Delta Sig seeks new charter

By Charlene Chen

The Alpha Gamma colony of Delta Sigma Phi is beginning the process of reentering the Greek community at Georgia Tech. The original charter for the fraternity was revoked in 1998, and while Delta Sigma Phi had permission to come back on campus in 5 years, a petition from Tech led to the early reinstatement of the fraternity. Del ta Sigma Phi (known as “Delta Sig”) is working to receive its charter by fall, by meeting certain requirements, including a membership number above average and accomplishing various fund-raising activities. President of the Alpha Gamma colony, Matt Rehburg said, “We think of ourselves as Greeks first, an individual fraternity second.”

The return of the fraternity began when Elliott Dale, previous Director of Expansion for Delta Sig and alumni of the University of Oregon branch contacted Georgia Tech for recommendations of good leaders. The search included asking sororities for a list of dependable young men. Those students were contacted and invited to join. They then offered their own recommendations.

“As soon as I heard about the opportunity, I was enthusiastic,” says Brian Liu. “Sometimes you think you can’t do a lot on your own with respect to the environment, but through Delta Sigma Phi, there is a confidence that comes with the brotherhood that encourages change for the better.”

Being new on campus brings on the various challenges any new organization faces. Rehburg explains the difficulty, “Many of the brothers are freshmen and have no prior experience to being in a fraternity. We’re half guessing and figuring things out as we go along.”

However, the fraternity is hopeful in its success and finds advantages to being new. The brothers joke about the freedom to hang large portraits of themselves all over the house, but after a minute, Liu responds more seriously, “We aren’t clamped down by strict routines of the past. We have the freedom of original insight and the ability to form new traditions.”

An impressive amount of work needs to be accomplished in order develop the colony. Sean Coleman, a founding father, remarks, “The time put into the fraternity is well-spent. Tangible results are shown through our work, and it is great to put effort into something so worthwhile.”

Recruitment continues throughout the year. J.P. Coughlin explains the hope to find more students who “exemplify Delta Sig characteristics.”

Women in science

The achievements of women in science are being celebrated by the Marie Curie exhibit, open for viewing on campus. Page 17

So you wanna be a politician?

Find out what position your classmates want to be appointed to. You all know government work is the place for the ultimate slacker! Page 18

Freshman communities built through program

By Kim Holton

The full term of 1999 saw the beginning of new program on campus. The program, called the Freshman Learning Community, was created to help incoming students establish a solid academic foundation. Dr. Bob McMath, Vice Provost of Academic Affairs said, “Often students who struggle academically did not have a good first semester at Tech. The learning communities were designed to help students form associations, that would lead to study groups, friendship and overall better academic performance.” From that desire to see greater student success, McMath and Lee Wilcox, Vice President of Student Affairs, developed the pilot learning community program.

The normal Learning Community consists of twenty-five students who register for three classes together. The classes are Calculus, English and Psych 1000. Moreover, the students are often clustered together in the same residence halls. “The program was structured in such a way that the students would form associations, which would help them form study groups and increase their success. Moreover, the nontraditional classroom settings are designed to help students feel as though they approach their professors or teaching assistants,” McMath continued.

Dan Quirke, a freshman CS major, described his experience in a learning community: “The best thing...was that you had the same people in your core classes. This helped you form friendships faster. Furthermore, they lived close enough that there was always some around to help you if you needed.” Jessica Winston, another Learning Community participant and freshman CE, said, “I chose the program because coming out of high school is a big adjustment. The smaller class sizes really appealed to me.”

Faces at Georgia Tech

- Profile on Caroline Burnet -

By Robert Cunningham

Came for the pizza, left with a story

While many Tech students get their kicks from writing HTML and Java code, not many can lay claim to having authored and published their own literary work. Caroline Burnet, however, is not your average Tech student.


...there is a confidence that comes with the brotherhood that encourages change for the better.

Brian Liu

Delta Sigma Phi

The biography chronicles the career of Sanchez-Vicario when one of Harding’s friends suggested that they write a book.

“I think we just blew it off at first and thought ‘We can’t really do that’,” said Burnet. After deciding to give the book a shot though, they realized that it might turn out to be more than they ever expected.

“The more time we spent researching Arantxa, we went from 50 pages, to 100 pages, and next thing we know [it was] 200 pages long. We thought, ‘We ought to do something with this,’” said Burnet.

See FACES, page 19

Calvin Burnet (right) is the co-author of a biography on the star tennis player Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario (left). She had the opportunity to meet with Sanchez-Vicario before the book was published and share her work.
Excuse me, 1/2 + 7, please turn on the game.

Campus briefs

Investment class held during February

From Thursday, February 1, until Thursday, March 1, Matt Mason will be holding an Introduction to Investing Class. The class will teach the fundamentals of investing, and cover topics including stocks, bonds, online brokerages, IRA’s, mutual funds, taxes, and DRIPs. Mason has taught the class since Fall 1998, and this will be the final semester it will be offered. The class will be held in the Instructional Center, Room 109, on Thursdays from 7:00 until 8:30 p.m. Sign up at the Student Center Box Office by January 26, or register late until February 1.

Majors Fair sponsored by Career Services

Career Services will be holding a Majors Fair on Tuesday, February 6, from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. Faculty, advisors, and alumni from undergraduate majors and the ROTC, Study Abroad, and Teacher Certification programs will be available to discuss programs, answer student questions, and provide information on careers related to their programs. Undecided majors, students thinking about changing their major, and students seeking more information about their major and related careers are encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Marge Dussich at marge.dussich@success.gatech.edu, or visit www.career.gatech.edu.

Tech Talk broadcast being held at Under the Couch

On Thursday, February 1, Tech Talk will be broadcasting live from outside Under the Couch. They will also be giving away two pairs of tickets to see Carrot Top at the Tabernacle on Saturday, February 3. Tech Talk is broadcasted on Thursdays from 6:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on WREK 91.1 FM and Fridays at 7:00 p.m. on the Georgia Tech Cable Network. For more information, contact Adam Preble at adamp@cc.gatech.edu, or visit www.TechTalk.wrek.org.

Women’s Leadership Conference looking for nominees

The Women’s Leadership Conference is seeking to honor those outstanding female individuals from Georgia Tech at the conference on February 23 and 24. Nomination forms are available in the Office of the Dean of Students, Room 210 of the Flag Building, or online at cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/wlc after Monday, January 29. Nominations are due on Friday, February 9.

Local bands to perform at Student Center

On Friday, January 26, there will be a concert featuring five local hardcore bands. Outsight, Strong Box, Krave, New Pop Solution, and Rebound will perform in the Student Center Ballroom from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. The event is sponsored by Greenhouse and C2C, and there will be a five dollar cover fee.

Learning

The Department of Housing’s involvement with the program was mainly logistical. According to Dan Morrison, Director of Residence Life, about half of Freshman Experience has learning communities. When placing students in such communities, Housing honors side of campus and tries to accommodate specific building requests. Schedules are usually tweaked based on a student’s Calculus level. Roommates do not necessarily both have to be in a Learning Community.

Morrison expressed an interest in creating more links in the future between classes, and expanding the feeling of collegiality. The smaller class sizes offered with the Learning Communities were designed to help the students feel more comfortable with their professors. Did it work? “Definitely, the professors and TA’s were on a more personal level than traditional style classes,” said Winston. Quirke said, “You become more comfortable with you professors, and if you have a problem you feel like you can approach them.” McMath said, “The end of program surveys from last year’s participants contained numerous responses of how much the students gained from the program. This year’s results are not in as of yet. But I have had several students to drop by and tell me how much they enjoyed their learning community.”

For more information about Learning Communities, visit the Department of Housing’s Web site at http://www.housing.gatech.edu.
An exhibit on the science of Marie Curie opened at the library this week, and a crowd of interested people attended the opening. The exhibit features the works of many women scientists, especially Nobel Prize winners.

By Marques McMillan / STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

The Legacy of Marie Curie exhibit includes many pieces that are on loan from the Musee Curie in Paris. Her works are particularly relevant to Tech students, which has a growing population of women engineers.

By Sean Selmah
and Julia Trapold
Press Release

On January 22, an exhibit titled, The Legacy of Marie Curie: One Hundred Years of Science Innovation, opened in the Neely Gallery of Georgia Tech’s Library and Information Center.

It examines the work of Curie, the discovery of radioactivity, and the contributions of women scientists. Georgia Tech has several programs that involve the study of radioactive materials, a field in which Madame Curie was an early and prominent contributor," said Ward Winer, the Eugene C. Gwaltney Jr. Chair in Manufacturing at Georgia Tech and the Chair of the Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering.

Madame Curie was born in Poland in 1867, but she left to study mathematics, physics, and chemistry at the Sorbonne in Paris. In 1911, Curie won a Nobel Prize in chemistry for her discovery of polonium and radium. She was the first person to receive the Nobel Prize twice, and the only woman to ever do so. Also featured in the exhibit are Irene Joliot-Curie, Maria Goeppert Mayer, Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin, Rosalyn Sussman Yalow, Lise Meitner, Rosalind Franklin, and Florence Rena Sabin.

The exhibit includes information about the latest discoveries in the areas of medicine, oil, and gas exploration, power generation, pharmacology, astronomy, archaeology, and geography, all based on the studies of the atom.

It also contains original laboratory equipment used by Madame Curie in her work, on loan from the Musee Curie in Paris.

“Although women have not been in science and engineering in large numbers, they have in fact been major contributors to these disciplines for more than 100 years,” said Winer. “Marie Curie and other women featured in this exhibit are among the leaders. We hope the exhibit will encourage young people in general and young women in particular to consider careers in science and engineering.”

The number of female students at Tech has been steadily increasing over the past several years. More than 4,100 women were enrolled at Georgia Tech in fall 2000 and more than 60 percent pursued degrees in the College of Engineering and the College of Science.

Also, Tech’s College of Engineering led the nation in the total number of degrees and the number of undergraduate engineering degrees awarded to women.

“This exhibit offers a wonderful chance for the Woodruff School to sponsor something that is of more general interest for the campus, our alumni, and the Atlanta community,” said Rona Ginsberg, director of communications for the Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering. “We hope that faculty and staff will bring their children to the exhibit. We also are eager for the public to attend, perhaps people who might not normally visit Georgia Tech. They will see a wonderful exhibit that highlights women in science, and perhaps have a chance to view some of our facilities and see the campus.”

The free exhibit runs through March 2, 2001, and is open to the public. Its hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Extended viewing hours will be offered Wednesdays until 8:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays.
Buzz Around the Campus

**Question** of the week

“If you could have any position in the Bush administration, what would it be?”

Mike Maxwell
CheE Freshman

“Secret service. It’s the only cool job worth having.”

Mike ENos
CheE Freshman

“The monkey trainer. Tell Bush what to do.”

Marcelo Dunning
Arch Freshman

“Part of the special administration for running down criminals on foot.”

Lisa Lukasiewicz
ID Sophomore

“I’ll take care of his pet.”

Tammy McCoy
MatE Grad

“Puppeteer. Because that’s all he is—a puppet.”

Rejanah Steward
MatE Grad

“Speech pathologist. Because a mind is a terrible thing to waste.”

Chris Kavanaugh
ISE Junior

“Chief executive advisor of strategy.”

Josh Davis
AE Freshman

“The guy who flies Air Force One.”

Feature by Sarah Graybeal
Photos by Carter Green
After completing the book, Burnet and Harding had the opportunity to go to Wimbledon to meet their idol, as well as each other.

“We wrote the entire book without ever meeting each other. It was all done over the Internet,” said Burnet. After meeting Sanchez-Vicario, the two informed her of their endeavor and presented her with a copy of the book.

“I think she [Sanchez-Vicario] was pretty shocked that we had gone to the effort to do all that,” said Burnet. Meeting Sanchez-Vicario and receiving her positive feedback provided the two authors with the encouragement they needed to go the final step and publish the work.

When Burnet and Harding first decided to publish the book, they really didn’t know how to go about it. “When we first thought about getting published, we just wanted a rejection letter to show that we at least tried,” said Burnet.

They looked up the publishers of many sports biographies, but found that a writer usually had to be more established for the publisher to take a chance. They found a publisher at the same place that all the writing for the book had taken place, on the Internet.

“I happened to see this article in the paper about this publisher that was for first-time writers, so we looked at the Web site and figured why not try that,” said Burnet. They used a site called iUniverse.com. The base cost of the book was around a hundred dollars, but Harding and Burnet chose to add pictures and graphics to improve the layout of the book.

“I did additional writing, one of my hobbies is drawing, so this book gave me the unique opportunity to include some of my drawings of Arantxa,” said Burnet.

To others that may have literary aspirations, Burnet says, “You have to really be passionate to be able to write a book. Looking back where we started from, it’s kind of amazing where all this has mushroomed to.” Burnet says she has no current plans for another book, but doesn’t deny the possibility.

Burnet’s future plans are to attend graduate school and obtain an architecture license. From there she hopes to one day become a partner in a respected architecture firm.

“I think she [Sanchez-Vicario] was pretty shocked that we had gone to the effort to do all that.”

Caroline Burnet
Student, Author

Black History Month events offer excitement

February 1, 2001 - Black History Month Kickoff - President’s Suite B, 7:00 p.m.
February 3, 2001 - Annual Step Show - Robert Fert Center for the Arts, 7:00 p.m.
February 5, 2001 - Movie Night - Student Center Theatre, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
February 6, 2001 - Meeting - Jim Davis from Georgia Power
February 6, 2001 - African Dance Class - Center Street Activity Room, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 8, 2001 - Entrepreneurial Panel - Location TBA, 7:00 p.m.
February 12, 2001 - Quiz Bowl - Student Success Center Clary Theater, 6:00 p.m.
February 13, 2001 - Meeting - Love & Communication w/Dr. Mack Bowers
February 13, 2001 - African Dance Class - Center Street Activity Room, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 15, 2001 - Keynote Speaker - Al Sharpton, Alumni House Ballroom, 6:00 p.m.
February 19, 2001 - Movie Night - Student Center Theatre, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
February 5, 2001 - Meeting - Health and African-Americans
February 20, 2001 - African Dance Class - Center Street Activity Room, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
February 21, 2001 - Black As You Wanna Be - Time & Location TBA
February 24, 2001 - Site Visit - Martin Luther King Jr. Home/Museum, Time TBA
February 26, 2001 - Movie Night - Student Center Theatre, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
February 27, 2001 - Meeting - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.
February 27, 2001 - African Dance Class - Center Street Activity Room, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

For more information, visit http://cyberbuzz.gatech.edu/aasu or e-mail aasu-exec@cyberbuzz.gatech.edu.