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By Jennifer Lee
Focus Editor

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The idea came from Danny White, an Economics grad student, and Tyler Smith, a third-year Mechanical Engineering major. "Last Tuesday night randomly said 'Arrr!' to Danny when we were talking, and he said, 'Isn't Friday November 1st Talk Like a Pirate Day?'" explained Smith. "We pretty much ran with the whole Pirate Day idea from there.

The idea gained momentum throughout the school, phone, email and instant messaging. 'It was very grassroots,' White said.

Word spread fast, though, and on Thursday night a group of 60-70 students showed up in the parking lot in front of the Old Architecture building, ready and able to help unleash pirate jokes, flyers and pick-up lines all over campus. "We had so little time everyone just did whatever they wanted," White said.

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By Kristin Noell
Contributing Writer

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Tech also took the opportunity to show off other aspects of the school as well. Georgia Tech encourages parents to visit not only for their own benefit but also for the benefit of the Institute.

After Family Weekend, parents are encouraged to donate to the school. A good impression during Family Weekend means a good donation for Tech.

For this reason, students with messy dorms are not the only ones cleaning up—the maintenance staff works to make sure the campus is looking as good as possible for visitors.

Dining and transportation services also put on their best face. If you want good food at Brittain or Woodruff, then Family Weekend is a good time to find it.

Supposedly, transportation services run better during the weekend as well, though there was no noticeable difference in the Stinger busses.

Jimmy Musselwhite, a freshman Computer Engineering major, summed up his Family Weekend experience.

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which requires completion of a program of teacher education from an approved provider.

These programs include Master’s of Education and Bachelor’s in Education in addition to non-degree post-baccalaureate programs for people that already have a bachelor's and are teaching with an intern or provisional license and need the education courses.

Another possibility is to obtain a Provisional License, a three-year, nonrenewable license. This license requires a minimum number of teaching field courses, a bachelor’s degree and passing the PRAXIS I and II, the teacher certification test.

In recent years, the state of Georgia has created alternative certification programs because of teacher shortages, particularly in math and science.

“I became easier to become alternative certified, and I realized Tech students had a gateway, an easier path,” said Dr. Leigh Bottomley, Academic Professional for the Undergraduate Vice Provost.

Prospective teachers may now obtain an Intern License, a two-year nonrenewable license that is granted when the applicant is accepted into Georgia’s Teacher Alternative Preparation Program (GATAPP). It requires a bachelor’s degree in a related area, passing PRAXIS I, and is contingent upon a job offer from a county.

The program includes an intensive four to five week course during the summer, followed by teaching the next fall with mentoring and monitoring.

The professional training is completed at night during the first two years, and the two years of teaching count as field experience when applying for a Professional License af

ter passing the PRAXIS II.

In addition, the HOPE Teacher Scholarship Program provides forgivable loans to individuals seeking advanced education degrees in critical shortage fields of study.

These fields of study are published each year, and almost always include math and science.

According to Bottomley, math and science “almost always have critical shortages,” which creates a demand for students with degrees in engineering, math or science.

“I think it’s a great opportunity,” said Bottomley.

“There have been 50 to 60 [Tech students] that I know about (who are) teaching in the metro area that were really well-received.”

Leigh Bottomley
Academic Professional

Rose added, “Good math and science teachers are so needed, and Tech has some of the best math and science minds out there.”

Teacher salaries are going up as well. In the metro Atlanta area, for instance, most teachers make between $30,000 and $40,000 annually, depending on their license type and degree.

A few years ago, “they were so desperate for math and science teachers that they were offering a signing bonus, something unheard of in education,” said Bottomley.

In addition, teachers have longer summer and holiday breaks than most other individuals in the workforce. “Salaries are good, benefits are great,” she added.

Bottomley will also have a table at the Majors Fair on Nov. 15th in the Student Center Ballroom for students interested in teaching. Although Tech does not currently have a teacher certification program, it does “offer information and academic advisement,” she said. “I’m happy to promote teaching opportunities for students all over campus.”

However, some students would welcome a Tech-sponsored teacher certification program.

“I would love to see a teaching certification program here at Tech,” said Rose. “I think a lot of people would be interested in it, especially if it were here and not joint enrollment.”

Although that is not an option now, it does not mean that teaching is not a possibility for students, especially with the new alternative certification programs in the state.

As Bottomley said, “It’s a different career opportunity than students at Tech think about, but… [I] just want students to know it’s a career option.”

For more information about teacher certification, contact Leigh Bottomley at leigh.bottomley@carnegie.gatech.edu.

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By Viji Sundaram
Contributing Writer

During registration every semester, we are all forced to consider the same dilemma—how to maximize academic stimulation while minimizing both burnout and boredom. Where can we find some interesting classes to balance the dreaded requirements for graduation?

The Habersham Building, across from the new CRC, is the host for many of the classes that non-International Affairs majors believe only to be impossible rumors of “fun times” and “real class discussions.”

But indeed, the Ivan Allen College offers 400-level special topics classes that range from U.S. Intelligence and the Iran-Contra Affair to Islamic Leaders and Global Human Smuggling. Amidst all of these others lies INTA4011: Technology and Military Organization, taught by Professor Michael Salomone.

Salomone, who received both his master’s and bachelor’s in International Relations from Leigh University and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh, was one of the original members to form the core group of the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs back in 1989.

Before coming to Tech, he spent several years teaching at Bethany, the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon. He also served in the U.S. Army for two years. As a corporal in the General Accounting Office International Division, it was his job to train new comers as combat engineers.

See INTA, page 12
I was delighted to see that there in the Student Center publicizing. several of the pirates while they were rector of the Student Center, saw as we left or just laughed in it very well. Some even shouted sup- classes we ‘ambushed’ actually took else, it woke everyone up.”

“Like a pirate,” said Puckett. “If nothing a class, burst in, and start talking expected to have someone show up to pirate Friday. “I think it was unex- a student while clad in a skull and crossbones bandana. who serves a customer while clad in a skull and crossbones bandana. who serves a customer while clad in a skull and crossbones bandana.

Sally Hammock, Associate Di- at me and I’d ‘yo-ho’ back.”

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Technology and Military Organization focuses on one aspect of war: the advances in technology that have al- ed, “and we can always use more of that.” The pirates also garnered attention from the rest of the student population. “When I’d pass people on the way, they would obviously be looking at me and I’d tell them in my pirate voice that it was Interna- tional Talk Like a Pirate Day,” said Chin.

“I was a lot of fun when random people came up to me and ‘arrr’d at me and I’d ‘yo-ho’ back.”

“I thought it was funny,” added Sarah Hancock, a second-year Elec- trical Engineering major. “I saw a pirate walking around campus and one at the volleyball game.”

The pirate at the volleyball game was Chin, who maintained his im- age even after classes. “I did paint up with some friends for the volley- ball game against Wisconsin and kept my pirate attire on,” he said. Other students also got into the spirit of the day. “I saw one guy walking down the sidewalk who had folded up a Technique into the shape of a pirate hat and was wearing it proudly,” Smith said.

“Talk Like a Pirate Day inspired me to start stealing from my room- mate,” Dan Richard, an Industrial Engineering sophomore, joked.

“I commandeered his side of the room, too…so now he sleeps in the hall.”

Not all students were aware of the day. “Most didn’t care,” said Nguyen Tuong, who wore an eye- patch around all day. “But then, that’s not the point.”

What is the point, then? Why celebrate Talk Like a Pirate Day, of all days? Shelly Moist, a second- year Industrial Design major, said, “Because Tech is too serious—this event is entirely to have fun.”

Indeed, the participants stress that the point was entirely to have fun. “Tech’s a great place, but it can always use a bit more levity,” said White.

“Hopefully there’ll be people who can keep the tradition going and do this again next year.”