

## Augusta start-up extends reach

ReachMDConsult, the fledgling Augusta company that defeated 53 other tech-oriented Georgia start-ups in a contest in May, has extended its reach into the Northeast. The New York state health commissioner announced Thursday that a telemedicine program for stroke patients will be extended to sparsely populated areas based on the ReachMD Consult's model. The company, affiliated with the Medical College of Georgia, won a \$250,000 prize from the Georgia Research Alliance and the Technology Association of Georgia in an inaugural competition designed to foster new businesses with a tech bent. The 3-year-old firm has equipped several rural hospitals in the state with equipment that enables neurologists to diagnose a patient via a computer and prescribe medicine. New York state has issued a \$12 million grant to selected hospitals there in a system patterned after Georgia's. Some of the money will be used to purchase equipment from ReachMD-Consult.