

Georgia Southern University

# ApParent Issues

Parents Association

Volume 1, Issue 2

January 30, 2003

Published by the Office of Parent Programs~(912) 871-1435~<http://www2.gasou.edu/outreach/parent/index.htm>

## *GSU's first Spring Picnic, April 11-13th, 2003*

Our office grows with anticipation over the upcoming Spring Picnic. The invitation has been sent to publishing. So you can expect to receive your personal invite in late February or early March. Input from our Parents Association Council Members really helped ensure that the weekend meets the needs of the parents. Parents will have the opportunity to Mix 'n Mingle Friday evening. Here the Hotel & Restaurant Management students will work up a delicious treat while Statesboro's local band, Wallace Green, entertains. Saturday morning faculty members and the Parents Council of the Parents Association will be on hand to discuss your concerns. Be sure to make reservations as soon as possible as hotel accommodations in Statesboro are limited!

## *Hotel Accommodations: Statesboro Convention & Visitors Bureau*

1-800-568-3301

## *Savannah Convention & Visitors Bureau*

1-877-728-2662

*Plans are in progress for  
Family Weekend 2003.  
Mark your calendar for  
October 10-12, 2003.*

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**Meningitis case reported at Georgia Southern**

A Georgia Southern University student is hospitalized in Savannah with a probable case of bacterial meningitis. Esli Saint-Louis, an 18-year-old male freshman from Snellville, Ga., was rushed to Memorial Health University Medical Center in Savannah Thursday night and is currently in the neuro-intensive care unit. Full testing has not yet confirmed meningitis, however initial testing points strongly to that diagnosis.

The student is a resident of Winburn Hall, an on-campus residence hall. At approximately 10:30 Thursday night, Saint-Louis' roommate reported to residence hall officials that the student was violently ill. University Police were contacted. They responded and Saint-Louis was transported by ambulance to East Georgia Regional Medical Center. He was later transferred by ambulance to MHUMC.

Earlier in the day, Saint-Louis had visited Student Health Services, complaining of gastrointestinal symptoms, but at that time did not present typical symptoms of meningitis, which include a severe headache, stiff neck or lethargy. He was treated for the gastrointestinal symptoms.

Meningitis is an inflammation of the linings of the brain and spinal cord caused by bacteria or viruses. Common early symptoms include fever, severe sudden headache, stiff neck, vomiting, rash, and lethargy. The disease can progress rapidly, but with early diagnosis and treatment, the likelihood of full recovery is increased.

The bacteria that causes meningitis cannot usually live for more than a few minutes outside the body, according to health officials. As a result, they are not easily transmitted by routine contact with an infected person in a classroom, dining room, bar, or restroom.

The disease is contracted by direct contact with the infected person and exposure to oral secretions -- for example, through kissing, sharing eating utensils or drinking cups, or contact with droplets from the nose or throat.

Although the diagnosis is not yet confirmed, Georgia Southern officials are currently informing the campus community of the incident, including

**Schedule of Events**

**JANUARY**

30<sup>th</sup> Meningitis Vaccination Campaign,  
1:00-7:00 pm, RAC

**FEBRUARY**

18<sup>th</sup> Last day to withdraw without academic penalty

20<sup>th</sup>

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**Georgia Southern University's Parents Association**

Want to feel more involved and connected with Georgia Southern?  
Then the Georgia Southern Parents Association is for you!  
For information on the Association and how to join, visit:  
[http://www2.gasou.edu/outreach/parent/parents\\_association.htm](http://www2.gasou.edu/outreach/parent/parents_association.htm)

**TIPS ON HOW PARENTS CAN NARROW THE GENERATION GAP**

**If you are going home for the weekend or the holidays:**

- Take expensive, portable items with you.**
- Keep valuables out of sight.** Do not place purses, portable such articles near a window; glass can be broken and objects
- Lock all doors and windows.** Sliding glass doors can offer easy You can secure them by putting a broomstick or large dowel in the thing can be done in windows to prevent them from being lifted up.
- Keep keys in your possession.** Don't place them under mats, over doors, in mail slots, or in the other obvious hiding places. Instead, give an extra key to a trusted neighbor.
- Connect one of two lamps and a radio to an automatic timer.** Timers are inexpensive, some less than \$10, and help to make your home look "occupied".
- Inform a trusted neighbor of your travel plans** and ask him or her to watch out for suspicious people and/or activity around your home or apartment. Make sure they have a number to contact you during your absence.
- Don't allow deliveries** of any kind, including mail and newspapers, to accumulate on your doorstep. If you don't wish to cancel deliveries, arrange for a neighbor to pick them up. You can arrange for your local post office to hold your mail until you return.
- Refrain from publicizing your absence from Statesboro.**



radios, stereos, television sets, or other stolen.  
access if they are not properly secured.  
inside track to jam the door. The same



**Prevent auto theft and auto break-ins:**

- Don't leave valuables in plain view in your car. Items that can be removed (radios, tape and CD players) and packages should be locked in the trunk.
- Remove valuable property from your car whenever possible.
- Park in busy, well-lighted areas.

**Keep track of your property, so if stolen, it can be returned:**

- Make a list of the brand, model and serial numbers of all your property. Store the list in a safe place.
- Mark your items with your initials, birthday, or some other numbering system that you will remember. **DO NOT USE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER or bank account numbers.** This ID number should be in a conspicuous place—not hidden. Valuables to engrave might include computers, cameras, radios, televisions, tape recorders, musical instruments, sporting goods, etc. Many burglars will avoid taking valuable that are engraved, because such items are difficult to sell or pawn. *The Off Campus Housing Office, located in Russell Union Suite 2022, has an engraver, which is easy to use, that you can borrow to engrave your number on your property. To take advantage of this opportunity, stop by our office, show your GSU ID and leave a \$20 deposit, which is refunded when the engraver is returned.*
- Music CDs are easily stolen and often re-sold for quick cash. Use a permanent felt tip pen to write your name and driver's license number on the front of each CD.
- Photographing or videotaping your possessions is a convenient way to keep a record of what you own.

Adapted from Ohio State University Campus Partners Burglary Prevention Website: <http://www.acs.ohio-state.edu/org/osucp/index.html>

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## GSU Campus Security Report for 2002 available

In order to comply with Federal Law (the Jeanne Clery Act), Georgia Southern University publishes an annual Campus Security Report, which includes 3 years of on/off campus crime statistics, policy statements & program descriptions, sex offender registry search information, and procedures to be followed for sex offenses. The 2002 Campus Security Report can be accessed on the World Wide Web at the following Web Site:  
[http://www2.gasou.edu/public\\_safety/stats2002.html](http://www2.gasou.edu/public_safety/stats2002.html)

For a paper copy of the 2002 Campus Security Report or for more information, please contact the Georgia Southern University Police Department by phone: (912) 681-5234 or via e-mail: [bpeaster@gasou.edu](mailto:bpeaster@gasou.edu).