Yellow Jackets: Highly Social Little Stingers

VICTOR ROGERS
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Fall is yellow jacket season. Not football or basketball, but the time of year when colonies of yellow jackets — the insects — reach their maximum size. It’s also when Professor Michael Goodisman and the Goodisman Research Group collect their nests.

“We typically collect nests for a month or so beginning in late October, which is prime time for collecting. The colonies usually die off around Thanksgiving, and are completely dead by Christmas — although climate change may be moving the dates,” said Goodisman, associate professor and associate chair for Undergraduate Education in the School of Biological Sciences.

Humans usually cross paths with the yellow jackets’ underground nests a couple of times a year. The first is between April and June, when people tend to mow their lawns frequently. The second is fall, when it’s time to rake leaves.

“Yellow jackets are particularly aggressive this time of year,” said Goodisman, whose team collects the insects alive, albeit somewhat sedated. The underground nests typically have a single hole, about the size of a silver dollar, for entering and exiting.

“We pour a little bit of water into the hole and let the workers in,” said Goodisman. “The leaf-cutter yellow jackets can take out a ton of material, so we let them in to try to get a more representative sample.”

After sedating the insects, the team collects the insects alive, using a GTID number for purchase. Visit crc.gatech.edu/usopen for more information.

Full Closure Information
• The McAuley Aquatic Center will be closed to recreational swim patrons from Dec. 3–15
• Aquatic locker rooms and restroom areas will be closed Dec. 3–14
• The Crawford Leisure Pool will have intermittent closures Dec. 1–14
• The CRC First Floor Family Restrooms and Sauna will close Dec. 4–7
• The Crawford Health and Fitness Center will have intermittent closures Dec. 1–14
• The Crawford Leisure Pool will have intermittent closures Dec. 1–14
• Exiting the CRC from the first floor will not be permitted from Dec. 3–14
• Patrons can use the main entrance/exit or second floor corridor/stairs to the CRC-W10 parking deck.

Related Information
• Only credentialed personnel are permitted within the McAuley Aquatic Center Pool Deck, first floor corridor, and adjacent rooms from Dec. 4–14
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Tech Places First in Atlanta Bike Challenge

KRISTEN BAILEY
INSTITUTE COMMUNICATIONS

Each October, Georgia Commute Options sponsors the Atlanta Bike Challenge, a chance for cyclists of all levels to hit the road on two wheels and encourage others to do the same. The challenge allows riders to form teams and compete against other workplaces for who can log the most miles and get new cyclists to join.

This year, a slew of Tech employees did just that. Overall, Georgia Tech placed first out of 67 organizations with 500+ staff, and first overall out of nearly 300 organizations that participated in the Challenge.

In total, Tech employees biked 22,300 miles, with more than 9,300 of them serving as part of a commute. The collective efforts prevented more than 7,400 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.

Encouraging others to ride cannot be limited to the Challenge, as increasing the number of people who ride not only reduces congestion on our campus roads and improves the quality of air we breathe, but also helps to make the roads safer for all of us,” said Beclcy James, instructor at the Campus Recreation Center who helped captain the challenge for Georgia Tech.

A group from the Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) took home first place among teams from Georgia Tech. The members of team “GTRI’s Thighs” biked 5,166 of Georgia Tech’s total miles.

Jett Marks, a research scientist in GTRI’s CIPHER lab, was among the leaders on that team. When Marks joined GTRI in 2015, he was elated to find others who shared his love for biking — for fun, for a commute, or both. He had participated in the Atlanta Bike Challenge in the past and became a catalyst in getting others within GTRI to participate.

The Challenge “game-ifies” cycling by awarding points for daily riding, number of miles, and encouraging others to join. For Marks, encouraging
EVENTS

ARTS AND CULTURE

Dec. 3
The Georgia Tech Jazz Ensembles present their final fall concert from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the West Village Concert Hall.
music.gatech.edu

Through Dec. 31
The Astounding Elements exhibit will be on display in Crosland Tower, featuring chemical elements in fiction and highlighting objects from Georgia Tech periodic table events throughout the year.
periodicitable.gatech.edu

WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING

Dec. 2
The End Suicide initiative hosts a Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 117, Smith Hall Student Services Flag Building. Register at: endsuicide.gatech.edu

Dec. 11
The End Suicide initiative hosts a Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Training from noon to 2 p.m. in the Living Learning Community West Commons, Room 210, Curran Building. Register at: endsuicide.gatech.edu

Jan. 10, 2020
Student Diversity Programs hosts a Multicultural Competence 101 brown bag from noon to 2 p.m. in Room 301, Student Center.
diversityprograms.gatech.edu

MISCELLANEOUS

Nov. 27-29
Classes will not meet. Campus will close at 4:30 p.m. on Thanksgiving holiday Nov. 28-29.

Nov. 30
Georgia Tech football hosts the University of Georgia at Bobby Dodd Stadium at noon.
ramblinwreck.com

Dec. 2
A Strategic Plan visioning session will take place from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the Student Center Ballroom. This session is open to all of campus.
strategyplan.gatech.edu

Dec. 3
A Strategic Plan visioning session will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Press Rooms A and B, Bill Moore Student Success Center. This session is open to all of campus.
strategyplan.gatech.edu

JACKETS, from page 1

Yellow jackets exhibit extreme social behavior and are particularly aggressive in the fall season.

In Memoriam — John Bartholdi III 1947–2019

John Bartholdi III, Manhattan Associates/Odbehire Chair and professor in the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISyE) and co-executive director of the Georgia Tech Panama Logistics Innovation and Research Center, died Tuesday, Oct. 29. Bartholdi was a respected ISyE faculty member who made important contributions to the supply chain field, particularly in warehousing and logistics.

“John Bartholdi was a valued colleague and friend,” said ISyE School Chair Edwin Romeijn. “He made substantial contributions to his field, to ISyE, and to the Institute as the co-director of Georgia Tech Panama. Our sincerest condolences go out to John’s family, friends, and students. He will be missed.”

Bartholdi earned his bachelor’s degree in mathematics from the University of Florida in 1968 and then completed two tours of duty in southeast Asia as a paratrooper in a Naval Special Warfare unit. He returned to the University of Florida to pursue a doctoral degree in operations research, which he completed in 1977.

Upon joining ISyE in 1980, he quickly established himself as a nimble researcher, capable of identifying creative, elegant solutions to challenging warehousing and logistics problems. One of Bartholdi’s most famous warehousing solutions is the so-called bucket brigade, which offers an innovative method of self-organizing order-picking for warehouse workers and has been implemented in major global distribution centers.

As co-director of the Georgia Tech Panama Logistics Innovation and Research Center, Bartholdi applied his expertise toward Panama’s logistical challenges, with the goal of making the country the trade hub of the Americas. In 2015, the Ministry of the Presidency designated Georgia Tech Panama as the technical arm of the Logistics Cabinet.

Bartholdi’s research interests were wide-ranging. He analyzed voting systems to determine how difficult it actually is to manipulate election results. He devised a low-technology routing system for Meals on Wheels using space-filling curves. He also turned his professional expertise toward a personal interest: good food and wine. He eventually helped establish the Wine Supply Chain Council (now the Wine and Food Supply Chain Council), which comprises “a group of supply chain researchers dedicated to improving international supply chains for wine.”

Read more about Bartholdi and remembrances from his colleagues at isye.gatech.edu/news
COMMENCEMENT IS COMING

Complete event information is available at commencement.gatech.edu.

**Ph.D. Ceremony**
Friday, Dec. 13
9 to 10:30 a.m.
McCamish Pavilion
Speaker: David McDowell, Distinguished Professor and the Carter N. Paden Jr. Distinguished Chair in Metals Processing
No tickets are required for this event.

**Master's Ceremony**
Friday, Dec. 13
3 to 5:30 p.m.
McCamish Pavilion
Speaker: Ted Colbert, executive vice president of Boeing Company and president and chief executive officer of Boeing Global Services
No tickets are required for this event.

**President's Graduation Celebration**
Friday, Dec. 13
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Student Center Ballroom
Free to attend for all graduates and their families and guests.

**Bachelor's Ceremony**
Saturday, Dec. 14
9 to 11:30 a.m.
McCamish Pavilion
Speaker: Steven Deming, chairman of General Atlantic and advisory board member of Starr Companies
Doors open at 7:30 a.m. Tickets are required.

Mark your calendars for graduation festivities coming to campus in just two weeks.

EVENTS

Dec. 4
Reading period will take place for the fall semester.

Dec. 5, 10
Reading period will take place for the fall semester from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Dec. 5-12
Final exams will take place for fall semester.

Dec. 5
A Strategic Plan visioning session will take place from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. in the O’Keefe Custodial Breakroom, Basement Level. This session is open to all of campus.
strategicplan.gatech.edu

Dec. 5
A Strategic Plan visioning session will take place via webinar from 9 to 10 a.m. The webinar is open to all of campus.
strategicplan.gatech.edu

Dec. 5
“Finding Resilience During the Holidays” will look at how to manage expectations during the holiday season. The event is hosted by the GROF and Resilience Employee Resource Groups from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the West Village Ensemble Basement Level. This session is open to all of campus.
strategicplan.gatech.edu

Dec. 5
Students from the School of Industrial Design present their work at the Fall Launchpad event from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the West Architecture Building.
id.gatech.edu

Dec. 23–27
Campus is closed for winter break.

Jan. 1, 2020
Campus is closed for the New Year’s Day holiday.

Jan. 3–10
Phase II Registration for the Spring 2020 semester. Phase II closes at 4 p.m. on Jan. 15.
registr.gatech.edu

Jan. 6
Classes begin for the Spring 2020 semester.
registr.gatech.edu

Jan. 20
Campus is closed in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

For a more comprehensive listing of events, or to add an event, visit calendar.gatech.edu.

BIKE, from page 1

others to take up cycling comes naturally. “Outside of riding a bicycle, I’ve not found any other single act that brings so much positivity in so many ways,” he said. “Riding a bike obviously trains our physical muscles, and it also trains our smile muscles.”

Joshua Forester, who also works in the CIPHER lab, was the top rider overall for Georgia Tech, and a member of GTRI’s Thighs team. Forester bikes for commuting and fun, and recently completed a bike race in Fiji. He blogged about the experience of this year’s Challenge and some of the activities that took place that month, including a trip from Georgia to Alabama along the Silver Comet Trail. Forester had a goal of being a top 10 rider during the challenge, and he biked nearly 900 miles in 10 days to meet that goal.

“[I] had to work through knee pain, some mild tennis elbow, a family emergency, rain and lightning storms, extreme fatigue from the exercise and sleeplessness, sickness, and vertebrae bruising from storing my headlight battery pack (which is itself padded) in my center console pocket and not realizing what was causing it until the final day,” he wrote. “Some much-needed rest was in order.”

Though the Challenge is over, Georgia Tech offers many resources for cyclists year-round.
Hidden Georgia Tech is a photo essay series highlighting places on campus that may largely go unnoticed but are sometimes hidden in plain sight. If you know of a place worth exploring, email editor@comm.gatech.edu.

Georgia Tech’s Office of Solid Waste Management and Recycling encourages and supports the Tech community in decreasing the amount of waste produced on campus and the amount of waste that the Institute contributes to landfills. The Office provides recycling services inside campus buildings, for fraternity and sorority houses, and at several outdoor locations across campus, and coordinates recycling for special events, office moves, the annual Earth Day Festival, student move-in and move-out, and home football games. Since 2008 Tech’s Game Day Recycling program has made it easy for fans to recycle, whether they are tailgating, walking on campus, or watching the game inside Bobby Dodd Stadium. In 2018, the Game Day program alone diverted nearly 17 tons of material from landfills. See more photos at c.gatech.edu/recycling.

(1) The East Main Recycling Center, located on Fifth Street next to the O’Keefe Building, is available for the campus and the greater Atlanta community to use. (2 and 3) In FY 2018 Georgia Tech recycled 7.31 tons of aluminum and 26.73 tons of plastic. (4) Emma Brodzik, campus recycling coordinator, assembles the desk-side AWARE (Actively Working to Achieve Resource Efficiency) bins for trash and recyclables. Employees are responsible for emptying their bin into the appropriate recycling containers in their building. (5) Shawn Dunham, foreman of the recycling crew, unlocks the gate at the East Main Recycling Center to allow trucks to service the bins.