

Man ALIVE!

Patient simulator brings new realism to college's programs

It's the age-old problem of teaching health care techniques: You don't want novices pumping real patients full of drugs, but then there's no way of knowing if the student just killed a plastic mannequin.

Southwest Georgia Technical College solved that problem with a computerized patient simulator that realistically mimics the behavior and responses of a real human.

"He's a really exciting piece of equipment," says Southwest Georgia Tech VP of Economic Development Kathy Harvill about the device, which has been nicknamed "MILTON — The Million-Dollar Man."

"He differs significantly from traditional dummies used in health care classes," Harvill explains. "For one thing, he's not dumb."



Southwest Georgia Tech healthcare students Wendy Pearce (left) and Kathryn Singletary (right) work on "MILTON" under the guidance of Dr. Annie McElroy, Southwest Georgia Tech director of instruction (center).

The simulator reacts to students' procedures. If students give it the right dosage, it gets better. If they miscalculate, it succumbs."

"It can do anything a patient can do," says Southwest Georgia Tech Director of Instruction Dr. Annie McElroy. It was McElroy who first put things in motion when she approached nursing instructors for a list of dream instructional items. At the top of the list was a patient simulator that mimics a live patient's actions.

Donations to buy the simulator soon started pouring in to the school's Foundation.

"We had great community support," says Harvill, who spearheaded the fundraising effort. "Our annual Foundation campaign was phenomenal."

Dr. Freida Hill, president of Southwest Georgia Tech, says the new equipment will have a far-reaching effect in Southwest Georgia. "It is a well-known fact that more health care workers are needed," Hill says. "We must be able to provide the latest technology that will prepare students to become the highly competent health care professionals we so desperately need." R



Dr. Freida Hill, Southwest Georgia Tech president.



Albany Tech Makes Cookbook from Scratch

Albany Technical College is stirring up both memories and profits with *Food for Thought*, a cookbook compiled by the Culinary Arts Department.

The cookbook is a selection of favorite dishes chosen by Program Director Anne Clark and her culinary students. Recipes range from Southern staples like macaroni and cheese to international treats such as almond-stuffed dates.

Food for Thought, which is also peppered with historical information about Albany Tech, was planned partly to coincide

with Clark's retirement last year, but also to tie in with the college's fundraising campaign.

"Teaching has been a passion throughout my life, and I have fond memories of so many events, students and special occasions where we enjoyed these dishes," Clark says.

For \$12, the cookbook is available at the school bookstore and several local retail shops. The school's Printing/Graphics program, Print Shop and Office of Public Relations all collaborated with the Culinary Arts Department on the project.

"I can personally attest to how good

our Culinary Arts students and faculty are," says Albany Tech President Dr. Anthony Parker.

"The first year I was here, I gained a lot of weight eating Mrs. Clark's delicious cheesecakes. I try to consume less now, but it's difficult." To order the cookbook, call 1-229-430-1624. R





Lady JETS player Chaunda Beauford prepares for her free throw.

The JETS Set

South Georgia Technical College launches women's basketball

Since 2001, South Georgia Technical College has encouraged students' hoop dreams by fielding the JETS, the only men's basketball team in Georgia's Technical College System. In November 2004, the college made it a matched set when it



added a women's basketball team, also the only one of its kind statewide.

"We're the only ones in the state that offer students the opportunity to get a technical education and play basketball," Lady JETS Head Coach Brandan Harrell says proudly. The 13-member team will play 30 games and one tournament in its inaugural season.

"You have to take a chance with a first-year team," says Harrell, who actively recruits from local high schools. "It's hard to be a student athlete."

The intensity for the student athletes increased at the beginning of 2005 when the team began its conference schedule. "Those are the important games," Harrell explains. "Everything up until then was a learning experience."

Harrell is optimistic about the future of the team. "We have the community support and the support from the school," he notes. "We will be successful." **R**



Attending the celebration were, from left: Peachtree City Rotary Club Governor William A. MacDonald; Rotary International Director J. David Roper; Tifton Rotary Club Governor Leon W. Benefield; Rotary International President Jonathan Majiyagbe; Habersham Rotary Club Governor Lona P. Pope; and DTAE Assistant Commissioner of Adult Literacy Programs Dr. Jean DeVard-Kemp.

Rotary Club International Honors Office of Adult Literacy

Rotary Club International recently presented the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education's Office of Adult Literacy with a \$30,000 Ade Project award for GED scholarships. The award was presented by Rotary International President Jonathan Majiyagbe at the Rotary Presidential Celebration on Literacy and Education held in Macon. Named in honor of Majiyagbe's late wife, the Ade Project has the goal of promoting and supporting literacy programs around the world. **R**

Mini-dragster Demonstrates Maximum Skills

Altamaha Technical College students rev it up

Take the skills of students in Welding and Joining, Industrial Systems Technology, and Electrical Construction and Maintenance, combine them with a classroom full of materials donated by supportive local businesses, and what do you get?

At Altamaha Technical College, the innovative students

came up with a mini-dragster, an eye-catching contraption that's perfect for putting on display in parades and at public events to demonstrate the scope of training opportunities available at the school.

"It was a team approach," says Altamaha Tech Hazlehurst Campus Director of Operations Hank Hobbs about the project that brought together students from each of the three technical programs. Built almost entirely from raw materials donated by local supporters of the college, the mini-dragster required the Welding and Joining students to demonstrate expertise in disciplines such as tig and mig welding, grinding, and polishing, while the Industrial Systems Technology students

handled the hydraulics and mechanics in the drive system, and the Electrical students applied the finishing touches, supplying the machine with enough AC power to add accent lights for nighttime display.

"This project allowed the students to work together and experience what it takes to bring a project from design to implementation. It brought 'real life' experience to their program curriculum," says Hobbs.

Best of all, he adds, "The project was completely funded by businesses and industries in the area, which demonstrates the community support of this college." **R**

