

Inside:

Chip White joins ISyE . . .Page 2

Women of Distinction . . .Page 3

In BriefPage 3

Campus EventsPage 4



THE WHISTLE

FACULTY/STAFF NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 10 • MARCH 11, 2002

THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Inspection of parking deck reveals structural support problems

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

For the second time in a year, there is a problem with a campus parking deck.

Earlier this month, the Office of Parking and Transportation hired a structural engineer to write specifications for maintenance work on beams and columns. According to Rosalind Meyers, associate vice president of Auxiliary Services, this was to be the first step in a long-term maintenance plan that would assess parking structures during the spring and perform any necessary repairs over the summer.

Upon inspection of the Student

Center Parking Deck, she said, the engineer noted significant contractions in four columns caused by the fluctuating temperatures of February and March. According to the engineer's report, the columns demanded immediate attention as some of them were in danger of failing.

"He discovered that some of the deterioration was progressing faster than we had anticipated," said Meyers. "We chose to err on the side of caution and take the weight off these columns until they can be repaired."

Meyers said that a forensic engineer was brought in — the same one who examined the North Campus

Deck continued, page 3

Students bring prestige with national scholarships

David Terraso
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

Rhodes, Truman, Marshall, Gates, Goldwater and Fulbright.

No, it's not a law firm — it's a list of some of the prestigious scholarships and fellowships Georgia Tech students have been awarded over the past year. In the past 12 months, Tech students have claimed nine of these elite awards. Tech students have won more of these top honors in the past two years than in the previous ten.

According to Paul Hurst, director of marketing and special programs, it's not that Tech students are necessarily any smarter these days. "I think it's just a matter of mining our resources," he said. A few years ago his office formed an informal steering committee to advertise better to students that these scholarships are available, Hurst explained. They began with information sessions geared toward instructing the campus about the various scholarships, how to apply and what qualities each awards committee looks for.

Prior to this initiative, students would usually hear about the award by word of mouth from another student or professor, leaving a lot of would-be scholars in the dark. Now, even some freshmen are starting to think about these scholarships. "I think if students get advice earlier in their academic career, they can make better choices about pursuing courses that would broaden and deepen their education," said Amanda Gable, academic professional in the Office of Graduate Studies and Research.

In addition to organizing the information sessions, Gable and Hurst, along with engineering Assistant Dean Jane Weyant and Amy Bass Henry, associate director in the Office of International Education, act as advisors to the student applicants. They help the students prepare their applications and conduct mock interviews and give them enormous moral support. Will Roper, winner of the 2002 Rhodes and 2001 Truman scholarships, said, "Paul (Hurst) believed in me the whole time. I wavered on a daily basis, but he always thought I was going to get it. It's as much his scholarship as it is mine."

Students face stiff competition

Each award varies, but the scholarships generally provide winners with money to cover the cost of education and living in a graduate or undergraduate program. Rhodes scholars attend Oxford University, Gates winners go to Cambridge University, Marshall scholars may attend any university in the United Kingdom, and Truman scholars can go to any university in the world. Goldwater scholars choose an American school.

The competition for these awards is stiff. The Rhodes Scholarship alone had 925 university-sponsored applicants this year in the United States and only 32 winners. Since its inception in 1903, the Rhodes Scholarship Trust has given awards to 2,950 American students. More than 10 percent of those have been Harvard University students, and 28 percent attended Ivy League schools. The average dollar value of a Rhodes is \$28,000 per year.

Earning these prestigious scholarships reflects well not just on Georgia Tech, but on the entire state. "I think it says a lot about the educational system in this state, that we have so many students going on to win these honors," said Vice Provost of Undergraduate Studies Robert McMath. Out of the nine scholarships, five were awarded to students who call Georgia home.

It says a lot about the students, too. There's a reason these scholarships are so prestigious: students are evaluated on more than just their academic record. Roper and Gates Cambridge Scholar Jay Silver both started their own tutoring programs in high school. Gates Cambridge Scholar Nick Bronn earned two bachelor's degrees and one master's in just three years, all while playing first chair violin in the Georgia Tech Symphony Orchestra and jamming with several punk rock groups on the bass guitar. As if that wasn't enough, they all have been involved in research projects as well.

A legacy of leaders

But it's not just where they've been that impresses the scholarship committees; it's where they're going. Over the years, many scholars have moved into real leadership positions. Former

Scholars continued, page 3

Campus construction checklist: Student Health Center up next

Short time line allows other projects to stay on schedule

Michael Hagearty
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

The latest piece of Georgia Tech's construction jigsaw puzzle is under way.

In the shadow of the new Student Athletic Complex, work has already begun on relocating the Student Health Center. When completed, the \$6.7 million project — funded primarily through private donors and Auxiliary Services — will be a larger facility with more services available to the Tech community.

The contract was awarded last month. "It's a design-build team of Lord, Aeck and Sargent Architects and the Whiting-Turner Contracting Company," said Gary Phillips, who is serving as the manager for the Department of Facilities on this project. "They will act as a team, with the designer working a little ahead of the contractor."

In this case, a design-build delivery system is preferable because of

the project's short time line. If all goes according to plan, Phillips said, the new health center should be completed by spring 2003. He said that an aggressive timetable is necessary in order to keep other capital projects on schedule.

"Everything is linked together, in terms of one project on another project," Phillips said. The reason this project is on the fast track, he said, is because the location of the current health center — the Whitehead Building — will ultimately be the site for the Klaus Advanced Computing Technology Building. But that project can't begin until the new Student Health Center is up and running.

"It's a domino effect," he said.

The new facility will sit to the south of the Student Athletic Complex and is programmed for more than 30,000 square feet of space, an increase of 9,000 square feet from the current building. Certain aspects of design are still being finalized, but Phillips said he has been impressed with the ideas put forward to create a building that has its own distinct identity.

It's another benefit to the design-build method — since the designing and building processes work in

Health continued, page 3

"QUOTE—

UNQUOTE"

"Don't get me wrong. I believe off balance sheet liabilities are something to beware. But among all the examples we looked at, this is not the primary reason for accounting failures. If you're preparing just for that, I think you're going to miss a lot of the accounting problems that are out there."

—Charles Mulford, professor in the DuPree College of Management and co-author of "The Financial Numbers Game: Detecting Creative Accounting Practices," on the increased scrutiny on financial reporting in the wake of the Enron collapse.
(TheStreet.com)

"I feel like we have a lot of basketball left in us. I told my coaches after the Florida State game that it doesn't feel as if it's the end of the regular season. It feels like a late January game, where we're starting to hit our stride."

—Paul Hewitt, head coach of the men's basketball team, on finishing the regular season schedule 8-2 after losing their first seven conference games.
(Atlanta Journal-Constitution)

Noted trucking industry expert joins ISyE faculty

Larry Bowie
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

Chelsea C. White III, one of the nation's foremost academic experts on the U.S. trucking industry, has joined the faculty of the School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE). White holds the ISyE Chair in Transportation and Logistics.

"I am very pleased that Dr. White has joined our faculty," said Bill Rouse, chair of ISyE. "His national and international experience and reputation in transportation systems will enable important contributions to Atlanta, the state of Georgia and beyond."

White is director of the Trucking Industry Program (TIP), a research and education center that provides information to the trucking industry, its customers, and government regulators for improving the productivity of the U.S. trucking industry and the quality of its jobs.

The TIP is widely known for implementing the most comprehensive survey ever taken of truckers at truck stops across the United States.



Chelsea C. White III

photo by Stanley Leary

The driver survey, which was conducted between August 1997 and January 1999, has had substantial impact on understanding drivers' work hours and is often cited for presenting the first accurate portrait of truck drivers, their quality of life and their views on the industry.

The TIP, a multi-institutional and multidisciplinary center, was established in 1995. Formerly known as

the University of Michigan Trucking Industry Program (UMTIP), it involves researchers from several U.S. universities, including Georgia Tech, the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Wayne State University and Duke University.

"Georgia Tech is an international leader in engineering education and research," White said, "and ISyE is especially well-known in transportation and logistics, two critical and vital sectors of the Georgia and U.S. economies. I deeply appreciate the support that TIP has received from Georgia Tech."

White comes to Tech from the University of Michigan, where he served for 11 years as a professor of Industrial and Operations Engineering and of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Prior to joining the University of Michigan, he was a faculty member at Southern Methodist University and the University of Virginia, where he was the Nancy and Neal Wade Professor of Systems Engineering.

White received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1974 in Computer, Information, and Control Engineering.

DuPree's annual business plan competition encourages entrepreneurship

Hope Wilson
DuPree College of Management

In the final round of the second annual Georgia Tech Business Plan Competition last month, four teams of Tech students and alumni presented their plans to a panel of venture capitalists and other experts. All four concepts were built around significant technologies developed in the engineering, biotech and computing programs. After a full day of presentations, judges selected Cupel Technologies as Best Overall Business Plan. The first place team was awarded \$10,000. Second and third runner-up teams, MetroMEMS and Scope Logic, received \$3,500 each, and fourth place finalist, T7TV, won \$500.

Following the competition Robert Montgomery, former president and CEO of Headhunter.net, spoke to about 125 students and guests from the Atlanta business community about "The Many Faces of Successful Entrepreneurs." Montgomery emphasized that being an entrepreneur is a state of mind, detailing key factors he believes are essential for a successful entrepreneur. His presentation is available on the Web at www.dupree.gatech.edu.

The competition was the result of a partnership between the DuPree College of Management and Intelligent Systems, a Norcross-based company, to encourage student entrepreneurship and provide exposure to corporate strategy



Celebrating their win, the Cupel Technologies Team includes, from left, John M. Stewart, Pranav Anbalagan, Dathan Erdahl and Trip Garner.

experts. The competition was open to Tech students, and a series of preparatory workshops over the past year lead up to the event. Each team was composed of students and alumni drawn from a mix of technology and business programs at Tech.

"Georgia Tech has an international reputation for the quality of its students and faculty and the quality of their research in a variety of technical and scientific fields," said Terry Blum, dean of the College.

The mission of Cupel Technologies is to be the premier designer, developer and marketer of inspection systems used in the manufacture and assembly of printed circuit boards (PCB) utilizing surface mount technology (SMT). Cupel's initial product offering is a solder joint inspection system that can detect nearly all solder joint defects more quickly, more accurately and at lower costs than other technologies.

Team members focus on different aspects of their business. Cupel CEO Trip Garner has 15 years of experience in operations management and engineering, has worked the past year with ATDC, and will receive his MSM from DuPree in May. Dathan Erdahl, vice president of product development, is a Ph.D. candidate in Mechanical Engineering. Erdahl performs research in laser ultrasonics and nondestructive evaluation; he designed the software that analyzes the signal from the laser interferometer. Second year MSM student John M. Stewart is on the board of

advisors and advises the team on financial and marketing issues. Pranav Anbalagan, board of advisors, is a Ph.D. candidate in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering and will advise management on product development and marketing issues.

In addition, three of the four finalist teams have been invited to compete in future business plan competitions around the country. Scope Logic traveled to the University of Nebraska's Business Plan Competition in early March. MetroMEMS will participate in San Diego State University's Venture Challenge in late March. Finally, Cupel Technologies plans to compete in the University of Oregon's New Venture Championship in mid-April.

Georgia
Tech



THE
WHISTLE

Editor: Michael Hagearty

Published by Institute
Communications and Public Affairs.

Publication is weekly throughout
the academic year and biweekly
throughout the summer.

The Whistle can be accessed
electronically through the Georgia
Tech web page, or directly at
www.whistle.gatech.edu.

E-mail Whistle submissions to
michael.hagearty@icpa.gatech.edu,
or fax to Michael at 404-894-7214
at least 10 days prior to desired
publication date. For more
information, call 404-894-8324.

Cost/\$675

Copies/5,200

Institute Communications
and Public Affairs
Wardlaw Center
177 North Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0181

Georgia Tech is a unit of the
University System of Georgia.

IN BRIEF:

Honoring Leadership

Last month the Women's Leadership Conference Planning Committee and the Women's Resource Center recognized five "Women of Distinction," an annual award given to those displaying inspirational qualities as well as exemplary leadership abilities. From left, Monique McIntosh (Materials Science and Engineering), Outstanding Graduate Student; Anna Fincher (Mechanical Engineering), co-winner of Outstanding Undergraduate Student; Danielle McDonald, student organizations advisor, Outstanding Staff Member; Wendy Anderson (Chemical Engineering), co-winner of Outstanding Undergraduate Student; and Mahera "Mimi" Philobos, director of Women in Engineering and professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Outstanding Faculty Member. Not pictured: Brenda Gullatt-Joseph, Tech's first African American female graduate and president of KBM Group, Outstanding Alumna.



Photo by Gary Neck

Scholars, cont'd from page 1

President Bill Clinton and U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Souter have won the Rhodes. New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman and audio inventor Ray Dolby are Marshall alumni. And former Clinton advisor turned ABC news analyst George Stephanopolous has won both the Truman and the Rhodes. So it's no surprise that the scholarship committees look for students who are going to be leaders in their field as well as their community. And by all indications, Georgia Tech's scholars will serve their community well. Roper, Silver, Bronn and 2001 Goldwater scholar Danielle Dees plan to be involved in teaching. Goldwater scholar Patrick Biltgen and Marshall scholar Karen Feigh want to perform research in

aeronautics. Fulbright fellow Henry Hipps does international trade research in South America. And Marshall scholar Andy Ozment plans to work in public policy.

"My goal is to help government policy makers and the technology people understand each other better," said Ozment. But in order to make good policy, he explained, you first have to know the abilities and limits of the technology you are regulating.

Tech's Co-op program, in which students alternate a semester of study with a semester of work, has also done well this year. Last month, Brian Rugg accepted the National Co-op Student of the Year award. While he was in the program, Rugg helped his employer, ChoicePoint, save \$400,000 by increasing operations efficiency.

President Wayne Clough said

he's very proud that Tech students are competing with the best of the best. "The caliber and sweep of scholarships that our students are winning shows not only that quality students come to Georgia Tech, but also that the quality of the education they receive here is equivalent to any in the country."

"People tend to think these high level scholarships are the purview of the Ivy League schools. That's just not the case. We have that caliber of student here," added Hurst.

Hurst and Gable believe there are a lot more Tech students who have what it takes to win these honors. And the scholars agree. "Tech has plenty of people who could have achieved this distinction," Ozment said after winning his scholarship. "The only way I was able to do it was with the help of the faculty and staff."

Health, cont'd from page 1

tandem, there is more communication between architects, contractors and future inhabitants, which can improve the overall usefulness of the facility.

"We've been looking at the floor plans and offering suggestions to the designers," said

Cindy Smith, director of the Student Health Center. "The staff is really excited."

Smith said students and her staff will benefit from larger examination rooms, two psychiatry offices that do not currently exist in the current facility, and space for a third-party billing office. Plans also call for a dental clinic, a new service for

students that will include a full-time staff.

Other services provided by the Student Health Center include outpatient care and treatment, pharmacy services, lab tests, women's clinic services, specialty services in gynecology, orthopedics, nutrition, wellness center and psychiatric care services.

Deck, cont'd from page 1

Parking Deck — to determine the extent of the work to be done.

"A structural engineer can do specifications on what he can see," she said, "but with forensic engineering they have other diagnostic tools" at their disposal.

Though it did not require the

deck to be shut down, the work will cause the deck to lose a fraction of its 1,000 parking spots. In addition, the regular entrance to the deck is closed while the work is being done, which affects traffic patterns in and around the facility.

Rod Weis, director of Parking and Transportation Services, said that the impact on Tech's strained parking situation will be minimal.

"As the situation stands right now, we have approximately 160 spaces blocked off," said Weis. "We hope to be able to accommodate the overflow in the surrounding areas as the demand for parking is somewhat less during the spring semester." Weis added that another meeting had been scheduled to determine whether any additional measures needed to be taken.

Athletics gets system veteran

As **Jerry McTier** winds down his eight-year career as the director of Student Financial Planning and Services, he is also ramping up to move into a new position in the Athletic Association. McTier moves into the new position of **director of Academic Services for Football** after retiring from the University System of Georgia with 30 years of service.

"It's a change, but not..." says McTier. "It's the same thing I did by providing financial aid to students, it's helping people be what they want to be. My whole career has been in positions that helped people be what they want to be. I intend to be able to help these athletes meet their goals by providing them with the tools and resources they need."

The new position is part of a long-term commitment by the Athletic Association to help football players stay eligible from term to term and ultimately graduate. The position reports to Dave Braine, director of Athletics, and Bob McMath, vice provost for Undergraduate Studies.

Marie Mons, associate director for Student Financial Planning and Services, will serve as interim director.

Collaborating in Computing

Women faculty and students in the College of Computing now have a new outlet for communication, networking and sharing of information, research and ideas. According to College of Computing Professor Mary Jean Harrold, "**Women@College of Computing**" strives to advance women in the field of computer science by providing a nurturing community and by giving women the tools and support they need to succeed. As their mission states, the larger goal is to enhance the overall understanding in the College and community of gender issues in the field of computing and to help provide leadership and effective policies to advance the field for all members of the computing community.

A website has been launched to highlight CoC research and news involving female students and faculty on an ongoing basis and to provide other items of general interest to women in the computer science field.

The site, www.cc.gatech.edu/~women, is also accessible from the College's home page. For more information or to become involved with Women@cc, e-mail cocwomen@cc.gatech.edu.

Bus line change

The Office of Parking and Transportation announced that, due to construction, the **MARTA bus will be rerouted** until further notice. The bus serving campus will be entering and leaving campus by way of Fowler Street and Tenth Street. Further, there will be no stop on Ferst Drive and Techwood Drive outbound to the Midtown Station.