

REMARKS BY GEORGIA TECH PRESIDENT G. WAYNE CLOUGH
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- Baylor produces outstanding students like:
 - Sean Kedrowski, who graduated last spring, was one of 20 American students chosen to participate in the 33rd International Chemistry Olympiad in Bombay, India this summer. He was the top-scoring member of the U.S. team and finished fifth in the world.
 - Will Brandt, another member of the class of 2001, who was the top high school competitor at the U.S.A. Swimming National Championships last spring, and emerged as the fastest American swimmer in the breast stroke in the 18 and under category.
 - These were just two of last year's graduating seniors – a class that included **nine** National Merit Scholars.
 - Becca Red, who is training for the 2004 Olympics team in whitewater events.
 - Baylor is the first school in Tennessee state history to win boys' and girls' state high school golf championships in consecutive years.
- We try to get our fair share of Baylor students at Georgia Tech. Our overall student body at Tech includes eight Baylor graduates among 279 students from Tennessee. Our freshman class this fall totals a little less than 2,200, and it includes 45 students from Tennessee – **two** of them graduated from Baylor. These Tennessee freshmen are very bright – average SAT of 1360 and an average high school GPA of 3.78.
- If I had to meet those high standards when I was a high school student here in Chattanooga wanting to go to Georgia Tech, I don't think I could have gotten in.
- Stories from my own high school days.
 - Rock and roll was invented; Elvis Presley, Bill Haley and the Comets.
 - Eisenhower was president.
- Chattanooga was a different place back in the 1950s when I lived here and attended City High School.
 - Wasn't as big – only had about 130,000 people compared to almost half a million today.
 - The "Chattanooga Choo Choo" about which the song was written, still came to Terminal Station – it didn't stop running until 1970.
 - Economy relied on a lot of heavy industry, which, combined with Chattanooga's role as an industrial rail center, generated a tremendous amount of air pollution.

By the 1960s, Chattanooga had more soot and smog in its air than Los Angeles, and the *New York Times* called it “The Filthiest City in America.”

- Today, even though the population has tripled, Chattanooga is a model of environmental responsibility.
 - Tough emission laws for industry and vehicles were enacted during the 70s and 80s, and the Tennessee Riverpark Master Plan was created in the mid-80s to guide the renovation and revitalization of the waterfront.
 - 1996: the United Nations honored Chattanooga for improvement of an urban living environment.
- Today Chattanooga is working to reshape its economy for the 21st century:
 - Harvard University business guru Michael Porter has come to help you identify clusters of industry to develop. I work with Dr. Porter on Council for Competitiveness.
 - A fiber-optic trunkline is being laid along the Norfolk-Southern Railway right-of-way, which gives Chattanooga the opportunity to get on the information “super-highway” and develop an information technology industry. This city already has a growing number of underground fiber-optic lines, and your businesses are using them more and more.
- When I went to Georgia Tech as a freshman in 1959, Atlanta was far away – it took about four hours to drive there. I thought it was a big city – it was about the size that Chattanooga is today – and Georgia Tech was considered a solid regional university.
- Over the past 40 years, both Atlanta and Georgia Tech have seen tremendous growth.
 - Atlanta now has almost 4 million people in its metro area, and it is closer to Chattanooga than when I was a student, not only because of I-75, but also because the metro areas of both cities have been growing toward each other.
 - Atlanta never developed the iron and coal-based industrial economy that gave Chattanooga its problems with air pollution, but we have developed about the same level of smog, primarily from traffic congestion. We are now trying to learn how to do what Chattanooga has already been doing – to create a quality urban living environment.
 - Meanwhile, Chattanooga is learning from Atlanta has done in becoming a center for the information technology industry. In many ways our history is similar. Both cities got their start as rail centers. Both became highway centers at the intersection of major interstates. Now, with a fiber-optic trunkline coming

- through, the door is opening for IT industry to develop in Chattanooga just as it did in Atlanta some years ago.
- Atlanta has used the foundation of fiber-optic trunklines to build itself into a major high-tech center. Today, Atlanta ranks 12th in the nation by size of its high-tech workforce, with over 151,000 high-tech jobs. **Georgia Tech** has been a driver of that transformation.
- Georgia Tech is educating the technological leaders of tomorrow, and we need bright, young students like you to be those leaders.
 - Lester Thurow, renowned MIT economist, does an annual survey of attitudes toward inventing called the Lemelson-MIT Invention Index. The results of his latest survey, released last winter, are not encouraging:
 - Teenagers recognize the importance of inventing – 46% of them chose an inventor as the best person to be stranded with on a deserted island. But they don't want to BE inventors. Only journalists and politicians ranked lower than inventors in the list of careers teens aspire to.
 - They don't even want to know an inventor. Only 8% of teens want to meet one – dead last among the career categories from which teens would like to meet an important person.
 - As technology is becoming pervasive in all parts of life, society is increasingly turning to the technology experts to be leaders. The doors are opening for people with technological skills and education to assume broad leadership roles.
 - Many Georgia Tech alums with engineering degrees are now in positions of broader leadership:
 - Chris Klaus, who founded Internet Security Systems in his dorm room, is a widely recognized expert and leader on the vital issue of Internet security while still in his 20s.
 - Deborah Willingham, who is a senior vice president and the highest-ranking woman at Microsoft, is considered one of the most powerful businesswomen in America by *Fortune* magazine.
 - Dave Dorman, who is president of AT&T, is a major pacesetter in IT.
 - Henry Hipps, who got his master's degree from Georgia Tech in 1998, was just named a Fulbright Fellow and will be working in Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay to provide technology solutions for economic and business development.
 - So pay attention in your math and science classes. But that does not mean you should neglect the humanities.

- Half of GT students play musical instruments. We have strong programs on campus in music and foreign languages.
 - Technology is a tool. The humanities give us an understanding of the world through the ages and across the cultures, and give us the context to put that tool to work in positive ways to serve society.
- Charlotte Barr, beloved teacher and poet in residence at Baylor, points out in the poem she wrote for Baylor's centennial, "To Number Our Days," that there are many generations who have gone before us, who have much to teach us and wisdom to offer us. We cannot step in the same river that they did, because "learning is a liquid thing" and we must address the challenges of our own time. But our achievements are built on their shoulders.