

FOCUS

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Did you say "hip bluegrass?"

Female vocalist Kasey Chambers from Australia takes bluegrass into a newer, groovier style. Check it out on Page 15

And the postseason begins!

The Lady Jackets close out the regular season, heading to the ACC Women's Tournament in Greensboro, NC. Page 23



2002 Housing Guide

Decisions, decisions, decisions—to live on campus, or off?

By Narendhra Seshadri
Contributing Writer

Many Tech students have been on the frantic lookout for roommates and information regarding housing for rooming next semester these past few days. While a good number of them have found roommates, a significant number of students are still making a decision regarding their future housing plans. The options can sometimes be overwhelming with so many different possibilities both on and off campus.

Many factors contribute to the housing question, such as cost, utilities, convenience, accessibility, distance from campus and so on. A majority of freshmen students opt for a suite from a traditional dorm. Most upperclassmen choose to live in apartments either on or off campus.

The Associate Director of Housing For Residence Life, Dan Morrison, said that when bogged down with the decision to be on or off campus, "it is an individual decision. The factors that are relevant for one student (costs, convenience, high-speed internet, academic support, etc.) may be very different for another. I believe living at Georgia Tech is a good value and provides great support, and I think our overwhelming interest in on-campus living is a testament to this."

The Housing Department offers some very reasonable packages for on-campus housing with its three different housing styles. The traditional residence halls have "double-occupancy rooms with central bathrooms for each floor." These consist primarily of Freshman Experience (FE) dorms. Perry, Hopkins, Hanson and Field compromise some of the non-FE traditional halls.

A traditional hall will cost \$1,677 per semester in rent, which equates to a little over \$400 per month. The suite-style residence halls also have "two-double occupancy rooms but have semiprivate bathrooms." The cost for a Suite-Style Residence Hall is \$1,749 per semester, or around \$440 per month. The Apartment-Style Residence Halls, which feature "shared kitchens with common living areas, and private bedrooms with semiprivate bathrooms," costs \$2,340 per semester, or almost \$600 per month. The ULC, Sixth Street, Eighth Street, and Center Street are the four undergraduate apartments on campus. GLC and Hemphill compromise the two graduate student apartment buildings. The apartments have two, four or six person rooms; they are fully furnished and also include a microwave, dishwasher, fridge, ethernet, cable/telephone connections and laundry facilities.

The Fourth Street Apartments, including "Special Interest Housing," is co-sponsored by the School of

See Dorms, page 13

The off-campus housing cheat sheet

Focus looks at the places, prices, and perks of some Atlanta apartment complexes popular among students.

By Madhu Adiga
Focus Staff

Centennial Place Apartments

526 Techwood Drive
Atlanta, GA 30332
(404)-892-0772

- 2-bedroom apartment at 1050 sq. ft. starting at \$1109
- Other prices on 1 to 4-bedroom apartments range from \$600 to \$1295

Only in recent years developed as an apartment housing complex, Centennial Place is located next to the Georgia State University Village and is home to many Tech students. It has a 6-month minimum lease length, and has DSL in all of the apartments except for the Phase I apartments. The only utilities not included in the rent are gas and electricity, and the costs of those depend on the individual's usage. Cable is available as well as the option for a satellite dish.

Oakwood Atlanta

1280 West Peachtree Street NW
Atlanta, GA 30309
404-873-2582

- 1-bedroom apartments at 1014 sq. ft. ranging from \$760 to \$770/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments at 1053 sq. ft. ranging from \$795 to \$820/mo.
- 2-bedroom/2-bath apartments at 1155 sq. ft. ranging from \$830 to \$855/mo.
- 3-bedroom apartments at 1288 sq. ft. ranging from \$985 to \$995/mo.

With a minimum lease length of 6 months and cable access, Oakwood Atlanta is a convenient five miles from campus. Despite the amenities it offers, among a Jacuzzi, pool, sauna, and basketball and racquetball courts, many of the tenants have had complaints about this complex. No DSL or broadband internet connection is available, and one tenant commented on www.apratings.com, "You can't even get anything better than a 28.8 connection on a modem."

Post Oaks Apartments

1570 Sheridan Rd NE
Atlanta, GA 30324
(404) 634-4599

- 1-bedroom apartments from 700 to 900 sq. ft. ranging from \$800 to \$890/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments at 1100 sq. ft. starting at \$1115/mo.
- 2-bed/2-bath apartments from 1200 to 1300 sq. ft. ranging from \$1215 to \$1265/mo.
- 3-bedroom/2-bath apartments at 1500 sq. ft. starting at \$1610/mo.

Although falling in the higher-end cost range, Post Oaks offers considerable amenities such as gated parking, pools, tennis courts, a fitness center and laundry facility, a vegetable garden, and planned social activities. This is a common apartment complex for Emory students, but it is only 7 miles from Tech's campus. It offers cable through AT&T Broadband.

Post Renaissance Apartments

400 Central Park Place
Atlanta, GA 30308
404-875-4429

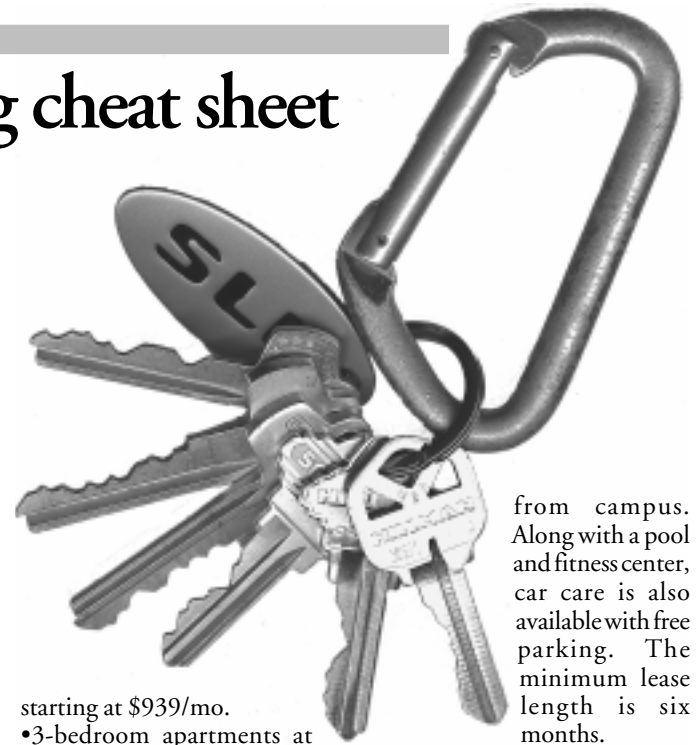
- 600 sq. foot studio starting at \$715/mo.
- 1-bedroom apartments from 650 to 1030 sq. ft. ranging from \$756 to \$1100/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments from 1240 to 1400 sq. ft. ranging from \$1260-1500/mo.
- 3-bedroom 1510 sq. ft. apartments ranging from \$1700 to \$1850/mo.

Post Renaissance has a 12-month minimum lease and is located approximately two miles from campus. It offers two pools, a tennis court and fitness center, laundry facilities, washer/dryer connections and a vegetable garden among other amenities. The apartments also provide DSL access and parking at the complex is free. However, it houses few students.

Ansley Forest

1616 Piedmont Avenue NE
Atlanta, GA 30324
404-875-4702

- 520 ft. studio starting at \$729/mo.
- 1-bedroom apartments at 780 sq. ft. starting at \$839/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments at 1040 sq. ft.



starting at \$939/mo.

- 3-bedroom apartments at 1560 sq. ft. starting at \$1399/mo.

According to comments from www.apratings.com, tenants appreciate Ansley Forest's proximity to many shopping and food places in Midtown, and it is only 3 miles from campus. Along with high-speed internet access, residents have cable access, and water, sewage, trash, gas, and pest control are all included in the rent. Laundry facilities and a swimming pool are also available. The minimum lease length is six months.

Stone Ridge at Vinings

3000 Cumberland Club Dr. NW
Atlanta, GA 30339
770-434-3705

- 1-bedroom apartments from 612-925 sq. ft. ranging from \$635-755/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments from 1025-1300 sq. ft. ranging from \$775-900/mo.
- 3-bedroom apartments from 1450-1850 sq. ft. ranging from \$975-1275/mo.

Stone Ridge at Vinings is 13 miles from campus, but it is a bit easier on the wallet for the amount of space that it offers. Its minimum lease length is 6 months. It does not offer DSL, but it does have cable, and sewer, trash, and pest control are all included in the rent. Along with a 2 pools, a health club, and a clubhouse, the complex also has laundry facilities and a business center.

Sloan Square

1555 Lavista Road Northeast
Atlanta, GA 30329
(404) 320-0439

- 1-bedroom apartments from 550 to 800 sq. ft. ranging from \$780 to \$880/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments from 1000 to 1100 sq. ft. ranging from \$1085 to \$1145/mo.

Sloan Square offers DSL and cable access and is located approximately 15 minutes

from campus. Along with a pool and fitness center, car care is also available with free parking. The minimum lease length is six months.

710 Peachtree Apartments

710 Peachtree St NE
Atlanta, GA
404-881-8005

- Studio ranging from \$640 to \$710/mo.
- 1 bedroom apartments ranging from \$650 to \$720/mo.

With a 6-month minimum lease, this apartment complex is only a mile from Tech's campus. However, it offers few amenities besides cable, and there is no DSL access. "It is cheaper, for one thing, and you get to choose your own roommates," said Vikram Subramanian, a Tech student living at 710 Peachtree.

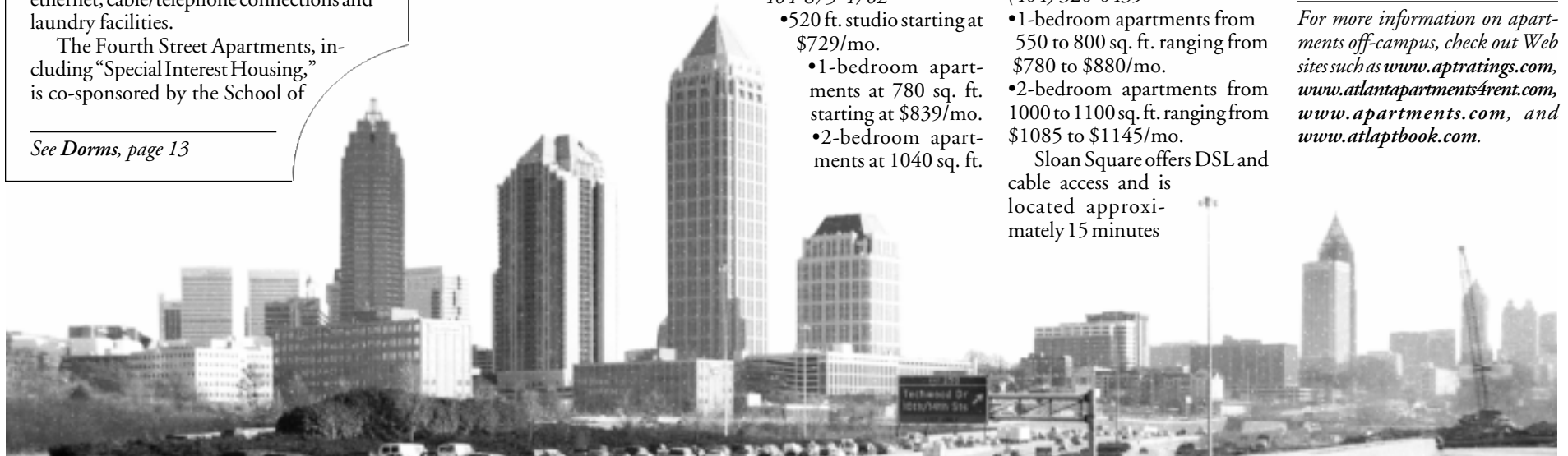
Arbor Hills Apartments

2696 North Druid Hills Road
Atlanta, GA 30329
404-799-8009

- 1-bedroom apartments from 592 to 1114 sq. ft. ranging from \$730 to \$860/mo.
- 2-bedroom apartments from 987-1350 sq. ft. ranging from \$980 to \$1150/mo.
- 3-bedroom apartments at 1456 sq. ft. ranging from \$1350 to \$1560/mo.

Arbor Hills Apartment complex is about six miles from campus, and has a minimum lease length of six months. The apartments have washer/dryer connections, high-speed internet access, cable TV and the option for satellite. Other features include a swimming pool, basketball and sand volleyball courts, two tennis courts, racquetball courts and a fitness center.

For more information on apartments off-campus, check out Web sites such as www.apratings.com, www.atlantapartments4rent.com, www.apartments.com, and www.atlaptbook.com.



Dorms

from page 11

Modern Languages. In this building, students can become "immersed in a foreign language through use of the language in their living area," according to the Department of Housing.

Fourth Street also houses a Women in Science and Technology Hall.

Similar to the other apartments, Fourth Street offers single occupancy rooms. Bathrooms are shared with an adjoining room, and the apartments include community kitchens, living and dining areas.

Prospective residents in Special Interest Housing programs are invited to apply by the program leaders.

All on-campus housing includes high-speed Internet connection (Res-Net), campus cable (AT&T Broadband) and the Georgia Tech Cable Network, furnished rooms, laundry facilities, local telephone connection, and local services and amenities.

On-campus housing is popular among students not only for the amenities or costs, but because living on campus offers close proximity to classes and a sense of community life with other students.

"It is very convenient to live on campus, since there are no hassles in commuting," said Neera Bhat, a Computer Engineer major.

The Department of Housing also offers housing for married Tech students. There are one, two or three bedroom, unfurnished apartments available. However, some restrictions limit the apartment size a couple can rent. In order to request a two bedroom apartment, the couple must have a child. No ethernet

or phone connections are offered; however, cable and utilities are included in the price. Students must also sign a lease. Callaway and Healey are the two family housing units located on North Campus, while Burge is located on South Campus by the Alumni House.

Tech students have varied opinions as far as on-campus housing, but these options do not necessarily offer a suitable housing situation for everyone.

While campus living may offer convenience, it may also lack pri-

vacancy and options for entertainment or dining.

"My only complaint is the food," said student Eric Robinson.

Some students like Mrinalani Radhakrishnan, an Industrial Engineer Major, find the rooms suitable but suggest there be "better

community bathrooms."

Other students find problems with the process or availability of on-campus housing. Because of the limited number of rooms and high demand, many students do not receive their first choice in accommodations.

"They are guaranteeing sophomores housing, but they are not letting them get an apartment. In addition, the construction in Caldwell is driving me crazy because they wake us up every morning at seven," said Christina MacDonald, a Management Major.

Whether choosing dorm life or

a residence far from campus, some things remain the same. Roommates are not parents, Ramen is not home cooking, and no one else is going to make your bed or clean the bathroom.

"It's not as good as home," said CS major JP James.

Students can apply online at www.applyhousing.gatech.edu until March 12 for on-campus housing. For more information on housing options, both on and off campus, students can check out information from the Department of Housing's website at www.housing.gatech.edu.

"It is very convenient to live on campus, since there are no hassles in commuting."

Neera Bhat
CompE Major

Tentative Fall 2002 Rates On-campus Housing

Apartment Style Housing	\$2,340
Suite Style Housing	\$1,749
Traditional Style Housing, double occupancy	\$1,677
Traditional Style Housing, double occupancy, FE	\$1,685
Traditional Style Housing, 4 person occupancy	\$1,608
Traditional Style Housing, 4 person occupancy, FE	\$1,616

Quiz Around Campus!

So...come here often?

1) In the search for a new Dean of Engineering, Tech decided to hire:

- a) a computer.
- b) one of its own.
- c) a one-of-a-kind guy.
- d) outside its species.

2) Here we see:

a) members of the Graduate Student Senate responding to the question: "Anyone smell gas?"



- b) a rousing game of "Simon Says" between bills.
- c) members of the Graduate Student Senate voting on bills.
- d) the new SGA after budget cuts.

3) The Undergraduate House failed a bill that would allow the Yellow Jackets Flying Club to:

- a) charter its planes to fly diplomats and rock stars.
- b) smuggle drugs across the borders.
- c) have executive positions held by non-students.
- d) barnstorm the shaft every Tuesday at 11 a.m.

4) Kasey Chambers:



- a) is about to be arrested for jaywalking.
- b) is failing miserably at hailing a taxi.
- c) tries out her best Anne Heche impression.
- d) doesn't fit the stereotypical bluegrass artist.

Tech Up Close

email: focus@technique.gatech.edu

Winner will be selected randomly from correct entries and receives a *Technique* T-shirt and free Papa John's pizza.

Last week's Tech Up Close:

Water pipe from a fountain on the Hill

Last week's contest had no winner!



By Charles Frey/ STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Technique

