

North Atlanta Students Study Abroad

by Greer Kimsey

In case you didn't know or notice, six sophomores and one junior were missing from the halls of North Atlanta first semester of this school year. These students weren't expelled or suspended; we were studying abroad in Spain and France as part of the Atlanta Public Schools Intensive Language Program.

The main objective of this extraordinary trip was to improve proficiency in our selected languages. The format of the program was that each student was matched with a Spanish or French family that had at least one host student, enrolled in a regular Spanish or French school, and took regular classes among Spanish or French peers. We learned in a foreign language, partied in a foreign language, made friends in a foreign language, and watched TV in a foreign language. Though we were all in a similar situation, each of our experiences was very unique. I was living in Avila, Spain, a small Spanish city located near Madrid and Segovia. I had a mom (Laura), a dad (Angel), and two sisters (Jennifer-16 and Silvia-12). Jennifer was my host student.

Though we didn't go to the same school (she attended a private school), I spent all my free time with her and/or her friends and we soon became great friends. During the school week I would spend most of my time studying or watching some of my favorite TV shows (like *Al Salir de Clase* and *Operacion Triunfo*). We spent the weekends going to *discotecas* and sleeping. Overall, I think all seven of us had amazing and beneficial experiences that we will treasure forever.

The North Atlanta students who participated in the program were: France — Alison Hunter, Tiffany Morris, Michael Kelly, Hannah Rose Baker and Albert Heurle (who is staying through second semester); Spain — Ani Darcey, Biliانا Groz, and Greer Kimsey.

Summer Study in Spain Offered

For the third summer in a row, the Center for International Studies is organizing a month of study in Spain for any student of Spanish at North Atlanta High School.

The program includes 25 days of language and cultural instruction, home stays, cultural events, and a variety of other educational activities sure to make it a summer each student will long remember. Included in the program are excursions to various parts of Spain including Madrid, Seville, Toledo, Granada, Jerez and Ronda. For obvious reasons the program will not include the usual trip to Morocco this year.

The academic program combines a morning schedule that includes two Spanish classes of 45 minutes each (Language Module), with two other classes of 45 minutes each that introduces the student to Spanish culture (Thematic Module). This would equate to three hours of instruction per day, or 15 hours for the week.

In the afternoons, our students can either enjoy, with their assigned counselor, the Institute's sports facilities and the specially designed complementary activities, or, if they prefer, partake in the family activities of the host family that, without a doubt, will offer alternative leisure-time activities, conversation and entertainment.

Our families are carefully selected to match the students. Cadiz is a safe and quiet city, noted for its youth. The young people of Cadiz are sincere and are fond of sports and the beach and are very open to the visitor and very proud of their city. Our students will not find it difficult to establish contacts and make

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North Atlanta High School PTSA Newsletter

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Layout

Nancy Books

The *NAHS Newsletter* seeks to inform current and potential NAHS parents, students, teachers and the community-at-large about the school's programs, academic achievements, clubs and extracurricular activities to promote a sense of unity and community involvement.

All news articles are due in the PTSA Newsletter mailbox in the School Office by 3:30 PM of the specified date, and are subject to editing for space, clarity and consistency. With each submission, please include your name, telephone number for any clarification needed, and the basic information on who, what, when, where and why. The *NAHS Newsletter* focuses on the achievements of NAHS students, faculty and staff, including academic and extracurricular activities. Deadlines for the 1999-2000 school year are as follows:

Issue	Deadline
March	February 18
April.....	March 18
May.....	April 19

Keep on Shopping!

Thank-you Publix and all our Publix shoppers. We received a check for \$732.07 for the last half of 2001. This is certainly our easiest fundraiser! Please remember to use your Publix card every time you purchase groceries.

Band Auditions Set

The North Atlanta Band will hold auditions for its upcoming talent show on Tuesday, Feb. 19, beginning at 4 p.m.

The talent show will be held Friday, March 1, and Saturday, March 2, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

A full range of talent — thespians, dancers, musicians and others — is being sought for the talent show. Auditions are open to all North Atlanta High School students, faculty and staff.

Further details about the auditions and talent show will be posted around the school. For more information, contact Mr. Reginald Colbert in the band room.

New PTSA Committee Chairs

Vera Hardy, Teacher Appreciation
404-696-1883
vbh53lady@aol.com

Pamela Woodley, Volunteers
404-231-0223
pamela.wodley@us.pwcglobal.com

If you have not had the opportunity to help with NAHS functions this year, please contact Vera or Pamela to find out how you can help throughout the coming months.

Tours of NAHS

Mrs. Holland will conduct tours of NAHS on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 AM. All persons interested in touring the building must give Mrs. Holland a 24-hour advanced notice. Mrs. Holland may be phoned at 404-351-0895, ext. 2052, and she will be the only person scheduling.

PTSA Executive Board 2001-2002

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New PTSA Members

Cathy High
Sue and Forrest Hunter
Sharon Martin
Wendy Newstetter



Students emerge after finishing the SAT on Saturday, Jan. 28.

Bright Day of Activity at North Atlanta

The heavy rains of a few days before receded further into memory as bright, spring-like sunshine burst upon an outpouring of activity at North Atlanta on Saturday, Jan. 28.

Youngsters from all around gathered in the early morning to take the SAT, the periodic ritual in which kids discover their entire academic aspirations being distilled into three computer-graded digits. Kids from private schools like Pace and St. Pius joined the host North Atlanta youngsters for the grueling test. Middle school kids from Sutton also joined in, hoping to be selected for the Duke talent search or other programs.



Sophomore David Crockett heads home after taking SAT.

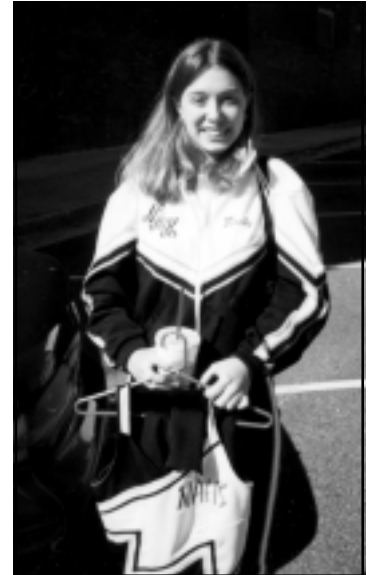
After several hours, the kids emerged into the noon brightness, dazed and blinking, as their anxious parents waited. Memories of verbal analogies (test is to score as acceptance is to college? life? future?), geometric proofs and mathematical formulas drifted away as the remaining hours of afternoon raised the possibility of at least some fun.

“It wasn’t so hard,” 10th grade North Atlanta student David Crockett allowed. “I was ready for it — I took it for the first time in the seventh grade.”

The ACT, an alternate college admissions test, was given at North Atlanta Feb. 9. The SAT will again be given at the school on May 4 and will be given elsewhere on March 16 and June 1. The ACT will be given elsewhere at April 6 and June 8.

The test was not the only activity at North Atlanta. The wrestling team waited to go to Marist for the area duals, as the boys and girls basketball teams headed on the road for a game at Dunwoody.

Cheerleader Kristina Murray, a junior, arrived to get ready for the game. A student in advanced dance in the performing arts magnet and a nominee for Governor’s Honors, Murray said the cheerleading squad was proud of its finish in regional cheerleading competition.



Cheerleader Kristina Murray, a junior, gets ready for game at Dunwoody.

“We finished sixth in our division, and we didn’t drop anybody — that was the main thing.”

As cars rolled away and the afternoon rolled toward a quieter finish, the whole school, like the cheerleaders, could take pride in having pulled off another balancing act for the community and its students.

Sales Tax Vote Tuesday March 19

Voters in the city of Atlanta, Fulton County, DeKalb County and the city of Decatur will decide on Tuesday, March 19 on extended the Special Local Option Sales Tax.

The SPLOST I was approved five years ago but expires June 30 2002. The revenue generated by the tax can be used only by the public school system and only for capital and certain technology improvements.

SPLOST I raised approximately \$440 million and was used to improve a number of schools, wire all APS schools for technology, and build new schools. Through the tax, APS is functionally debt free, having retired the last of any outstanding bonds used for capital improvements. In addition, SPLOST enabled APS to reduce the millage rate it charges as part of local property taxes.

Important Dates for 2002

February

- 5 Summer Expo 2002 Westminster Schools Fieldhouse Noon-6:30 PM
- 5 Great Decisions Discussion Series: Korean Security Issues 7:30-9:00 PM
- 7 Junior Visions of the Future Gym 6:30-8:30 PM
- 7-9 & *Midsummer Night's Dream* Shaw Theater
14-16 7:30 PM (2:30 PM Feb. 16 also)
- 9 ACT @ NAHS
- 12 Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery 9:00 AM-Noon
- 12 Great Decisions Discussion Series: Middle East Peace Process 7:30-9:00 PM
- 13 NAPPS Monthly Meeting, E.Rivers E.S. Noon
- 14 Sutton Middle School Visit 9:00 AM-Noon
- 19 Talent Show Auditions 4:00 PM
- 19 Great Decisions Discussion Series: Colombia and Drug Trafficking 7:30-9:00 PM
- 21 Heritage Assembly
- 21 Monthly PTSA Meeting Media Center 7:00 PM**
- 26 National Honor Society Induction Service
- 26 Great Decisions Discussion Series: South Asia: Focus on India 7:30-9:00 PM

March

- 1-2 Talent Show Theater 7:30 PM
- 5 Great Decisions Discussion Series: AIDS in Africa 7:30-9:00 PM
- 12 Great Decisions Discussion Series: Russia Re-examined 7:30-9:00 PM
- 13 NAPPS Monthly Meeting, Brandon E.S. Noon
- 15 Teacher Planning Day—Students Off
- 16 SAT
- 19 Great Decisions Discussion Series: Energy and the Environment 7:30-9:00 PM
- 21 Monthly PTSA Meeting Media Center 7:00 PM**

April

- 3 NAPPS Monthly Meeting, Jackson E.S. Noon
- 6 ACT
- 8-12 Spring Holidays
- 18 Monthly PTSA Meeting Media Center 7:00 PM**
- 20 Junior/Senior Prom 8:00 PM-Midnight
- 29 Top 10% Banquet

May

- 4 SAT @ NAHS
- 16 Monthly PTSA Meeting Media Center 7:00 PM**
- 22-24 Final Exams
- 24 Last Day of School
- 28 Graduation Civic Center 8:30 PM

PA Coordinator Search Underway

North Atlanta has reopened the search for its performing arts coordinator, Principal Delphia Bryant said.

Ms. Bryant said she hopes to have a new coordinator for the magnet program named by May. The deadline for applications is Feb. 15.

Candidates should have a master's degree in a fine arts or performing arts discipline, with a state of Georgia certification at level 5 or higher in a teaching field and in educational leadership or supervision. They should have a minimum of three years of full-time successful school and equivalent work experience as a professional artist and three years of supervisory experience in an educational or performing arts setting. The salary is \$53,088 with yearly increments up to \$75,456.

To apply, candidates should complete a statement of interest form along with a current resume and three letters of professional references. Materials must be received in the Atlanta Public Schools personnel department by 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15. The address is Atlanta Public Schools Personnel Department, 210 Pryor St. SW, Atlanta, Ga. 30303. The phone number is 404-827-8100, and the Web site is www.atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Sports Schedules

Girls Soccer

Varsity

February

18, 20, 21, 22 APS Tournament TBA
 28 vs. Columbus 4:30 PM

March

1 @ North Springs 5:00 PM
 6 vs. Riverwood 5:00 PM
 7 vs. Dunwoody 5:00 PM
 15 @ Mays 4:30 PM
 16 @ Blessed Trinity TBA
 18 @ St. Pius 5:30 PM
 23 @ Marist 1:00 PM
 30 @ Lakeside/Evans, Augusta 3:00 PM

April

4 vs. Tucker 5:00 PM
 16 vs. South Atlanta 4:30 PM
 17 @ Holy Innocents 4:30 PM
 19, 23, 26 Region Tournament TBA

May

1, 7, 11, 15, 18 State Tournament

Junior Varsity

February

27 vs. Dunwoody 4:30 PM

March

5 @ North Springs 5:00 PM
 19 @ Grady 4:30 PM
 23 @ Marist 11:00 AM
 27 vs. St. Pius 4:00 PM
 30 @ Lakeside/Evans, Augusta 1:00 PM

April

1 vs. Riverwood 5:00 PM

Boys Soccer

Varsity

February

18-23 APS Tournament (3 Matches) TBA
 25 South Cobb 7:30 PM

March

1 @ North Springs 7:00 PM
 8 vs. Dunwoody 5:00 PM
 12 @ Stone Mountain 7:00 PM
 15 @ Washington 4:30 PM
 16 @ Blessed Trinity 4:00 PM
 18 @ St. Pius 7:00 PM
 23 @ Marist 3:00 PM
 28 vs. Clarkston 5:00 PM

April

2 vs. Southside 4:30 PM
 5 vs. Tucker 5:00 PM
 17 vs. South Atlanta 5:00 PM
 19 Region Quarterfinals TBA
 23 Region Semi-Finals TBA
 26 Region Finals TBA

Junior Varsity

February

25 @ South Cobb 5:30 PM
 27 @ Dunwoody 5:00 PM

March

5 @ North Springs 7:00 PM
 9 @ North Springs 9th Grade 12Noon
 14 @ Grady 5:00 PM
 16 @ Blessed Trinity 12:30 PM
 23 @ Marist 11:00 PM
 27 vs. St. Pius 5:30 PM
 29 @ Tri-Cities 5:30 PM

April

3 vs. Grady 5:00 PM

Be sure to check the website at
<http://www.northatlantahigh.org>
 for the most current information and schedules



Freshman Kyle McKinney and sophomores Peter Pelosi and Ari Gordin (left to right) ready for area duals.

Internships Offered to Senior Students in International Business

The North Atlanta Center for International Studies International Business Program offers to certain qualifying seniors in the spring of their senior year the opportunity to participate in an internship.

This internship is meant to be a culminating application of what they have learned in their International Business Curriculum classroom experiences. This IBP requirement is completed through a daily Internship of two to three hours in an international nonprofit or business setting.

The internship lasts for approximately 16 weeks and counts for two grades. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 in classes, good behavior and have a good attendance record in order to be eligible for the program. Currently, we have students placed with the American Red Cross, the International Department of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Girls, Inc., Georgia Tech Center for International Business Education and Research, Georgia Tech Center for Education Integrating Science, Mathematics and Computing, BBDO Atlanta, Amnesty International, SIMCOM International Holdings, Georgia Council for International Visitors, the Youth Art Connection and the Southern Center for International Studies.

Their journals reflect a wide variety of experiences. We wish them well as they move into a real life experience in the world of business, non-profit or academic.

North Atlanta Wrestler Qualifies for State

North Atlanta wrestler Daniel Orrison qualified for the state AAAA finals in Macon in the 160-pound division.

Orrison, a sophomore, finished fourth in the 5-AAAA area finals at Tucker to become one of the 32 160-pound finalists at the state tournament, held Feb. 8-9. Orrison won two matches at area to make it to state. Results were unavailable at deadline.

Coach Jerry Richardson's young Warriors, the Atlanta public schools' only wrestling team, showed steady improvement this year, competing against some of the area's toughest teams.

Besides Orrison, other top wrestlers were 103-pound sophomore Anthony Thomas, 119-pound senior captian Petey White, 152-pound sophomore Kent Flanders and 215-pound freshman Kyle McKinney.

Other members of the team are 125-pound sophomore Ari Gordin, 140-pound junior Luke Howarth, 145-pound junior Pete Driscoll, 145-pound sophomore Peter Pelosi, 171-pound sophomore Luke Mayeux and 275-pound senior Denver Johnson.



Senior wrestler Petey White puts on his game, er match face.

Summer Study in Spain

(cont. from p. 1)

new and interesting friends who will make them feel at home in the extraordinary life of the city during the summer months.

Of course, the main benefit a student will see is in their Spanish class next fall, where, regardless of their level, each student will find that they are so much more confident and fluent in their Spanish that their homework will be a breeze and their Spanish class will become their favorite class of the day.

The total cost of the trip, including airfare, is \$3,200, which is very reasonable for almost four weeks in Europe

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Governor's Honors Semifinalists Selected

Several North Atlanta sophomores and juniors have been selected as semifinalists to participate in the Governor's Honors Program.

At press time, they were involved in their second round of interviews to participate in the six-week summer program at Valdosta State University. Finalists from across the state have intensive study programs in their area of nomination as well as in a chosen "minor subject." They live on campus and gain a "real college experience."

The semifinalists are Amber Suitt and Tiffany Lewis, communicative arts; Dajana Marincic, French; Ronnie Gosselin, Spanish; Lynnzey Smith-Wilson, social studies; Nijai Burch, Karla Loucas and Arlease Brady, dance; Kenneth Flanders and Thi May Le, technology; Stephen Lawrence, music; and Erin Cantrell, theater.

Alternates were Cameron Wolfe and Alex Jackson, science; Mia Gresham, social studies; and Lauren Quinn, dance.

Teachers nominated North Atlanta students to participate in the program. Those nominated were Saadia Borders, mathematics; Alex Jackson and Cameron Wolfe, science; Stephen Lawrence and Robert Williams, music; Amber Suitt, Leonidas Efstathiou, Luke Mayeux, Meredith Gonsahn, Brittany Rivers and Tiffany Lewis, communicative arts; Lynnzey Smith-Wilson and Mia Gresham, social studies; Karla Loucas, Kristina Murray, Lauren Quinn, Arlease Brady and Nijai Burch, dance; Kenneth Flanders and Thi May Le, technology; Ronnie Gosselin, Spanish; Dajana Marincic, French; and Erin Cantrell, drama.

Summer Study in Spain

(cont. from p. 6)

with tours included and an instructional program as well. The group will depart from Atlanta on Saturday, June 29, and arrive in Madrid the next morning. They will travel on through Seville to Cadiz that same day. The group will return home to Atlanta on Tuesday, July 23.

If you want to take advantage of this opportunity, please have your student get an application from the I.S. office, or call us and we will be glad to send you one. Please give it your best consideration. The absolute deadline for the application and a \$500 deposit is March 1. The balance is due by May 1, 2002.

Junior Visions of the Future Set for Feb. 7

This year's "kick-off" event for the Juniors' postsecondary planning will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 7, 2002 in the Main Gym at North Atlanta. All Juniors and their parents or guardians should plan to attend Junior Visions of the Future, where more than 75 educational programs will be represented.

Meet admissions representatives from over 60 colleges including the University of Georgia, University of Pennsylvania, George Washington University, Vanderbilt, Syracuse, Purdue, the University of Michigan, DePauw, Emory, Alabama A&M, Furman, Georgia Tech, University of Florida, Savannah College of Art and Design, North Carolina School of the Arts, Fort Valley State, Spelman, North Georgia College, Randolph Macon Women's College, and many others.

Learn from Admissions Officers about Certificate and Diploma programs offered at technical schools such as Gwinnett Technical Institute, DeVry Institute of Technology, Atlanta Technical Institute, Chattahoochee Tech and others. Some of these programs might include Auto Mechanics, Computer Animation, Web Design, Cosmetology, Drafting, Woodworking, Medical Assisting, Electronics, *etc.*

Talk with representatives of various other programs where you can "earn while you learn," such as military opportunities, apprenticeship programs in the building trades, Hands on Atlanta and Americorps' many programs, VISTA and others.

After meeting with the persons you select (from 6:30-7:45 p.m.), you are invited to attend one of the "breakout" sessions where small group panel presentations will be made, followed by a Question and Answer session (7:45-8:30 p.m.).

Don't miss this excellent opportunity to gather a wealth of information!



A School is Like a River

by Louis Mayeux

The other day I saw a North Atlanta student walking alone through a nearly empty hall. He was a youngster I'd known for years and whose name had come up fairly frequently in breakfast table conversations about different kids and so forth.

Watching him walk across the broad area by the theater toward the steps, I realized that he was now a senior. Something about the emptiness of the hallway, and his aloneness — perhaps it was at that hushed moment just before the bell rings and classes change with a rush of talk and motion — made me think about the briefness of students' high school years.

A youngster starts as a freshman, participates in classes and studies and sports, and becomes a full part of the school. He or she slowly develops into a sophomore and junior and then, all of a sudden, he or she is a senior. Then, after graduation, he or she leaves for college or jobs and is replaced by other freshmen, who begin the process all over. The student's accomplishments are remembered, recorded, memorialized, but those seemingly endless moments of high school life are past. He or she is no longer there.

The saying is that you cannot step in the same river twice. From one second to the next, the river changes. A school is the same way. The buildings and the school grounds and athletics fields may look permanent, but they are always being worn out and renovated, as we have seen at North Atlanta with our beautiful new baseball and soccer/football fields and even the formation of North Atlanta 10 years ago. The real heart of the school — students and teachers and classes — are never the same either. Each moment of each class, a page of a book read, a teacher's comment, a classmate's question, makes a ripple, a change, like drops of water rushing past a rock, a limb, a rapids.

The end of these musings is that the school, like a river and child, is organic, something that needs attention and care and nurturance. The teachers and administrators and students are individuals and parts of a whole, constantly changing, rushing toward the ocean of achievement and success, step by step.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT NEWSLETTER: February 18, 2002



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