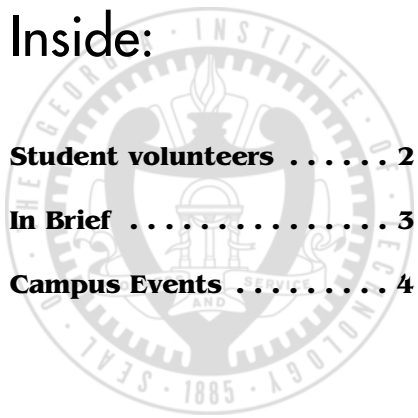


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THE WHISTLE

FACULTY/STAFF NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 29, NUMBER 3 • JANUARY 20, 2004

THE GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Provost Chameau outlines state budget picture

Bob Harty
*Institute Communications
 and Public Affairs*

As the State Legislature convenes for its 147th session, the dominant topic of conversation is the state budget. With revenue still well below what Georgia needs to meet its \$16 billion budget, state agencies had to cut an additional 2.5 percent from their 2004 fiscal year budgets.

This is the third consecutive year of reductions in state appropriations to the University System. With almost \$40 million in cuts from the state allocation for Georgia Tech over the last three years, many are wondering what the future holds.

Provost Jean-Lou Chameau is meeting with the academic units to discuss the Georgia Tech budget picture. Last week, Chameau met with faculty in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering to outline the budget situation and answer questions.

His message was one of cautious optimism, noting that the state accounts for only 24 percent of Tech's total budget (see chart).

"The state gets a very good value for 24 cents on the dollar, in terms of our graduates and economic development impact," he said.

While the percentage of state support has decreased, tuition revenue has increased, now accounting for almost 13 percent of total revenue. However, Tech's top funding source is research and other external department revenues, at more than 44 percent of the overall budget.

"It has been quite phenomenal," said Chameau. "It keeps fueling the growth engine, but I'm worried about it. It's very difficult for any organization to maintain double-digit growth over multiple years. Having said that, research awards are currently almost 20 percent ahead of last year."

"Yes, we have had budget cuts over the last three years, but we have managed our resources well, we've received our fair share of state support for higher education, we've done an incredible job in research and we've increased our tuition in a responsible manner."

GT Revenue Sources FY 04		
	Millions	%
State support	208.2	23.9
Tuition/fees	108.5	12.5
Sponsored revenues	303.6	34.9
Department revenues	78.2	9
Auxiliary Enterprises	71.7	8.2
GT Foundation	63.0	7.2
GT Athletic Assoc.	37.8	4.3
TOTALS	\$871	100%

Despite the cuts, Chameau pointed out that many unit budgets had actually increased and the number of faculty remained very strong. "Keep those two things in mind coming out of a very difficult budget situation. You won't find too many other universities that can make that claim."

Chameau also pointed out that despite a number of promising signs, some programs are being cut and positions are being eliminated. "I like approving the hiring of people," he noted. "Yet, cuts are notable and people are losing their jobs. It is not fun."

As for the next fiscal year, Chameau is cautiously optimistic. "I anticipate that we will receive additional cuts from our state allocation. What that will be is difficult to know at this point," he said. Those cuts may be somewhat offset by another record year in research, additional state revenues from workload funding and further increases in tuition.

"There is a backlash nationwide about tuition, but we are really one of the good guys considering our tuition levels," he said.

Chameau anticipates additional targeted cuts, perhaps some additional layoffs, and a diligent approach to new initiatives. Still, he's confident in the future. Ending his presentation with a collage of campus flowers in full bloom, he said "It is still springtime on the Georgia Tech campus."

Innerspace: at undersea lab, researchers sleep with the fish

Maria Lameiras
Alumni Association

A team of four marine biology scientists and students from Georgia Tech spent 10 days in November living like fish to begin a two-year study that could help save dying coral reefs.

Tech's "aquanauts" — including Professor Mark Hay, postdoctoral associate Todd Barsby, Ph.D. student Deron Burkepile and research specialist and technician Alex Chequer — were aboard the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-owned Aquarius ocean laboratory in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Tech graduate students Zach Hallinan, Brock Woodson and Anne Prusak provided support for the mission from the surface, diving to the site on a daily basis.

Aquarius, a 47-foot cylindrical lab, is deployed three and a half miles offshore, at a depth of 60 feet, next to spectacular coral reefs. Mission

scientists at Aquarius use saturation diving to study and explore the coastal ocean.

Hay, who led the Aquarius mission, is an experimental ecologist and holds the chair in Environmental Biology in the College of Sciences.

"Over the last 20 years, reef cover has gone from 60 percent in some areas of the Caribbean to 3 percent," he said. "Reefs I started to study in 1977 are now essentially gone."

The team spent nine hours per day diving, the physiological limit at that depth while saturated. "Saturation diving" is a technique that permits divers to remain exposed to the increased pressure of the ocean for weeks or months.

"We would go out at about 6 a.m., stay until noon, and then we were required to spend four hours in the Aquarius. Then we'd go out at 4 p.m. and stay until about 7 p.m.," Hay said.

Lab continued, page 3

Workplace conflict managed through alternative dispute resolution program

Michael Hagearty
*Institute Communications
 and Public Affairs*

Though problems can arise in any working environment, it is not always apparent how to resolve them. Given these circumstances, it's important to know what options are available.

The Ombuds program provides Georgia Tech faculty and staff with an independent and confidential forum for resolving professional disputes. Designed to be an alternative to the formal grievance process, the program's administrators provide informal assistance to individuals navigating Institute-related concerns.

"Ultimately, what (the program) is trying to do is improve the working environment at Georgia Tech," said Edward Thomas, a retired faculty member now working as an ombuds. "The idea is to assist individuals to

resolve problems at the lowest possible level, and as far as possible limit the number of situations that become formal grievances."

Created in 1999, the Ombuds Office reports directly to the President's Office. Faculty liaisons have retired from Tech, while classified employees may seek counsel through Jean Fuller, director of faculty and staff support services in the Office of Human Resources.

Citing documents that outline the program's mission, Fuller said, the dispute resolution offices — students may seek similar help through the Office of the Dean of Students — are safe places where faculty and staff can solicit advice if they are unable to resolve a problem. These offices serve as an impartial means of facilitating discussion.

Ombuds continued, page 3

“QUOTE—
UNQUOTE”

“There’s always a debate about whether these events made people think about death or whether they were celebrations of rebirth — the ideas that come from the body.”
—Cindy Klestinec, an assistant professor in the School of Literature, Communication and Culture, on the 17th-century European practice of making autopsies a public attraction. (New York Times)

Undergraduate students lend a helping hand

Volunteering at a metro charter school

David Terraso
Institute Communications
and Public Affairs

It’s 4:30 p.m. and the second grade classroom at the International Community School (ICS) is bustling. At a time when many elementary schools have already sent students home, the public charter school in DeKalb County is brimming with students and volunteers in its after-school program. Unique among Atlanta elementary schools, ICS brings together children of refugees and immigrants with American-born students to provide an internationally based education.

At first glance it looks just like any other school, with alphabet posters and murals on the walls. But here and there lie touches that reveal the special history of many of the refugees. A mural drawn by the kids depicts scenes of war and killing alongside pictures of friendship with captions such as “Children must not be used as cheap labor or soldiers. Children have the right to play. Children have the right to protection from cruelty, neglect and injustice.”

Although publicly funded, the school relies heavily on the generosity of volunteers. In any given week approximately 50 volunteers from Georgia Tech, Emory University and other Atlanta universities and schools help students finish homework, play educational games and burn off steam.

After finishing with their homework, many of the students turn to counting cards. The game is “21.” Volunteer Sheila Schulte points to her ace.

“I have one,” she said to second-grader Adia Reid, from Jamaica.

Schulte draws an eight.

“So how many is that?” she asked.

“Nine,” answered Reid.

Games such as this one help the students develop the ability to do mental arithmetic, said Schulte, who is also Tech’s associate director for International Student and Scholar Services in the Office of International Education. She helped to get the after-school program started by bringing international students and international affairs majors from Georgia Tech to supplement the school’s staff on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Since then, ICS has attracted students and faculty from Emory University, Georgia State University and the Atlanta International School.

“I thought it would be a wonderful opportunity for our international students to see what the educational



International Affairs undergraduate Nicholas Kelley gets a warm welcome on the playground of the International Community School.

system is like outside of higher education,” said Schulte. “It’s a great way for me to get to know our students better. It’s very rewarding to get to know a group of students on a personal level and to watch their interaction with each other.”

Principal and co-founder Bill Moon said the school has benefited from the work of more than 300 volunteers since its inception in August 2002.

“Every piece of furniture you see in this room has been donated,” he said referring to his office. Before its opening, volunteers carpeted the school and painted the walls. They donated fire alarms, security cameras and computers. Home Depot even donated \$40,000 in new playground equipment, then installed it.



Tech student Mihir Jagga helps second-grader Shene Showan with her math homework as part of ICS’ after-school program.

Volunteers help keep the school running, said Moon.

Computer science undergraduate Nitika Raj from Kuwait was one of the first volunteers in the program. “It takes time for them to trust you,” she said. Many of them are wary of new people. But no matter what they’ve experienced in the past, once they’re on the playground they all laugh the same, run the same and even tease each other.

Back in the classroom, another computer science major, Mohamed Kone from the Ivory Coast, helps third-grader Hein Paing finish his math homework.

“I don’t feel right when I’m not volunteering,” explained Kone.

Paing is one of the school’s success stories. When he moved to Atlanta last year from Burma, he spoke no English. Now in addition to studying English in school, he gets to study other languages and cultures as part of the school’s Heritage Language Program. Led by the school’s staff and supplemented by volunteers and parents, the program gives the students a chance to learn about a new culture and language every month. This year, they’ve studied Arabic, Bosnian, Vietnamese, Kurdish and Jamaican-Creole.

It’s not only the kids that are learning, said Schulte. “It helps our international students figure out American culture,” she said. Seeing up close how an American school works and watching the interaction between the American children and the immigrant children teaches them a lot about how Americans deal with intercultural differences.

That interaction is what the school is all about, said Moon. “We cannot have a school just for refugee kids. It wouldn’t work. Having the local community’s involvement is essential.”

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.

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

Calendar submissions e-mailed to
michael.hagearty@icpa.gatech.edu,
or faxed to Michael at 404-894-7214
must be sent at least 10 days prior to
desired publication date. Classified
submissions are on a first come, first
serve basis. For more information,
call 404-894-8324.

Copies/5,900

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and Public Affairs
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Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0181

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



Combined meeting of the Academic Senate and General Faculty Assembly

Tuesday, Feb. 3, Student Center Theater, 3 - 5 p.m.

Agenda posted on the faculty governance Web site: www.facultysenate.gatech.edu

For more information, e-mail said.abdelkhalik@me.gatech.edu.

Lab, cont'd from page 1

Working at the dive site before dawn and as day turned to dusk provided interesting opportunities to observe different marine life.

"The coolest thing to me was to see the changes in fish at dawn and dusk. We'd start before the sun came up and we'd see the reef wake up as the nocturnal fish went away and the daytime fish started to move around," Burkepile says. "It was equally neat to go from light through dusk to darkness and to see all of the predatory fish come out.

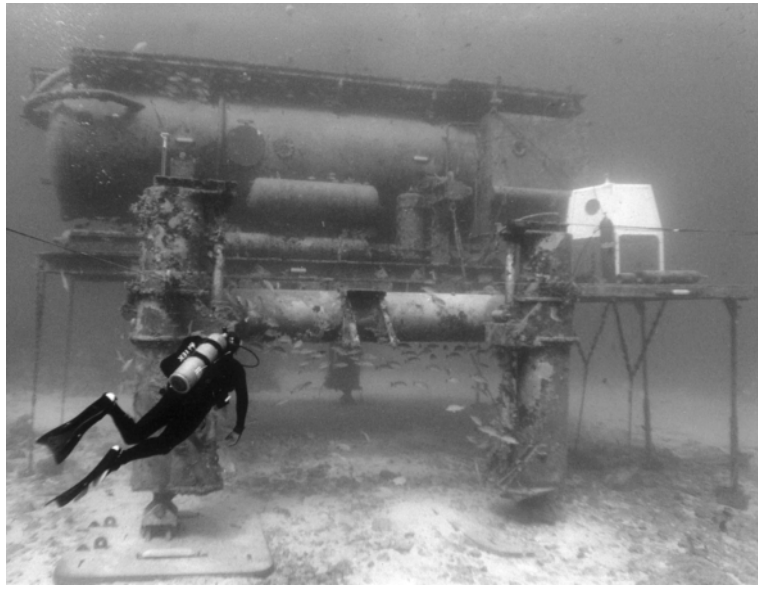
"You'd see huge schools of fish — 50 to 60 barracuda all together — swimming around right at dusk."

The underwater lab, with its lights and generators, also attracted fish.

"When we swam to Aquarius the first time it was dark, it was surrounded by clouds of fish," Chequer said.

The long days of diving were physically draining, and the bedroom accommodations were less than spacious — about 7-by-8 feet with two sets of bunks stacked three high with a little less than 2 feet of space between bunks — but everyone slept well, given the daily schedule.

"We slept very soundly at the end of the day because we spent twice as much time in the water as we could have diving from the surface," Burkepile says.



National Undersea Research Center

Roughly the size of a school bus, Aquarius is located at Conch Reef, three and a half miles offshore and approximately nine miles south of Key Largo, in the Florida Keys.

Although the water was 82 degrees, prolonged exposure meant a lot of energy expended keeping warm. "That means we were twice as cold and twice as tired," Hay said.

Chequer said by the end of the mission, he was wearing "two wet suits, a vest, an under vest and a hood. That was the worst part of it."

Living in cramped quarters was easier to adapt to than the team thought it would be.

"It was definitely a different experience. It was very compact living. We couldn't all eat at the same time because there was only room for four of us to sit down, but we learned to move around each other within a day

or so," Burkepile says.

Chequer said the experience was "surprisingly normal."

"When we were in Aquarius, I would sit and look out the window and I had to remind myself that I was underwater looking at fish. They'd come by and look in at us too."

More information about Professor Hay and his Aquarius mission is available in the Winter 2004 edition of the Georgia Tech Alumni Magazine, which can be accessed at www.gtalumni.org.

IN BRIEF:

Postal services announces service reduction

Recent budget cuts have made it necessary for the Post Office to evaluate the service provided to the campus. According to Postal Services Manager Morris Power, while every consideration has been given to minimize the impact on each department, the Post Office is implementing a change in mail pickup and delivery service. As of Jan. 26, some departments will no longer receive service two times per day. Instead, service will be provided once per day between 12:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. A detailed delivery schedule including a list of the affected departments will be available Jan. 25.

This change in service will impact 41 departments, but further budget reductions may cause a more extensive assessment of services.

Ivan Allen College names new associate dean

Ann Bostrom has been appointed associate dean for research and faculty development in Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts. She is an associate professor in the School of Public Policy with primary research interests in risk perception, communication and management, and behavioral decision theory. Assuming the role previously occupied by Literature, Communication and Culture Chair Ken Knoespel, her duties as associate dean will include helping to find opportunities, provide information, and facilitate the process for faculty's sponsored research activity, and the development of faculty research programs.



"Ivan Allen College is uniquely constituted and situated to achieve interdisciplinary research advances that reshape science and technology as well as expand the frontiers of the liberal arts," she said. "There are top-notch researchers in the College who are doing this, but sponsored research is not as widespread a norm as it could be. I like to think of my new job as creating a research culture in the College. We can all use a little culture."

Bostrom received her Ph.D. in public policy analysis from Carnegie Mellon University in 1990. She came to Georgia Tech as an assistant professor in 1992 and was promoted to associate professor in 1998.

Tech employee recognized for record of volunteer service

When President George W. Bush arrived in Atlanta last week to commemorate the birthday



of Martin Luther King Jr., Billiee Pendleton-Parker was there to greet him. White House officials chose Parker because of her exemplary record of volunteer service, which includes such organizations as Hands on Atlanta, Project Open Hand and TEAM Buzz. Parker works as the assistant director in

the Center for Teaching and Learning coordinating faculty development programs, or as she puts it, "teaching the professors to teach."

Ombuds, cont'd from page 1

Alternative dispute resolution

While most faculty members are aware of the method for addressing formal complaints, getting the word out that an alternative exists is a persistent challenge, Thomas said.

"Many faculty members are aware of the Faculty Status and Grievance Committee. It is part of faculty governance with an elected membership. We would like to be dealing with problems that have not got to that stage — to head off problems before they become grievances."

Formal grievances are lengthy, often expensive propositions that create the kind of adversarial relationships most want to avoid, he said. The ombuds cannot impose a solution; however, the process does initiate a dialogue that may bring a satisfactory end.

All 34 campuses within the University System have developed some kind of alternative dispute resolution program, as

mandated by the Board of Regents. Each institution was given wide latitude in developing their own program.

At Tech, ombuds are chosen based upon their familiarity with Institute policies and procedures, knowledge that is essential to identifying options and courses of action. They do not offer legal advice.

When contacted, an ombuds can assist in a number of ways, from informal information gathering to mediation. The types of concerns include professional disputes, personality conflicts and fear of retaliation, among others.

As a non-reporting agency, no records of meetings are kept, further assuring the program's confidentiality. In many ways, contacting an ombuds is akin to, as Thomas put it, "a private conversation between two people."

For more information...

Ombuds Program

www.ombuds.gatech.edu

Edward Thomas

edward.thomas@physics.gatech.edu

Jean Fuller

jean.fuller@ohr.gatech.edu



Georgia Tech's ombuds are, from left, Jean Fuller, Helen Grenga and Edward Thomas.

C A M P U S E V E N T S

Arts & Culture

Jan. 22

The Ferst Center for the Arts will hold a "One Day Sale" from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Faculty and staff may purchase tickets to any remaining performance in the 2003-2004 season at 50 percent off the regular price at the Student Center box office. For information, call 894-9600 or see www.ferstcenter.org.

Feb. 5

The School of Literature, Communication and Culture presents the McEver Poetry Reading, featuring Thomas Lux, H. Bruce McEver and Patricia Smith, at 4:30 p.m. in the Clary Theater. For more information, visit www.iac.gatech.edu/poetry.html.

Feb. 7

The Ferst Center for the Arts welcomes the Grammy-nominated jazz quartet Yellowjackets for an 8 p.m. performance. Faculty and staff receive a 10 percent discount. For tickets, call 894-9600.

Brown Bags/Conferences/Lectures

Jan. 22

The School of Mechanical Engineering's Woodruff Colloquium welcomes Moe Khaleel, laboratory fellow at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, on "Hydrogen: The Fuel of the Future. Where We Are Now and Where Are We Going?" at 3 p.m. in the MaRC Auditorium.

Jan. 26

The School of History, Technology and Society and the Center for the Study of Women, Science and Technology welcome Patricia Van Der Spuy, visiting scholar at Emory University, on "Rethinking Race in Cape Town, South Africa, Before Apartheid: The Abdurahman Family," at 4 p.m. in the Student Success Center.

Jan. 27

The School of Mechanical Engineering's Woodruff Colloquium welcomes J. Edward Colgate, professor of mechanical engineering at Northwestern University, on "Cobotics," at 11 a.m. in the MaRC Auditorium. For more information, call 894-3247 or e-mail wayne.book@me.gatech.edu.

Jan. 28

The DuPree College of Management's IMPACT Speaker Series welcomes Vincent Rego, president and CEO of Encore Wire and Cable, at 4:30 p.m. in the LeCraw Auditorium.

Jan. 30

The School of History, Technology, and Society and the Center for the Study of Women, Science, and Technology welcome David Healy on "The Creation of Depression: A History of the Antidepressants," at 11 a.m. in the Student Success Center. For more information, e-mail andrea.tone@hts.gatech.edu.

Faculty/Staff Development

Jan. 30

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety hosts a six-hour course in defensive driving techniques. There is no cost to attend. Call 385-0263 for information.

Feb. 4

The Office of Sponsored Programs hosts a brown bag on "Effort Reporting," with guest speaker Chuck Duffy, director of Grants and Contracts Accounting, at noon in the Research Administration Building. To reserve a seat, e-mail nadia.zitman@osp.gatech.edu.

Miscellaneous

Jan. 26

A Fidelity representative will be conducting confidential investment consultations in the Office of Human Resources. To schedule an appointment, call 800-642-7131.

Feb. 16

Stay focused on your New Year's resolutions by joining Weight Watchers at Work. Sessions are held in Success Center for 15 weeks from 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. For more information, call 385-1095 or e-mail karla.ruggiero@alumni.gatech.edu.

Faculty and staff should send calendar items for events to editor@icpa.gatech.edu when available.

C L A S S I F I E D S

APPLIANCES

Kenmore refrigerator, exc. condition, white, \$150. Call 678-232-3475 or e-mail david.gifford@gtri.gatech.edu.

AUTOMOBILES

1991 Honda Prelude Si. Fun to drive, 4 wheel steering. Automatic, sunroof, spoiler, CD player, black, 156K miles. \$2,700. Call 894-7429 or e-mail jennifer.dubose@gtri.gatech.edu.

1992 Ford Festiva. Teal, 2-door, 4-speed manual, aluminum rims. Cute, little, very dependable. Original Mazda 323 engine, original owner. \$800 OBO. Call Keiko, 770-723-9242.

1993 Infiniti J30, gold, 139K miles with recently rebuilt transmission. Campus car. Call 385-4139 or e-mail koroper@bellsouth.net.

1995 Pontiac Grand AM GT. Teal, 91K miles, 3.1L V6, rebuilt auto transmission, CC, a/c, 16" alloys, K&N, Flowmaster dual exhaust, AM/FM cassette w/6CD changer and subs, \$4,400 nego. E-mail mgilbert@ibb.gatech.edu.

1996 Nissan Quest minivan. Silver, automatic, 6-cylinder, 7-passenger, AM/FM cassette, a/c, 165K, one owner, excellent condition, new tires, dealer maintained. Ready to drive. \$3,000 OBO. Call Anita at 404-696-3342.

2002 Toyota Camry LE. Original owner, 4-door, 25K miles, automatic, CD player. \$13,000. Call 678 494-0883.

FURNITURE

Full-sized mattress and box springs, excellent condition, \$150 for both. Call Carol Heller, 894-1939.

Storehouse tuxedo sofa. Brown, very good condition, well maintained, \$250. Call Jon at 404-794-4510.

REAL ESTATE/ROOMMATES

2BR/2BA condo at GA 400 and Northridge, 1,300+ sq. ft., \$925/month + utilities. E-mail melissa@stricklandportraiture.com for more details and photos.

Picturesque 2BR/1BA house for rent in Fairburn, 20 minutes south of Atlanta just off I-85. Large kitchen. Porch w/swing, rear brick patio. Shaded by big oaks. \$700/month. E-mail angela.shartar@oars.gatech.edu.

Vinings: spacious & light-filled 3BR/2BA condominium, ideally located. Open floorplan with high ceilings, great closets, outdoor space and short commute to Tech. \$239,900. Call 385-2818.

Visiting exchange student seeks to rent a room from Feb. 9 to June 18 with convenient walking or MARTA access to GT. Call 894-4219 or e-mail marc.levenston@me.gatech.edu.

Professional male seeks professional roommate for 2BR/1BA house in East Point. Convenient to MARTA, \$400/mo. incl. utilities. Call Brian Burnett, 678-637-6887.

Brand new 2-story townhome for sale in a beautiful, gated new community in Mableton, 15 minutes from campus. 3BR/3BA with fireplace, spacious yard. Asking \$125,000. Call Debbie, 678-290-1273.

3BR/2BA townhouse in Decatur. One year old, all appliances, W/D, available now. \$950/month + \$500 deposit. Call 404-286-0944.

Fully furnished condo: www.thewilliamoliver.com, 1BR unit, all utilities paid. Fitness and business center, rooftop jacuzzi and clubhouse, 24 hr. concierge. \$875 month plus security. Call 770-723-9242 or e-mail omaar@speedfactory.net.

3BR/2BA home for sale, Clarimont/Briarcliff area. Brick ranch home with finished basement, work bench area, screened porch, expansive decks around inground pool. Call 894-9945 or e-mail karen.fore@oit.gatech.edu.

SPORTS/FITNESS/RECREATION

Two boat trailer tires and rims. Loadstar 4.80x8 tire. Almost new. \$15 for the pair. E-mail scott.murray@oit.gatech.edu.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hitachi 43-inch HDTV w/stand, excellent condition, \$1,200. Call 678-232-3475 or e-mail david.gifford@gtri.gatech.edu.

Free ping pong table to the first person to pick it up. Good shape. All accessories. Call Doug, 770-528-7048.

130-gallon tank/stand, \$500 OBO; 3 ball pythons, \$25/ea. OBO. Bearded dragon lizard w/20-gallon tank/light, \$150 OBO. Dumerils boa w/50-gallon tank/light, \$300 OBO. Gray banded king snake w/20-gallon tank/light, \$100 OBO. Call 678-462-7132.

Wanted: tickets to the Georgia Tech/Wake Forest basketball game on 2/22. Call 894-8324.

1998 Harley Davidson XL 1200 Custom Sportster. Less than 1,000 miles. Purple/blue, garage kept, lots of chrome extras plus cover, new helmet and locks. \$9,400. Call 404-626-1200.

Ads will run for a maximum of three weeks in the order in which they are received. The Whistle reserves the right to edit ads longer than 30 words.