

TECHNIQUE

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Track and Field stars shine
at the NCAA outdoor
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Genuine British comedy with
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Freshman student still missing

First-year student Joe Morse disappeared from Towers dormitory early May 6.

He was last seen that morning at a Lenox ATM, withdrawing his last \$120.

By Jennifer Hinkel
News Editor

Freshman Joe Morse has been missing for more than six weeks. Neither family nor friends have been contacted with information of his whereabouts.

"We kept on waiting for him to reappear," said Daniel Uhlig, a Peer Leader on Morse's floor in Towers. When Morse was last seen walking to the shower around 8:30 a.m. the day of checkout, friends did not notice anything out of the ordinary.

Michael Tremain, the last student to see Morse before he van-

ished, remembers the morning clearly. "But there was Joe... walking down the hall, swinging his key chain, and smiling like he always does. I groggily said 'good morning,' and he said 'hey,' and proceeded to walk by me and around the corner. That was the last time anyone saw him. Odd, because he didn't seem the least bit different from his usual self."

Morse's belongings remained in his dorm room; he left campus with only the clothes he was wearing, his wallet, and his glasses. He had told friends and his parents that he had enrolled for sum-

mer classes and housing, but when concerned Housing staff checked their records, he had done neither.

"Our gut feeling is that he was depressed and homesick and just was totally overwhelmed," said Morse's mother in an interview with the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, the Morse's home newspaper. "But we want to say to him, 'You're our son. You're always going to be our son. And there's nothing that can't be worked out.'"

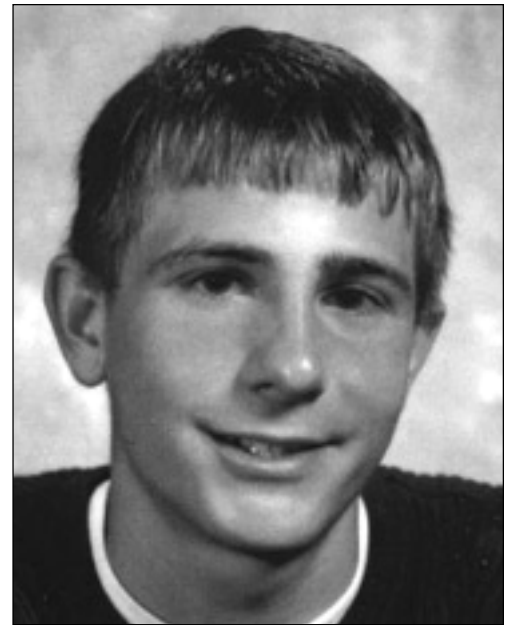
Morse's parents had planned to pick him up at the airport in Ohio, where he

would arrive by a student standby flight from Hartsfield International. He planned to take a bus if he was unable to get on a flight.

During Spring Semester, Morse, a Mechanical Engineering major, attended classes infrequently, missing tests and exams as well as lectures. However, his friends did not notice any change in his demeanor.

Rising sophomore Tremain, who also lived in Towers, wrote the following about Morse: "Joe was one of the most happy-go-

See Morse, page 3



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Morse vanished from campus in early May. He has not yet contacted parents, friends, or police.

Summer conference program reduces student costs while helping to pay off Olympic debts

By Jennifer Hinkel
News Editor

As campus is flooded with visitors from camps and conferences in the summer months, Michael Gallant of the Housing Department is busy making sure that students are not overly inconvenienced by the change.

The camp and conference program, which runs from May through mid-August, officially began in the summer of 1997. Planning for the program began in 1992, but conferences could not be implemented until after the completion of the Olympic housing, known now as the West Campus apartment buildings.

This summer, the program will host a wide variety of groups. Smaller groups house youth cheerleading, football, and basketball camps in the traditional dorms, while large adult groups from United Way and SECME (Southeastern Consortium for Minorities in Engineering) bring thousands of participants to the West Campus apartment complexes.

"We have the best available housing for an adult conference group as any college in the country," said Gallant, the Associate Director of Housing, Conferences.

Among the top draws of Tech's campus for conference groups, especially the adult organizations that can potentially bring in millions of revenue each summer, are the layout of the apartment buildings, the abundance of air conditioning, the proximity of campus to Hartsfield International Airport, and Atlanta area attractions. Gallant works closely with the Atlanta Convention and Visitors' Bureau to create a positive image of Atlanta and Tech in the eyes of group directors searching for the ideal conference location.

Summer conferences help "offset student rates," said Gallant. When groups pay for the use of dorms and apartments, transportation, parking, and dining, the revenues help to reduce what students must pay for these same services during the academic year.

The largest group coming to campus this summer will be the National Law Enforcement Explorers, a group affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America. The organization, formed to promote law enforcement careers, will bring 4,000 young people to campus starting on July 22 and 23. The conference, which will

"We have the best available housing for an adult conference group as any college in the country."

Michael Gallant

Associate Director of Housing,
Conferences

include workshops, competitions, seminars, and field trips, will conclude on July 29.

"The Explorers will be the next busiest to the Olympics," said Gallant, whose staff and student assistants are already busy preparing accommodations for such a large group.

Semester conversion has increased the capacity of the conference program, opening up weeks in May that are popular with adult groups who hold conferences before the end of the school year. Late May and early June are the most popular times for such large conferences, which have the ability to generate higher revenues than youth camps that are smaller and less expensive to host.

Gallant and his staff coordinate accommodations for the arriving groups, acting as liaisons between group directors and auxiliary services on campus. Visiting groups use facilities from dorms and cafeterias to SAC, the First center, the Coliseum, and classrooms.

"How does the campus look, feel, and function for a visitor?" asked Gallant, describing the process his staff considers when preparing for group arrivals. Some of the chief concerns of the conference planners are transportation around Atlanta and campus and ability to orient groups to the buildings and facilities they will need to find during their stay.

The Explorers conference will generate over \$1 million in revenue for the program and auxiliary services; the program will yield more than \$2.5 million during this Summer Semester.

Present revenues far outstrip those three years ago, when the program made \$500,000 during the summer. These funds will help Tech to mitigate debt incurred from the construction of the Olympic apartments, which include payments of almost \$6 million a year.

Editor's Note

Our last issue featured the first part of a series on Tech's expansion into Midtown Atlanta. The second of this three-part series on the Fifth Street Project will appear in the July 14 issue of the *Technique*, and the third article in the series will be featured in the first issue of Fall Semester.

Student awareness urged as burglary spree hits campus

By Huda Kazi
Acting Editor

At 9:30 on Tuesday night, Senior Associate Dean of Students Karen Boyd thought she was the only person left in her suite. When she stepped out of her personal office, though, she found a young African-American male seated at one of the desks in the outer office.

He told her his name, claiming to be a member of the custodial staff. "He didn't look like anybody I've ever seen on the cleaning staff," said Boyd. "I know the custodial staff pretty well."

Boyd asked him what he was doing in the office and encouraged him to leave, which he did without argument. She then called campus police.

"The person looked familiar, so I wasn't overly scared at first, until I realized he didn't want me to recognize him. He pulled his hat down over his eyes. He didn't want me to be aware of who he was," stated Boyd, who can give a very clear description of the intruder.

The break-in at the Student Services building this week is the latest in a string of burglaries all over campus. In the month of June, sixteen buildings were burglarized, including the Administration Building, the Success Center, Lyman Hall, the Savant Building, and MRDC II. According to Chief Jack Vickery of the Tech Police Department, almost all of the buildings on the Hill have been hit at some time or another.

"Typically, the areas most often hit by burglaries are fraternity houses. This is unusual to the extent that it has been primarily some of the administrative type of buildings," commented Vickery.

In all the cases, the motive for the break-ins appeared to be theft. The in-

"Students need to be aware that there is crime in the

world, and they need to make very careful decisions about what they are doing."

Karen Boyd

Senior Associate Dean of Students



truder was usually looking for cash, although a few of the buildings lost computers and audio/visual equipment.

"In many of them," stated Vickery, "it was going through drawers and desks, and at the same time leaving some valuable equipment."

Two arrests have been made for two of the break-ins. Vickery feels some of burglaries may have been perpetrated by the same person while others were obviously the work of different people.

None of the break-ins showed any sign of forced entry into the building. Vickery assumes the intruders either came through an open door or came in during regular office hours and remained after everyone else left.

Both Vickery and Boyd agree awareness is the key to prevention.

"Students need to be aware that there is crime in the world, and they need to make very careful decisions about what they are doing," commented Boyd.

Worst drought in over a century plagues Atlanta summer

By Matt Gray
Assistant News Editor

As Georgia suffers through its worst drought in over 100 years, a number of stringent restrictions have been placed on outdoor water use; farmers are worried that there may be a statewide crop failure. Rain forecasts continue to dwindle, with no immediate relief in sight.

“This may be the worst natural disaster in Georgia history,” said Tommy Irvin, the Georgia Agriculture Commissioner.

Congress recently passed a \$7.1 billion disaster relief bill to aid against the drought. Roughly \$150 million will be sent to help Georgia’s farmers, and will arrive in September, of which, \$47 million will go to peanut farmers.

“In Georgia, agriculture is one-third of our economy,” said Repub-

lican Senator Paul Coverdell, a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee. “For America, it is a critical component of national security: the ability of the nation to feed itself, its army and its allies.”

The 50,000 farmers in Georgia produce more than \$6.5 billion in agricultural products annually.

“Probably every farmer is impacted by the drought,” said David Abbe, a statistician for the US. Agriculture Department’s Georgia Agricultural Statistics Service. “No farmer is going to escape this, regardless of what they produce.”

The drought has been compared to the conditions Georgia faced two years ago, when farmers lost \$750 million due to the lack of rain.

Livestock farmers are in trouble because their animals have trouble finding land to graze on, and are forced to sell the animals pre-

turely for lower-than-normal prices. “My understanding is that the market dropped 12 cents per pound in one week’s time,” said Clark Weaver, of the USDA’s Georgia State Farm Services Agency. “That is dev-

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Tommy Irvin
Georgia Agriculture Chairman

astating for livestock farmers.”

Crops such as corn, peanuts, and peaches are facing problems associated with excess sun and a lack of rain.

In most cases, the cost of crops

should not rise considerably, since the products can be imported from other states or countries. However, since Georgia produces 40% of the nation’s peanuts, the cost of peanuts and peanut butter could go up noticeably.

“Our five-year average for this time of year is 14 percent very short [of water], so we’re about three or four times worse than normal as far as moisture goes,” said Abbe.

Long-term forecasts predict the hot and dry weather will continue throughout the growing season.

In response to the drought, a number of water bans on outdoor use have been put into effect under the odd-even system, in which odd-numbered street addresses may only water on odd numbered calendar days, and even-numbered addresses can only water on even numbered days.

Also under the system, no addresses can use outdoor water between specified times. For Forsyth, Fulton County outside Atlanta City limits, Roswell and Alpharetta, the ban is in effect from 5 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Also, the city of Atlanta, Bar-tow, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Hall, Henry, Paulding, Rockdale County are under a 10 a.m. – 10 p.m. ban. Walton County has a 10 a.m. – 12 a.m. ban.

Newton County has been placed in a 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. ban, but odd-numbered addresses water on even days and even-numbered addresses water on odd days. Meanwhile, Spalding County, Bibb County, Unincorporated Carroll County, Griffin, Zebulon, and Williamson have been placed under a complete ban.

Every other county in the state is under a 4 p.m. – 10 p.m. ban.

News briefs

Online Course Surveys

Students who are taking Tech's "short courses" can go online to evaluate their professors and courses Monday, June 26 through Monday, July 3. ("Regular courses" will be surveyed beginning Monday, July 17 through Friday, July 28.)

Complete surveys at www.coursesurvey.gatech.edu/student_login.cfm.

Questions about the surveys can be answered at CETLhelp@gatech.edu.

The course surveys are confidential and require a banner login and password. Completing surveys helps professors tailor courses to better meet student needs.

Aquatic Center events will affect SAC area parking

The following events at the Aquatic Center will affect student parking and use of the outdoor pool. During each of the events, the bubble pool will be open for recreational swim, with the exception of the Georgia Games.

July 7 - 8, Fulton County swim meet, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

July 19-23, Georgia Games, 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

July 26, 27, 30, DeKalb Atlanta swim meet, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

July 28, 29, Gwinnett County swim meet 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Aug. 5-6, SwimAtlanta Time Trial, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Announcements? News? Tell the Technique!

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French consulate hosts bon voyage party for study abroad students



By Jennifer Hinkel/ STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

On behalf of study abroad participants, French student Maryellen Pearson presents a gift to French Consul General Jean-Paul Moncheau in recognition of his gracious support of the Lyon 2000 program.

Morse

from page 1

lucky guys I knew. He was always goofing off or just playing around, yet he always seemed to get his work done. He was a pretty smart guy, although he didn't like to act that way.

"He always had a funny expression on his face, and he could ALWAYS be seen walking around swinging his key like a lifeguard on his tennis-shoe string key chain. The weirdest thing is that no one even expected Joe to go and do something like this.

"He always seemed anxious to get home and see his parents and dogs but never to leave them all behind."

Morse was also involved around campus. "He was hall council pres[ident] for Towers and Harrison, on the intramural football team, ran consistently with a friend of ours every day, and enjoyed going out to clubs with me and another guy we knew," said Tremain. Among his other favorite activities, according to students and Peer Leaders on his Towers floor, were adding to a



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The image taken by this Lenox ATM camera shows the last known whereabouts of student Joe Morse.

list of "Joe Quotes" — creative and fun phrases coined by those on the hall — and playing Playstation football with other students in his section.

Morse's parents and friends believed that Morse would be returning to Tech for the Summer Semester; he told friends that he had arranged a co-op job with Caterpillar starting in the fall. He had not registered

for Summer housing. Towers housing staff discovered the day of his disappearance. Morse's whereabouts were unknown from 8:30 a.m. until 10:58 a.m., when footage from an ATM camera at Lenox Mall watched Morse withdraw the remaining \$120 from his bank account. Joe Morse has not been seen since the morning of May 6. At that time, he was wearing a plaid shirt. Morse is further described as 5 feet 8 inches tall, weighing 130 pounds, with brown hair and blue eyes.

Dean Gail DiSabatino has been in contact with Morse's parents since they reported that their son did not returned home as planned. Tech administrators share concern with his parents and friends and have been instrumental in facilitating the ongoing investigation, along with the Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) and housing staff.

Any person with information regarding Joseph Morse's situation or present whereabouts are asked to contact Detective Lenford Forbes of the GTPD immediately, either by telephone at 404-894-2500 or by e-mail at lenford.forbes@police.gatech.edu.

By Jennifer Hinkel
News Editor

Student participants in a new study abroad program, French for Business and Technology, departed Thursday, June 22 with an itinerary that will include classes in Lyon, a stay in Paris, and visits to different industrial and business locations before the August 3 return to the United States.

On Monday, June 19, the program was celebrated by a reception at the home of Jean-Paul Monchau, French Consul General and Trade Commissioner. In attendance were program leader and Tech French teacher Professor leMarchand, Dean Sue Rosser of the Ivan Allen College, and several colleagues of the Consulate General. Student participants, their parents, and other Department of Modern Language teachers were among those on the guest list.

Consul Monchau spoke of his excitement and enthusiasm for programs such as this one, where students will be experiencing "the France of today," and not only "the France of museums."

The Consul expressed the importance of gatherings such as the one he hosted, saying that "this is the secret formula: teachers, parents, and children." Monchau spoke of his strong feeling that interest in France and French culture is engendered by such groups coming together to learn about France.

The students will enjoy several French holidays and celebrations during the program. Bastille Day, July 14, is one such holiday. The Tour de France and the hundredth birthday celebration of Antoine de St-Exupery, author of *The Little Prince*, will also take place during their stay.

Highlights of the trip include

industry visits and historical and cultural experiences. Tours of the Institut Français du Pétrole, Merial Pharmaceutique, Centrale Nucléaire du Bugey, and Vibrafrance will offer experiences of French industry. Participants will hear a concert of the Patrouille de France City churches' bells and sightsee at Fourvière and the Gallo-Roman museum. As one of the most anticipated events of the journey, students will be guests of famed chef Paul Bocuse, touring kitchens and dining in the renowned restaurant.

Classes offered by the program will teach French grammar, Business French, current events, and cultural aspects. Students will also complete a project and write weekly reports on French films. More than ten guest speakers, including an engineer, a journalist, doctors, and managers will present their companies and the technology aspects of their careers to the students.