



Creswell vandalism leaves fourth floor with fine

By MIMI ENSLEY
THE RED & BLACK

A recent act of vandalism at Creswell Hall will result in fines for all fourth floor residents — even though no one has been identified as the suspect.

The damages were substantial, said Ralphe Smith, assistant director for University

Housing. Smith declined to describe the vandalism but confirmed that the entire hall would be fined.

Matthew Russell, a freshman from Louisville, said there were damages to the bathroom and writing was on a wall. The residents were told Thursday the fines would be less than \$5, but Russell said the administration

was unfair in the way it handled the situation. He expressed a concern that those punishing the students did not perform an adequate investigation before deciding to fine the entire hall.

"I personally had nothing to do with it," Russell said. "We weren't the only people who had access to [the area]."

During a typical investigation,

administrators talk to people on the floor and try to find out if anyone saw anything unusual, Smith said. No one has stepped forward with information about the fourth floor damages.

"Part of coming to college is learning life lessons. These freshmen think that inaction to stop a wrong is innocence," Fidel Agbor, the hall's resident assistant and

junior from Marietta. "With my three years of experience living in Creswell, I know that it is extremely likely for at least one out of 120 residents to either know who did or see the destruction being done in the community bathroom. When they go to the real world, they'll realize that

See FINE, Page 3

Univ. provides pre-break car inspection

Clinic free for staff, students and faculty

By BRITTANY BINOWSKI
THE RED & BLACK

Parking Services is giving students free car services today to prepare for Thanksgiving break.

In the first "SafeDrive" car clinic, which will be held at the Tate Center parking lot, service officials will do a basic inspection of all cars brought to the clinic.

"We are offering this free safety check because we care about our students," said Don Walter, Parking Services manager. "Many of us in Parking Services are parents of college students and know that most students do not have the time or inclination to check their cars."

The clinic will include a basic hood inspection, a wiper blade check, a fluid level check, a tire pressure check and other services. The inspection should take about three to four minutes for each vehicle, and the University's Food Services will serve refreshments to people who are waiting to have their cars serviced during the clinic.

The services are free to all University card holders, and all students, faculty and staff can attend.

Blaine Van Note, the operations supervisor for Parking Services, said the car clinic is a way for Parking Services to promote safety among students, faculty and staff and give back to those in the University community.

"We want to see them get home safely for the holidays," Walter said. "If we can prevent one accident, the entire effort will be worthwhile."

Parking Services' expectations for numbers are undefined, since this is the first time they've held a car clinic for students, said Van Note. But Parking Services is still hopeful that many people will come to the clinic and take advantage of their services, he said.

Parking Services conducted two surveys in recent months showing that a car safety check was the service that students wanted the most, Walters said.

They plan to hold two more "SafeDrive" car clinics this year, one before Spring Break and another one before Spring commencement. Tuesday's clinic is sponsored by 5 Star Tire & Automotive.

PUPPY LOVE



FRANNIE FABIAN | THE RED & BLACK

▲ Jamelyn Kyser (right), a foster parent for Athens Canine Rescue, introduces her dog Stella to the Penningtons, a prospective adoptive family. Athens Canine Rescue is a non-profit volunteer network of foster homes for dogs in Athens.

Local band plays for weddings, White House

Listeners love Motown sound

By KATIE ANDREW
THE RED & BLACK

Don't be fooled — The Common People Band is pretty strange.

This local Motown group is famous for being a great local wedding band, but few know that they have been around for more than 20 years and have played at the White House twice.

"James Lester Jr. and my

brother [Melvin Burgess] started the band years ago," said bassist, keyboardist, and lead vocalist Charles Burgess. At the age of 66, Burgess has been with The Common People band for almost 20 years.

"The band was called Family Rebirth then," said James Lester Jr., drummer and backup vocalist, the only original member remaining. "We kept that name for about six years."

After much hesitation, the members decided it was time to change the name.

"We were the common people," Lester said. "It kind

of fit."

Seventeen years later, The Common People Band is still thriving on America's love of the Motown sound.

"Motown is kind of like country music," said Lester. "It never dies. Even the young kids that go to University of Georgia are [exposed to] Motown, because their parents play that type of music around the house."

Though The Common People Band is passionate about Motown, members maintain diversity by playing the music of Journey and Etta James, which became

possible upon their recent addition of a female vocalist and the niece of Charles Burgess, Latasha Burgess.

On a particularly momentous occasion, The Common People Band found themselves performing at a wedding that Sen. Saxby Chambliss (R-Ga.) attended.

After watching the band, Chambliss approached Lester and invited him to play at the White House. Lester said that he wasn't expecting the senator to follow up on his offer. He was

See BAND, Page 5

Durham finds humor in George McFly comparison

By TYLER ESTEP
THE RED & BLACK

Wide receiver Kris Durham may or may not look like George McFly, but, either way, he knows all the important — and not so important — facts about Georgia football.

The Red & Black sat down with the Calhoun native to discuss this celebrity look-alike, teammates' hidden talents and dating.

RB: So let's say they're making a movie about you. Who's the actor that plays the lead role, that plays Kris Durham?

KD: Well according to the Arizona State fans, it should be the guy that played George McFly [in "Back to the Future"] ... but I don't know. Who's a tall athletic white guy? Ashton Kutcher, there you go. He wants to be athletic, so he can play me.

RB: So ASU fans think you

look like George McFly?

KD: They had like a little Web site with all our pictures that were making fun of us. And they had my picture next to George McFly. I thought it was pretty funny.

RB: Who's your least favorite roommate?

KD: You're putting me on the spot. We all have our moments. I don't really know, I don't want to call anybody out on that one. [Quarterback Matthew] Stafford's kind of dirty sometimes, [fullback Shaun] Chapas is just funny, and [fullback] Fred [Munzenmaier]'s just ... Fred's random.

RB: If you weren't playing football what would you be doing with your life every day?

KD: Playing basketball. Playing basketball every day.

See DURHAM, Page 6



FRANNIE FABIAN | THE RED & BLACK

▲ Georgia wide receiver Kris Durham at practice earlier this season.

Student claims roommate urinated on her dorm bed

By BRITTANY COFER
THE RED & BLACK

A University freshman could face criminal trespass charges for urinating on her former roommate's bed during fall break, according to a police report.

Sari Gabrielle Millman, a freshman from Alpharetta, returned to her Russell Hall dorm Nov. 3 and found that her bed and clothes were soaked in an unknown liquid, the report said.

Millman and her roommate had not been getting along for "a few months," she told The Red & Black during a telephone interview Monday.

"There was a stain on my mattress cover [when I returned], and I had taken my sheets home with me to wash."

Millman slept on a futon

that week, and her mother recognized the fluid on the bed as urine during a visit Nov. 8. Millman reported the incident to an area coordinator at Russell Hall before calling police.

"I feel like she went through my stuff one day because I found something missing," Millman said. "And I found one of her hairs on my computer. It's longer than mine so I know it was hers."

Millman moved into a different room in Russell Hall after the incident and said she has had no contact with her ex-roommate.

"I still have to go and sign something at the police department, so I don't know what happens after that," Millman said.

The roommate was unable to be contacted Monday.

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Get your Grind on page 5

Sigma Delta Tau hosts its annual dance competition among sororities, benefitting UGA Miracle.



True Life page 3

Several transgender students and Athens residents discussed the difficulties of living life as a transgender individual.

Index

UGA Today 2
Wire 2
Opinions 4
Variety 5
Crossword 3
Sports 6
Sudoku 5