



Cathy Cox

## Atlanta Magazine Online

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**Why Do Georgia's SAT Scores Suck?** A closer look at the factors impacting our students' test scores. **By Rebecca Burns**

**Half Life** Losing nearly 200 pounds changes more than just your dress size. **By Linette Andréa**

**Why Is Genarlow Wilson in Jail?** A controversial law may put a Douglasville teen in prison for a decade. **By Chandra Thomas**

### Only on Atlanta Magazine Online

#### This Month's Web Extras

- ★ Georgia students struggle with the SAT (page 44), but would you do any better? Answer the sample SAT questions online to find out.
- ★ Gender issues, traffic, education and growing up in a funeral home—get all this and more in our uncut interview with Cathy Cox, only online.

#### "This Week in Atlanta"

Atlanta Magazine's Web-only reports on what's happening right now—news you need to know and gossip you can't miss.

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This month's access code for online extras: **Schools**

## CONTRIBUTORS

» Atlanta native **Sheila Aldridge** (page 38) graduated from Portfolio Center in 2000 with a certificate in illustration and two distinctive styles. Since then, she has illustrated three children's books and worked with clients such as ESPN, *Pink* magazine, *Paste* and *Atlanta Magazine*, where her illustrations appear each month in *Atlanta Look*. She resides in Atlanta with her husband, Gabe.



**Linette Andréa** ("Half Life," page 54) has written for *Family Life*, *New Woman*, *Mademoiselle* and *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*. "When I told my best friend I was writing about my gastric-bypass surgery, she asked if I had included my dream about being chased by a giant chocolate chip cookie. No, but I did share how it feels to transform from almost 400 pounds to less than 200. My daughter has been my biggest cheerleader but also the savviest spy. No 8-year-old should be so aware of fat grams and carb content." Andréa is currently at work on an online column, *Forever Foodie*, which chronicles her weight-loss experiences.



« Contributing editor **Jay Busbee** ("Supersize Me," page 28) wrote off the gas for three weeks of "research" for this month's SUV article. (His attempt to expense new rims and a plasma-screen in-dash TV was shot down by his accountant.) A graduate of Riverwood High in Sandy Springs,

his work has appeared on ESPN.com and in *USA Today* and *The Washington Post*, among others. He writes a monthly column for *ChopTalk*, the Atlanta Braves' official magazine, and is responsible for many of this issue's Phoenix Follies, but on advice from his attorney, declines to reveal which ones.

» Staff writer **Chandra Thomas** ("Why Is Genarlow Wilson in Jail?" page 64) was intrigued by the Douglasville Six case's parallels to the highly publicized Marcus Dixon case and shocked that it had been virtually ignored by local media outlets.



"I knew I had to write the first in-depth account," says Thomas, a former Fox 5 associate producer who has also worked as a stringer for *Newsweek* and *Essence* magazines. "I wanted to break down the facts and raise awareness about this controversial law. Every teen in Georgia—and their parents—should be concerned about this." ❖