade, which saw 800,000 fans turning out to cheer the team.

“People were just saying, ‘Thank you, thank you,’” Reis said. “It was amazing. It’s inspiring. It’s bigger than just a game.”

A restricted free agent, Reis said he was in the midst of finalizing a new contract with the Saints. He said he loves the team, the city and teammates too much to consider leaving.

After returning from a vacation in Hawaii, Reis started preparing for next season.

“You never just want to be a champion once,” he said. “To be great, you have to prove it over and over again.”
Nevo ACC Swimmer of Year
For the second straight year, Yellow Jackets swimmer Gal Nevo was named the Atlantic Coast Conference’s male swimmer of the year. In March, Nevo won three events at the ACC championship meet and placed in the top 10 of four events at the NCAA men’s championship.

Nevo, a senior economics major from Israel who will graduate in December, set multiple school records during the season. He owns four school records and is a four-time All-American.

Batsmen Off to Dominant Start
The Tech baseball team ranked among the top few teams in the nation after a strong start to the season.

Pitcher Deck McGuire, a junior, had compiled five wins with an ERA of 2.84 through April 20.

The offense has been providing plenty of run support. Junior catcher Cole Leonida was batting .340 and had 40 runs batted in. Junior shortstop Derek Dietrich was hitting .351 with 45 runs.

The ACC baseball tournament begins May 26 in Greensboro, N.C.

Freshman Lifts Softball Squad
Outscoring opponents by a nearly 3-to-1 margin through March, the Tech softball team was enjoying one of its best starts to a season.

That success owed in large part to freshman pitcher Hope Rush, who started the season with a 22-4 record and more than 137 strikeouts compared to only 33 earned runs allowed.

Rush also was contributing on offense with 14 home runs. Senior infielder Jen Yee is the team’s leading batter, hitting a stunning .597 to go with 76 runs and 53 RBI. Rush and Yee are finalists for the USA Softball Player of the Year.

The ACC softball tournament begins May 14 in Blacksburg, Va.

Falconi ACC Player of Year
After talking about her improved training in the January/February issue of the ALUMNI MAGAZINE, sophomore tennis player Irina Falconi showed off her new game in dominating fashion.

She was named the ACC Player of the Year after losing only two singles matches out of 35 and was ranked the nation’s top player. In doubles, Falconi had dropped only five matches.

Falconi was named ACC player of the week five times during the 11-week season.

Track and Field Star Honored
While track and field thrower Alana Clooten has received recognition for her accomplishments as an athlete, she recently earned praise for her work outside of sports.

Clooten graduated with an industrial engineering degree in December, compiling a 3.67 GPA. She also serves as president of Tech’s Student-Athlete Advisory Board.

She was a finalist for the 2009 Wooden Citizenship award, which is presented to the most outstanding role model among college and professional athletes. Clooten was one of 10 recipients of the Peach of an Athlete award in March. The awards program is sponsored by the Atlanta Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Clooten, who while in high school was featured in the Faces in the Crowd section of Sports Illustrated, continues to compete with the Yellow Jackets during the spring season. The NCAA championship meet will be held in June in Eugene, Ore.

Runners Show Off Smarts
Both the men’s and women’s cross country teams were named to the 2009 U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association all-academic teams.

The women’s team had a collective 3.29 GPA during the fall 2009 semester, while the men compiled a 3.20 GPA.
April 24  🐝  T-Day Spring Game @ 12:30pm
August  🐝  Yellow Jacket Encounter- TBA
Sept. 4   🏈  South Carolina State
Sept. 25  🏈  NC State- Family Weekend
Oct. 9   🏈  Virginia- Homecoming
Oct. 16  🏈  Middle Tennessee State
Nov. 13  🏈  Miami- 1990 Championship Reunion
Nov. 20  🏈  Duke

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Coaches Caravan rolls across Georgia with Paul Johnson, Paul Hewitt, MaChelle Joseph, Dan Radakovich and Wes Durham aboard. Admission is free. The coaches will be in Savannah on May 6, Gainesville on May 13, Dalton on May 18 and LaGrange on May 25. ramblinwreck.cstv.com/ot/caravan.html

Dallas/North Texas Club Golf Tournament and Scholarship Fundraiser tees off May 14 at Tour 18 in Flower Mound. web.me.com/ntxgtclub/Site/Events.html

Spring Commencement takes place at 7 p.m. May 7 for the awarding of master’s degrees and doctorates and at 9 a.m. May 8 for the presentation of bachelor’s degrees from all colleges except Engineering, which will be awarded at 3 p.m. All ceremonies will take place at Alexander Memorial Coliseum. commencement.gatech.edu/spring.php
Hidden Treasures: Watermarks from the Permanent Collection
ends its nearly three-month run at the Robert C. Williams Paper Museum on June 4. The exhibit tells the story of watermarks, from their invention and uses in 13th-century Italy to modern examples. ipst.gatech.edu/amp/

The President’s Dinner, hosted by the Alumni Association for Leadership Circle donors to the 63rd annual Roll Call, returns to the Georgia Aquarium on May 22. gtalumni.org/presidentsdinner

Georgia Tech Lorraine, in Metz, France, will host President G. P. “Bud” Peterson’s first visit to the campus June 15-16 in celebration of its 20th anniversary. gtl20.gatech.edu
In Retrospect

“...A two-kegger night really gets you rolling.”

Committee of Five Culprits Finally Come Forward

By Kimberly Link-Wills

The members of the notorious Committee of Five, a brazen band of fraternity brothers who, fueled by a “two-kegger night,” stole the whistle in the early hours of Aug. 13, 1978, have never been unmasked. Until now.

Steve Copeland, ME 79, says it’s time to set the record straight. Copeland, on the far right in the photo holding a cigar in one hand and a glass of wine in the other, found a reference to the Committee of Five on Wikipedia that said they all were expelled for the prank. That’s not true, he says.

In on the caper with Copeland were, left to right in the photo, Mike Oglesby, EE 80; Russell Hill, ME 78; Mike Sowell, CE 79; and Dan Richards, EE 81. They have not all been together since the photograph was taken, about a week after the Aug. 25, 1978, issue of the Technique published a Polaroid picture of five hooded men submitted to the student newspaper with a ransom note.

The theft of the whistle was not a well-thought-out mission.

“We had a keg of beer at the fraternity house. We were all pretty well lit, so we said, ‘Let’s go see Animal House.’ It had just come out,” Copeland says. By the time they arrived back at the Tau Kappa Epsilon house later that night, a second keg had been tapped. “A two-kegger night really gets you rolling.”

Copeland and Hill wanted to pull a John Belushi-like stunt. Hill had graduated, but was living at the TKE house until heading to medical school. “So he was up for anything. We decided to go saw the whistle off.”

They acquired a hacksaw, climbed the side of the boiler building and started sawing in pouring rain. “I know we sawed for three or four hours. As we were lowering the whistle down off the building, the sun was coming up,” Copeland remembers.

“Mike Oglesby had some military-type walkie-talkies. He and Dan Richards were running around with these walkie-talkies ... and keeping an eye on the cops,” says Copeland, who was warned to duck down and keep quiet now and then to avoid detection.

At one point, the rope used to ring the dinner bell at the fraternity house was fetched, Copeland says. “We tied that rope to the whistle and lowered it down the side of the building. Then Mike Sowell brought his car over, and we threw it in the hatchback and took it away.”

It was Sunday morning by this time, he says. “Monday morning I had an 8 a.m. fluids test. Fluids was hard. I was sitting in this exam, and I knew the whistle was in my closet back in the fraternity house. ... I heard the whistle blow, but there was no whistle. It was just the sound of the air. The boiler building was right next to the ME building then. I just broke out laughing.”

As the weeks passed without warrants being issued for their arrests, the Committee of Five grew cockier. The stolen whistle became an integral part of the TKE entry in the Ramblin’ Wreck Parade during Homecoming 1978.

“We had the whistle buried down inside the hood of the car. We had it on a hydraulic lift off the power steering pump, so it just kind of rose up out of the hood of the car when we got in front of the judges stand,” says Copeland, who has seen film footage showing Tech President Joseph Pettit pointing at the whistle.

Since everybody already knew TKE had the whistle, some of the committee members approached Miller Templeton, Phys 61, MS NE 63, himself a member of the fraternity and the assistant dean of students. Templeton was asked to negotiate with Pettit’s office. The committee wanted to engrave the whistle and present it to Jimmy Carter, Cls 46, when the president visited campus. Administration denied the request.

“So we left the whistle with Mike Sowell over the Christmas holiday. He said he just carried it down to a Tech cop who was riding around on a motorcycle and gave it to him,” Copeland says. “It’s not a very exciting ending.”

The Committee of Five members continued to keep their identities secret for fear of repercussions. Copeland figures it’s too late to get in trouble now.

“Nobody ever said a word to us, and until now nobody knew our names,” he says. “There’s a portrait just like the photograph hanging in one of the rooms of the fraternity house, but those guys don’t know who we were. It wasn’t hung up there until 10 or 15 years later.

“We thought we were something,” Copeland says of himself and the four other dressed-up young men, all wearing their fraternity pins, posing with the whistle for the formal portrait. “We had stolen the whistle. We had gone down in history with the very few who had done this.”

See them now at gtechalumnimag.com.
It’s Electric UPDATE

In the March/April issue, we asked if anyone could explain or identify the people in a photograph from our filing cabinet.

“I’m the one sitting on the hood of the car,” Steven Marzec, MatE 94, said in an e-mail. “Some other pictures along with the article were published in the Summer 1993 ALUMNI MAGAZINE. The others in the photo are, from left to right, Brian Cox [EE 90, ME 93], Lucas Grote [ME 97, MS ME 99] and Andy Shelley [ME 94].

“We were trying to start a Georgia Tech electric vehicle club, and we were sponsored with a car to build for the first Clean Air Grand Prix at the Atlanta Motor Speedway. We got the car built and finished but were unable to race due to some last-minute problems,” said Marzec, now a customer support representative and lead operating system analyst developer with the Wallace H. Coulter Department of Biomedical Engineering at Tech and Emory.

Marzec good-naturedly agreed to recreate the photograph, taken near the Coon Building.

Read the 1993 article at gtalumnimag.com.
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