

The background of the cover is a photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, golden reflection on the water of a river. In the foreground, a kayaker is visible on the river. The city skyline includes several tall buildings, with the most prominent one being a curved, modern skyscraper. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

UT

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At the Water's Edge

UT reveals its river stories

Excellence in the Game, in the Classroom and in Life



I'M ALWAYS PLEASED WHEN I WALK THROUGH THE newly-renovated Martinez Athletics Center on campus. It's constantly bustling with activity and excitement, with a palpable sense of competition, vigor and purpose. The new locker rooms, weight rooms, Sword & Shield Room, coaches' offices, equipment rooms and other facilities have all been well-received.

But, what impresses me is that one of the most used rooms is the academic study lounge — a two-story space that features study rooms and computer stations. It's a comfortable place for athletes and non-athletes to study.

It reminds me that while UT student-athletes are incredibly serious about succeeding in their sport, they are also intent about succeeding in the classroom. This is vitally important to me, as I believe in the overall development of UT students' character — physically, mentally and spiritually.

As many of you know from being past Spartan athletes, playing intercollegiate sports means knowing how to balance academics and personal lives with all the requirements of being part of a team. This is why UT athletes are so attractive to employers — they understand time-management, they know that hard work equals success and they believe in commitment to a goal. Swimming coach Ed Brennan reminds his teams "one performs as one practices," which can be applied to so many aspects of life.

Our 600 student-athletes do exceptionally well. Last year UT teams brought home eight conference championships. This year the volleyball team was runner-up in the national championship. The last I checked, we were ranked third in the Directors' Cup standings, which ranks athletic success of all Division II schools.

However, we also note last year the average GPA for all UT student-athletes was 3.1. The women's cross-country team won the highest academic GPA among Division II cross-country teams with a 3.45 GPA. And, our most recent student-athlete graduation success rate is 95 percent.

Plus, UT student-athletes last year set a record for community service hours, logging more than 5,000 hours for the year. Turn to page 10 to read about a service project student-athletes are undertaking at a local elementary school. So, on top of rigorous classroom work and athletic pressures, our student-athletes also find time to make our community a better place.

I commend Athletic Director Larry Marfise and our coaches for supporting our philosophy that personal and academic development is as important as winning. I also thank our alumni who not only attend games and support our teams financially, but who work with our student-athletes and prepare them for life after college. This is something I know the 300 Spartans club stresses.

Make it a point to stop by the Martinez Athletics Center sometime soon. You'll be amazed by the renovation. You'll also likely pass by a student-athlete who is busy upholding UT's values on the playing fields, in the community and in the classroom.

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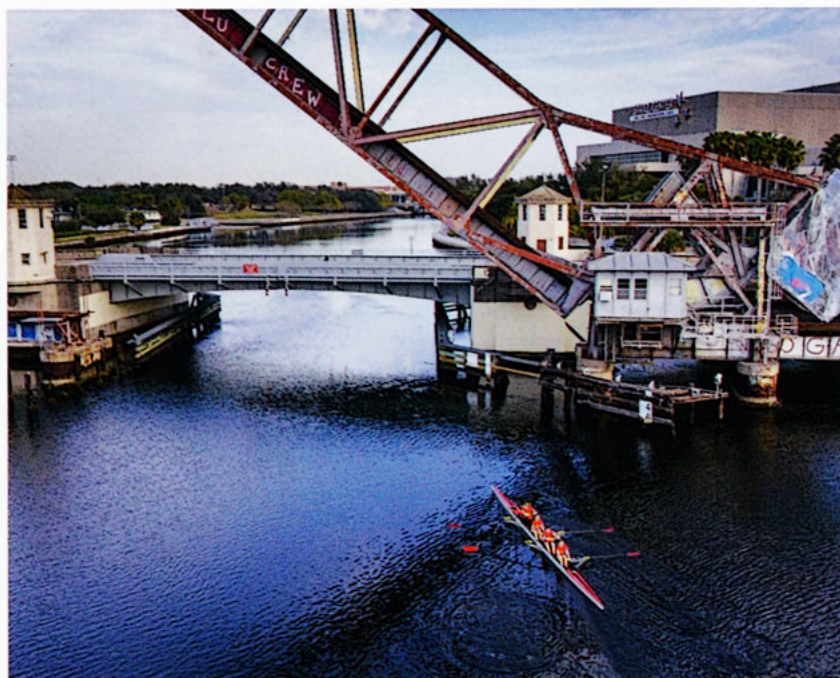
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Rehan Choudhry '03 had a stable, but unfulfilling, job in IT, until a health crisis prompted him to follow his passion.

About the cover: This birds-eye view of the Hillsborough River at UT was captured using a custom unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) carrying a camera with a remote trigger, which was launched from the UT crew dock. Photograph by Joseph Gamble and Chris Odom for Joseph Gamble Photography with help from student intern Gabe Windschauer '14.

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Clockwise from left: New lettering goes up on Morsani Hall; Frank and Carol Morsani at the dedication ceremony; John and Susan Sykes help celebrate the renaming.

Remarkable Generosity

Stadium Center renamed in honor of Frank and Carol Morsani

UT's STADIUM CENTER RESIDENCE hall was recently renamed following a generous donation by two of Tampa Bay's most philanthropic individuals and education advocates — Frank and Carol Morsani.

The Morsanis made a multi-million dollar gift to the University, one of the largest gifts in UT's history. To honor their generosity, the residence hall was renamed the Frank and Carol Morsani Hall. The hall, which is located in the center of campus overlooking Pepin Stadium, is home to 464 students and features a food court on the first floor.

Frank and Carol Morsani are already well known in Tampa Bay, as their name graces the USF Medical School and Health Clinic, a lobby at

the Tampa Museum of Art, a theater at the Straz Center for the Performing Arts and also an exhibition hall at the Dali Museum.

"The Morsanis have made such a significant and visible impact on so many cultural and education areas in Tampa Bay. They have a long relationship with UT, and we are pleased to be one of the institutions they continue to believe in and support," President Ron Vaughn said.

Frank Morsani is the chairman of Automotive Investments Inc. and a trustee of the Frank and Carol Morsani Family Foundation. He was a member of UT's Board of Counselors from 1974-1976 and UT's Board of Fellows from 1977-1979, serving as chair of the

Fellows in 1978. He then served on the UT Board of Trustees from 1980-1984.

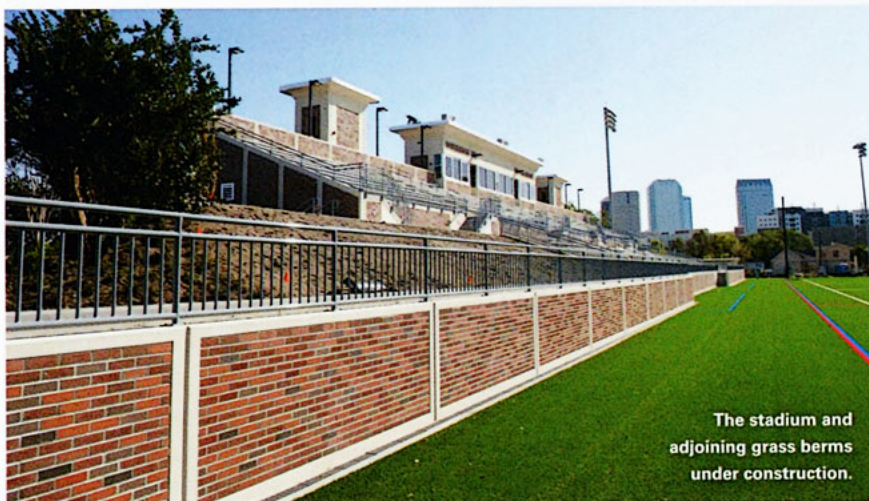
Carol Morsani serves as the director of the Frank and Carol Morsani Family Foundation, which supports education, the arts and healthcare, along with numerous other programs benefiting the community.

The Morsanis said they are pleased they can make this investment in UT.

"UT, as we all know, was created by the local chamber of commerce and for many years was the only school of higher education on the west coast of Florida," Frank Morsani said. "The accomplishments that it has made are many, and the community is a far better place because of its academic excellence."

"There is not another university at the Division II level that is fortunate enough to have facilities similar to ours."

— LARRY MARFISE, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS



The stadium and adjoining grass berms under construction.

The First Face-off

THE STANDS ARE UP, THE TURF IS down and play has begun. The Naimoli Family Athletic and Intramural Complex was dedicated on April 5, followed by the final men's lacrosse game of the regular season against Rollins College, the first athletic contest to be played at the facility.

Originally conceived as a venue for the intramural program, the complex located on Kennedy Boulevard just west of the Martinez Athletics Center was redesigned to be multi-purpose — to support UT's popular intramural

program and club field sports, as well as men's and women's lacrosse and men's and women's soccer. Intramurals and club activities that will utilize the complex include soccer, flag football, field hockey and ultimate.

"There is not another university at the Division II level that is fortunate enough to have facilities similar to ours," said Larry Marfise, director of athletics.

The facility was funded in part through a generous donation by Tampa's Naimoli family, which has been involved with UT since the 1980s.

"The progress The University of Tampa has made in the past 25 years, in academics, athletics and the entire college experience, has been impressive," said Vince Naimoli, chairman and founding partner of the Tampa Bay Rays. "I'm pleased to support such a fine institution and future generations of its students."

The complex's 40-foot high stadium, with two adjoining grass berms for additional casual seating, has room for nearly 2,000 spectators. The structure's interior incorporates media and guest boxes, concessions, team meeting rooms, training spaces, referee rooms and restrooms.

The stadium is fronted by a plaza, open green spaces for tailgating and arrival activities, 200 parking spaces and a ticket booth.

The 90,000-square-foot synthetic field has been lined to accommodate various sports, and can be converted to three vertical fields for concurrent practice and intramural play.

The LED multimedia scoreboard displays game time, score, statistics and video.

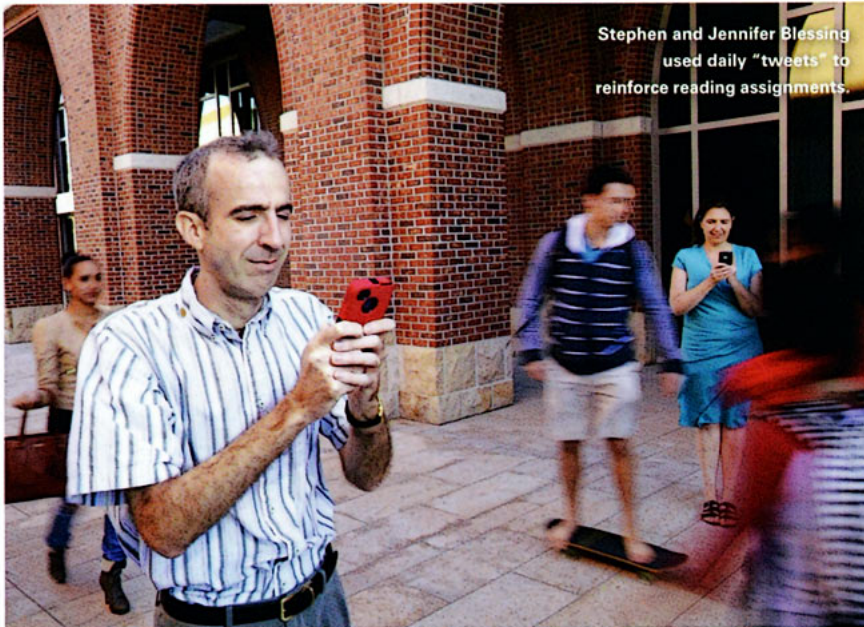
"Mr. Naimoli's donation will make it possible for generations of UT students to have great facilities that will give them a feeling of worth and value as well as help them improve physically," Marfise said.

PRESERVATION EFFORT REWARDED



During the Naimoli Family Athletic and Intramural Complex dedication ceremony, the University received a 2012 Friends of Our Urban Forest Outstanding Project award from the Florida Urban Forestry Council for transplanting a 65-foot, 36-inch diameter oak tree, considered a "grand tree" by the City of Tampa and one of the largest to be moved in Hillsborough County.

The grand tree, now located just west of the facility, was moved 400 feet from its original location. The transplanted tree anchors a one-acre, shaded park, adding campus green space for relaxation and recreation.



Stephen and Jennifer Blessing used daily "tweets" to reinforce reading assignments.

Something to Twitter About

Social media effectively reinforces classroom reading

SOMEDAY SOON, COLLEGE STUDENTS may get academic lessons via Twitter.

Stephen Blessing, associate professor of psychology, and Jennifer Blessing, visiting assistant professor of psychology, have discovered that daily "tweets" effectively reinforce class reading assignments. Students who received the one-a-day tweets scored higher on questions covered by the tweets than students who didn't.

"What we were trying to do with the tweets was to remind the students before they forgot about it — to give them sort of a quick dose of remembering," says Stephen Blessing.

Though Blessing himself isn't a "Twitter head," he began wondering a couple of years ago how social media tools improve instruction and learning. At the time, "no researchers had published a report that showed that using these technologies could actually produce a learning gain."

So the Blessings randomly assigned 63 students from two introductory psychology classes into two groups.

One group received 84 tweets during the semester that were jokes with no relevance to the class.

The second group received 84 tweets that emphasized lessons from

the psychology text. So on the disagreement between Sigmund Freud and American behaviorist John Watson, students read this tweet: "@Freud: @Watson The unconscious is more important than the conscious! What lies beneath drives all of behavior."

After four exams in each class, Blessing found students who received the course-relevant tweets scored better than students who received the humorous tweets — but only on test items related to the tweets. The two groups scored about the same on tests overall.

"The benefit of seeing these tweets was really just for the very specific items that we tweeted about," says Stephen Blessing. "It's really a targeted effect."

Because the two groups of students received different tweets, the professors couldn't discuss the tweets in class or in online discussions. "So that made it a little artificial," says Stephen Blessing. "If we weren't doing this in the context of a study, then we would have talked about some of the things that were going on in the tweet a little bit more." Additional discussion likely would have made the tweets even more effective.

"Anything that increases discussion, no matter what the medium, is ultimately going to improve learning," says Stephen Blessing. Using Twitter to reinforce classroom concepts is "just another way to increase the amount of discussion that goes on between student and instructor and among the students themselves. And that's going to be a big win in the end."

Tell the World You Heart UT. The next time you renew your registration, consider purchasing a UT license plate for an additional \$27. Each license plate sold gives the University \$25 toward scholarships and campus improvements.



The Business Side of Hydroponics

IMAGINE VISITING A YOU-PICK STRAWBERRY farm on the roof of a building in your city's center. Though it might seem far-fetched, according to David Bechtold, assistant professor of management, and Susan Steiner, chair/associate professor of management, this scenario is more viable than you think.

Bechtold and Steiner are researching business models of hydroponic farming in urban areas. Hydroponic farming, a method of growing plants in water, without soil, has been around for more than 5,000 years.

Steiner said many crops lend themselves to hydroponic farming, listing berries, tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce.

"There are no hydroponic trees," she said with a smile. "So you can't grow everything this way, but there are many crops that do very well."

Both express the potential health benefits of hydroponic farming, noting farmers have a higher risk of certain cancers due to long-term exposure to pesticides (according to National Cancer Institute studies). Because of the small footprint, hydroponic farming has less need to use pesticides, a big health advantage to farmers as well as customers.

Bechtold first became interested in the subject from reading a newspaper article about how much better local hydroponic farms fared during a recent freeze in Florida. He said he was surprised to learn the method used so little water.

He went on to conduct a case study of a hydroponic strawberry farm, Parke Family HydroFarms in Plant City, FL. "In the case study, we found that the farm used one-tenth less water and yielded six to eight times the normal crop," said Bechtold, though he said it is unclear whether this would hold true



for all crops produced hydroponically.

The current project expands upon this research, looking in a more general way at how to create profitable businesses using this method.

"Water is the next liquid gold," said Steiner. "You can't live without water, and our supply is not endless. Currently, we use a great deal of water to grow grain. It's economically wise to think of ways to use water more efficiently."

Bechtold said there are a number of different business models hydroponic farming can provide in part because it can bring the farmer closer to the community, including family-run, "you-pick" type businesses.

"It can help revitalize communities, which has interesting implications on how we plan our communities and also on public health," said Bechtold.

Steiner predicts this will be a fairly significant model of farming 15 to 20 years down the road.

LET'S GET DIGITAL

The Minaret has been published since 1931 — more than 1,500 issues. The *Moroccan* has come out every year since 1936 (except for 2002). And the University has produced more than 202 alumni newsletters or magazines (including the *UT Journal*).

Until very recently, looking at one of these publications required a trip to the Macdonald-Kelce Library. And then there was the mess.

"The old newspapers were literally falling apart," said Art Bagley, reference librarian, describing how he'd have to clean up brown flakes of brittle newspaper from the floor anytime he pulled the old issues out. "The yearbooks and alumni magazines have their weak parts, too."

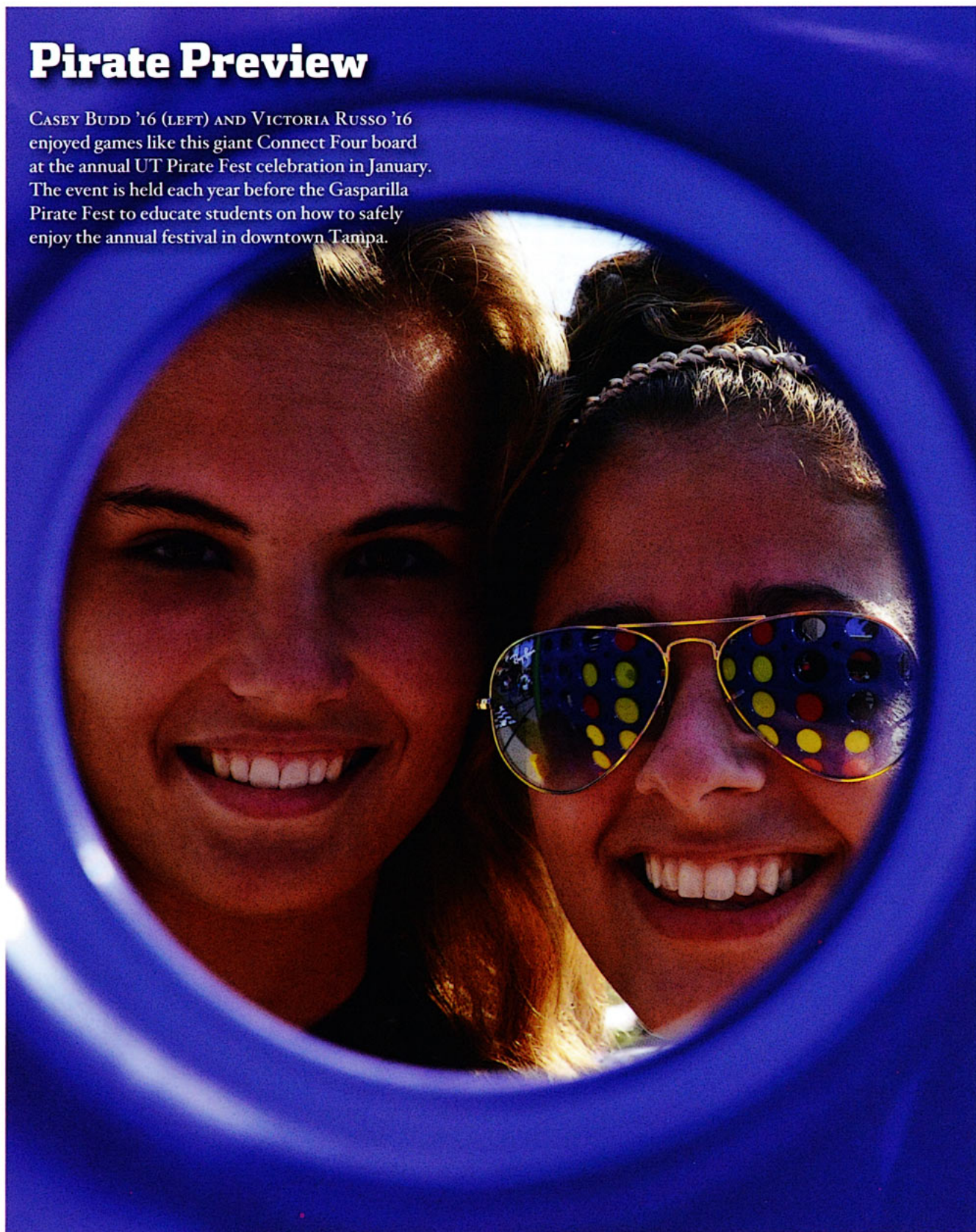
Thanks to a recent project, however, now you can search these documents from the comfort of your own home. Over the summer of 2012 the library contracted with ArcaSearch, a Minnesota-based digital archiving company, to digitize *The Minaret*, *Moroccan* and alumni newsletters and put the scanned documents in a searchable database that can be accessed from any computer.

"Electronically, we'll have no worn covers, ripped-out pages, rusty staples, etc.," said Bagley. "Not only will UT alumni enjoy turning the pages of these e-documents, but all UT groups can use this new resource to gather information and answers for their particular projects and interests."

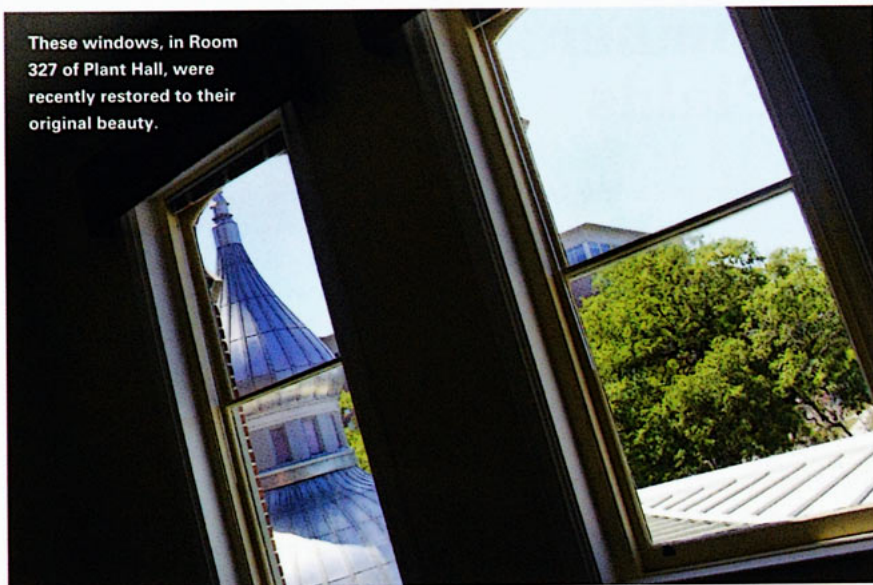
The site is accessible at <https://news.arcasearch.com/usfluot/>.

Pirate Preview

CASEY BUDD '16 (LEFT) AND VICTORIA RUSSO '16 enjoyed games like this giant Connect Four board at the annual UT Pirate Fest celebration in January. The event is held each year before the Gasparilla Pirate Fest to educate students on how to safely enjoy the annual festival in downtown Tampa.



These windows, in Room 327 of Plant Hall, were recently restored to their original beauty.



Like New Again

The Chiselers receive grant to restore windows in Plant Hall

IF YOU WALK BY PLANT HALL IN THE coming months and notice a piece of plywood over one of the windows, don't worry. The window wasn't broken.

The Chiselers, a volunteer organization dedicated to the preservation of the 1891 Tampa Bay Hotel (now known as Plant Hall), recently received a \$250,000 matching grant from the Hillsborough County Commission through the county's Historic Preservation Challenge Grant Program. The money will be used to restore 178

of the building's exterior windows.

"Each window has different damage, so each one is a little different as far as what work needs to be done," said Rick Kimble of Specialized Property Services, the contractor on the project. "Our goal is to keep at least 70 percent of the original window."

Kimble said typically they strip the paint from the window frame, replace any wood that is rotting, sand and re-paint. If needed, they also refurbish and re-glaze the glass.

The project is a continuation of one that began three years ago. Ken Garcia, a preservation architect, inventoried all the windows in Plant Hall and prioritized them from most in need of repair to least. In the initial phase, 102 windows were restored, and an additional 21 were completed over the winter break in January.

Each window costs an average of \$2,800 to bring it to its former glory. With about 500 to go, the project is expected to take several years.

This is not the first project Specialized Property Services has worked on in Plant Hall. They previously restored Fletcher Lounge to its Tampa Bay Hotel glory. They removed layers of paint on the room's domed ceiling, cornice and 360-degree mural to uncover the original stencils, and then repainted using the original colors from 1891.

The company also donated labor and materials to the Henry B. Plant Museum to repaint a room where the paint was literally peeling off the walls. After stripping all the decaying paint from the walls and ceiling, they repainted using the original colors from 1891. Over the years the museum has hired them to restore the paint throughout the facility.

Most recently, Specialized Property Services completed re-pointing 98,000 square feet of brickwork on the exterior of Plant Hall, a project that took several years to complete.



ROTC AND ATHLETICS BUILDING TO BE DEDICATED

The General Peter J. Schoomaker ROTC and Athletics Building will be dedicated on Tuesday, April 16. The building is a new, two-story addition on the southwest corner of the Martinez Athletics Center that houses facilities for ROTC, athletics and athletic training. It is being named to honor Peter Schoomaker, a retired four-star Army general, who served as chief of staff of the U.S. Army from 2003-2007.

Helping Increase Number of Women in Tech Fields

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT), women currently hold only 25 percent of all computing-related occupations in the U.S. and earn just 18 percent of all computing and information sciences degrees at U.S. institutions.

To help close this gap, UT is joining forces with other universities around the U.S. through the NCWIT Pacesetters program. In this two-year fast-track program senior officials from universities and corporations commit to attract and retain more women to careers in technology-related fields. The 20 universities and 14 companies in the 2013 Pacesetter cohort include startups and global corporations, public and private universities and state government departments.

The U.S. Department of Labor estimates that 1.4 million technology jobs will be added to the workforce by 2020, and women represent a valuable,

untapped talent pool to help fill these positions.

"Many companies advertise internship and job opportunities in the computing field through UT's Office of Career Services, but we don't have enough qualified graduates to apply for these positions and meet the demand," said Natasha Veltri, associate professor of information and technology management and lead on the NCWIT Pacesetters program at UT. Veltri applied for the program to help address this shortage.

Lead by the Department of Information and Technology Management (ITM) in the Sykes College of Business, UT's goal is to increase enrollment of females in the management and information systems (MIS) program by 50 percent. Currently 23 percent of students majoring in MIS at UT are female. Enrollment will be measured at the start of each semester to assess progress.

UT NAMES PROVOST

This spring, David Stern will trade chilly Minnesota for sunny Florida when he becomes the University's new provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"I very much look forward to being able to choose a vacation in the snow if I wish," said Stern. "Though I will also admit that I have adapted pretty well to the stoic Minnesota attitude that takes pride in facing the rigors of winter."

Stern, who was chosen after an extensive national search, most recently served as vice president for academic and student affairs at Hamline University in St. Paul, MN. During his tenure at Hamline from 2006-2012, Stern helped develop 10 new academic programs, oversaw regional re-accreditation, created an office of diversity integration and a Center for Teaching and Learning, and increased external funding, including a \$7 million consortial grant to transform teacher education.

As UT's chief academic officer, Stern will provide leadership in developing high quality academic programs and educational experiences. He will supervise and oversee all curricular, instructional and research affairs at the University, and will serve as key advisor to the University president on all academic affairs and other institutional issues.

"I am looking forward especially to working with everyone here at The University of Tampa as we work to enhance further the academic quality for which UT is known," Stern said.

Stern succeeds Janet McNew, who served as provost at UT from 2006-2013.



TOOLS OF THE TRADE The Sykes College of Business' executive MBA program began using iPads as a learning tool last fall. Students use the tablets as an e-reader, for taking notes and connecting with their classmates and professors.

spartan sports



A Tampa Tennis Legend

JUDY ALVAREZ '67 KEPT ALL OF HER trophies — some 300 or 400, she estimated — on display in the clubhouse of her tennis academy. Each trophy carried with it a story of where and how she won it, which she would share with the students at her tennis academy.

When she sold the academy in 2005 after more than 30 years as its owner, Alvarez decided to give all of her trophies to her students so they would remember the lessons she instilled in them both on and off the court.

"I gave them all away. I don't even have one trophy in my house," Alvarez said with a laugh. "They loved it. It was

just an inspirational thing I wanted to give them."

Alvarez played tennis professionally for many years. At the age of 10, the Ybor City native was competing on a statewide level; at 14, she went national. By the time she was ready for college, she was playing around the world while still calling the Tampa Bay area her home. It was where she trained and where she wanted to continue her education after graduating high school.

The decision was down to either UT or the University of South Florida. UT was closer to where she trained on Da-

vis Islands, and she preferred the smaller class sizes. But it cost more to attend than USF, and there was no tennis team and thus no scholarship readily available. Some tweaking of the system, however, provided her with one.

"They decided to call it a presidential scholarship," Alvarez said. "But really they got the scholarship out of the football funds."

One of the most accomplished athletes to have attended UT, and arguably the most accomplished tennis player to come out of Tampa, received a scholarship for a sport she didn't play.

(Continued on page 11)

Catanach Coaches Volleyball Team to Milestone Win

CHRIS CATANACH '83, UT's HEAD volleyball coach, hit a big milestone in his coaching career last fall. Catanach earned his 900th career victory on Nov. 14, 2012, against Sunshine State Conference rival Eckerd College.

Under his direction, the Spartans also eclipsed the 1,000-win mark as a program during the season against Eckerd on Oct. 10, 2012. UT's volleyball team advanced all the way to the NCAA Division II national championship match in 2012, where it lost to Concordia University, St. Paul in a five-set match. The team finished the year at No. 2 in the final American Volleyball Coaches Association national poll.

Now going into his 30th season as head of UT's volleyball program, Catanach took over a program that

was just five years old in 1984 and posted a 32-4 record in his first year as a coach. He holds the second highest number of wins among active NCAA Division II coaches and the third all-time behind the retired Peggy Martin (1,099 Central Missouri/Spring Hill) and active coach Tracey Rietzke (1,021 Rockhurst).

Catanach has led UT's volleyball program to be one of the elite in NCAA Division II with 22 Sunshine State Conference championships, 15 NCAA South Region titles, four NCAA national runner-ups and the 2006 national championship. He has also coached more All-Americans than any other coach in the nation (49). In 2012, five of his six starters were also honored as Capital One Academic All-District performers.



RENAMING HONORS SOLOMON

The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office and the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners honored the late **Freddie Solomon '75** by renaming the community center at Nuccio Parkway in Tampa the Freddie Solomon Community Center. The former professional football player began volunteering with the Nuccio Park youth football league 21 years ago, coaching children ages 4 to 14.

Sheriff David Gee '90 said naming the community center after Solomon will keep his memory alive for future generations.

"He was a hard worker; he never quit," Gee said. "He was someone I looked up to in the community. He left a lasting mark."

As a Spartan, Solomon finished 12th in Heisman Trophy balloting as a senior in 1974. He accounted for 5,803 yards of total offense while rushing for 3,299 yards. He was inducted into the UT Athletics Hall of Fame in 1983, and in 2002 was honored as a UT Athlete of the Century.



HITTING THE BOOKS ... AS TUTORS Berkley Whaley '16 and other members of the UT volleyball team tutored students twice a week at St. Peter Claver Catholic School during the spring semester. The 119-year-old school just north of downtown Tampa runs on donations, grants and student scholarships and 90 percent of the students are eligible for reduced fees.

(Continued from page 9)

"One of the [stipulations with my scholarship] was that I had to participate in all the sports events they had there," Alvarez explained. Alvarez took part in volleyball and softball, and as a physical education and social studies major, also helped teach classes with the head of the women's physical education department.

Though a member of the UT Athletic Hall of Fame, her biggest tennis accomplishments were on the international scene. Alvarez competed in Wimbledon, the Italian and French Opens, toured the Caribbean Circuit and the Virginia Slims circuit.

It was at Wimbledon, in 1962, where Alvarez had her proudest moment as a tennis player during a doubles match on Centre Court.

"When I played in Centre, I was a newcomer and number three in the United States with my partner in doubles," she said. "I've played in a lot of tournaments, but this tourna-

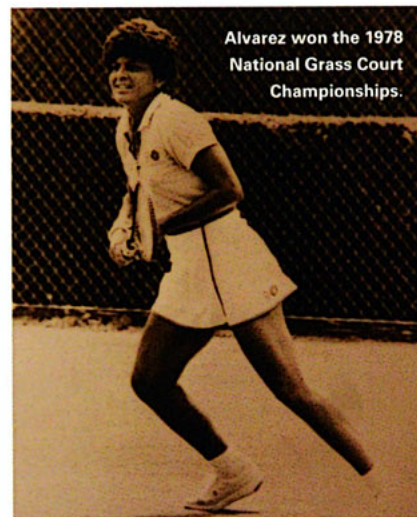
ment was the most fantastic one. I still remember everything."

She said that at one point she had beaten three of the top five players in the U.S. She defeated Virginia Wade on her way to the quarterfinals of Wimbledon in 1964, and also came out victorious against Billie Jean King in a preliminary tournament in New Jersey.

Despite her success on the court, Alvarez made the difficult decision to quit playing tennis at a competitive level when she was 21 or 22. The sport was different at the time, with players not earning the type of money or recognition they have in recent years.

Alvarez did return to play professionally at the ages of 28, 35 and again briefly in her early 40s, the final two times being ranked highly in her age range. In her second comeback, she won a grand slam.

She started giving lessons in 1970. Her students ranged from Hal and George Steinbrenner to former Tampa mayor Sandy Freeman, who she used



to play with in her adolescent years.

With the 1980s came the Alvarez Tennis Academy, which boasted 300 students at any given time. She built the club from one court to eight with a racquetball court, pool, bar and lounge and customer memberships. She noted that her younger students didn't just come and go. They were at her academy being taught by her for years, sometimes from the age of three until they were grown.

"I taught pretty well," she said, adding that she took from her own experiences as teaching material. "I believe I taught a system that was very natural and very easy to learn."

Since selling her academy, Alvarez said she has picked up a racket maybe three or four times.

"I will never play in front of anybody ever again because I want them to remember me for the way I used to play. That might be selfish, but that's the way I feel," she said.

Living in her home on the Hillsborough River in Tampa, Alvarez said she enjoys her free time after so many years of playing professionally and running a club seven days a week. Having been grounded in the Tampa Bay area all her life, Alvarez is fully content with keeping it that way.



SELKRIDGE NATIONAL PLAYER OF THE YEAR Danielle Selkridge '12 is the first player in UT volleyball history to be honored as the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) National Player of the Year. Selkridge (second from right) received the honor at the AVCA All-America/Players of the Year Banquet with Assistant Volleyball Coach Jeff Lamm, three-time Olympic beach volleyball gold medalist Kerri Walsh and Head Volleyball Coach Chris Catanach '83.

— DANIEL FEINGOLD '12

From crew practices to “accidental” late night swims to alligator and dolphin sightings, the Hillsborough River has become part of the UT experience.



RIVER STORIES



FROM ITS HEADWATERS, THE HILLSBOROUGH RIVER flows in a southwesterly direction for approximately 54 miles and empties into Hillsborough Bay. Before it does, its waters lap along the eastern border of The University of Tampa and become an unofficial extension of campus. Here we share stories and memories of UT's interactions with the river.

But first, if you've ever wondered how the river got its name, here is a little history lesson: The river, like the county, was named for Wills Hill, the 1st Earl of Hillsborough. The name Hillsborough River first appeared on a British map in 1769. At the time, Hill was the British Secretary of State for the Colonies, and thus controlled the pensions of the surveyors working in the American colonies, which included East Florida.

"I remember needing a break from studying for finals and sitting on the river bank chatting and laughing with Devin Herz '98 for hours."

—NADIA CALDEROLLI PONTIF '98



I flew 347 feet across the river



Many students relax and study from this spot



A HISTORIC TOSS

In 1936, UT student Ed "Red" Means made history by hurling a silver dollar 347 feet across the Hillsborough River just north of what is now the Kennedy Boulevard Bridge. According to legend, the feat was first accomplished by George Washington, who tossed a silver dollar across the Rappahannock River in Virginia. Just a month before Means, Walter Johnson, a major league baseball pitcher, tossed a silver dollar from the same spot as Washington, proving that the legend was indeed possible. Means set out to beat Johnson's distance of 317 feet. According to *The Minaret*, he succeeded:

"Ed 'Red' Means, Spartan all-around

athlete, recently added another record to his repertoire of athletic feats when he threw a dollar across the Hillsborough River. The distance of 347 feet surpasses that of Walter Johnson's recent toss by about 30 feet."

—*The Minaret*, March 27, 1936

FROM BARRACKS TO BOATHOUSE

UT's original boathouse was a former U.S. Coast Guard barracks, erected during World War II on Davis Islands. According to *The Minaret*, the building was moved by barge in two sections up the Hillsborough River to a location near the Fine Arts Building:

"In an informal ceremony on Oct. 11, The University of Tampa dedi-

cated a new athletic building for men, the third building added to the college's physical plant in the last three years. The building was 25 feet wide by 124 feet in length. The first floor housed a storage room, shower room, workshop and boathouse. The second floor had three offices for the two coaches and the athletic business manager; a classroom with seating capacity for 150 students; and a dormitory with rooms for 14 men.

"Mayor Curtis L. Hixon was guest of honor at the brief exercises. He gave the building to Dean M.C. Rhodes, representing The University of Tampa, and it was accepted for the athletic department by Coach Mike Gaddis."

—*The Minaret*, October 14, 1949



READY TO ROW

The Hillsborough River is one of the top crew training sites in the south-eastern United States and home to UT's own crew team.

"We used to watch the crew races by driving to Davis Islands, parking on the river front and sitting on the trunk of our cars. When they went by, we would jump back in our cars, race further down, park our cars and do the same thing. Of course we kept ourselves hydrated at all times. I'm 65 and still remember those times like they were yesterday. Great times, thanks for bringing back the memories. GO SPARTANS!!"

—Victor Diefenderfer '70

BACK TO NATURE

Steven Hendrix, associate professor of chemistry, and Robert Masserini '93, assistant professor of chemistry, installed a water monitoring station

just off the bank of the lower Hillsborough River several years ago, north of the floating crew docks and McKay Hall. The station monitors in real time the nutrients in the water as they flow toward Tampa Bay and other data, including nitrate, salinity, water temperature and tide height. The station is part of a series of stations along the west coast of Florida, and there is a dedicated website that provides live data at <http://comps.marine.usf.edu/index?view=station&id=UTP>.

Dana Plays, professor of communication, filmed *The Hillsborough River Runs Through It*, a documentary of 32 shorts about the river. Go to www.youtube.com/user/danaplays.

"I used to study by the river in the park, and it helped me to relax. But also as a member of the Environmental Protection Coalition we went out and cleaned the garbage in the river. Man

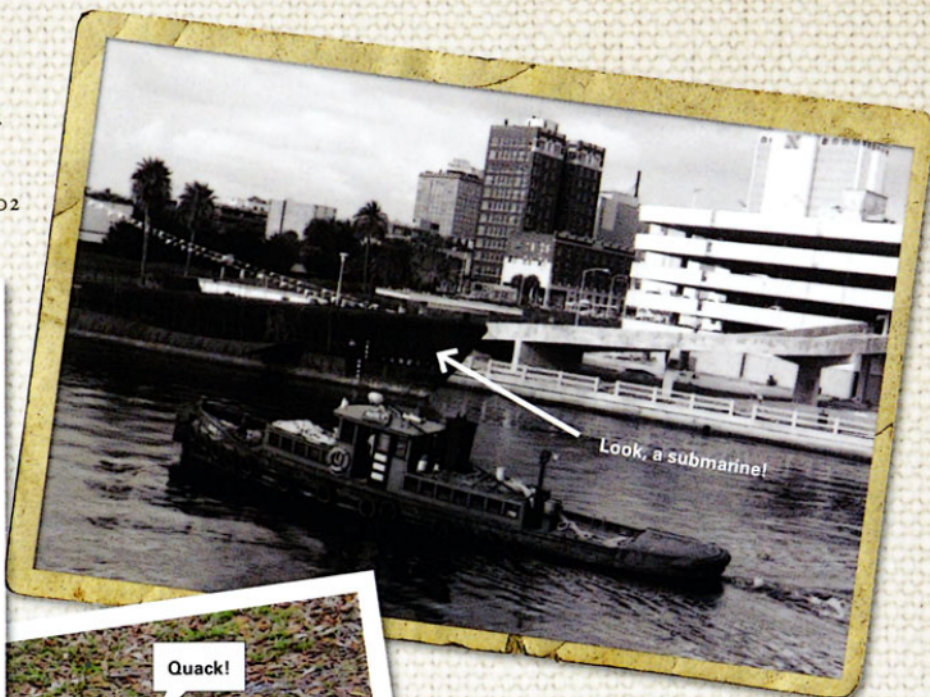
it is amazing what people will throw out their windows or into the water! It always made me sad to know that since it is such a nice place to visit while on campus." —Barbara Little-Harsh '00

RUBBER DUCKS INVADE

In October 2001, Scott Popham '04 coordinated the Tampa Bay Duck Race as a fundraiser for his fraternity, Phi Delta Theta. Dumped from Kennedy Boulevard Bridge, the ducks followed the river's tidal current north — with the help of the fire department's water cannon — to the finish line just south of the UT crew dock. Each duck, which was adopted for \$5 each, had a number to link it to its adoption sheet and thus its adoptive parent. The winners' parents won prizes. In the inaugural year, Mr. and Mrs. Craig Fenton won a trip to Cozumel, Mexico. The inaugural event raised \$20,000, most of which went to Moffitt Cancer Research Hospital.

"I remember seeing dolphins swimming through back when the caf was over there."

—SHANNON YOHE '02



"There are a few local residents, one of them being a male duck, Carlton or Quackers."

—ERIC SCHNETZER '15

"One happy thing I remember about the river was a Duck Race fundraiser that Phi Delta Theta did—hundreds of ducks floating down the river!"

—Monnie Wertz, assistant to the vice president of operations and planning

THE CALL OF THE WILD

The Hillsborough River is home to a wide variety of wildlife, including birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians. While the majority of these animals live in the more rustic northern reaches of the river, UT sees its fair share of animal visitors.

"Monnie [Wertz] and I were strolling back from a lunch downtown during Republican National Convention week. As we crossed the bridge, she saw an alligator that she knew, and he beckoned us to look over the bridge to see this alligator. Well, of course we did not believe him, but

lo and behold, there sat a five-to-six foot critter, sunning him/herself on the bank along the river. So we took a picture and started sending it around to our campus RNC Work Group, as it was the most exciting thing that had happened thus far during the convention.

"Apparently the critter (whom we named Mitt, I think) came up occasionally for sunbathing as we learned later. I suspect he chose this spot to get closer to the action. This Mitt was actually the subject of a Charlotte NPR interview that I gave."

—Linda Devine, vice president of operations and planning

"I used to sit there late at night and watch dolphins swim by. I also remember the squirrels that would sit in your lap." —Jennifer Waters '98

"The Duck" is a regular around the Boathouse. A Muscovy duck, he has

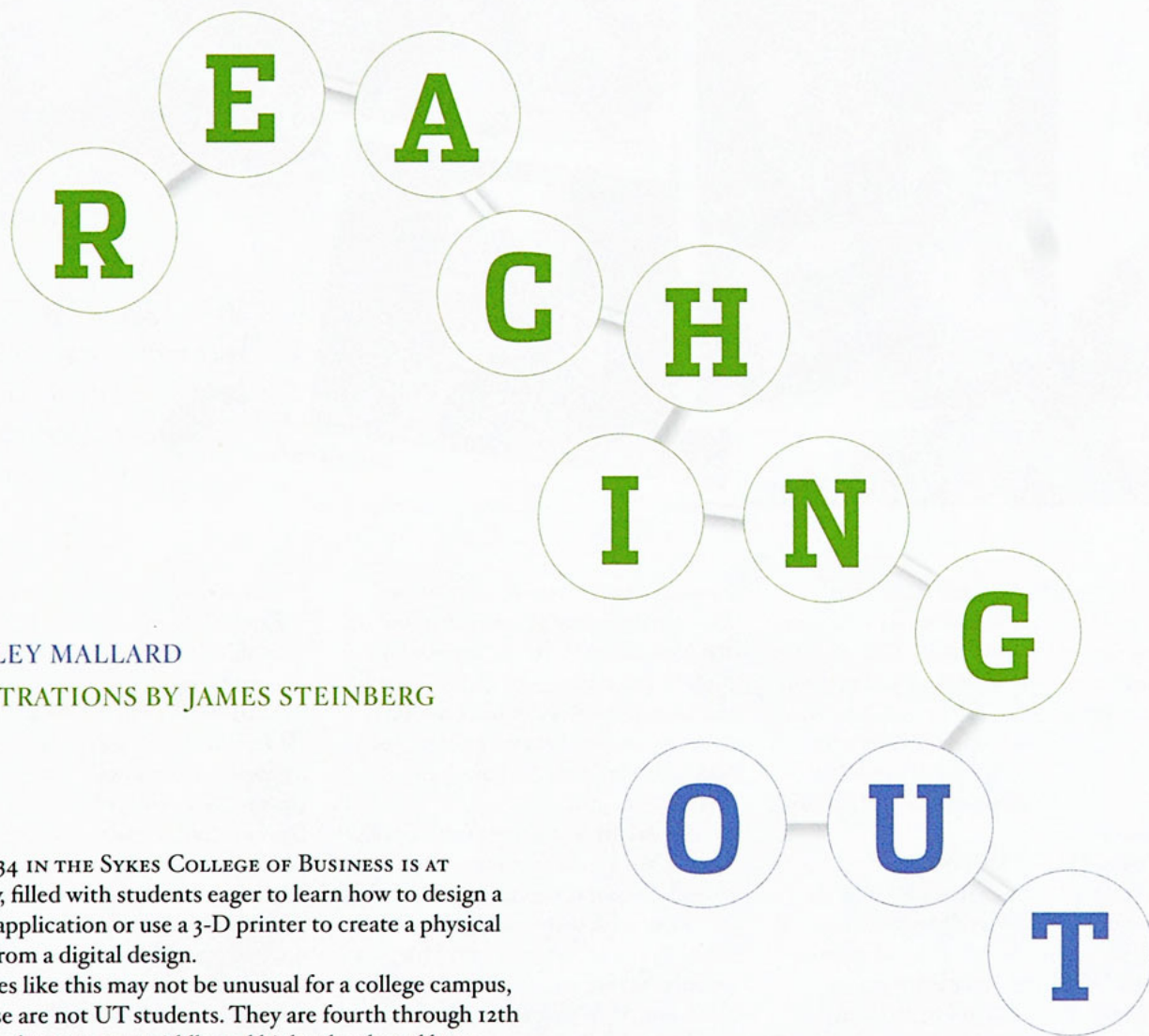
green and black body feathers with a red and white speckled head. Melissa Ciesielski '13 tells *The Minaret* about the creature:

"Named Carlton by the women's varsity [rowing] team, he is known by a few other names around campus she says. 'Duckie' by Coach [Bill] Dunlap, and another name she's unsure of by the residents of the Boathouse. Carlton was found with a broken wing when Coach Dunlap rescued him. At first, the crew team loved the bird and enjoyed his company, but it's been downhill since then, Ciesielski says.

"We started off liking him, but now he's just starting to get kinda mean," she said. "It's like a love, hate, fear relationship. Cause you're sitting there like don't bite me, don't bite me. Although Carlton has yet to hurt anyone at UT, it's common knowledge at this point to steer clear of the duck."

—*The Minaret*, March 16, 2011

Teaching UT students to love science, mathematics and technology is part of the equation, but many faculty members don't stop there.



BY KILEY MALLARD

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JAMES STEINBERG

ROOM 134 IN THE SYKES COLLEGE OF BUSINESS IS AT capacity, filled with students eager to learn how to design a mobile application or use a 3-D printer to create a physical model from a digital design.

Scenes like this may not be unusual for a college campus, but these are not UT students. They are fourth through 12th grade students at area middle and high schools and have come to campus to participate in GETSMART, or Getting Everyone to Study Math and Related Technologies.

The program, held twice a year in partnership with the Tampa Bay Technology Leadership Association, brings students to campus to interact with technology-industry professionals and get hands-on experience with computers, website and mobile application design, and other technology to which they may not otherwise have access.



"By the time many students arrive in college, they do not have the necessary educational background to pursue STEM-intensive classes," said Natasha Veltri, associate professor of information and technology management and GETSMART programs director.

STEM refers to majors and professions in the sciences, technology, engineering and mathematics, a job sector that is estimated to grow by 1.4 million by 2020 according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

Veltri explains that targeting students during their formative years makes a big impact on their career choices.

"By exposing them to careers in STEM and positive experiences with technology, it encourages students to take STEM classes to prepare for future careers," she said.

GETSMART is just one of many community outreach programs UT faculty are involved with to engage younger students with a passion for these fields. Faculty take the lead on these programs not only to show young students math and science are fun and really do apply to real life, but also to build relationships with and become mentors for youth in the community.

Growing up in the former Soviet Union, Veltri said learning mathematics was encouraged, and she easily excelled in the subject. She came to the U.S. to study at the University of Central Florida.

"I took a programming course, and I loved it," she said. The next semester she was teaching the same class as a doctoral student.

"It clicked. I have a very analytical brain," Veltri said. "I'd rather write code than a sentence."

Veltri came to UT in 2007 and was soon asked to be part of a program to help get girls interested in STEM-related careers. The first GETSMART event was held in Spring 2008.

"The first event was like a junior advisory board," said Veltri. "There were

about 20 girls, and we asked them what they thought about STEM fields and why they didn't pursue these subjects."

From this session and other research, Veltri said they learned the keys to getting and holding kids' attention are involving them in the process and interacting as mentors and role models.

"After the first one we started introducing hands-on activities so they could experience what it's like to create something technical — take apart a computer, create a website, design a mobile application," she said. "We bring in professionals from these fields to talk about how they got started, what they studied and give the students a chance to talk to them."

This past fall, GETSMART opened up to boys as well as girls. Veltri said they went from an average of 40 participants at the event when it was just girls, to about 100 when boys were included.

"The day of the event we were getting full. I started to get a little worried and asked what the fire code was for the room," she said. "We were at capacity and almost ran out of food!"

So far, 264 students have attended GETSMART programs.

"The smart ones want to be doctors or lawyers," said Veltri. "But there are so many other rewarding careers, and this program is one way we try to make them aware of that."

The Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts jobs in information

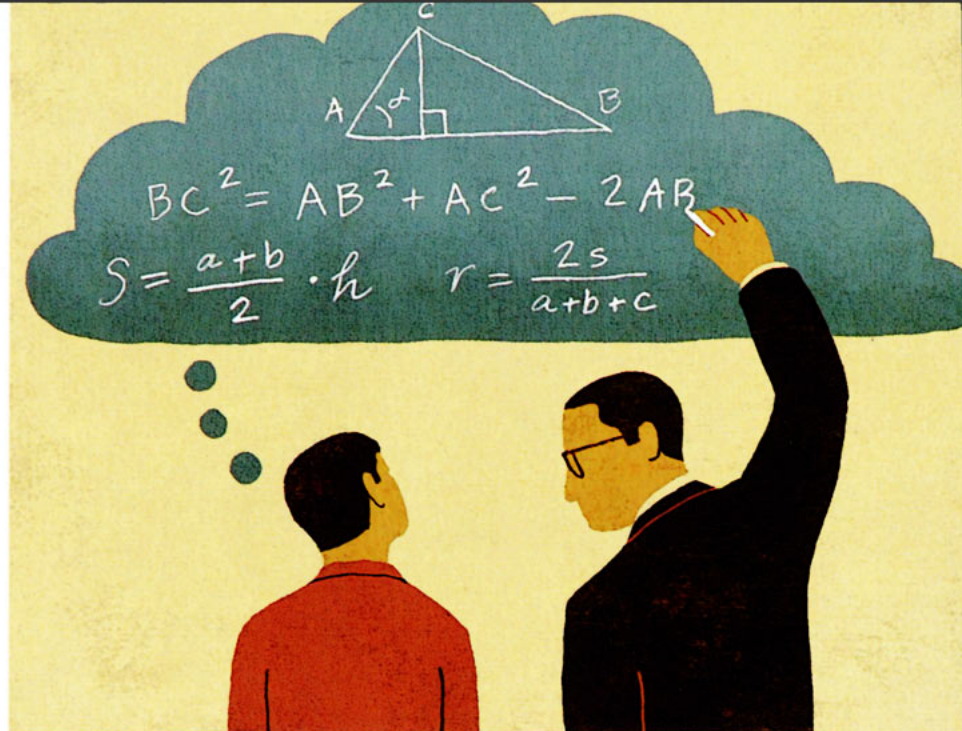
technology are projected to grow 12–31 percent from 2010–2020, much faster than all other occupations. The National Center for Education Statistics reports, however, that the number of degrees awarded in computer and information sciences decreased by 27 percent between 2004–2005 and 2009–2010.

"Many companies advertise internship and job opportunities in the computing field through UT's Office of Career Services, but we don't have enough qualified graduates to apply for these positions and meet the demand," said Veltri.

Programs like GETSMART are working to address this shortage at UT. The program relies heavily on volunteers and sponsors for support. All work on recruitment, promotion, communication, program development and sessions are led by the GETSMART board members and volunteers.

In addition to Veltri, Harold Webb, associate professor of information and technology management, serves as the executive director and Linda Webb, instructor of information and technology management, is the webmaster.

"Being a female in this quickly evolving and fascinating, albeit male-dominated field, I am passionate about encouraging other girls and women to pursue their interests in IT and engage with the technology, not only as a user but also a designer and developer of IT applications," said Veltri.



"BY EXPOSING THEM TO CAREERS AND POSITIVE EXPERIENCES WITH TECHNOLOGY, IT ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO TAKE STEM CLASSES TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE CAREERS." —NATASHA VELTRI

A mysterious illness is spreading through Denise Dennison's advanced placement high school biology class. The only logical source of the illness is a batch of brownies that the class has eaten, and it is now up to the students to figure out what pathogen is making their classmates sick.

"Science doesn't have to be boring," said Ann Williams, associate professor of biology, who helped orchestrate this simulation at Brandon High School in Brandon, FL. "My goal is to make it engaging to the students while still getting them to learn the information."

A microbiologist, Williams said her field is not necessarily taught in high school, or at least at the depth it is in college.

"Teachers may not have the resources to teach certain things, so we bring it to them," she said.

Like the GETSMART program, Williams said when she first thought of developing an outreach program her goal was to become a mentor or role model, especially for young girls who might not have an example of what life as a scientist is like.

"When I was growing up, I didn't have anyone to serve as a role model. No one in my family was a scientist," she said. Even so, Williams realized she was fortunate in having the support of her family and recognized others might not have the same.

"I want to provide young girls that mentorship I didn't have that could have made my path a little easier," she said.

In Spring 2011, Williams was awarded a UT National Alumni Association grant to develop an outreach program to area schools. She recruited five UT undergraduate biology majors and one science education major from her classes to help create the curriculum.

"One of my students was doing his student teaching at the school and asked Denise if we could come over and hold this workshop in her class,"

said Williams. Dennison was more than happy to have the UT team come out.

In Spring 2012, Williams and her six students presented the brownie case study to the 17 students in Dennison's class. Williams said that not only were the high school students captivated, the workshop gave her UT students hands-on experience in creating and implementing curriculum.

With the success of the workshop under her belt, Williams secured another grant, this time from the UT Board of Trustees, to repeat the experience again in the spring. This time she said they will likely be teaching two classes, about 50 students total.

In Fall 2012, Williams went on sabbatical to research taking these outreach efforts to the next level.

"My ultimate goal is to have professors at other universities and colleges replicate this program by taking their students into schools in their area to teach the module," she said, explaining that she spent part of her sabbatical researching funding that might help her do that.

Williams said the grants provide money for supplies, and there was no stipend or pay.

"Everyone who participated is a volunteer," she said. "For the students, the

experience will help them out when they go on to be teachers or teaching assistants in grad school."

While Veltri's and Williams' outreach efforts focus on the students themselves, other UT efforts are designed to reach the front lines of STEM teachers, those making the first introduction of these fields to the next generation. Through these programs, UT faculty equip teachers to make science and mathematics more captivating for their students while also serving as a resource for teachers.

One such effort is the Science Math Master program, or SM². Led by Rebecca Waggett, assistant professor of biology, and Leslie Jones, assistant professor of mathematics, SM² is a professional development program for Florida high school teachers to boost teacher and student performance in math and science, in this case biology and geometry.

The program is funded through a \$1.5 million, three-year grant from the Florida Department of Education State Board of Education. UT is the lead on the project, in partnership with the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida. UT professors work with teach-



A GETSMART participant tries her hand at designing a Web page. Anne Williams, associate professor of biology, gives a microbiology demonstration at Brandon High School.

"THIS PROGRAM IS NOT OPERATING IN A BUBBLE ... WE WANT UT TO BE KNOWN IN THE STATE FOR CREATING THESE TYPES OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS." —MELANIE HICKS

ers in Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties, as well as rural counties in the Heartland Educational Consortium, North East Florida Educational Consortium and Panhandle Area Educational Consortium.

"We look at the state standards that students in these areas are having trouble grasping and design engaging activities around those," said Waggett.

For example, Waggett explained that in biology students tend to struggle with the concept of structures at the subcellular level. To address this,

the team designed an activity using pipe cleaners to represent chromosomes to help students understand the concepts of mitosis and meiosis. Another activity has students use geometry to determine the feeding behaviors of sharks based on the lateral surface area of their teeth.

"When designing these activities, we keep in mind affordability as well," said Waggett. "We do a lot with pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks and straws; all items teachers with limited budgets can pick up at Walmart."

UT was awarded the grant in November 2011. The following spring, the team hosted four face-to-face workshops in rural counties in Florida, and in Summer 2012, they hosted two one-week workshops at UT. On the last day of the week-long workshops, teachers had the chance to test out the new teaching methods they'd learned on high school students.

"Getting to test out the material was a great experience for both the teachers and the students," said Melanie Hicks, director of sponsored programs at UT, who helps administer the grant. "The teachers were really excited to try things out, and the students felt good knowing their opinions mattered."

Reading through the end-of-course evaluations, the program seems to be hitting the mark.

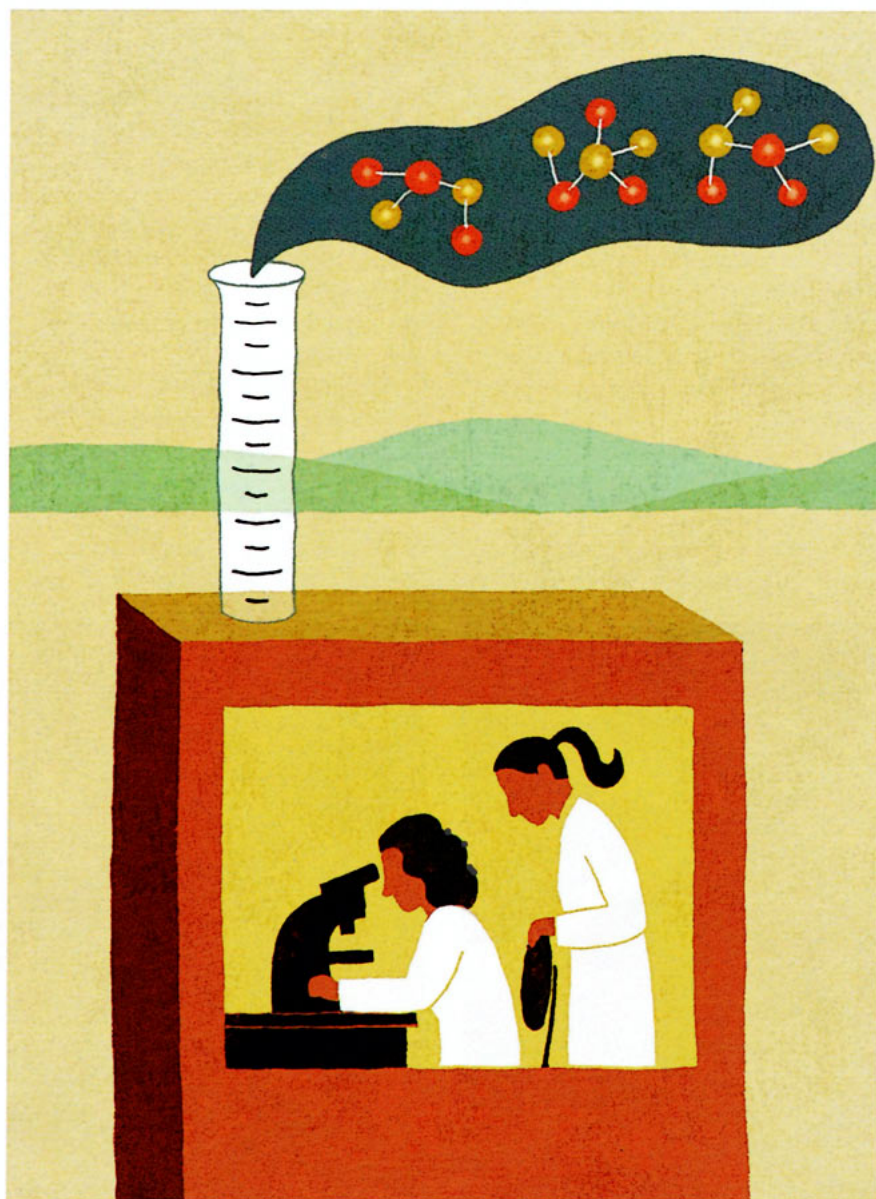
"Best ever workshop after 20 years," said one teacher.

"I know what I can do on many levels to make my lessons more engaging for my students without having to spend inordinate amounts of additional time in planning and preparation. I can't wait to share a lot of this with my colleagues," said another.

In addition to the workshops, a UT-hosted website serves as a resource for those unable to come to the seminars, providing all of the presented modules and links to other resources beyond the lessons.

UT professors involved in the project include Waggett, Dan Huber, Heather Masonjones and Ann Williams, all associate professors of biology, on the biology team, and Jones and Colleen Beaudoin, instructor of mathematics, on the geometry team. Several Hillsborough County employees are also involved, including Tina Cloke, Megan Malone and Alison Barney.

After the first cycle of workshops, the team reviewed the end-of-course evaluations, and eliminated or changed low-rated activities. The new cycle began this spring, and though the team hopes to attract new teachers to the





A student tries out one of the hands-on activities at an SM² workshop. Dean Martin, assistant professor of chemistry, gives a demonstration to high school teachers at a workshop in February.



workshops, they said teachers who sign up for a second workshop will have new material to learn.

Hicks said they hope UT will be able to expand the program with a second grant focused on algebra and chemistry.

"This program is not operating in a bubble," said Hicks. "We want UT to be known in the state for creating these types of professional development programs."

"It started during my graduate school years at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica," said Glenroy "Dean" Martin, assistant professor of chemistry, when asked why he's gotten so involved with chemistry outreach efforts at UT. "I was in charge of conducting chemistry tutorials to the undergraduate students. They were terrified of chemistry, and I wanted to show them that it is not as scary as they thought."

Martin said a little encouragement and assistance went a long way in boosting his students' self-confidence and their willingness to attempt chemistry problems that were perceived as difficult or impossible to solve.

"I also had mentors who assisted me along the way, so I view this as my turn to give back to the community," he said.

When Martin arrived at UT in Fall 2010, he said there was not a lot of outreach to high school chemistry students. Active with the Tampa Bay Local Section of the American Chemical Society, Martin helped to resurrect a UT program that feeds into the International Chemistry Olympiad after 12 years of dormancy.

The program aids in selecting the top five local high school students to test their chemistry knowledge and skills in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad competition. In 2011, 134 students from 15 Tampa high schools sat the local exam, and this number more than doubled in 2012 to 321 from 23 high schools. This year, approximately 650 students from 25 high schools are expected to take the local exam. The top five scorers from the local exam are invited to UT to participate in the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad competition.

While only the top 20 scorers in the nation go on to a U.S. study camp to compete for a spot in the international competition, Martin said just participating in the exam helps students do better in their chemistry classes.

One exciting outcome of the competition being held at UT is the establishment of a UT Olympiad scholarship. Natalie Gonzalez '16, a recent graduate of Brandon High

School, is the first recipient of this two-year scholarship. Gonzalez, a nursing major, is the first one in her family to have the opportunity of becoming a college graduate.

"Despite increased participation in the Olympiad over the last couple of years, student performance on the exam has been a cause for concern," said Martin. To help address this, Martin organizes workshops for high school chemistry teachers twice a year to show them how to better equip their students for the competition.

Another program Martin helps organize is AP Chemistry Day at UT, which brings high school advanced placement chemistry students to campus for a day to work in the University's labs and interact with the University's chemistry students and faculty. He also serves as both coordinator and mentor for the ACS Project SEED program, in which talented but underserved high school students conduct research with him over the summer to gain research experience.

Though all of these programs are outside his duties as a faculty member, Martin said he feels the program is worth the extra effort.

"I see this as an opportunity to give back to the students and support them along their career path," he said. **UT**

It took a career change and a health crisis to get there, but nowadays, life is beautiful for Rehan Choudhry '03.

At Home In Sin City

ON A SATURDAY NIGHT IN LAS VEGAS, REHAN CHOUDHRY '03 SITS IN A booth in N9NE Steakhouse at the Palms Casino Resort and cuts into a steak. There's a bottle of complimentary champagne on the table. A dozen people stop over to say hello, from the general manager to the executive chef. He's dressed casually — a hoodie over a striped shirt, dark jeans and sneakers that are meant more for style than exercise.

The look is a far cry from the suits he wore daily as the regional manager of marketing, partnerships and development at Caesars Entertainment in Atlantic City, or the Pi Kappa Phi jerseys he wore as a student at The University of Tampa.

BY JEN A. MILLER '02 PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL HUGHES





Choudhry has found success,
and a home, in Las Vegas.

"FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE, I GET TO BE TRULY ENTREPRENEURIAL AND ACTIVATE ON EVERY IDEA THAT WE HAVE" — REHAN CHOUDHRY '03

The 2003 grad has come a long way, too — and not just in terms of mileage from one sunny state to another.

While Choudhry admits he was not the best student at UT, he's now CEO of Aurelian Marketing Group, a company he founded in 2012. It's a marketing strategy agency that specializes in entertainment and brand development with clients in Los Angeles, New York, Palm Springs, CA, Utah and Colorado.

Through Aurelian, he is playing a crucial role in the revitalization of downtown Las Vegas. In October, his first big event, the Life is Beautiful Festival, will become the largest music/food/wine/arts event to ever hit Sin City, taking over 15 city blocks.

"It's the story that everyone says when they move here: 'I'm coming out here to work, then I'll call it a day,'" Choudhry said from his office in Las Vegas, his two rescue Chihuahuas, Winnie and Albie, who he calls his "legal team," by his side. "The most shocking thing is that I have a home here now. The opportunity is tremendous. When are you going to be able to be part of a team to build a city inside an already known city?"

"FINDING" REHAN

Choudhry came to UT to study music, but switched his major to computer science while a student here.

Even if he wasn't a straight-A student, he was learning in another kind of classroom: he worked part time as a bartender and disc jockey at spots in Ybor City, where he got his first taste of food and beverage management, and in booking the right entertainment for the right venues.

After graduating, he moved to Northern Virginia and got a job as an IT consultant for the Department of Homeland Security, where he stayed for two years.

One of his biggest projects was developing the emergency response systems that weren't in place during

9/11. His responsibilities ratcheted up even if his title did not, which led him to a realization. "I didn't want to work in government anymore, and I did not want to work in IT anymore," he said.

He was also dealing with a health crisis. Three months after graduating and right after starting his job, he started feeling pain in his chest. No one, not even his parents — both doctors — guessed that someone so young was having a massive heart attack. He suffered for days until he was rushed into double bypass surgery. He would remain a medical mystery for the next four years.

To "find" himself, he says, he quit his job and applied to business schools, one being the Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management. When he found out that he was wait listed for admission, he flew to Nashville the next day and made his case.

In 2005, he started his first class, all while rotating in and out of medical centers — Johns Hopkins Hospital, Cleveland Clinic and finally the Vanderbilt University Medical Center — to figure out first, why he had the heart attack, and second, why he continued to suffer from mini strokes. It was at Vanderbilt that he was diagnosed with a rare blood clotting disorder that, with medication, is under control.

While still in business school, Choudhry was recruited to Atlantic City, NJ, to intern as a presidential associate at Caesars Entertainment. After graduating, he was hired full time as the assistant director of marketing, working his way up to regional director of marketing partnerships and development, where he says his role was to "stop the bleeding in Atlantic City," he says. When he first arrived as an intern in 2006, Atlantic City was at the top of its long, slow decline as it lost its monopoly on East Coast gaming.

New Pennsylvania and New York casinos were siphoning off customers, so his charge was to bring them — and



(Above) Choudhry, pictured here with Wayne Coyne of the Flaming Lips, worked for more than a year booking entertainment for the Cosmopolitan when he first moved to Las Vegas. (Right) At home with Aurelian Marketing Group's "legal team," Choudhry's rescue Chihuahuas Winnie and Albie.

new visitors — into Atlantic City for reasons that might not be related to slots and poker. He revived the town's food festival and got the king of cable cooking channels involved, re-branding the event as the Food Network Atlantic City Food and Wine Festival, which now brings 20,000 people to Atlantic City each year. He also created the Caesars Tennis Classic, which was televised, and the NBC Caesars Tribute, a figure skating event.

In 2010, he started kicking around the idea of starting his own company when he got a call from the Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas, a casino/hotel that would be opening on New Year's Eve weekend leading into 2011.

For his first act, he booked Jay-Z, Coldplay and John Mayer to play a New Year's Eve concert. The Killers and Red Hot Chili Peppers played that opening weekend, too. Kanye West showed up and decided to jump up on stage. He booked acts like the Black Keys and Mumford and Sons before they broke big.

"The Cosmopolitan completely changed entertainment in the city.



To leave would be crazy," he said.

But that is exactly what he did.

In the spring of 2012, he started Aurelian Marketing Group. As of press time, he employed 16 full-time staff. That number is expected to jump to 20 by the end of this year.

His company's original focus was on creating entertainment and branding for entertainment venues, which he still does, but his main efforts are downtown. He got involved in the revitalization efforts in downtown Las Vegas when he met Tony Hsieh, the CEO of Zappos, who has made a \$350 million investment in bringing this part of Las Vegas back to life.

That investment isn't just about creating business spaces for startup companies, or constructing residential buildings where those entrepreneurs and their employees will live, or even turning Las Vegas' old city hall into Zappos' new headquarters. It's also about creating things that will give downtown Las Vegas its own feel, and make it a cultural destination instead of just a place near the Strip.

That's where Choudhry and his

company's big, new project comes in.

The two decided to partner together on the Life is Beautiful Festival, which is the focus of his company's work right now.

"We develop our own properties, whether it's a festival or a series of events or venues. The sky is the limit at this point," he said.

TAKE EVERY RISK POSSIBLE

After dinner at N9NE, Choudhry headed to the Cosmopolitan. Between drinks at STK, the casino's steak house that is part restaurant and part nightclub, and the Blue Ribbon Sushi Bar and Grill, where he asked for a specialty dish not on the menu and ordered it for the actress and business executives sitting next to him at the bar, he shook hands with almost every bartender, server, host and hostess, whose names he all knew on sight. Friends from Chicago and New York City who happened to be in town stopped by, too.

At the end of the night, Choudhry walked past the packs of young women with sore feet carrying either slices

of pizza or their shoes, couples who may or may not have belonged to each other at the beginning of the evening, down a hallway through the building's conference space and into a corner with a baby grand piano.

He sat down and started banging out Guns N' Roses tunes, first the introduction to "November Rain," and then the opening chords of "Sweet Child of Mine," then, for a finale, "Chopsticks."

He still has a keyboard and drum kit in his home, which when the company started doubled as Aurelian's offices (dogs Winnie and Albie, who he rescued after they were left behind in a foreclosed home, are coming along to the new space). The company grew too fast to stay in one small spot too long, and he doesn't expect to be backing down any time soon.

"For the first time in my life, I get to be truly entrepreneurial and activate on every idea that we have," he said. "For the time being, until it explodes or until we have to shut our doors, we have to take every risk possible and make all of our ideas come to fruition."



alumni report



From left: Mike,
Kristine and
Frank Zambito

A Family Tradition

FOR THE ZAMBITO FAMILY, A UT education has become a family tradition. With graduation years starting in 1950 and touching every decade along the way, there have been more than a dozen members of the Zambito family to attend UT.

The first was Millie Zambito Green '50, who was shortly followed by her brother, the late Ignazio "John" Zambito '61. John Zambito attended UT on the GI Bill and went on to a career in education before joining the family dairy business.

His sons, Frank '88 and Mike '91, saw the small class sizes at UT as a great benefit and were proud to follow in his footsteps. When it came time to make a decision on where to go to college, Frank's daughter, Kristine, kept the family tradition alive when she chose to enroll at UT in Fall 2010.

"I remember visiting UT as a child with my father," said Kristine Zambito. "He wanted to show me where he

had gone to school, share with me his college experiences and tell me about all of the relatives before me who had graduated from UT. I never forgot that, and through the years, UT has always remained a significant part of my life. I knew when the time came it would be my university of choice."

Kristine Zambito is a current recipient of a UT National Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship. The endowed scholarship was created in 2002 to assist the relatives of UT alumni interested in carrying on the Spartan family tradition. One new \$2,500 scholarship is awarded each year to an incoming freshman with a relative who is an alumnus, and the scholarship is renewable for all four years. Since its inception, UT has awarded 16 legacy scholarships to deserving students who are related to a UT graduate.

The largest source of funding for the alumni scholarship program comes from Florida alumni and friends who

have chosen to have a UT license plate on their vehicle — \$25 from each plate goes towards scholarships.

From siblings who have recently followed each other to Plant Hall, to families whose lineage at UT dates back to the University's founding, family connections have long been a part of the success of UT. Although the University has grown and evolved over the years, legacy family members share the same core experiences that have always defined a UT education.

We are very proud to have dozens of current students and alumni who have followed in the footsteps of siblings, parents, uncles, aunts and grandparents, and chosen UT for their college education. That so many graduates continue to encourage their family members to enroll attests to the lasting impression UT leaves on every individual that steps on campus.

To recognize and celebrate our students with Spartan family connections, this past year at commencement and orientation we invited legacy graduates and incoming legacy students to gather for a picture and to receive a special gift from the Alumni Association. We plan on continuing these new traditions every year and hope to continue to grow our legacy program.

If you are a current student continuing the Spartan tradition or are part of a family of UT Spartan alumni, please let us know by going to the legacy page on the UT alumni website at alumni.ut.edu/?page=Legacy.



Do you have news to share? Contact Jay Hardwick, Alumni Director alumni@ut.edu (813) 253-6209

class acts

WHAT'S NEW? Stay in touch by sending us your Class Acts. Go to alumni.ut.edu today!

50 Warren White is the president of the Hampton United Methodist Men, a Freemason master mason at St. James Lodge 102 and a charter organization representative for the Boy Scouts of America. He is also a service officer in the American Legion, the world's largest veteran's organization.
Email: warnwhite@hotmail.com

56 Joyce Sundheim is proprietor of Joyce's Tiers of Joy Garden Art. Joyce



Sylvia Rivero Peters '61 and Olga Zayas Myers '61

was featured in a recent *Hernando Today* article about an artist reception held in her honor by the Spring Hill Art League and the Rising Sun Café.

61 Sylvia Rivero Peters and Olga Zayas Myers '61 reunited after several years at the Atlanta alumni and parent event at the Atlanta Botanical Garden in December 2012. Neither knew before the event that the other was attending. The two reminisced and shared stories about what campus was like when they attended.

65 Thomas Smith's second book of poetry, *Words of the Times*, has been published. He writes under the pen name Thomas Noel Smith.

66 Bob Calafell MBA '75 received the UT National Alumni Association Esse Quam Videri Award at UT's commencement in December. The Esse Quam



30 Years of Brotherhood

The 2013 Gasparilla Pirate Fest brought 88 brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon-Florida Chi Chapter back to campus for the 30th anniversary of the chapter's installation. Attendees enjoyed a full weekend of events, including a golf tournament at Westchase Golf Club on Sunday.

Videri Award is the highest given by the Alumni Association and recipients must have a record of both outstanding service to UT as well as a high level of success in their chosen career. (See photo page 30.)

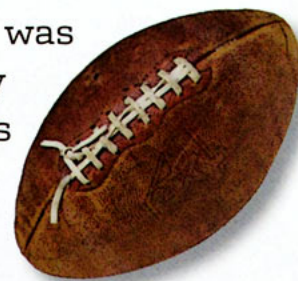
69 William Mellin won the 17th annual Pi Kappa Phi Hooters golf tournament in August 2012 at Ken Loch Golf Course in Lombard, IL.

Lou Piniella was inducted into the Ted Williams Museum and Hitters Hall of Fame in February, according to *Centro Tampa*.

Lou played 18 years in the major leagues for the Orioles, Indians, Royals and Yankees.

70 Gary Cooper received a Gold JASPER Award for excellence in writing in the speech category at the 38th annual JASPER Awards in Holmdel, NJ. Cooper received the award for a speech he gave during the 2011 Memorial Day service at American Legion Post 401. He is commander of Post 401, serves as finance officer for the Middlesex County American Legion and is public relations chair for the State American Legion.

Remembering "The Tooz." Roger Fried '73 wrote in to remind us that 2013 marks 40 years since the late John Matuszak '73 was the No. 1 NFL draft pick out of UT. Matuszak was drafted by the Houston Oilers and went on to help the Oakland Raiders win two Super Bowls. After his football career he became a successful actor, appearing in the movies *North Dallas Forty* and *The Goonies*. Matuszak passed away in 1989.



71 Alan Britt is a renowned poet and professor of creative writing at Towson University. He was recently interviewed in Washington, D.C., for National Public Radio.
www.towson.edu/english/popup/abritt.htm

72 John Geiger lives on Harbour Island in Tampa. He was featured in a recent *Tampa Tribune* article about the end of the National Hockey League's lockout.

Charles Hayes is a photographer for the city of Peekskill, NY, and his work has been shown in many galleries in New Jersey and New York. He has been published in Asia and in India's top arts magazine, *International Gallerie* (Mumbai). On a recent visit to UT, Charles was very impressed by the work being done at UT and the transformation the school has undergone in the time since he graduated.
Email: flowchason@gmail.com

73 Henry Uihlein married Alena Tsvirka on Dec. 22, 2012. Henry owns Uihlein's Marina in Montauk, NY, and is a former high school athletic director at the Shelter Island School. The couple has a 1-year-old son, Alexander Charles.

74 Peter Russo is proud to announce the birth of his first grandson, Gavin Michael Shreeve, born on May 16, 2012. He also retired from the Hillsborough County School District after 39 years of service. His most recent position was principal of Cleveland Elementary School in Tampa.
Email: PRussoTPA@aol.com

77 Gerald Gillis' MBA third book, *Dare Not Blink*, is being published by Navigator



spartan spotlight

Deanna White '87

In the Captain's Chair

Airplanes and baseball are the two subjects that occupy most of Deanna White's time these days.

White was recently named the president of Flexjet, a division of plane and train manufacturer Bombardier Inc. that specializes in fractional jet ownership.

She joined the company in 2005 after a 15-year career with GTE and a two-year break after her son was born. After so many years with one company, she decided to try something new.

"A background in finance is transferable to any type of industry," said White, who holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from UT and an MBA from the University of Dallas. "I've always thought aviation is pretty sexy so I went for it."

She joined Flexjet as director of finance and worked her way up, learning the aviation business from former Flexjet president Fred Reid and Bombardier executive Claude Ferland.

As president, White is often in meetings about the business, but she also spends a great deal of time out of the office interacting

with Flexjet's employees and customers.

"Sixty-five percent of our employees are not located in my building," she said. "Whether it's pilots or our maintenance workers, I spend a lot of time with our employees to make sure they understand our strategy and mission."

Working for an aviation company does have its perks. White often travels across the U.S. for company events and to Flexjet's parent company headquarters in Montreal, as well as their offices in Berlin and Belfast, Northern Ireland.

"I've gotten to travel on our products," she said, referring to the planes Bombardier makes. "It is exciting to experience the difference between private and commercial air travel. It helps me understand the product we're selling."

In her personal life, White said much of her free time is spent keeping up with her 9-year-old son. She said he plays baseball, and she serves as team mom and scorekeeper.

"Baseball is a theme in our house," she said. "Maybe one day he'll play for UT."



Nonprofit Leaders Connect

Alumni and friends of UT's nonprofit management program gathered on campus in January for a cocktail reception. Among the attendees were (from left) Brian McEwen, executive director of Champions for Children; Mary Jo Plews, executive director of Healthy Start Coalition; and Paul Runyon, executive director of Coordinated Child Care of Pinellas, who are alumni of the program.

Books. It is the story of an Atlanta business executive who fights to liberate his company from a ruthless, deceitful team of executives who seek full control of the firm after the sudden death of its founder. It is available on Amazon.com. (See page 35.)

80 Fred Stribling recently joined Port Everglades as assistant director of business development. Fred is a 30-year veteran of the marine terminal services industry, most recently working for the South Carolina State Ports Authority as vice president of marketing and sales.

85 H. Wayne Huizenga Jr. was appointed by Florida Gov. Rick Scott to the Board of Governors of the State University System. His term began in January and runs through January 2020.

Christina Petti-Shahum has returned to UT as a continuing education student and is excited to be back on campus. Email: cpetti1@verizon.net

87 Jennings Wright has written the first novel in a planned trilogy of young adult books, titled *IXEOS*, which she is self-publishing. She lives in North Carolina with her husband and two children. (See page 35.)

88 Bill Carlson was presented with the UT National Alumni Association Alumni Achievement award at UT's commencement in December. The award recognizes UT alumni who have made great accomplishments in their career. Bill is president of Tucker/Hall, a national public relations and communications consulting firm that specializes in strategic communications, crisis management and public affairs.

90 Krista Bush has been promoted to member at McKay Chadwell, PLLC. Email: kkb@mckay-chadwell.com

Clinton Childress retired from TECO Energy on Dec. 31, 2012, after more than four decades with the company. Clinton began his career

with Tampa Electric Co. in 1970 digging ditches as a laborer and worked his way up to senior vice president of corporate services and chief human resources officer.

Alan G. Randolph is a senior vice president at SunTrust Bank in private wealth management. According to the *Miami Beach Community Newspaper*, Alan's passion is volunteering for various charities and nonprofits. Every year, he co-chairs the Brunch for Animals for the Humane Society of Miami-Dade, and he helped create the UNTITLED Art Fair in December 2012.

92 Jerry Brewster MBA has been with Morgan Stanley since 2007, according to the *Suncoast News*. Jerry serves as first vice president, financial advisor in the firms' Wealth Management office in Palm Harbor and was recently appointed the lead of the Brewster Snyder Group.

Brad Schiff was nominated for a 2013 Academy Award for Best Animated Feature for *Paranorman*. Schiff won a Primetime Emmy Award in 2001 for Outstanding Individual Achievement in Animation for *Gary & Mike*.

93 Tom Shaver MBA joined the executive

management team of International Dispensing Corporation (IDC). He will help lead the company's marketing and business development activities. Prior to joining IDC, Tom spent nearly seven years at SIG Combibloc Inc.

94 Ken Hagan MBA represents countywide District 5 on the Hillsborough Board of County Commissioners. He was featured in a recent *Tampa Bay Times* article about his desire to bring the home of the Tampa Bay Rays to Hillsborough County.

Karen Lynch recently published *Irish Holiday Fairy Tales*, a children's book whose main character is her cat, Finn McCool. According to an article on *Tampa Bay Online*, all profits from sales go to Karen's self-funded Florida Cause for Paws, a rescue organization she and her late husband founded 23 years ago. (See page 35.)

Lynn Madden married James Burgess Book in Tampa on Oct. 13, 2012.

95 Theodora Klein-Carroll recently published *Tippy the Raindrop*, a children's book that follows the journey of a raindrop to teach the importance of setting goals, following dreams



From left: Bill Carlson '88, John Holton '93 and Bob Calafell '66, MBA '75 at December 2012 Commencement.



Lynn Madden '94 at her wedding this past October.

and developing problem-solving skills. Theodora lives in Tampa with her husband, where she started her own concierge business. (See page 35.)

97 Aaron Gallagher was recently promoted to assistant vice president at Fifth Third Bank, according to Cincinnati.com. Aaron has been with the bank since 2006.

Mark David Wyers published "Wicked" *Istanbul: The Regulation of Prostitution in the Early Turkish Republic*. He is employed at Kadir Has University in Istanbul, Turkey, where he continues to conduct research on social issues in the early years of the Turkish Republic. (See page 35.)

99 Nicole Sutton received the Champion of Youth and Young Adult Tobacco Control Award from the American Legacy Foundation and Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Email: nsutton@hawaii.edu

00 Eric Sims is the Gaither High School boys soccer coach and executive director of the Tampa Bay United Youth

Soccer Club. He was featured recently in a *Community News Publication* article about his career and accomplishments, calling him the region's "Mr. Soccer."

01 Sean Bloomfield debuted a hard copy version of his novel *The Sound of Many Waters* at the Old Town Art & Craft Show in December, according to the *St. Augustine Record*. To mark the occasion, he gave away Spanish doubloon replicas, plus one real doubloon found in a Florida shipwreck. (See page 35.)

Preston Bokus owns two Urban TriGear shops in Burr Ridge and Westmont, IL, according to the *Burr Ridge Sun Times*. The shops serve swimmers, bikers and runners, particularly those who participate in triathlons.

Kam (Gillispie) Garner was inducted into the Lincoln Southeast Athletic Hall of Fame in January, according to the *Lincoln Journal Star*.

Jonathon Reichental was appointed the chief information officer for the City of Palo Alto. He will lead a staff of 30 with an annual combined operating and capital budget of nearly \$14 million.



Flat Sparty Goes North ... and East

Ben Pethe, husband of UT's Library Director Marlyn Pethe, brought Flat Sparty with him on his trip to the "Top of the World" in Barrow, AK, the northernmost city in the United States.

Kristine (Tantsits) McGinty '88 took Flat Sparty along during a visit to the War Memorial of Korea in Seoul, South Korea, in March 2012. The memorial is the largest of its kind in the world. In the background you can see the N Seoul Tower.

If you want to appear with Flat Sparty in the *Journal*, simply print page 23 of the Spring 2010 issue at www.ut.edu/utjournal and cut him out. Email digital photos to publicinfo@ut.edu.



spartan spotlight

Art Linares '11

The Young Senator



When Art Linares was elected last November to represent the 33rd District in central Connecticut, he described it as "probably the greatest moment of my life." Of course, Linares is only 24.

Not only is Linares one of the youngest state senators in Connecticut history, he's also the first Republican to hold the seat since 1992. On top of that, his Democratic Party challenger was his middle school social studies teacher.

"I wanted to present a fresh option for the people in my district," he said. His campaign was run by his younger brother Ryan '12, and two of his friends from UT — Trevor Igoo '13 and Ben Mitchell '13 — took time off from school to help out as well.

Linares' road to politics began in Fall 2011, when he interned with U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio in Washington, D.C. Inspired by this experience, Linares decided to run for the vacant senate seat.

Linares balances his political responsibilities with his role as co-founder of a commercial solar energy company, Greenskies Renewable

Energy LLC. He started the company as a student at UT, and after five years Greenskies has built solar arrays on numerous commercial businesses, including Walmarts in New Jersey and Massachusetts. The company is under contract to do the same in Connecticut.

These days he spends his mornings in committee meetings discussing policy with his fellow senators in Hartford, then heads to Greenskies in Middletown in the afternoon. He said his evenings are often spent at an event in one of the 12 towns in his district. Long days, certainly, but he shrugs it off, saying "it's fun."

A Connecticut native, Linares came to UT not for political science but for the entrepreneurship program, hoping to follow in his father's footsteps.

"My father fled Cuba with his parents after the Bay of Pigs invasion and eventually started his own business with practically nothing," said Linares. "He instilled a work ethic in me, that if you work hard you can achieve anything."

02 Tony Vincenti is currently a tech resource specialist for a career center in Tampa. He recently published *City of Mud*, the true story of how, after 10 years of interacting on a message board, a group of fellow Dead Milkman fans decided to meet face-to-face in Philadelphia. (See page 35.)

03 William Baker is now the director of constituent services for the mayor of the city of Springfield, MA. He and his wife, Meggan, reside in the city.

Betty Medina is the founder and director of Mochilas para la Esperanza, a nonprofit organization that helps underserved children with school materials and the homeless population in Puerto Rico. She was awarded the Distinguished Philanthropist Citizen Award in 2011. Email: b.medina@mochilaspr.org

04 Robyn Spoto MBA is president of Mama-Bear, according to the *Tampa Bay Business Journal*. MamaBear is a mobile phone application that gives parents information about their child's location, driving speed and social media activity.

Shawn Taylor was recently named the new head coach of the football team at Robinson High School in Tampa, according to an article in the *Tampa Bay Times*. Shawn is a 2000 alumnus of the school and has been the offensive line coach since 2003.

05 Jeffrey M. Kain and his wife, Lisa, welcomed Sophia Marleen Kain to the world on July 20, 2012, weighing 6 pounds, 7 ounces. Jeff is the Charlie Company commander at Camp James Rudder, 6th Ranger Training Battalion.

Jordan Leuschke became a certified financial planner in 2012.

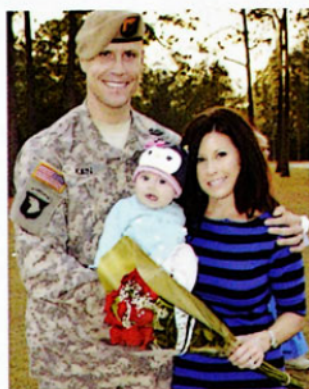
He currently lives in Spring Hill, FL, with his wife and daughter and works for Charles Schwab & Co. Email: jordanleuschke@hotmail.com

Allison Macsas finished eighth in the Philadelphia Marathon in November 2012, with a time of 2 hours, 44 minutes, 50 seconds, according to an article on RunTex.

Ari Peralta started Pro-Fix, a protein snack company, in 2011. He works with a team of doctors and food scientists to develop new formulas for products that mimic junk food but are full of nutrients. He also started Anthony Loren Medical Aesthetics with his partner, where he serves as creative director for the company and oversees marketing and strategic partnerships. Email: ari.peralta@yahoo.com

06 Betsy Boesch is the new shelter manager at West Suburban PADS in Oak Park, IL, according to the *Elmwood Park Sun-Times*. Short for Public Action to Deliver Shelter, West Suburban PADS is the only agency whose sole purpose is to end homelessness in Cook County's 20 near-west suburban communities.

Caitlin Kohl married Ryan Pawlowski on July 7, 2012, in Greenville, SC. Email: Caitlin.kohl@gmail.com



Jeffrey M. Kain '05, his wife, Lisa, and daughter, Sophia Marleen

Cierra Savatgy-King completed her first music album, *Before We Say Goodbye*. It is a blend of pop, soul and funk and can be found at cierrajespersion.com, on iTunes, Amazon and Spotify. She attended UT because she wanted to learn the marketing and business aspect of the music industry. She feels the small classes, unique teaching techniques and close relationships with professors were the building blocks that allowed her to take her dream and create a business out of it. This in turn gave her the skill to maintain a marketing profession and eventually the marketing agency she now owns. She welcomes anyone who is interested to contact her! Email: cierra@pigtailmedia.com

07 Valerie French MBA '12 completed her MBA at UT in December 2012. Email: vfrench17@gmail.com

Carin (Althoff) Gallimore is a teacher at Newsome High School in Lithia, FL. She and her husband Michael got married in 2011 and recently expanded their family with the birth of their son, Mason Stephen Gallimore, on Sept. 10, 2012. Mason weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces when he was born. Email: carin.althoff@gmail.com

Eric Hall placed first in his age group and second overall at the Chilly Willy Duathlon at Fort De Soto Park in Florida. He was featured recently in a *Tampa Bay Times* article about the race, which he has won four out of the past seven years.

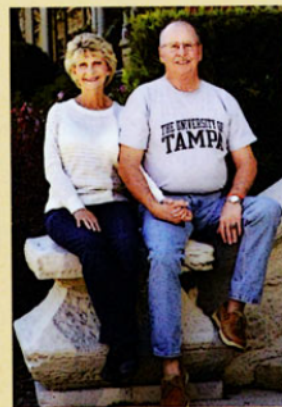
Brittany Harder is in graduate school at the University of Miami working on her doctorate. As a graduate student, she is a research and teaching assistant in the department of sociology and handled a National Science Foundation SEEDS grant research project titled

THEN AND NOW

Marshall '69 and Claire '71 Bradley came back to their "old stomping grounds" in October 2012 for the induction of the 1967-1968 men's basketball team, which Marshall was a member of, into the UT Athletic Hall of Fame. While on campus they took time to recapture a very special moment in their lives. Marshall explains:

"The original picture was taken the day after she accepted my proposal and ring. In that picture, she was trying to show off the ring by placing her left hand on my leg. She did a pretty good job of it. I proposed in June, and we were married on August 16, 1969.

"We took the second picture in the exact spot as the original only this time I tried to show off my Hall of Fame ring and of course, she wanted to show off her ring one more time. We also visited the exact spot on the campus where I proposed. We are now in our 44th year, have four grandkids and hope at least one of them would like to follow in our footsteps. We both love this University."



"Gender Differences in Career Satisfaction among Faculty in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math Fields."

Email: b.harder@umiami.edu

Joe Jacovino recently joined Critical Care & Veterinary Specialists of Sarasota, a 24-hour emergency veterinary clinic and intensive care unit. According to an article in the *Herald Tribune*, Joe earned his doctorate in veterinary medicine from Western University of Health Sciences in Los Angeles and completed a rotating small animal medical and surgery internship in Greensboro, NC.

Mari McLane married Jonathan Kraljic on June 5, 2010, and the couple welcomed son Johnny to the family on Nov. 24, 2012. Mari became the integrated media supervisor at Zimmerman Advertising in March 2012. Email: maricmclane@gmail.com

Elizabeth Pytlik passed the Bar Exam and was admitted to practice law in Florida. She is working for Hillsborough County as an intergovernmental relations and special projects coordinator, doing legislative, grants and committees work. Email: epytlik@gmail.com



A Party Fit for a Pirate

This year's Gasparilla Brunch hosted by the Tampa Bay Alumni Chapter was by far the best with more than 350 pirates, swashbucklers and Spartans gathering on the West Verandah of Plant Hall before the parade festivities kicked off. Entertainment included music played by WUTT, a kid's coloring station and corn hole matches, to name a few.

08 Alejandra Aviles married Chris Beier on July 21, 2012, in Upland, CA. The couple met as fellow graduate students when Alejandra first moved to California to attend the University of Southern California for her doctoral studies.
Email: alejandra.aviles.bo@gmail.com

Kristen Benoit has a new job as the Heart Walk fundraising director at the American Heart Association.
Email: Kristennbenoit@gmail.com

Gabby McGee was elected to Oldsmar City Council Seat 3, according to the *Tampa Bay Times*. McGee works in sales, market-

ing and information technology at Cisco Systems Inc. and leads Oldsmar historical walks and gives tours of her 1918 bungalow.

Joshua Murphy has accepted the position of research associate to the president at the Rockefeller Foundation in New York City. He hopes to continue his graduate education in the near future by obtaining an MBA from New York University.
Email: jmurphy.08@live.com

Joshua Tahan is the senior marketing coordinator for the Sleep Apnea Treatment Centers of America.
Email: josh.tahan@gmail.com



Alejandra Aviles '08 and Chris Beier



Peter '09 and Karen '07 Arrabal and their children

09 Peter Arrabal and his wife **Karen '07** added son Matthew Joseph Arrabal to their family on Sept. 28, 2012. Karen was also recently promoted to compliance manager for Western Union Business Solutions. The Arrabal family resides in Erie, PA.
Email: parrabal@gmail.com

Sarah Hawkins married Adam Longenecker on Sept. 1, 2012. The couple resides in Neptune Beach, FL.
Email: hawksm4@gmail.com

Brooke Matsanka has been accepted into the University of Florida College of Pharmacy in the entering class of 2013.
Email: bmatsanka32087@aol.com

David Pazmiño Mora recently moved back to Tampa, where he is working at the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, or AACSB International. David is leading an initiative to strengthen higher education in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Michelle Magner and **Will Tiani '09** were married October 20, 2012, in Connecticut. Twelve fellow UT alumni attended their wedding, including **Meghan Lally '10**, **Leanne LeBlanc '10**, **Laura Tucei '11**, **Jessica Magner '11**, **Libby Tiani '11**, **Shane Scanlon '09**, **Kristie**

Decowski '09, **Dave Dellinger '09**, **Alex Caldwell '09** and **Steve Auda '09**.

Email: wtiani@aol.com

Melissa Villy is pursuing her master's degree in library and information science at the University of South Florida. She was featured in a recent *Suncoast News* article about how she and her mother have designed costumes over the years for everything from Halloween to *Star Wars* conventions to Steampunk events.

10 Aleksander Hetland MBA reportedly ended his swimming career with a World Championship victory, according to *Swimming World*. Aleksander captured the short course world championship title in 50 breast-stroke with a time of 26.30 seconds.

Andrew Oliver is the director of the Central Boys & Girls Club in east Asheboro, NC, according to an article in *The Courier-Tribune*.

Samantha Ortiz worked with two UT professors to develop an innovative program that brings her Edison Elementary School first grade class on campus to expose them to higher learning in a hands-on way and motivate them to higher education.



Michelle Magner '09 and Will Tiani '09 at their wedding last October.

Meagan Suarez married Chris Cates on Nov. 3, 2012, in Tampa. The couple resides in Brandon, FL. Email: bhsurf06@aol.com

Megan Teague is currently pursuing a doctorate in economics at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. She serves as a research assistant for Noel Johnson of the Mercatus Center, researching the impact of informal institutions upon economic outcomes. She is also a research fellow at the Foundation for Government Accountability, where she provides support for free market principles through analysis and investigation of market interactions between the government and the private sector. During the summer of 2012, Megan interned as a Koch Summer Fellow with the Institute for Humane Studies. Her family is very proud of her!

William Whale MS was promoted to senior vice president of electric and gas delivery for Tampa Electric and Peoples Gas, subsidiaries of TECO Energy. William has been with TECO for 33 years.

11 Art Linares received the Young Entrepreneur of the Year award at the annual Entre-

preneurship and Small Business Owner Alumni Gathering, hosted by the UT Entrepreneurship Center in the Sykes College of Business. This award recognizes young alumni who have shown exceptional talent and achieved success in business. (See page 32.)

Lauren Marrone is engaged to Nathan Serianni, according to an announcement in the *Times Leader*. The couple is planning an April 2013 wedding at the Hyatt Regency in Clearwater. Lauren is a sales consultant at Ideal Image Laser Hair Removal in Tampa.

Tino Martinez has been hired as the Miami Marlins' hitting coach, according to an article on TBO.com. Tino has been a New York Yankees special assistant and worked as an analyst for the YES Network. He also threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Spartans' first game of the 2013 season.

Alyssa Rodrigues helped her aunt and uncle design and decorate a fiberglass dolphin as part of an initiative launched by the Clearwater Regional Chamber of Commerce, the city of Clearwater and the Clearwater Aquarium to showcase the bottlenose dolphin.



Sarah Hawkins '09 at her wedding last September.

According to an article in the *Record Journal*, Alyssa painted the dolphin's bottom and face.

Jonathan Rudolph married Senani Abeywickrama on Dec. 21, 2011, in Colombo, Sri Lanka, at the Cinnamon Grand Hotel. Email: jarudolph1@gmail.com

12 Hector Manley kayaked the length of the Mississippi River — approximately 2,300 miles — over the summer of 2012. According to an article in the *Sun Sentinel*, he raised \$42,000 for the Wheelchair Foundation to send 280 wheelchairs to his native country, El Salvador.

Hannah Pothier is now the southeast regional marketing coordinator at Lochner Engineering.

Email: jsp2nd@verizon.net

Rodner Salgado has earned a degree in dance theater and has a new job as a choreographer. Rodner played Bill Calhoun in the Patel Conservatory production of *Kiss Me, Kate* in November 2012, according to a post on the conservatory's blog.

Email: rsalgado@spartans.ut.edu

Danielle Selkridge is playing in the British Virgin Islands Amateur Volleyball Association Power League for the Phoenix Blue team. Danielle is considering pursuing a career in volleyball or going to graduate school.

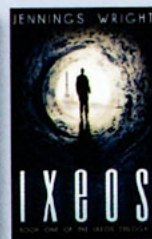
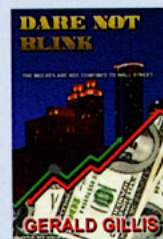
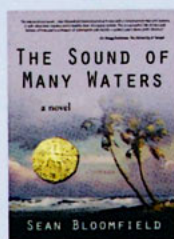
IN MEMORIAM

Alumni

Robert I. Bretz '43
Miriam Chastain Vidal '48
Joan S. Goodson '49
Robert Christie '52
Burrell Joseph Brown '54
Angelo R. Perez '57
Jose C. Lopez '58
Charlie Robins '58
Clifford B. Finkle III '67
Charles Locklin '71
Craig Alan Peterson '71
John W. Findlater '73
Jeffrey Thomason '73
David F. Lowry '83
Cathleen Moran Elisha '85
Dan Coleman Lovelace MBA '89
Matthew Lucas Heilman '11

Seven alumni recently published books:

The Sound of Many Waters by Sean Bloomfield '01; *Dare Not Blink* by Gerald Gillis MBA '77; *Tippy the Raindrop* by Theodora Klein-Carroll '95; *Irish Holiday Fairy Tales* by Finn McCool, the Magic Leprechaun Cat by Karen Lynch '94; *IXEOS* by Jennings Wright '87; *City of Mud* by Tony Vincenti '02; *"Wicked" Istanbul: The Regulation of Prostitution in the Early Turkish Republic* by Mark David Wyers '97



brick by brick

common good

WHY I GIVE: Mabel Galbreath '57



Mabel Galbreath said many of the friendships she made at UT have been lifelong.

Major: General Studies

Profession: Retired computer programmer

Q: Where were you born and raised?

A: I was born in Madison, TN, outside of Nashville. My father was sickly, so when I was 12, we moved to Tampa for better weather.

Q: Was it always your dream to go to college?

A: When I was in junior high school, the principal called me into his office. I was so scared. I didn't know what I could have done! But when I got in the office, the principal told me I had earned the highest score in the school on a placement test given to all eighth graders. He said to me, "You are a scholar! You should study Latin and Greek." Well, I didn't want to study Latin and Greek, but I did want to go to college.

Q: Why did you decide to attend UT?

A: Tampa U was the only school nearby where I could stay at home. I really did not have the resources to go elsewhere.

Q: Did anyone in your family go to UT?

A: No. As a matter of fact, I was the first person in my family to attend college.

Q: Did you live on campus?

A: I lived on campus one semester. In those days, the classes and living quarters were all located in Plant Hall. As I recall, girls were on the third floor and boys on the fourth.

Q: Did you have a favorite place at UT?

A: My favorite place was the Plant Hall lobby. That's where you went to socialize. It was the hub of everything. The lobby was open to the second floor, so you could look up and see class-

mates staring down at you, or if you were upstairs, you could see everyone coming into the lobby. We met there before, after and between classes. TU was much smaller then, so we could see everyone in the lobby.

Q: What friendships began at UT?

A: At my first sorority meeting before classes began, I met Diane (Achenbach) Vallee '59. We have been close friends ever since. Most of my friends now, I met at TU, including Diane, Gerry (Law) Hynes '59 and Jerry Krumbholz '62.

Q: How did UT help prepare you for a career?

A: TU helped me learn how to budget my time. It also taught me that even though I was talented in some areas, I still had to study and concentrate on my classes.

Q: Did UT help with your career goals?

A: Absolutely! I was a computer programmer for IBM. People revered computer programmers as the experts behind all the new technology. We were greatly respected wherever we went. What a great feeling! Eventually, I left IBM and became a consultant and was able to travel all over the United States.

Q: Why do you support UT?

A: I love UT! I want to see it grow. I want to help current students have a better opportunity to get an education. I am glad that many UT students have the opportunity to get a scholarship. If I won the lotto, I would make scholarships available for my high school and for all UT students.

"I love UT! I want to see it grow."

—MABEL GALBREATH '57



Let's Talk Business

MORE THAN 330 BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS GATHERED AT UT for the January Business Network Symposium. Speakers at the event included Jane Mason of CLARIFIRE®, Joseph Lopano of Tampa International Airport and Bob Johnston of Front Burner Brands Inc.

Hosted by the UT Board of Fellows, the symposium series gives businesses that are well known, changing or new to the Tampa Bay area the opportunity to share their accomplishments and plans with the local business community.

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Gifts made from Sept. 28, 2012–Jan. 28, 2013.

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Wilson, at home with her husband and children, juggles family, work and school.

the annual fund

Mother, Veteran, Employee, Student

BY THE AGE OF 30, KAGAL WILSON '14 has accomplished more than most of us would dare to dream. After high school in upstate New York, Wilson enlisted in the U.S. Army and proudly served our country for four years.

After learning she was pregnant with her first son, she decided to end her career in the military to focus on her growing family and finish up her degree.

"At first I chose to attend UT because of its proximity to MacDill Air Force Base where my husband was stationed," Wilson said. "But when I came to campus for a visit, I fell for the history and the beautiful campus. I also love all the opportunities the University offers to its students. UT will truly prepare a student, regardless of their age."

Outside of her classes, Wilson has taken advantage of many other campus

activities. She has volunteered through the PEACE Volunteer Center, working at Feeding America and attending Into the Streets, UT's annual volunteer day. She has also participated in several on-campus leadership conferences and UT's E.L.I.T.E. (Educating Leaders In Today's Environment) program, all while actively pursuing her degree in criminology.

These types of programs are made possible through Annual Fund donations, helping students like Wilson get the most out of their education. All areas of campus, and every student enrolled, benefit from your generosity. Gifts to the Annual Fund also help create scholarships and student employment opportunities.

"UT provided me with scholarship aid and grants that help fund my education," said Wilson. "I also got a HELIOS scholarship that gave me

access to on-campus employment working for the Office of Student Leadership and Engagement."

But there is a lot more than just school packed in to Wilson's typical day. Since the birth of her oldest son, her family has continued to grow. She is the proud mother of a 5, 4 and 2 year old — and is expecting baby No. 4 in May! Wilson always puts her children first, and through incredible organization and time management skills also fits in a full school and work schedule.

"Balancing my family life, work schedule and school is not always easy," she said. "One professor that has really had an impact was Dr. Heather Masonjones. I had a biology class with her during the beginning of this pregnancy. There were days I wanted to quit, but she was very enthusiastic and encouraging. She was pivotal in helping me succeed."

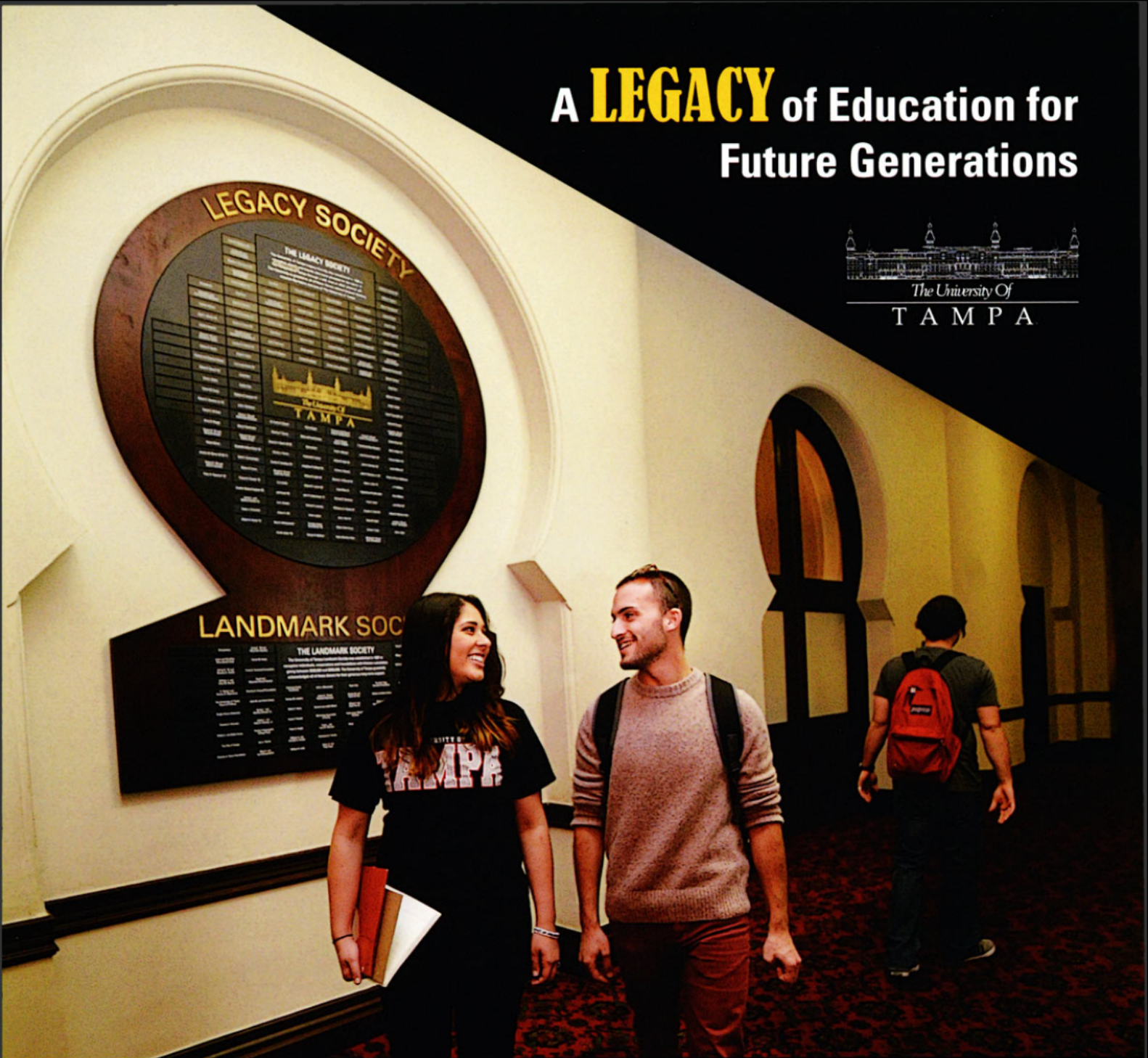
Wilson shared that her favorite part about UT has been the opportunities the University gives to all its students. She likes that UT actively encourages relationships and tries to help students connect with each other to prevent anyone from feeling out of place or left behind.

"I want to thank UT donors for directly impacting my experience," she said. "I was a student at another college, and I didn't have the same opportunities I have here. The small classes, the leadership conferences and the scholarship aid have all helped to make my education. This University is such an important opportunity for so many of us. UT is not just a University, but in many ways it offers a new life to its students, to all of us, whether just beginning our journey, or doing all we can to finish."



Need more information about the Annual Fund? Contact Taylor Pinke, Annual Fund Director annualfund@ut.edu (813) 258-7401

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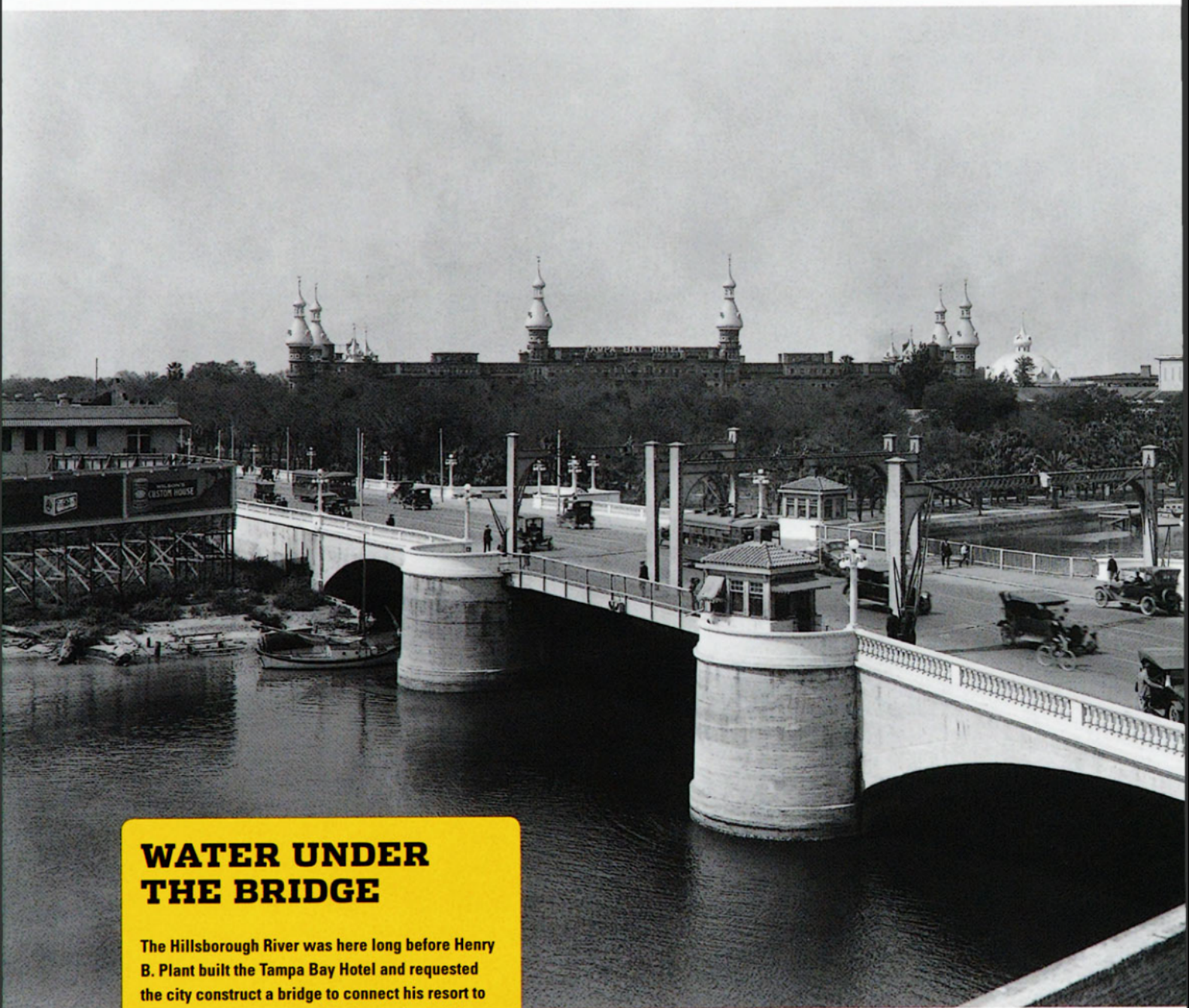


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WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE

The Hillsborough River was here long before Henry B. Plant built the Tampa Bay Hotel and requested the city construct a bridge to connect his resort to Tampa's central business district. Geological data suggests that the river has been flowing for about 27,000 years, long before Plant, or any other human, made their way to this area. Pictured here on March 3, 1923, is the third iteration of that bridge — the Lafayette Street Bridge (now called the Kennedy Boulevard Bridge). Originally opened in 1913, the bridge was renovated in 1995. Today, UT students regularly walk, bike and drive over the bridge, where trolley cars and Ford Model Ts once rode.

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Looking east through a classroom window in the Health Sciences and Human Performance Building reveals a unique view through the 10-foot diameter, etched-glass UT logo above the entrance to the Martinez Athletics Center.

