By CAROL CLARK

On the morning of April 16, 2007, Craig Watson received a phone call from his son, Chase, a student at Virginia Tech. “Chase said, ‘We’ve been told that there was a shooting and one person has been killed. I just wanted to let you know that I’m okay,’” recalls Watson, Emory’s chief of police.

Within hours, the impact of the tragedy was being felt not just at Virginia Tech but around the country. The Virginia Tech gunman had a history of mental illness and troubling behavior, but myriad privacy laws had made university officials reluctant to share information. The long-simmering issue of how to keep institutions safe while protecting the privacy of individuals soon moved to the front burner in many campuses.

“One way Emory responded was by creating a Threat Assessment Team: a 10-member panel of specialists from key areas throughout the University, including the police, Campus Life, Student Counseling Services, the Faculty Staff Assistance Program, the General Counsel, Human Resources and University Communications.”

“At the time he called me, nobody knew the magnitude of the event,” Watson says.

The bridge symbolizes a longtime partnership between Emory and the VAMC, where virtually all physician staff are Emory faculty. Above, School of Medicine Dean Thomas Lawley (right), VAMC Director James Clark, and Vice President of Campus Services Bob Hascall walk across at the June 11 dedication ceremony.

Bridge eases partnership path access

A new 210-foot-long suspension bridge over Peachtree Creek in Lullwater Preserve provides easy pedestrian access between the Emory campus and VA Medical Center. The $177,000 structure was constructed to be minimally disruptive to the natural environs and touches ground in only two places on either side of the creek, at the foundations of its 27-foot-tall towers and cable anchors. It replaces a previous bridge that was removed in the early 1990s.

The bridge symbolizes a longtime partnership between Emory and the VAMC, where virtually all physician staff are Emory faculty. Above, School of Medicine Dean Thomas Lawley (right), VAMC Director James Clark, and Vice President of Campus Services Bob Hascall walk across at the June 11 dedication ceremony.

SNAPSHOT

Team formed to balance safety, privacy

$73 million to boost health care facilities

Multiple changes at Emory College

Please see TEAM on page 5

Please see COLLEGE on page 4
EMORY REPORT  JUNE 23, 2008

NEW ONLINE AT EMORY
www.cliftoncommunitypartnership.org

The Clifton Community Partnership has debuted its newly redesigned Web site. The redesign makes it easy to find information about neighborhood development projects, organizations and businesses; current news and articles from the "Community Partnership Update" newsletter.

The new site will also keep community members current with stories that involve their neighborhoods, and provide an opportunity for neighbors to ask questions and get answers about Emory initiatives.

ABOUT US

Emory Report serves as an informative, lively and comprehensive resource for news and events of vital interest to staff and faculty. The weekly publication highlights the Emory community’s accomplishments, endeavors and aspirations that reflect the University’s identity and strategic vision. Visit us online at www.emory.edu/EMORYREPORT.

CLARIFICATION

The June 9 issue of Emory Report mapped several changes to Dowman Drive that will occur over the next several months, including the recodification of a new entrance off of North Decatur Road. That entrance will open on a limited basis to traffic in late July, but will not be fully completed until October.

EMORY PROFILE: Craig Watson

Emory police chief is armed with charm

An arresting personality

Emory police chief is armed with charm

By CAROL CLARK

“Some folks have the old conception that the campus police are more like night watchmen, as opposed to what the department really is: a full-service law enforcement agency,” Watson says. “Emory is a safe campus, but it’s not surrounded by 20-foot walls. We deal with the same issues any other police department does — we just don’t have to deal with major crime on a daily basis. Violent crime is rare, so we can focus more on crime, prevention and education.”

The 54 staff members of the police department include dispatchers and 43 uniformed officers who patrol the Emory and Oxford campuses. The department is also responsible for fire safety, and includes a unit of 40 student volunteers who serve as medics for Emory Emergency Medical Services. Emory police and officers from the DeKalb Police Department back each other up throughout the Clifton corridor, Watson says. “One of the things we’ve always been proud of is our great relationship with the DeKalb police. Turf battles have never existed here.”

June 26 will mark the 30th anniversary at Emory for Watson, who joined the police department two weeks after receiving a degree in criminal justice from Valdosta State University. “When I first started working at Emory, this was a small college that had a hospital,” Watson says. “Today, it’s a major university with a health care system.”

His wife, Cheryl, graduated from Emory’s nursing school, and now works at Emory University Hospital. The couple raised their two sons in the same Atlanta neighborhood where Watson grew up.

He recalls that during his first years at Emory, the only dining option was a small cafeteria in Cox Hall. “I would quite often be the only officer on the evening shift,” Watson says. “If I received an emergency call, I would leave my food on the table and run out the door. The staff working on the food line would see me leave and keep my dinner warm until I made it back.”

He maintains close relationships with many members of the Emory community, despite the growth of the University. “It’s like a family,” he says. “You go out of your way to help somebody, however you can.”

Watson was promoted to sergeant, then lieutenant and captain, before becoming chief in 1995. Over the years, he’s been an investigator and a liaison for President Jimmy Carter’s Secret Service detail. He collected a lot of stories, but his favorites don’t involve any famous people, weapons or car chases.

Here’s one: During a Commencement day, a family noticed that Watson always seemed to pop up with a helpful word and a smile, no matter where they went. Finally, the graduate’s mother asked, “Are you the only police officer at Emory?” She insisted on including Watson in one of the family snapshots. They later sent him a copy of the photo, which is framed on one of his office walls, along with a note of appreciation, signed “Leonard’s mom, Law School ’88.”

“I was so tickled by that,” Watson says.

Craig Watson is the Emory Police Department’s chief of police.
Cincinnati Reds select alum in Major League Baseball draft

By JOHN FARINA

Former Emory third baseman Frank Pfister ’08C was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 17th round of the 2008 Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft.

Pfister was chosen by the Reds with the 509th-overall pick, the highest an Emory position player has ever been selected. He is the third Division III player to be chosen in the 2008 draft.

Pfister gained national recognition during the Eagles’ 2007 run to the NCAA Division III World Series, capturing the South Region Tournament’s Most Valuable Player honor while batting .440 over the five-game stretch. In 2008, Pfister was named the University Athletic Association’s Most Valuable Player and the South Region’s Gold Glove third baseman, along with a selection to the ABCA/Rawlings all-South Region second team.

“Frank was not only one of the most talented players to ever put on an Emory uniform, but one of the best kids, said Emory Head Coach Mike Twardoski. “I am so proud of his maturity level both on and off the field, and his hard work, that has allowed him to become this caliber of player.”

Pfister is the fourth Eagle drafted since Emory reinstated its varsity program in 1991 after a 100-year absence.

Alumni make the connection

By ERIC RANGUS

What did you do for your summer vacation? Did you go home? That’s what more than 100 alumni did the weekend of June 13–15.

“Home,” of course, was their alma mater, Emory. And the occasion was Emory Alumni Leadership Weekend: Building the Network, an ambitious Emory Alumni Association effort to bring together many of its most engaged volunteer leaders for three days’ worth of high-level education, conversation and fun.

“The sessions were informative and will help in our planning,” said Tiffany Wolfin ’97B, a volunteer leader for the EAA’s Alumni and Women of Emory interest group in New York. “The opportunity to network with other alumni leaders was very beneficial. The conferences enabled conversation that has been long coming and will have positive results for the future.”

The conference combined the regular summer meeting of the Emory Alumni Board with a gathering of EAA regional chapter leaders who came from as far away as Seattle and 12 states to attend.

Building the Network was split into two tracks suited to each group with a variety of mixed programming to spice up the day—dual volunteers conducted their standard committee meetings, and the regional chapter leaders attended a variety of breakout sessions. Those focused on alumni program development and shared insights they could hold in their areas and outlined marketing, strategic planning and management techniques to help them not only encourage more alumni to get involved in those programs, but also make them more enjoyable.

That’s what made the social programming that broke up the business side of the weekend — a New Orleans-themed social at the School of Medicine, and “The Big Finale Network,” which mixed poetry, music and Carlos Barrios’ “It’s Time” — so important. Underlying the cocktail small talk were the essential connections being made that made all the effort worthwhile. Many e-mail addresses were exchanged and ideas floated.

“I had several conversations with regional chapter leaders who expressed their excitement about meeting board members,” said EAB President Dusty Porter ’85C. “Just like the title of the conference implies, the EAA’s goal is to bring together our alumni leaders and build the alumni network,” said Allison Dyke and Guadalupe Olivas, committee leaders. “Our alumni network is already strong, but like any organization, it can grow stronger, and this conference was just another step — and a highly successful one from all indications — that long but very fulfilling process.”

Wagner tapped to lead metro higher education council

By JOHN FARINA

Former Emory third baseman Frank Pfister ’08C was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 17th round of the 2008 Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft.

Pfister was chosen by the Reds with the 509th-overall pick, the highest an Emory position player has ever been selected. He is the third Division III player to be chosen in the 2008 draft.

Pfister gained national recognition during the Eagles’ 2007 run to the NCAA Division III World Series, capturing the South Region Tournament’s Most Valuable Player honor while batting .440 over the five-game stretch. In 2008, Pfister was named the University Athletic Association’s Most Valuable Player and the South Region’s Gold Glove third baseman, along with a selection to the ABCA/Rawlings all-South Region second team. Pfister is a three-time all-UAA first team honoree.

The 21-year-old from los Angeles batted .379 in 2008, leading the team with six home runs and 14 runs batted in over 162 career games, finished his career with 220 hits, 16 home runs and 143 runs batted in.

“Frank was not only one of the most talented players to ever put on an Emory uniform, but one of the best kids,” said Emory Head Coach Mike Twardoski. “I am so proud of his maturity level both on and off the field, and his hard work, that has allowed him to become this caliber of player.”

Pfister is the fourth Eagle drafted since Emory reinstated its varsity program in 1991 after a 100-year absence.

ACCLAIM

John Ford, dean of campus life, has been selected a director of Education Realty Trust. The Memphis, Tenn.-based company owns, manages and develops real estate near college campuses.

Ford’s election, at the real estate investment trust’s annual meeting in May, is for a one-year term.

Kay Hinton, as well as the Manuscript Archives & Rare Book Library newsletter, received a Certificate of Excellence from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

Hinton, associate director of photovideo, was awarded a bronze medal for photography featured in Emory Magazine. The images were taken during an Emory-hosted “Journeys” trip to Jordan, Iraq and the Palestinian territories.

The newsletter for MARBL, produced by Susan Carini and graphic designer Stanis Kodman, was awarded the gold medal in CASE’s Print External Audiences Newsletters category.

Una Huffman Paul, dean of Emory College, received the Distinguished Service Award from the American Psychoanalytic Association. Paul received the award for her “far-reaching contributions to professional psychoanalysis in both undergraduate and graduate education and for his unparalleled vision and generativity in creating programs that have positioned psychoanalysis as an interdisciplinary academic field of study.” Paul is the highest-ranking academic administrator among American Psychoanalytic Association members.

“Acclaim” recognizes the accomplishments of faculty and staff. Listings may include awards and prizes, elections to boards and societies; and similarly notable accomplishments at Emory or in the wider community. Emory Report relies on submissions for this column. Contact: liking@ emory.edu.

By JOHN FARINA

Former Emory third base- man Frank Pfister ’08C was selected by the Cincinnati Reds in the 17th round of the 2008 Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft. Pfister was chosen by the Reds with the 509th-overall pick, the highest an Emory position player has ever been selected. He is the third Division III player to be chosen in the 2008 draft.

Pfister gained national recognition during the Eagles’ 2007 run to the NCAA Division III World Series, capturing the South Region Tournament’s Most Valuable Player honor while batting .440 over the five-game stretch. In 2008, Pfister was named the University Athletic Association’s Most Valuable Player and the South Region’s Gold Glove third baseman, along with a selection to the ABCA/Rawlings all-South Region second team. Pfister is a three-time all-UAA first team honoree.

The 21-year-old from los Angeles batted .379 in 2008, leading the team with six home runs and 14 runs batted in over 162 career games, finished his career with 220 hits, 16 home runs and 143 runs batted in.

“Frank was not only one of the most talented players to ever put on an Emory uniform, but one of the best kids,” said Emory Head Coach Mike Twardoski. “I am so proud of his maturity level both on and off the field, and his hard work, that has allowed him to become this caliber of player.”

Pfister is the fourth Eagle drafted since Emory reinstated its varsity program in 1991 after a 100-year absence.
TAKE NOTE

Senate seeks panel volunteers

University Senate President Ann R. Smith and Emory community members to serve on one of the Senate’s standing committees.

The committees review University policies and propose new ones, make recommendations, and provide a forum for discussion. Committees are reviewed and practices in areas of University life. Committee mission statements can be viewed at www.emory.edu/SENATE.

Culler emphasized volunteers for the Senate Diversity Committee, the newest panel. Terms of membership are one academic year renewable for up to three years.

Send an e-mail by July 30 to the chairperson of the committee with a brief statement of interest in the committee’s work.

Colleges: New faculty tier added

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Plan: Nimbler projects speed timetable

Colleges: New faculty tier added

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.

Several new developments at Emory College include administrative changes and revised general education requirements, among others.
REPORT FROM: The Carter Center

Guinea worm disease cases drop to fewer than 10,000

The countdown to complete elimination of Guinea worm disease is ticking down to zero. Ethiopia, Cote d’Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Yemen now have joined the list of countries reporting an end to transmission of the disease. The Carter Center leads the international coalition fighting the disease.

No Guinea worm disease was reported by any of the 11 endemic countries since 2006. In a ceremony in early April, former President Jimmy Carter honored the nations for their success in eliminating the disease. Only five endemic countries remain accounting for fewer than 10,000 reported cases during 2007. This number is the lowest annual case count recorded by the campaign in its 22-year history.

Sudan and Ghana shoulder about 96 percent of the remaining cases. Mali, Nigeria and Niger are expected to break the transmission cycle soon. In 2007, Ghana reported its lowest case count in 20 years. The Sudan program reported approximately 6,000 cases, a 40 percent reduction from the previous year.

Known as the “forgotten disease of forgotten people,” Guinea worm is an ancient parasite that is contracted when people consume water contaminated with infective larvae. After one year, the mature worm slowly emerges from the body through a small hole in the skin, producing a debilitating pain in the process. To remove the larvae, victims must immerse themselves in cool water; in doing so, they allow the worm to release new larvae into the water supply, perpetuating the disease.

Once this cycle is broken, the disease will be gone.

That is not as easy as it may sound, especially in the final phases of eradication. Guinea worm’s long-year incubation period makes tracking progress challenging. Backlogs can emerge at any time, requiring vigilance by health workers and maintenance of costly surveillance systems throughout endemic countries even when only a handful of cases remain.

Preserving financial and political support for the eradication campaign is equally tricky. With the substantial reduction of cases, global health institutions are eager to apply limited financial and human resources to other pressing needs, particularly those that are life-threatening.

On the ground, health education workers try to convince communities that behavioral changes are the solution to a disease many cannot intuitively understand. The effective use of household and pipe filters, application of a tide program and avoidance of a water source, for example, puts an entire community at risk.

Continued vigilance is the key to eventual eradication of Guinea worm disease. The substantial gains of 2007 bring The Carter Center closer to being able to celebrate the end of a scourge.

Submitted by the Office of Public Information, The Carter Center.

Who to call

The Carter Center

Campus Life: Carolyn Livingson, 404-727-4364
Student Counseling Services: Mark McLeod, 404-727-7450
Faculty Staff Assistance Program: Paula Gomes or Robin Huskey, 404-727-4328
General Counsel: Amy Adelman, 404-727-6011
Human Resources: Del King or Jeanne Thigpen, 404-727-6111
Registered with Transportation Parking Services (TPS): Del King, Associate Vice President of Campus Life, 404-484-6212 (Healthcare)
University Communications: Nancy Seideman or Elaine Justice, 404-727-6216

Centralizing threat assessment for campus

Continued from the cover

risk-management team, meeting regularly to confidentially review reports of disruptive or threatening behavior. “If you think in the Emory community has any concerns about someone — whether it’s a student, faculty or staff member, or someone from outside the community — they can bring those concerns to us. If they say, ‘I don’t know what to do,’ we need to know what kind of help we need,” Watson says. “If we don’t have a basis, we do not respond. It’s our job to be a helping hand, but not to go outside the community — they can bring it to us.”

Health and developmental issues, particularly those that involve confidentiality laws, says Amy Adelman, associate vice president for general counsel. He says it’s important to understand that just because a student behaves strangely or lacks social skills, it doesn’t mean the student is dangerous. “If you have concerns, bring them to us, and we will handle it. It doesn’t mean the student is dangerous. It doesn’t mean the student is dangerous. It doesn’t mean the student is dangerous.”

USING AUTOMOBILES

Zipcar helps drive creative commuting

By KELLY GRAY

As the cost of gas reaches all-time highs, many commuters are beginning to wonder what they can do to beat gas price hikes.

Many of Emory’s commuters have registered with Transportation Parking Services (TPS) and regularly ride shuttles, carpool and take transit to get to and from campus. But for commuters needing to run errands off campus during the workday, car sharing is the way to go.

Car sharing is a way for registered members to rent cars for a short period of time, often by the hour. Emory introduced car sharing to its campus in August 2006 with the introduction of Flexcar. In October 2007, Zipcar purchased Flexcar.

What are the differences between Zipcar and Flexcar? “Zipcar offers a seamless, more user-friendly interface between the member and Zipcar,” says Adele Clements, director of transportation for Emory. “Members can reserve or confirm reservations online, by phone or in person.”

In addition to the convenience that car sharing provides, the cost savings are a definite incentive for most Zipcar members. Gas, insurance and a reserved parking space on Emory’s campus are all included in the cost. For members registered with Emory’s TPS programs, Zipcar is charged at a reduced rate of $8/hour Monday through Friday. Zipcar members who do not participate in Emory’s TPS programs will be charged $9/hour in Atlanta. The rate for Departmental Zipcar for Business accounts is $8/hour, Monday through Friday.

How can a car sharing service like Zipcar help the average Emory commuter? “If you participate in one of Emory’s commute option programs, there is a car on campus to use for occasional errands or appointments,” says Clements.

Some Zipcar members already feel the benefits of car sharing. Corey Anderson, an administrative assistant for the University, takes the bus to work and uses Zipcar once or twice a week. “I use Zipcar to run errands while at work and during non-work hours,” says Anderson. “My husband and I are in the process of selling our second car and want to eliminate the cost of car use for occasional errands or appointments.”

Currently there are seven Zipcars conveniently located on Emory’s campus. And there are more than 100 Zipcars strategically placed throughout Atlanta. Visit www.zipcar.com to learn more.

EMORY REPORT

JUNE 23, 2008

EMORY

sustainability

spot

Did you know that Emory can be credited with bringing Flexcar to Atlanta? Emory was the company’s first Atlanta client back in 2006.

Did you know that Emory can be credited with bringing Flexcar to Atlanta? Emory was the company’s first Atlanta client back in 2006.
Unlocking memory’s secrets

By CAROL CLARK

Psychology theories took on a human face for Joe Manns when he volunteered at an Alzheimer’s center as an undergraduate student. For a few hours a week, he played simple games of cards and dominos with the patients, or just sat with them and asked how things were going.

“The most difficult part for me were the people in the middle of the downward slope of Alzheimer’s,” recalls Manns. “You’d be having a happy conversation and see it in their eyes, the realization that they were losing their hope and dominos with the patients.”

He played simple games of cards and dominos with the patients, he played simple games of cards and dominos with the patients, or just sat with them and asked how things were going.

“Krazy has a particularly strong memory community,” says Joe Manns, assistant professor of psychology, who studies rats for memory systems in the brain, “because of the fact that they can bring to consciousness things that are not conscious.”

Manns research explores how the hippocampus supports declarative memory — facts that you ate for breakfast, or the name of your third-grade teacher.

“One of the big advances in neuroscience in recent years is that the idea that there are multiple declarative memory systems in the brain, and the hippocampus system is only one of them,” Manns says.

“It’s not as if memory relies on one place. It relies on the extreme interconnectedness of the brain.”

During a postdoctoral fellowship at Boston University, Manns led a research project that implanted micro-wires into the brains of laboratory rats, to monitor electrical activity in the hippocampus. The rats were then exposed to a series of tiny pats filled with different fragrant substances, such as oregano, basil, thyme, tarragon and coca powder. When the rats demonstrated that they could memorize the scents in a particular order they were rewarded with a Fruit Loop burr-led in a pot.

The results, which were published in the journal “Neuron,” suggested that the hippocampus supports the performance of declarative memory — facts that you ate for breakfast, or the name of your third-grade teacher.

“The advantage that magnetic fields can penetrate tissues is that we can use magnetic fields to have the ability to sense the Earth’s magnetic field.”

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“Maq4 can be thought of as the equivalent of green fluorescent protein, but for magnetic resonance imaging,” Hu says.

Turtles, fish and migratory birds have all shown how to have the ability to sense magnetic fields, and biologists hypothesize that they do so using magnetite embedded in parts of their nervous system.

The advantage of borrowing a gene from bacteria was that researchers had already dissected Maq4\* role and it was possible to force cells to make magnetite by inserting only one extra gene rather than several.

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“The advantage that magnetic fields can penetrate tissues more easily than light.”

Magnetic gene shows imaging potential

By QUINN EASTMAN

Scientists have discovered a way to force animals to make tiny magnetic nuggets inside their bodies. The technique could become a valuable tool for tracking stem cells’ movement through the body or exploring the nervous system via magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), says Emory/Georgia Tech biomedical engineer Xiaoping Hu.

“We have found a very simple way to make mammalian cells have a magnetic signature,” he says.

The results were published in the June issue of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine by Hu, graduate student Omar Zurkiya and geneticist Anthony Chan.

After the introduction of a single gene called Maq4 from bacteria, mammalian cells accumulate lumps of magnetite (what a compass needle is made of) if a few nanometers wide, they found.

The gene Maq4 comes from magnetotactic bacteria, which can sense the Earth’s magnetic field. It encodes a currently nontoxic protein that transports dissolved iron across cell membranes.

Turtles, fish and migratory birds have all shown how to have the ability to sense magnetic fields, and biologists hypothesize that they do so using magnetite embedded in parts of their nervous system.

The advantage of borrowing a gene from bacteria was that researchers had already dissected Maq4\* role and it was possible to force cells to make magnetite by inserting only one extra gene rather than several.

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“Maq4 can be thought of as the equivalent of green fluorescent protein, but for magnetic resonance imaging,” Hu says.

Turtles, fish and migratory birds have all shown how to have the ability to sense magnetic fields, and biologists hypothesize that they do so using magnetite embedded in parts of their nervous system.

The advantage of borrowing a gene from bacteria was that researchers had already dissected Maq4\* role and it was possible to force cells to make magnetite by inserting only one extra gene rather than several.

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“Maq4 can be thought of as the equivalent of green fluorescent protein, but for magnetic resonance imaging,” Hu says.

Turtles, fish and migratory birds have all shown how to have the ability to sense magnetic fields, and biologists hypothesize that they do so using magnetite embedded in parts of their nervous system.

The advantage of borrowing a gene from bacteria was that researchers had already dissected Maq4\* role and it was possible to force cells to make magnetite by inserting only one extra gene rather than several.

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“Maq4 can be thought of as the equivalent of green fluorescent protein, but for magnetic resonance imaging,” Hu says.

Turtles, fish and migratory birds have all shown how to have the ability to sense magnetic fields, and biologists hypothesize that they do so using magnetite embedded in parts of their nervous system.

The advantage of borrowing a gene from bacteria was that researchers had already dissected Maq4\* role and it was possible to force cells to make magnetite by inserting only one extra gene rather than several.

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“Maq4 can be thought of as the equivalent of green fluorescent protein, but for magnetic resonance imaging,” Hu says.

Turtles, fish and migratory birds have all shown how to have the ability to sense magnetic fields, and biologists hypothesize that they do so using magnetite embedded in parts of their nervous system.

The advantage of borrowing a gene from bacteria was that researchers had already dissected Maq4\* role and it was possible to force cells to make magnetite by inserting only one extra gene rather than several.

Although Hu’s team tested Maq4 effects in human kidney cells, Hu says it will probably be most useful in transgenic animals.

“Maq4 can be thought of as the equivalent of green fluorescent protein, but for magnetic resonance imaging,” Hu says.
Why I’m over Tyler Perry
‘Positive’ images can spell negatives for black women

By MOYA BAILEY

In the last year, I have worked in the area of representations of black women in media. I have been interested in the ways black women are depicted on the nation’s large and small screens. In high school I wrote a term paper on the racism and sexism informed the tragedies. My first year of college, I was part of a national youth anti-censorship group where I spoke out about the need for free speech and the right to critique problematic renderings of marginalized populations including people of color, women, the LGTBQ community, and people with disabilities.

As professor Bell Hooks observes, “In the real world could warrant violence against black women off-screen tolerable.”

“Why Did I Get Married?” reflects his self-proclaimed agency to create the female protagonistic in this film. Though consciously disrupting representations of black men as absentee fathers, lazy, uneducated or hypersexual, longstanding stereotypes of black women remain unaltered. This film is all about masculinity, beauty, and heteronormativity in these films is equated with the black male character’s ability to achieve the heteronormative, patriarchal, capitalistic ‘American Dream.’ It is the acquisition of this assimilationist fantasy that provides the Hollywood ending. This goal is reached through the often-violent resolution of hierarchal gender roles. Black women are physically put back in their place or pushed out of the way by the black men in these narratives.

The film follows four couples implying an interdependency between binary gender role expressions, where proper “positive” black masculinity can only be obtained through a subordinate femininity. Acts of filmic violence are not codified as such but if enacted in the real world could warrant police action.

I’ve remained interested in how black women are represented in the media, particularly by those who claim to provide “positive” and “alternative” images. I was asked by the National Urban League to weigh in on the current state of the representa-tion of black women in the media and felt compelled to probe this notion of “good” representa-tions.

What follows are my reflections on one of the “positive” black women, Tyler Perry. Perry has branded himself as the arbiter of quality representations of black folks, black women in particular, and I wished to trouble this asser-tion. As black actors wield more power in Hollywood, they have chosen to create and participate in projects that challenge long-standing stereotypical portrayals of black men. Films like “The Pursuit of Happyness” and “Daddy’s Home” are produced, written and directed by black actors or as explicit correctives of black male representations on the silver screen.

Ironically, their ability to challenge problematic stereotype-circulating images is heavily predi-cated on the previous successful personification of “negative” depictions of black masculinity by themselves and their peers. Will Smith’s TV success as an uncul-tured inner city youth on the “Fresh Prince of Bel-Air” and Denzel Washington’s Oscar win ning portrayal of a corrupt cop in “Training Day” helped vault them to the star status that pos-sitioned them to pursue their own interests.

Alternatively, Tyler Perry’s ac-cendony through the revived “chitlin’ circuit” of black church stage plays demanded the at-tention of movie studios and paved the way for his entrance into film. Perry’s four feature length film “Why Did I Get Married?” reflects his self-proclaimed agency to create the pictures he wants and rewrite popular understandings of black masculinity. However, in the process of creating these alter-native “positive” representa-tions of black male characters, stereotypes about black women are rife and reinscribed.

Additionally, positive black masculinity in these films is equated with the black male character’s ability to achieve the heteronormative, patriarchal, capitalistic ‘American Dream.’ It is the acquisition of this assimilationist fantasy that provides the Hollywood ending. This goal is reached through the often-violent resolution of hierarchal gender roles. Black women are physically put back in their place or pushed out of the way by the black men in these narratives.

The film follows four couples into the mountains for their annual marriage retreat. As the promotional advertisements for the film suggest, it is the women who are the source of the mari-tal problems. Each female char-acter is identified within the trailers as having an extrava-gant quality that needs to be excised.

A meme in the employee lounge illustrates what’s been built, leased or torn down over the decades, including “Crawford Short,” the Jesse Parker Williams women’s and children’s facility once incorporated into the campus.

Why I’m over Tyler Perry

I’m interested in the adver-tisement’s use of “over” as a preposition that constructs black femininity as excessive. Patricia Hill Collins’ work on “controlling images” of black men and women speaks to this tendency to represent blacks as too much or more than the white norm or ideal.

Historically ascribed the un-desirable attributes of being too sexual, too domineering, too demanding, black women continue to challenge these biological misconceptions. Surpris-ingly, we see a rearticulation of aspects of these traits in the fe-male protagonists in this film. The women are simultaneously disrupt-ing representations of black men as absentee fathers, lazy, uneducated or hypersexual, longstanding stereotypes of black women remain unaltered. This film is all about masculinity, beauty, and heteronormativity in these films is equated with the black male character’s ability to achieve the heteronormative, patriarchal, capitalistic ‘American Dream.’ It is the acquisition of this assimilationist fantasy that provides the Hollywood ending. This goal is reached through the often-violent resolution of hierarchal gender roles. Black women are physically put back in their place or pushed out of the way by the black men in these narratives.

The film follows four couples into the mountains for their annual marriage retreat. As the promotional advertisements for the film suggest, it is the women who are the source of the marital problems. Each female character is identified within the trailers as having an extravagant quality that needs to be excised.

As one ad explains: “Diane is overworked. Sheila is overweight. Angela is over the top. Patricia is overly perfect.” View-ers are primed to expect the female leads to overcome their initial disparaging characteriza-tions. Moving forward on health care reform

Emory’s Institute for Advanced Policy Solutions and the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease convened in Washington, D.C., to spotlight the integral role chronic disease prevention must play in health reform.

When we talk about health care reform, especially in the context of the presidential election — there’s no question that we need to talk about fighting chronic disease. It’s the most common, and the most costly, health problem in this country,” said Kenneth Thorpe, who heads both the institute and PCP4.

Moving into 2009, we need to make the changes dif-ferently, he said. “We need a different message, a differ-ent approach to moving forward on health care reform.”

Kim Urquhart

Gender issues key to rebuilding Liberia

Emory’s Institute for De-veloping Nations convened June 4–5 its first Workshop on Gender-Based Violence and Rule of Law. Participat-ing were Emory scholars and Liberian officials.

“The discussions were exclu-sively in English. High-lighted how central gender issues are to rebuilding many facets of the post-liberian society,” noted IDN Director Sita Ranchod-Nilsson.

According to Ranchod-Nilsson, the workshop’s principal find-ings were a strong consensus that gender issues are crucial to liberian society. The Carter Center, and revealed some of the real challenges and questions that were dressed when dealing with a multi-faceted problem like violence against women.

— Casey Dunning

FIRST PERSON

Why I’m over Tyler Perry

‘Positive’ images can spell negatives for black women

Moya Bailey is a doctoral student in the Department of Women’s Studies.
Events

Performing Arts
Wednesday, June 25

Tibetan Sacred Arts, 8 p.m. $18; $12 discount categories. Emison Hall, Schwartz Center. 404-727-5050. arts.emory.edu

Wednesday, June 25


Thursday, June 25

*The Dreaded Comment Section: Writing Effective Narrative Comments About Your Trainees.* Barbara Fett, Emory surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. 404-778-1903.

Thursday, July 10

“Wounded Warrior Network.” David Feliciano, Emory surgery, presenting. 7 a.m. Emory University Hospital Auditorium. 404-778-1903.


Monday, July 7


Visual Arts
Wednesday, June 23


Wednesday, July 22


Selden Deemer Ride along with Lone Librarian at staff exhibit

Emory librarian Selden Deemer marked his 60th birthday by riding his Honda Pacific Coast bike on a solo, round-trip journey to Alaska. It was his summer of 2006, and with a Mac iBook and Nikon Coolpix S1 in his saddlebag he documented the 11,000-mile journey via hundreds of photos and a travel blog. Images from his trip, “The Lone Librarian Rides Again,” are on display at Emory Law’s MacMillan Law Library until Aug. 15.

Emory Report: Why did you decide to document your journey? Deemer: It’s really primarily for my benefit, so that I could have something that I could remember this for down the road.

I was able to write and upload content from the road as I went, there were very few places that didn’t have Internet access. There is a fiber-optic line that runs the entire length of the Alaska Highway. Alaska is actually the most connected state in the United States, it has the highest Internet access.

One of the things I found from using a digital camera was I was able to write and upload content from the road as I went, there were very few places that didn’t have Internet access. There is a fiber-optic line that runs the entire length of the Alaska Highway. Alaska is actually the most connected state in the United States, it has the highest Internet access.

Er: What was the most memorable moment of your journey? Deemer: (Laughing). Coming back. Seeing my wife [law librarian Barbara Pettitt, Emory surgery] at the end of this year, in the July 24, 2006, issue of Emory Report, and his blog at erreport.emory.edu/calendar_next.

QUESTIONS FOR ... Selden Deemer

Ride along with ‘Lone Librarian’ at staff exhibit

Discounts (excluding New York Philharmonic) and pre-sales for Emory employees (retired and current), students and their parents, alumni and arts-related friends group members:

• 50% off six-concert subscriptions (discounted $176, regular $352)
• 40% off four- and five-concert subscriptions
• Single entry ticket pre-sale: Sept. 3-4 (Public sales begin Sept. 10)

To purchase subscriptions now, visit the Schwartz Center Box Office or call 404-727-5050.