



**Georgia Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators
Public Relations Committee
Media Report**

SEPTEMBER 2008

Speakers to address emergency response

Athens Banner-Herald | Story updated at 11:15 pm on 9/2/2008

The University of Georgia emergency preparedness office will host a symposium about responding to on-campus emergencies next week on the seventh anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The two-hour session will be held at 8:30 a.m. in the UGA Chapel and is free and open to the public.

It will feature presentations by Kathy Pharr, assistant vice president for finance and administration, who chaired a UGA committee on emergency preparedness and communications; Steve Harris, director of the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness; UGA Police Chief Jimmy Williamson; Trina von Waldner, a public service associate in the College of Pharmacy; and Igor Khripunov, a research professional at the Center for International Trade and Security.

Originally published in the *Athens Banner-Herald* on Wednesday, September 03, 2008

http://onlineathens.com/stories/090308/uga_326825436.shtml

Warning system did not function properly

BRITTANY BINOWSKI

Issue date: 9/5/08 **Section:** [News](#)

UGAAlert subscribers received more than 149,000 notices of a tornado last week, but many heard the news somewhere else first.

By the time students received texts, phone calls and e-mails from UGAAlert Aug. 29, they had already taken safety measures by evacuating buildings and moving to safer places.

"I was extremely unimpressed by the UGAAlert system," Lauren Gorman, a sophomore from Lawrenceville, said. "I received my text in what seemed like hours after the storm started."

Nearly 50,000 people were notified Aug. 29 with 64,000 phone calls, 70,000 e-mails and more than 15,000 text messages, Steve Harris, director of the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness, said,

but the official warning system initially failed to function properly.

"We did have some issues and a delay that we were not happy with," Harris said.

When UGAAlert is activated, computer systems are triggered to send messages to students.

The problem, however, is that the messages are sent in batches without any priority, meaning that messages are sent out at different times to random groups of the student body until everyone has been notified.

The University has been working with cell phone companies to make sure that phone systems don't overload in emergency situations and to figure out how to prevent problems like this from occurring in the future.

"I thought UGA did a nice job handling the tornado warning," said Ryan Galvin, a Mount Pleasant, S.C. native. "From what it seemed like, everyone understood to take cover after the sirens went off. I was walking out of the dining hall when I heard them and turned around and went right back in."

The good thing about last Tuesday's warning is that the tornado sirens worked fine, buses stopped, and people took cover, Harris said.

On Sept. 11, the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Center for International Trade and Security will host "Responding to Emergencies on Campus: UGA and You," a free seminar open to the public on campus safety.

Many University administrators and security professionals will speak at the seminar, including Harris. The speakers will discuss what the University is doing to promote and improve campus safety and what students should expect in case of an emergency.

The seminar will be held from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel.

Police: Students follow Sanford smoking policy

GREG WILSON

Issue date: 9/5/08 **Section:** [News](#)

Lighting up on gameday is now a bit tougher with new policies in place for smoking in Sanford Stadium.

"In accordance with the University of Georgia policy, the Athletic Association has declared all areas of Sanford Stadium smoke/tobacco free," according to the Georgia Gameplan Web site.

In the past, smoking was allowed in designated areas of the stadium.

Last Saturday's game against Georgia Southern was the first game in which the new policy was in effect.

Most people obeyed the new policy, University Police Chief Jimmy Williamson said in a telephone interview Thursday, and officers attempted to educate fans about the news rules.

Law enforcement treats smoking like any other violation, Williamson said.

"We try to deal with it in some way," he said. "A lot of times it might just be a verbal communication telling them to stop. Depending on how receptive they are, we might ask them to leave."

The new rule is tolerable, said Patrick Malone, a senior from Roswell. Malone said he has smoked in the stands in the past, and it did not seem to bother the other fans in the student section. He said others have told him they would like smoking to be allowed in the stadium again.

"They definitely run the risk of upsetting fans," Malone said. "I guess they are trying to send a message of smoke- and alcohol-free games."

"There is great benefit by banning smoking," Cherylee Earsille, a nurse with the American Lung Association, said. "Non-smokers will not have to breathe second-hand smoke, which is just as damaging to lungs as smoking itself."

Students often receive a bad rap for their conduct on gameday, Williamson said, but they usually comply with the rules.

"Typically, it's more common for people age 27 to 57," he said. "I will be honest, these students comply with the rules in the stadium. They may overindulge (in drinking) before coming to the game though."

"(Students) are also quick to listen and follow instructions, but there is always an exception," Williamson said.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/05/News/Police.Students.Follow.Sanford.Smoking.Policy-3416514.shtml>

Four robberies hit periphery of campus in past month

by Ranganath Venkataraman, Senior Staff Writer

A spate of crimes has littered the periphery of the school campus, engendering the need for reinforcement of common safety procedures and ensuring public awareness of safety services available on campus. The Georgia Tech Police Department (GTPD) is spearheading this initiative.

The information was secondary when it reached the attention of Lieutenant Carla Cook of the GTPD, who found records of the incidents on a blog used by the Atlanta police, according to Captain Regina Rogers.

There were four occurrences spanning the past month.

The first took place at Firehouse Subs, located in Tech Plaza across 10th Street from the Institute of Paper Science and Technology, on August 4 at 10:21 p.m.

The victim was robbed at gunpoint by a black male with a gun. Descriptions offered of the victim were vague, but were consistent among the victim and two witnesses.

The second was on August 5, at 1:30 a.m. The Krystal restaurant on 14th St., was robbed by two black male suspects. The first suspect was dark-brown with dreadlocks; he stood roughly 5'5" and weighed about 150 pounds. He wore a long black t-shirt, stone-wash capris and white air force ones.

The second suspect was medium-brown, with a low-cut to bald head and a teardrop tattoo under his left eye. He stood 5'6", weighing about 140 pounds, and wore a long black shirt and black shorts.

The store manager was held at gunpoint by one suspect, while the other took her cell phone as well as money from all three cash registers. The suspects then left, and according to witnesses, got into a black Chrysler and fled. Police units were provided a dispatch through which they scoured the area for suspects, but did not locate anyone.

The third incident was on the 6, at 11th St: three black males were standing around the location suspiciously. When approached by the witness, they left the scene dropping a 38 Smith & Wesson with four rounds remaining. The description provided indicates that the suspects might be connected with the incident at Krystal's. The gun was transferred to Atlanta City Property.

The fourth incident took place on 5th St., in the late evening of August 18. A young couple was robbed of groceries and their car, at gunpoint, by two young black males who could have been teenagers. Their car, possibly stolen, was a white Kia with Tennessee drive-out tags.

"This information will help to keep the campus population aware," Rogers said. She added that the availability of the descriptions could help the police to find the offenders.

Rogers also had advice for students. She cautioned against walking alone late at night and also advised students to keep to well-lit areas.

"Don't lock your things in your car, in plain view," Rogers added. This is a common mistake made by many students.

Students were also aware of the high crime rate in and around the campus and had suggestions for students, to circumvent the problem.

"Students should not walk alone after dark even around campus," said Shazia Mohammad, a fourth-year ChBE major. "Do not jog around campus at 2 am. Even two people walking around is not safe."

Mohammad also indicated that the school should focus on improving the Stingerette service, which exists to serve students during the late night and early morning hours, which are popular times for people to study.

The Stingerette service has amended its services, according to Captain Rogers. The Stingerette is now running 24/7, available for any student who feels unsure about going anywhere on foot. Students can also contact GTPD to have an officer escort them back home.

. 2008-09-05

<http://www.nique.net/nique/article/556>

Safe Campus for pedestrians

Friday, 29 August 2008

KSU Police in an effort to ensure that Kennesaw State University is a safe and secure community have made the following information available to help our community be safe while walking and driving on campus

Most of us are pedestrians at one time or another every day. We usually take it for granted that we can walk without incident. However that is not always the case. Reality hit our campus on August 19th. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Bond family. Derek is recuperating and is expected to fully recover.

In order to be safe, both vehicles and pedestrians need to stay alert and follow Georgia state law.

Did you know as a driver.....

- Failing to stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk is illegal. The driver of a vehicle shall stop and remain stopped to allow a pedestrian to cross the roadway within a crosswalk (O.C.G.A. 40-6-91)
- Turning behind or in front of a pedestrian in a cross walk is illegal....even if you have a green light.
- Blocking a crosswalk is illegal. Cars MUST always stop behind the crosswalk, not in it.

Pedestrians should always use a sidewalk instead of walking in the road way when a sidewalk is available. Always look both ways before stepping into the street. Never assume the driver sees you and that they will stop. When crossing a street a pedestrian should never cross a street diagonally, especially if a crosswalk is provided

Did you know it is illegal and as a pedestrian you can be written a citation for the following.....

- Where a sidewalk is provided, it is illegal for a pedestrian to walk along and upon the roadway (O.C.G.A. 40-6-96)
- Pedestrians crossing a roadway at any point other than a crosswalk must yield the right of way to all vehicles (O.C.G.A. 40-6-92)

- No pedestrian shall cross the roadway intersection diagonally or cross mid-block "jaywalking" is not only dangerous its illegal (O.C.G.A. 40-6-92)
- Pedestrians must yield the right of way to all emergency vehicles and law enforcement vehicle when lights are activated and siren are audible (O.C.G.A. 40-6-99)
-
- Sgt. B. Haynes
Kennesaw State University Police Department
Community Policing Unit
770-423-6663

http://www.ksusentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1606&Itemid=56

Car Crimes Increase at Peavine

By [Tasha Posid](#) Posted: 09/04/2008

There was an increased number of cases of auto break-ins and damages at the Peavine parking deck within the past couple of weeks, according to the Emory Police Department.

This trend mimics similar cases around the Emory area, including Decatur.

"We can't say that all of these cases are related at this time," said Lt. Cheryl Elliott of EPD. "But they are similar in pattern to incidents occurring across DeKalb County."

According to EPD Officer Marvin Poulson, these types of break-ins have generally occurred between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. in covered parking decks.

On the morning of Aug. 26, EPD received five reports of entering auto, vehicle damage and theft to cars parked in the first level of Peavine.

A 29-year-old student returned to her car at 1:09 p.m. and found \$400 worth of damage to her 2007 Infiniti. Her Ralph Lauren sunglasses, Sean John eyeglasses case and GPS unit had been removed from the car.

Another student, 26, reported damage to his 1998 Toyota Corolla. The driver's-side rear window had been broken and a Garmin GPS unit, iPhone charger and an HP laptop, valued at \$1,500, had been stolen.

A 51-year-old male staff member parked his Mercury Grand Marquis in Peavine at 9 a.m. and returned at 9:13 p.m. to find the passenger-side front window damaged. The GPS unit was also missing.

Another staff member, 49, parked her 2003 Toyota Highlander at 8:45 a.m. and returned at 1:09 p.m. The front passenger window had been broken and the cord to her GPS unit had been stolen.

EPD received another anonymous report of a vehicle damage and theft that occurred between 10 a.m. and 1:10 p.m. at the same location. The window of a 2008 Volkswagon Jetta had been broken and a GPS unit, valued at \$250, had been removed.

These cases have been turned over to an investigator and are under investigation.

“If you see any suspicious people in the parking decks, please don’t hesitate to call EPD,” Elliott said. “Be aware of your surroundings and don’t leave any items of value in plain view, especially GPS units, because they tend to be easily removed.”

EPD asked that anyone with information about these incidents to call the TIPS hotline. The Emory Police cadets are also sponsoring “Operation ID” later in September for students to engrave their name on valuable items, such as GPS units, and register other valuables.

— Contact [Tasha Posid](#)

<http://www.emorywheel.com/detail.php?n=25726>

Don't Be Stupid: Tailgating Do's and Don'ts

Written by Matt Mauney Thursday, 04 September 2008 03:37

Tailgating, next to the game itself, is a very important part of the college football experience. It is a great way to show your school spirit and support your school’s football team while having a little bit of fun with family and friends in the process.

However, one must remember that tailgating on campus is a privilege, not a right. So, when partaking in the festivities of the traditional asphalt gathering, one must know their boundaries as well as the laws, policies, and rules that govern the world of tailgating.

Students at Georgia Southern are encouraged to tailgate and can do so at the Recreation Activity Center (RAC) on gamedays of home games. When tailgating it is important to know all the rules and abide by the laws that are enforced everyday, not just on gamedays. Drinking alcoholic beverages while tailgating is allowed, as long as those participating are doing so in a responsible manner and are 21 years of age or older, according to the Head Administrator of Public Safety, Kenneth Brown.

“As long as you are 21 and acting like a responsible adult it is fine to drink while tailgating before a game,” said Brown. “It’s when people have too much to drink and start acting irresponsibly when [law enforcement] has a problem.”

Brown also noted that drinking games, such as beer pong, are looked on as irresponsible behavior and will not be tolerated. This can also be said for alcohol paraphernalia such as beer funnels, shot glasses, etc.

Another point Brown addressed was students are encouraged to tailgate before the game but are also expected to go to the game when the time approaches.

“Georgia Southern doesn’t play football so people can have an excuse to have an all day outdoor party. If fans want to come out and grill some burgers and hotdogs and have a few drinks before games that is fine. But when they continue to drink and carry on while the game is going on, that is when there’s a problem,” said Brown.

There are no set times for when students can begin tailgating before a game however It is suggested that students don’t show up outrageously early or leave extremely late after the conclusion of the game.

Tailgating should be a fun experience for everyone, including families and small children. Brown mentioned that while tailgating students should remember that they must carry themselves in a respectable manner, i.e. refrain from using offensive language and acting in a manner that would not be appropriate in front of children and their families that are trying to enjoy the tailgating experience as well.

Aside from the RAC, students may also tailgate in the designated Southern Boosters lots as long as they are part of a group who holds a Southern Boosters tailgating pass, according to the President of Southern Boosters, John Mulherin. The parking lot behind Paulson Stadium is the main lot for Boosters, along with the Performing Arts Center (PAC) lot and the ceramics studio parking lot (located at the corner of Akins and Forest Drive).

“Members of Southern Boosters who purchase a tailgating spot are given a pass designating where they may park for games,” said Mulherin. “That pass is not tied to a particular vehicle and it is up the booster who purchased the pass of who (he or she) gives it to or who they have with them at the parking space.”

Tailgating is a fun way to have a good time with family and friends while getting excited to watch the Eagles play some football. However, it is important to stay safe, act smart, and be responsible in order to have a successful outing before a football game.

http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=148:dont-be-stupid-tailgating-dos-and-donts&catid=40:entertain&Itemid=56

LaGrange College rolls out safety enhancements

From staff reports

Published:

Saturday, September 6, 2008 12:11 PM EDT

An unusually powerful siren sound will echo across the LaGrange College campus this fall during a test of the school’s new outdoor warning system, which is part of a \$500,000 plan to enhance security and safety on the Hill.

“We haven’t picked a date yet, but the test will take place this semester,” said Bob Vitale, campus services director and chairman of the college’s safety committee. “We’ll send out e-mails and give plenty of notice before the test.”

In late August, crews installed two multidirectional speakers on campus: one above Henry Hall and one near the Nick Allen Pavilion on the southern portion of campus. Somewhat resembling giant tiered birdfeeders, the speakers are actually sophisticated pieces of equipment capable of delivering voice messages as well as siren sounds.

“We could have purchased a tone-only system, but this gives us another option,” Vitale said. “This also gives us the ability to have multiple control points to activate the siren.”

Vitale said the new outdoor warning system complements the college’s emergency notification system, e2Campus, which was installed last fall.

“Now if there is some type of disaster or emergency affecting the campus, everyone will hear the siren, and if they’re signed up for e2Campus, they’ll get a text message, an e-mail and a voice mail to let them know what’s going on and what they need to do.”

In addition to the outdoor warning system, the college is making several other safety and security improvements.

“We’re about 90 percent finished with phase one of a major outdoor lighting upgrade,” Vitale said.

He said every outdoor light on a pole on campus is affected. In the parking lots, several 10-foot poles are being replaced with 25-foot poles. Elsewhere, new globes with brighter lights are illuminating the campus at night.

Vitale said the new lights not only cast a stronger glow, but they also provide sustainability benefits.

“All the new lights that we’ve put up on the Hill are night-sky friendly, which is an environmentally preferred practice,” he said. “These lights have a lunar shield that doesn’t throw light up into the sky.”

Students returning to campus this fall probably have noticed that card-access scanners have been installed in several facilities, including Smith Hall and the Manget, Callaway Academic and Callaway Science buildings.

“This allows us to program these doors to be open or closed at particular times,” Vitale said. “For example, during the weekend, only faculty and staff cards will open certain doors. But if on occasion a student group needs to get into a building, we can give access to those students just by plugging their names into the system, and their cards will work.”

Another enhancement added this summer was the installation of a natural gas-powered generator to Turner Hall.

“We now have an emergency generator that will run everything in Turner - except the elevators - in case of a power outage,” Vitale said. “In times of emergency, Turner would make a great

sheltering area, and it has everything needed to cook and refrigerate food.”

In addition to the improvements mentioned above, Vitale said the college plans to install seven or eight emergency call boxes throughout campus before the end of the academic year. Plans also are in the works for an upgraded safety Web page that will highlight locations of fire extinguishers, emergency exits, smoke detectors, assembly areas and shelter-in-place locations across campus.



A crane lifts one of the sirens for LaGrange College’s outdoor warning system onto the roof of Henry Hall.

<http://www.lagrangenews.com/articles/2008/09/06/news/news04.txt>

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Disaster planning

Jonathan Jackson

The Union-Recorder

September 05, 2008 10:01 pm

— Representatives from GCSU, the Oconee Valley Red Cross, DFCS and Baldwin County Emergency Management toured GCSU’s Centennial Center Friday to assess its possible usage as a shelter should Hurricane Ike send coastal inhabitants inland over the next few days.

Justin Gaines, Emergency Preparedness Occupational Safety coordinator for GCSU, along with Colin Duke with Emergency Management led a group through the complex, taking stock of the center’s offerings should a shelter be needed.

“We would make the call after being contacted by the fire chief,” Gaines said.

“We actually did open the center as a shelter during the [Hurricane] Floyd evacuation,” Duke said. “Our local churches really did a good job that night feeding and housing people who evacuated.”

The group inspected Centennial Center Friday, counting the number of toilets, sinks and showers, laundry facilities, as well as floor space for potential evacuees to spend time riding out any potential storm.

“All of our volunteers are on standby right now,” Oconee Valley Red Cross manager Billie Brown said. “In every way that we know how to be, we are ready.”

Brown said that Internet use, cell phones and other technologies, like the Red Cross Web site that has a safe and well registry, make preparation before a storm much more streamlined that it has been in the past.

“We partner with radio stations, even our local HAM radio operators, to communicate with the public should a disaster strike,” Brown said.

Tangie Strong with Baldwin County DFCS is a trained shelter manager who would be one of the first contacts should a shelter opening be needed.

“Baldwin DFCS did assist with some [Hurricane] Katrina evacuees at Rock Eagle,” Strong said. “Some of our employees are shelter trained.”

According to Brown, EMA recruits locations to act as shelters. Thus far Centennial Center, Oak Hill Middle School, Midway Elementary School, Baldwin High School, and First United Methodist Church are possible shelters. The administration building at Walter B. Williams Park is a pet-friendly shelter, thanks in large part to the efforts of Bobbie Thompson, director of the Animal Rescue Foundation. The group planned to check out the National Guard Armory, which has been undergoing renovations, to see if it is suitable for a shelter as well.

“Every Red Cross chapter has standing agreements,” Brown said. “For instance, some Baptist churches agree to provide feeding, and some retailers provide drinking water. We’ve done all this preparation. Hopefully we won’t need it.”

A Friday afternoon Associated Press report indicated that Tropical Storm Hanna had picked up speed, but was headed toward the Carolinas with strong winds and rain. Hurricane Ike is not far behind, on a path similar to the one taken by Hurricane Andrew, the Category 5 monster that devastated South Florida in 1992.

Ike could hit Florida by the middle of next week, but its path and whether Georgia will be affected, is still yet to be determined.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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Colin Duke, center, checks off on amenities at Centennial Center as Billie Brown, left, and Paul May, right, tour the facility. The Union-Recorder

http://www.unionrecorder.com/local/local_story_249220330.html

GTENS sends fast tornado alert

by Vijai Narayanan, Contributing Writer

Article Tools

On August 26, the Georgia Tech Emergency Notification System (GTENS) was activated, notifying all recipients that Tech’s campus was under a tornado warning.

Students received the alert at 8:22 a.m., less than seven minutes after the decision was made to send out the message.

“We just switched vendors and that has allowed us to streamline the procedure and get alerts out to faculty and students much faster and easier,” said Andy Altizer, Director of Emergency Preparedness.

The GTENS communication system is Tech's way of contacting faculty and students in emergency situations. It is equipped to contact the campus population through voice, text and email messaging in order to alert them of important time sensitive information and provide a brief course of action.

Students on campus at the time of the tornado warning received automated phone calls, text messages and email messages about the potential weather hazard, advising people to seek shelter and stay there until the storm had passed. Additionally, the large Siren Warning System that was installed just this past summer was activated to alert people outdoors of the tornado warning.

GTENS was contacted by their weather monitoring system, Skyguard, early Tuesday morning and it alerted them to the tornado warning.

A tornado warning indicates that a tornado has been detected and an imminent danger to life has developed. In turn, the Tech Police Department consulted the Department of Emergency Preparedness about whether to send out a notification to students.

Upon approval, the police dispatched the message to OIT Operations at 8:15 a.m. to send out a warning to students in the form of text, voice and email. The messages were sent out by OIT at 8:20 a.m.

In addition to weather alerts, the police have a system in place to issue Crime Alerts and Be On the Look Outs in order to deter and prevent crime on campus by informing the student body of recent criminal activity on campus. They have set up a live blog feed to provide minute-by-minute updates of any active crimes on campus, including descriptions and any photographs of the criminal. Students are encouraged to use the service and to actively engage in helping solve crimes by notifying the police.

Reactions to the GTENS have been positive, and several students can attest to being alerted in time.

"All of a sudden people's phones started ringing and vibrating, and when the professor went to his computer to change the slide, we saw that he received an email about the tornado warning," said Aurel Lazar, a first-year CS major. Arlen Chen, a first-year CS major, said he heard one of the sirens from his classroom in Skiles.

However, many people were confused about the duration of the warning.

"I knew that the warning lasted until 8:45 because I looked online. But there were some people who showed up late to my 11:00 class because they hadn't received any notification that the storm had passed," said first-year EE major Sean McGee.

Subscription to these services is generally high, with over 22,000 people signed up to receive text and voice messages.

"We spent a lot of time last year trying to get everybody to sign up for GTENS. This year we are focusing primarily on incoming freshmen sign up. Over 67 percent of the student body have signed up for the alerts, but there is still room for more improvement," Altizer said.

<http://www.nique.net/nique/article/552>

Student Injured in UGA Skirmish

Written by Keith Warburg Tuesday, 09 September 2008 01:46

A Georgia Southern student was injured last Saturday at Sanford Stadium in an altercation with a University of Georgia fan.

According to reports from the UGA Police Department, student Frank Jefferis was accosted by Chad Boggs of Cummings, Ga, who then pushed him down. Jefferis fell down the steps and landed on his face, resulting in multiple cuts and abrasions.

Boggs was arrested by UGA police officers and charged with Battery.

Initial student response at last week's Georgia Southern v UGA football game was to crowd the injured Jefferis, who was bleeding on the concrete.

Even more students caught a sight of the incident as crowds gathered and UGA Police officers entered the scene.

"I didn't initially realize that he had fallen until I was standing outside the restroom and I saw him being wheeled past," sophomore Melissa Holzworth said. "He was definitely injured and there was blood on his sleeve."

Once students returned for classes, rumors began to circulate that a student had passed away at the game. At one point, Jefferis was rumored to have been shoved over a railing, fell over 20 feet, split open his skull, and had to be resuscitated on-scene.

Jefferis has recovered, and contrary to campus legend, did not briefly pass away that Saturday.

http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=160:student-injured-in-uga-skirmish&catid=1:local-news&Itemid=53

Reported Peeping Tom at large

Written by Michael Romeo, Staff Writer Tuesday, 09 September 2008

On August 28th, a warning was sent out to the KSU community warning of a "Peeping-Tom" wandering near the area.

In an e-mail sent to the KSU community Sgt. B. Haynes said Cobb County police officers had received several reports in July of a Hispanic male peering into women's apartment windows and watching the female tenants.

According to WSB-TV reporter Ross Cavitt, one report was received in late August about a man exposing himself to a woman. The woman was reportedly walking her dog around 2 a.m. when the incident happened.

Haynes said all reported incidents have occurred after midnight and there have been no reports of the suspicious individual on campus.

Haynes stressed the importance of precautionary measures in an alert message addressed to the KSU community, as the individual is reported to be cruising around the apartment complexes on Busbee Parkway.

“Reports have been made from Greenhouse, Poplar Place and Townpark Crossing apartments located on Busbee Parkway. All reports have occurred after midnight,” Haynes said.

Although no reports have been made on campus, many students who attend KSU live in these apartment complexes, there by making this a very real threat to the women of the community.

Cobb County police department has promised to increase their patrols. The man that they are looking for has been described as a suspicious Hispanic male. The most important thing for the KSU community is to keep aware of surroundings, upholding safety and alertness.

Dr. Bob Mattox, Director of Counseling, advised students who may be worried about this situation, or who may have personally been affected by it, to contact the CAPS Center where students can get counseling.

“Call campus police immediately and make a report as quickly as you can, so that the campus police can catch the individual,” Mattox said.

The KSU police have offered some safety tips: always lock car and apartment doors, even as friends come over, close blinds and curtains at night to make sure that no one can see in, and if not on the bottom level of a building be sure all windows are locked and secured.

“Just call the CAPS Center and set up an appointment,” Mattox said. “We have licensed and trained psychiatrists available to talk if a student feels worried, stressed or violated.”

The first appointment at the CAPS Center is an “Initial Assessment” and helps decide the best road to take to assist with a concern. They take about 45 minutes to complete the “Initial Assessment.”

Students will not have to be afraid to express what they are feeling because the CAPS Center has a strict confidentiality code. No one out side of the counseling area will know what is said in a counseling session.

“Don’t just blow this off. You might be stopping someone who might be doing something else besides just peeping. Report it No. 1, even if it seems embarrassing so that campus police can keep a look out, chances are they wont do it just once,” Mattox said.

The CAPS Center is located on the second floor of the Kennesaw Hall or students can call 770-423-6600 to set up an appointment.

http://www.ksusentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1623&Itemid=1

Car flies over speed bump; DUI

By: Danielle Davidson

Posted: 9/10/08

On the night of Sept. 5, a Virginia Ash Catering van careened into a student's parked car in front of the bookstore bus stop. The car belonged to an undisclosed sorority sister of Alpha Xi Delta, who was in Boykin at the time of the crash, approximately 9:30 pm.

Officers rushed to the scene, accompanied by a passing Georgia State Patrol Trooper. When they arrived, Trooper Lahmen performed a Standard Field Sobriety Test on the driver and found him legally drunk. Lahmen arrested him for DUI and proceeded to search the van, where she found pools of beer in the floor. Lahmen also found less than an ounce of marijuana in the man's possession.

The driver claimed to be visiting friends on campus when he lost control. The officers on scene calculated that the van raced over the speed bump, causing the driver to swerve to correct the vehicle. The front of the van slammed into the driver's side of the car with full force, pushing the car onto the curb and back into the car parked behind it.

The left side of the car was crushed, revealing the metal frame and countless shards of glass. Thankfully, no one was hurt, including the driver.

"Just imagine if there had been someone on the sidewalk. Or crossing the street," stated an anonymous campus officer. "People are going to drink. Some are going to get in a car and drive. People die because of it. That's not going to change. But students can be responsible. If you have a single doubt that you're safe to drive, don't do it."



The drunk driver hit the speed bump outside Gunn Hall, flew into the air, and smashed into a car.

<http://media.www.thewestgeorgian.com/media/storage/paper523/news/2008/09/10/News/Car-Flies.Over.Speed.Bump.Dui-3424074.shtml?refeature=htmlmailedition>

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Posted on Thu, Sep. 11, 2008

CSU police make downtown drug bust

By Lily Gordon

An Albany, Ga., woman faces a slew of drug charges after being arrested Wednesday in downtown Columbus, said Columbus State University Police Chief Rus Drew.

A campus police officer patrolling near the Coca Cola Space Science Center close to midnight observed a car parked outside the museum on Front Street and two women standing around, Drew said. When the officer approached the women she allegedly saw a bag of marijuana sitting on their vehicle's dashboard. That gave her probable cause to search the vehicle, Drew said.

In the car, the officer found a significant amount of ecstasy and cocaine.

"It was several bags of ecstasy," Drew said.

A check of the women's background revealed one of them had warrants out for her for burglary and theft.

Shannon Dixon, 21, was arrested and charged with trafficking in ecstasy, possession of cocaine with the intent to distribute, possession of drug-related items and possession of marijuana.

In addition the drugs, the campus police officer seized several women's hats suspected to have been stolen, Drew said.

Dixon is not a CSU student.

http://www.ledger-enquirer.com/news/breaking_news/story/438745.html

Emergency plans are responsible

Programs 'on track' with goals

By: AMANDA WOODRUFF

Posted: 9/12/08

At 8:30 a.m. Thursday, 15 minutes shy of the time the first plane struck the World Trade Center seven years ago, University faculty and staff gathered to discuss an "all hazards" approach to campus safety and emergency preparedness.

"All of us in this post 9/11 world should take (emergency preparedness) very seriously," said Tim Burgess, senior vice president for finance and administration. Burgess opened the first in a series of academic professional security seminars sponsored by the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Center for International Trade and Security.

Individuals need to take responsibility for their own safety, Steve Harris, director of the Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness, said. Student response to tornado warnings issued two weeks ago was troubling, he said.

"We had some students who e-mailed us and said they were waiting on (police) to tell them what to do," he said. "It's a little bit disconcerting."

To encourage students to prepare themselves for emergencies, OSEP will launch a Community Emergency Response Team in mid-October. Working with the Red Cross and the Athens Clarke-County Fire Department, students, faculty and staff will be trained in emergency preparation, Harris said.

The eight-week program will be held at the Student Learning Center and registration information can be found at www.osep.uga.edu.

"Individual preparedness is the cornerstone of emergency preparedness," Harris said.

"UGA is on track" with its security goals, said Kathy Pharr, assistant vice president for finance and administration. Pharr chaired the Emergency Preparedness and Communications Committee, which was launched after the Virginia Tech shooting.

University police won't see a rise in salaries anytime soon, though the Committee recommended the hike to improve police retention and recruitment.

"Unfortunately, in the budget climate, we can't do this right now," Pharr said.

Safety programs such as UGAAAlert were enhanced to ensure successful communication in crises, and several projects are still in progress, Pharr said.

About 90 percent of campus buildings have registered Building Safety and Security Representatives who are trained according to federal government protocol to handle crisis situations. Without this training, the University is ineligible for state or federal disaster funding.

Bids are ongoing for a new security system for Sanford Stadium, Pharr said, and the University received a grant from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency to fund the project.

"I hope you'll agree with me that a significant amount of progress has been made," Pharr said. "We made a good system better, but we're not resting on our laurels. We'll consistently assess what we have in place and continue to make improvements."

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/12/News/Emergency.Plans.Are.Responsible-3427754.shtml>

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GCSU marks Sept. 11 anniversary with ceremony

Jonathan Jackson

The Union-Recorder

September 11, 2008 11:22 pm

— Soldiers, firemen, law enforcement officers and members of the community all gathered Thursday at Georgia College & State University for a ceremony marking the seventh anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on New York and Washington, D.C.

“You take away a feeling of appreciation from an event like this,” Lt. Raynard Tuft with the GCSU Police Department said at the event.

Tuft, who served 20 years in the military before joining the force, recalled when he first heard of the attacks.

“I remember exactly where I was when I heard about the attacks. I was an Army career counselor at Ft. Gordon, sitting at my desk, when someone came in and said we were being attacked,” Tuft said.

Tuft recalled the subsequent time spent watching live coverage of the events as they played out in the national news media. Like Tuft, other apprehensive Americans stayed glued to the television, and held on to hope for any new piece of information as the day unfolded.

Event organizer Kendall Stiles, GIVE Center director, greeted those gathered Thursday as representatives lit candles in memory of the police, fire rescue, armed forces, rescue animals and civilians killed in the attacks. A moment of silence was observed to remember the fallen heroes of the attacks, and a musical selection was provided by a soloist.

Five sets of five rings from a fire bell marked, exponentially, the nearly 3,000 who perished as a result of the terror attacks.

At the close of the program, Stiles asked the crowd gathered to form a reception line to greet and thank the law enforcement, military and fire rescue personnel at the ceremony.

“I’m honored that the public recognizes and appreciates our efforts,” Maj. Joe Grant with the GCSU Police Department said. “Ordinary people just like you and me were doing their jobs that day. You just never know when that day will come.”

http://www.unionrecorder.com/local/local_story_255232224.html

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Men pull gun on UGA student on North Campus

By: Staff reports

Posted: 9/16/08

The University Police Department is searching for two men who attempted to rob a University student at gunpoint Monday night in the area of Old College and Terrell Hall.

UGA Police told the Athens Banner-Herald that two men approached a male student at about 9 p.m.

Monday and at least one of them had a gun.

According to the UGA Police Alert:

At around 9:04 p.m. Monday, a person reported to UGA Police they were the victim of an attempted armed robbery. Details are still somewhat unclear, but one of the offenders is described as a black male, with a medium complexion, around six feet tall, brandishing a handgun. The armed robbery was not successful and no one was injured.

The University of Georgia Police ask that anyone who may have been in the area, witnessed anything, or have any information please contact the UGA Police Department at 706-542-2200.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/16/News/Men-Pull.Gun.On.Uga.Student.On.North.Campus-3433521.shtml?refeature=recentlycommentedstoriestab>

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Men pull gun on student on North Campus in attempted robbery

By Joe Johnson | Athens Banner-Herald | Story updated at on

University of Georgia police this morning are looking for two men who pulled a gun on a UGA student and demanded money outside the university president's office on historic North Campus.

Two men approached a male student at about 9 p.m. Monday and at least one of them had a gun, UGA police said.

The student told the gunmen he had nothing to give "in a manner that would draw attention," apparently scaring them off, according to UGA police Lt. Eric Dellinger.

On-campus armed robberies are rare, and investigators do not think the gunmen were students, UGA police Chief Jimmy Williamson said.

Five people were robbed in three on-campus armed robberies on a single day in February 2003.

Monday's attempted hold-up occurred on the sidewalk outside Terrell Hall and the Administration building, where President Michael Adams and other administrators have offices.

The area is well-lit, though large trees create shadowy spots.

A witness who saw the robbery attempt called 911, and UGA officers quickly met the victim at the corner of South Jackson and West Broad streets, police said.

Campus and Athens-Clarke police unsuccessfully scoured the downtown area for possible suspects, UGA police said.

UGA investigators are reinterviewing the victim and witness this morning to see if they can come up with better descriptions or additional details that could help identify possible suspects.

Originally published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Gunmen try to rob university student

First such incident at UGA since 2003

By Joe Johnson | joe.johnson@onlineathens.com | Story updated at 11:27 pm on 9/16/2008

A pair of gunmen held up a University of Georgia student Monday night outside the university president's office on historic North Campus.

The men didn't get away with anything, however, in what UGA police said was the first stick-up on campus in five years.

"Fortunately, we don't see a whole lot of violent crime on campus," UGA police Chief Jimmy Williamson said. "Most people think crime only happens in large metropolitan areas, but we know it occurs everywhere and our big task is to get (students) to think it can happen here."

Daniel Nooromid, a 20-year-old junior, left UGA's Main Library and was walking home to his East Clayton Street apartment about 9 p.m., when two men accosted him.

The student passed by the men sitting near Terrell Hall and the Administration Building, where UGA President Michael Adams and other UGA officials have offices, Nooromid said.

"I took maybe 10 steps past them when I heard movement behind me, and when I turned around there they were, one of them holding a handgun and telling me, 'Give me all your sh--,' " said Nooromid, a business administration major from Atlanta.

Nooromid - who was holding a burrito and talking to a friend on a cell phone - began to speak loudly to try to attract attention and thwart the robbery.

"I said, 'Yo, relax, I don't have anything,' " Nooromid said. "I basically tried to draw attention to the situation, and buy myself time so they didn't do anything rash, like shoot me."

Nooromid talked to the men for more than a minute before they took off running toward South Jackson Street, he said.

He described the would-be robbers as black men in their early 20s who were dressed all in black, including their shirts, jean shorts and shoes.

At least three other people witnessed the holdup, and one called 911. Campus and Athens-Clarke police officers scoured the downtown area, but didn't find any suspects, UGA police said.

Investigators from both police departments were studying footage from the county's surveillance camera system, as well as systems owned by downtown businesses, to see if they taped the robbers running from campus, Williamson said.

People act differently when robbers confront them, but UGA's police chief said the safest course of action is to hand over valuables.

"If you're dealing with a perpetrator, especially one who has a firearm, our recommendation is to give whatever personal property they want because that could be replaced," Williamson said.

The last time Williamson recalled anyone was robbed on campus was in February 2003, when police believe the same pair of gunmen held up five people in three separate armed robberies on the same day.

http://onlineathens.com/stories/091708/uga_333217052.shtml

Originally published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Alerts questioned after gun incident

Students confused by UGAAlert's uses

By: SHANESSA FAKOUR

Posted: 9/17/08

Students expressed frustration at how the University told them of an attempted armed robbery on campus Monday night.

"We should have been told sooner," said Forrest Sherman, a freshman from Powder Springs. "My friend was studying at the SLC until midnight and walked back by herself."

The Arch News list serv, which includes students, faculty and staff, received an e-mail 12 hours later from University Police. The e-mail explained that a student had been held at gunpoint by two men near the administration building. The e-mail said there has been a rise in the number of armed robberies in Georgia and the Athens area.

"It's a visibility issue," said Daniel Nooromid, a junior from Atlanta who police identified as the victim of the attempted robbery. "I wouldn't think to walk home on Jackson Street when it is supposed to be a safe alternative, but maybe it's not."

Nooromid told the men who approached that he "didn't have anything to give them in a manner that would attract attention," according to the police report. The men fled.

"We spend money on UGAAlert, so why not on additional security guards or those blue boxes on campus?" said Katy Brim, a senior from Gainesville. She also questioned the reason for UGAAlert if it wasn't used Monday.

The e-mail was not sent sooner because the robbery was an isolated incident, University Police Chief Jimmy Williamson said in an interview Tuesday. The goal of the e-mail was to alert students to the rise in

armed robberies rather than to serve as an incident alert, he said.

Ashley Miller, a senior from Snellville, expressed concern about the increase.

"There is no security on campus. Police drive around the perimeter, but no one is actually walking on campus - or at least I haven't seen them," she said. The incident happened while students were at the library, "so they should have security guards or something as people walk to their cars." For students who travel at night, University Police offer the escort van service, said Jean Cleveland, public relations specialist for the Main Library.

"We always have security in the building anytime it is open to assist patrons and protect collections," she said. "We make it a point to be aware of what's going on outside the building, but travel to and from is outside our jurisdiction."

Students may make lifestyle changes after reading the e-mail, such as walking in groups, Williamson said.

"I walk home from downtown or the SLC at 1 a.m. sometimes," said Ashley Gravlin, a freshman from Louisville, Ky. "An armed robbery may have made me think twice."

Two witnesses contacted police Tuesday, Williamson said.

Nooromid told The Red & Black the offenders were black males in their early 20s wearing all black clothing. One is 5'10" and the other is 6', both between 150 and 180 pounds.

Williamson asks anyone with information to contact the police department at 706-542-2200.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/17/News/Alerts.Questioned.After.Gun.Incident-3434702.shtml>

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Fake IDs found, not searched for, by police

Arrested students tell tales

By: SHANESSA FAKOUR

Posted: 9/17/08

Though police officers must have probable cause to search for fake IDs, students should be weary of leaving anything with a false identity in plain view.

Five students who were pulled over for traffic violations in the past five months were charged with possession of a fake ID.

Police officers are trained to be observant, and if a fake ID is easily visible to the officer - such as being

located behind the person's legal ID - then the student can be charged with the misdemeanor, University Police Chief Jimmy Williamson said in an interview Tuesday.

"It's so prevalent, it's hard not to find them," Williamson said. However, "police aren't targeting anyone."

Chelsea Marthan Baer, a junior from Marietta, was charged with speeding and possession of a fake ID on Aug. 16, according to a police report.

"I didn't even realize I had my fake ID behind my ID," Baer

said Tuesday in a phone interview. She said she was sure the police officer was looking in her wallet when she pulled her driver's license from its clear card holder. Her fake was easy to spot, she said.

A similar scenario happened to Khai Hoc Tran, who was pulled over for running a red light on Sept. 11. As he took out his driver's license, the officer spotted his fake ID behind a picture in his wallet, the police officer reported.

Thomas Hale Avery, a sophomore from Atlanta, was driving without a license when he approached a police checkpoint, Avery said Tuesday in a phone interview. He "freaked out" and left his car to walk through the woods to a doctor's appointment at the University Health Center. Avery's passenger drove the car and was pulled over at the checkpoint by an officer who saw the stopped car, according to a police report.

A police officer stopped Avery in the woods. The officer asked for his license, and Avery said he did not have one with him.

The officer asked him to take out his wallet, and Avery showed the empty clear card holder that held his license.

The officer took the wallet from him and began asking about other cards, such as debit cards and his University ID, Avery said.

After the officer finished "nosing around," Avery said the officer reached behind a hidden slot and pulled out his fake ID.

Avery was arrested and charged with misdemeanor possession of a fake ID, according to the report.

Avery hired a lawyer and explained what happened during the search. The charge was later dropped due to illegal searching by the officer, he said.

Avery said even though the charge was dropped, it was still a hassle to pay for a lawyer and go through the trial process.

Officers must have "probable cause" to search a suspect's property, Williamson said.

Alexander Mark Busko, a junior from Atlanta and staff writer for The Red & Black, was charged with possession of a fake ID after he was pulled over for an expired registration tag on Aug. 9, according to a police report.

The officer noticed a fake ID in Busko's wallet when he asked Busko for identification, the police report said.

Busko said the officer asked to look in his closed wallet, which was sitting on the middle console in his vehicle, after checking his identification.

Tess Alexandra Vincent, a junior from Suwanee, was arrested Sept. 11 and charged with possession of a fake ID after she was pulled over for speeding, according to a police report.

The officer saw her fake ID behind her real ID after he pulled her over, the report said.

Vincent could not be reached for comment Tuesday.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/17/News/Fake-Ids.Found.Not.Searched.For.By.Police-3434665.shtml>

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Crisis Managers equip school with safety plan

Written by Michael Romeo, Staff Writer Tuesday, 16 September 2008

National Preparedness Month is an effort that was held nationwide in September to encourage people to be prepared for emergencies.

“The key to ensuring personal and family safety in the event of an emergency is obtaining some basic supplies and having a plan,” said KSU President, Dan Papp, in a letter to the campus community. “In September, KSU, in cooperation with the Cobb County Emergency Management Agency, will kick-off a four-month program highlighting the importance of personal [and] family disaster preparedness.”

A brief outline of each month’s focus was released to the campus community. The four main concentrations are on planning, preparing, collecting and giving. Each month, the KSU Department of Strategic Security and Safety will distribute information highlighting the focus of the upcoming month.

KSU has set up a Crisis Manager program in order to help students and faculty in the event of an emergency.

“Crisis Managers are individuals of personnel that are trained in evacuation techniques, shelter-in processes and are provided with orange vests denoting Crisis Manager,” said Robert Lang, Assistant Vice President for Strategic Security and Safety. “They are also furnished radios and whistles to assist in moving personnel or remaining in place. The CMs will be trained in first aid, CPR, and AED use as time

goes on. Some are already trained in these areas.”

These Crisis Managers will also have “red books”. These books contain plans, chemical lists, fire extinguisher locations evacuation routes and shelter locations.

This system also sends out weather warnings and alerts. There are sirens located on top of the North Deck, the Welcome Center, University Place and the Central Parking Deck.

The sirens are used specifically to prompt people to seek shelter, but the KSU alert system has the ability to add voice messages after the tones. “I was asleep the first time they went off and they were able to wake me up to make me aware that something was going on” said Sarah Ward, resident of University Village.

The system will also work through the ConnectED system. “KSU Public Safety is trained on how to initiate the siren system as well as the ConnectED system for Early Notification. Siren use will only be for “sheltering-in and not evacuations,” said Lang. “Both the sirens and the Early Notification (cell, voice, and email) can be initiated by the KSU P.D. during off hours when necessary.”

Students should make sure that they list their cell phone in their contact information on Owl Express, not their home phone, in order to receive information from the early warning system.

The focus plan for September can be found at the KSU Strategic Security and Safety website: www.kennesaw.edu/ss.

Automated campus alert system's flaws examined

Recent notifications delayed

By Lee Shearer | lee.shearer@onlineathens.com | Story updated at 11:03 pm on 9/17/2008

University of Georgia public safety officials still don't fully understand why an automated emergency notification system failed to work properly when the National Weather Service issued a tornado warning for Clarke County in August.

The UGAAlert system is supposed to alert students and workers on campus when a severe, uncontrolled, campus-wide threat could harm them, such as last year's massacre on the Virginia Tech campus or natural disasters such as tornadoes.

Most UGA workers and students are connected to the system, which sent out nearly 150,000 automated messages announcing the tornado warning Aug. 26 - about 64,000 telephone calls, 15,000 text messages and 70,000 e-mails.

But the system didn't even begin to send the messages until 13 minutes after the National Weather Service issued the tornado warning, said Steve Harris, head of UGA's Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness.

Most people on campus got a timely warning anyway, either through tornado sirens activated by the Athens-Clarke government or through radio, TV or word-of-mouth, Harris said.

The UGAAlert warning about the tornado threat actually was delayed twice, Harris said.

A weather radio in the UGA Police Department's radio dispatching room didn't work, Harris said, but workers heard the sirens.

UGA has ordered a second weather radio for the dispatch room, said UGA police Chief Jimmy Williamson.

A slow-responding computer system owned by a private vendor caused the second delay, Harris said.

"We're still evaluating what that delay was," Harris said.

The sheer number of people signed up to receive alerts may have bogged the system down.

"We have the most users we've ever had - about 50,000," Harris said.

Workers now are purging from the system people who've left UGA, such as workers who have moved on or students no longer enrolled, Harris said.

The system worked well in four previous real-life tests - all on the same day in March, when the National Weather Service's Peachtree City station issued two tornado warnings for Athens.

UGAAlert sent out messages four times that day - twice to alert people of the tornado warning, and twice to tell them the threat had passed, Harris said.

Students and workers also did not get a warning after an attempted armed robbery on the UGA campus Monday night, but the system is not designed for that type of situation, Williamson said.

"It was not an immediate threat that required immediate attention," he said.

Witnesses said the robbers, armed with a handgun, headed toward downtown after they tried and failed to get money from a UGA student walking on South Jackson Street near the UGA Administration Building.

There was no threat on campus, Williamson said.

Originally published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Thursday, September 18, 2008

http://onlineathens.com/stories/091808/uqa_333533209.shtml

Vandalism shocks officials, suspects unknown

By: Chelsea Thomas

Posted: 9/19/08

Milledgeville is not home to many acts of public defacement. Yet, the concern of vandalism has already become an issue within the first few weeks of this semester.

On the morning of Sept. 3, local homeowners on South Liberty Street found a tree and five shrubs uprooted from the yard of their house. While there is still no proof as to whether the damage was done by a GCSU student or students, the location of the damaged yard is en route from the Centennial residence halls and The Grove apartments to historic downtown.

Detective Butler from Public Safety uses his own personal experience to speculate on this vandalism.

"If I had to guess I would say it was more than one person involved," said Butler.

Bruce Harshbarger, Vice President and Dean of Students, says that most acts of vandalism are not planned incidences. Alcohol consumption is usually involved in the decision to damage another's property.

"The connection between consequence and action usually goes away when the buzz starts," said Harshbarger.

In the past, GCSU has had a few situations of vandalism per semester. There has been defacement done to numerous campus areas, such as the bobcat face, newly paved sidewalks and commuters' cars.

In the early morning of Aug. 29, a male student was reported to public safety for jumping on the hood of three vehicles parked on West Montgomery Street. Recklessly denting civilians' cars is a criminal charge. Detective Butler has a suspect for this incident.

Every GCSU student and faculty acknowledges the GCSU Honor Code, which states, "(GCSU) students shall at all times refrain from, discourage, and as far as possible, prevent all attempts at lying, cheating, stealing, plagiarism, and vandalism."

Parties responsible for breaking the Honor Code are brought in front of the Judicial Council and the Dean of Students.

"Students should be proactive with one another and set expectations for one another," said Harshbarger.

One of the biggest threats resulting from these acts of vandalism is that the university will lose credibility with the local community.

"People tend to focus on problems, so this could be a negative effect on the community's outlook at

GCSU," said Harshbarger. "Even though most of the downtown residents realize that most students are respectable people there is potential for one student to change all that."

Justin Haight, the Student Government Association Vice President, says he will be disappointed if the vandalism proves to be done by a GCSU student.

"It's unfortunate to see a few bad apples ruin the whole bunch as these acts not only deteriorate our beautiful community," Haight said, "but it also further distances our students from the community - which is the exact opposite of what SGA is working towards."

For the tree and shrubbery vandalism committed on Sept. 3, Public Safety is offering a \$500 reward to those who can offer information helpful in the arrest of those responsible. If students know anything about the vandalism they can call the anonymous tip line at 478-445-5169.

Steeped in awards for service engagement, GCSU should be recognized as a school of responsible students, not one that destroys the surrounding neighborhoods.

"Be the change you wish to see in the world," Harshbarger said.



<http://media.www.gcsunade.com/media/storage/paper299/news/2008/09/19/CampusNews/Vandalism.Shocks.Officials.Suspects.Unknown-3438987.shtml>

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Sexual assault shocks residents

By: Danielle Davidson

Posted: 9/24/08

Last week, the University of West Georgia had to face another attack, this time on one of its students.

At approximately 10:45 p.m. on Sept. 17, a female student talking on her cell phone outside of Bowdon Hall was approached and sexually assaulted by an unknown male. They had talked briefly, and when she refused to hug him, he grabbed and groped her. She was able to push him away and run back inside Bowdon after knocking on the door.

The description issued by Campus Police was that of a "black male, average height and weight, bugged

out eyes, with some facial hair on his chin. He was wearing a collared shirt that was olive green in color and possibly wearing a camo hat. Victim stated that he was difficult to understand and that he mumbled. From her conversation with the perpetrator, it is possible that he has been in the area of the Bowdon Hall parking lot the past few nights. He also identified himself as either Mr. T or Mr. D."

If anyone has seen this man or know his identity, please contact the UWG Police at (678)839-4974.

When asked about the current dangers facing the UWG campus, Chief of Police Thomas Mackel asserted that every campus has its dangers, and the greatest deterrent is being aware of them.

"Always walk with somebody or ask for an escort. First of all, don't get overly intoxicated. The vast majority of harassment cases are alcohol-related. Watch your drinks for date rape drugs, even in Carrollton. The campus is safe, but you don't want to take any chances. You don't know who's going to be on campus," said Mackel.

On an individual level of defense or protection, Campus Police offers a program called Rape Aggression Defense. According to their site, RAD is a "national program of realistic self-defense tactics and techniques taught for women only." All courses are taught by nationally certified instructors and students are taught regardless of physical condition. The course is not considered martial arts, teaching physical as well as non-physical options, including insight into the attacker's mindset. The next available RAD classes start Oct. 21 in Adamson Hall, Room 217 at 7 p.m

Mackel quickly pointed out the fortitude of the victim of the attack, as well as her luck.

"She wasn't doing anything wrong, and when it did turn into a bad situation, she responded as she should have. This was unprovoked and unforeseeable. She was doing everything right."

The misfortune of the event only supports the argument for defense classes and training. Even with the best of circumstances, things still happen.

As for the best advice, Mackel said, "Be aware. Pay attention to where you are, who's around you, and what time it is. If any of those things send up a red flag, react. These ideas are really important, and most people know them, but it's a matter of remembering, until something bad happens. Don't forget about this girl. When you forget, that's when you get careless. It needs to be a constant thought of safety. Take the steps to make sure that you are safe."

<http://media.www.thewestgeorgian.com/media/storage/paper523/news/2008/09/24/News/Sexual.Assault.Shocks.Residents-3449923.shtml>

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Study: Campus alerts unreliable

By Lee Shearer | lee.shearer@onlineathens.com | Story updated at 11:32 pm on 9/24/2008

Emergency notification systems that send automated text messages and voice calls to cell phones are unreliable and slow in a crisis and even could interfere with 911 communications, according to a study by a Georgia Tech scientist.

The University of Georgia and many other U.S. colleges and universities have adopted alert systems that deliver warnings through cell systems, especially after a 2007 mass shooting at Virginia Tech that left the shooter and 32 other people dead.

But even in the best of conditions, cell phone-based systems are not able to meet a federal emergency alert goal to reach 85 percent of the population within 10 minutes, according to Patrick Traynor of Georgia Tech's Information Security Center.

"There's a great misconception about what text messaging can and cannot do," Traynor said.

UGA officials say the UGAAlert emergency system has not been hit by the kinds of problems Traynor has identified in tests and real-life emergencies. In addition to text messages, the UGA system uses other avenues to get the word out, including e-mail and voice messages.

Text messages are subject to the same kinds of random delays that can slow e-mail delivery, according to Traynor's study, released last week.

At Georgia Tech last year, an alert system sent out text messages warning of a chemical spill, telling people to evacuate campus. Soon after, the system issued a second message saying to ignore the evacuation order - the spill was not as drastic as feared.

Some on the Tech campus got the second message before they received the first one, he said.

And people call loved ones after they receive an automated warning - adding to call volume and generating a spike of cell-phone traffic potentially large enough to overload a cell network and interfere with E-911 communications, Traynor said.

In addition, text-messaging systems are vulnerable to fraud, he said. A hacker could send out a false emergency alert, and the people who received the message would have no way to know it was fake, he said.

But UGAAlert has worked well for the most part, according to Steve Harris, head of UGA's Office of Security and Emergency Preparedness.

"We've seen that SMS (short message service) text messaging goes through very quickly," Harris said.

The system is supposed to notify 90 percent of the people signed up for the warnings - around 50,000 - of an emergency within 15 minutes.

Cell phone vendors say they have not seen any unusual spikes when the UGAAlert system has been activated, Harris said.

And UGA's system does not rely solely on text messaging and cell phones, Harris said.

The UGAAlert system did not begin sending out a tornado warning Aug. 26 until 13 minutes after the National Weather Service issued the warning. But the delay was unrelated to the shortcomings Traynor identified in his research.

A weather radio in a UGA Police dispatch office did not pick up the tornado warning, and a slow-responding computer system added to the delay.

UGA officials are working with the private company that sold the university its alert system, Blackboard Connect, to find and fix the computer problem, Harris said.

Despite those glitches, most people on campus learned of the warning quickly through other means, such as Athens-Clarke County tornado sirens, warnings broadcast on radio and TV, and word of mouth, UGA officials said.

A new technology called cell broadcast messaging could reach cell phone users much more quickly during an emergency, according to Traynor and Chris Pearson, head of an organization called 3G Americas, a trade group for cell phone companies. Cell broadcasting can deliver a message simultaneously to all cell phones in a geographic area, as opposed to the thousands of individual calls a text-messaging system makes to alert a group of people.

But right now, cell phone networks don't have the equipment for such emergency broadcasts, and few existing cell phones are capable of receiving the broadcasts, Pearson said.

The federal government and private industry are working together to deploy a cell broadcast network in the United States, Pearson said. The system could become operational in 2011, he said.

Until then, notification systems like UGAAlert still are the most reliable way to notify large numbers of people of emergencies, Harris said.

Originally published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Thursday, September 25, 2008

GEORGIA REPORT: Counterfeit-ticket warning issued

By [Chip Towers](#), [Tim Tucker](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Thursday, September 25, 2008

Athens — Ticket prices for the Alabama-Georgia game have been steadily climbing all week, and that has increased concerns of counterfeit-ticket activity on Saturday.

On TicketsNow.com, the average price of a ticket on Wednesday was about \$400, easily the highest of all college games this week, according to spokesman Mike Tennant. The cheapest tickets available were \$256 each, with good seats going for as much as \$642, Tennant said.

Meanwhile, UGA Police Chief Jimmy Williamson sent out a news release Wednesday afternoon warning fans to be on high alert for counterfeit tickets, counterfeit money and other criminal activity during the weekend.

Auburn, Ala., police told Williams they believe the same organization that circulated hundreds of high-quality counterfeit tickets before and during last Saturday's game against LSU is headed to Athens for the Georgia-Alabama game.

"Sometimes you're dealing with independents, but we feel like this is a more organized group considering the concentrated effort they saw at Auburn-LSU," Williamson said. "People need to know doing business on the side of the road with somebody you don't know is taking a lot of risks."

Williamson said these criminals work very hard at blending into the crowd, often dressing as fans of the home team. They engage marks into friendly conversation and make them feel like they're getting a great deal. Money counterfeiters and pickpockets are also commonplace, he said.

Sly comment from man in black

He might not admit it, but Georgia coach Mark Richt responded Wednesday to the video leaked Tuesday from Alabama's practice in which a strength coach tells the team the Bulldogs are wearing black because they're attending their own funeral.

Richt walked into the team meeting room for his post-practice briefing Wednesday wearing a black hat, black shirt and black shorts. "I'm going to a funeral," he said with a mischievous grin.

Naturally, a reporter asked if he was responding to the Alabama video. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

Richt stands pat on offensive line

Against Arizona State, Georgia had new offensive line starters (for this season) at all five positions — LT Vince Vance, LG Chris Davis, C Ben Jones, RG Clint Boling, RT Justin Anderson. Richt said the Dogs will stick with that Saturday. "I think we'll start that way," he said. "I'm almost certain we will."

Dogs-Arizona St. a big TV draw

Georgia's victory over Arizona State on ABC on Saturday night posted a 16.0 rating on metro Atlanta television — slightly lower than Sunday's Falcons game — but considerably higher than Saturday's LSU-Auburn game.

The Falcons' win over Kansas City drew a 16.4 rating on CBS. LSU-Auburn got a 5.2 locally.

The ratings translate to average metro Atlanta audiences of about 379,000 households for the Falcons game and 370,000 for the Georgia game. A week earlier, the Georgia-South Carolina game outdrew the Falcons-Tampa Bay game in Atlanta by about 7,000 households.

The Georgia Tech-Mississippi State game, which aired Saturday afternoon on WUPA, posted a 3.9 rating in metro Atlanta, or about 90,000 households.

The rating is the average percentage of the market's TV households tuned in.

Find this article at:

http://www.ajc.com/print/content/printedition/2008/09/25/ganotes.html?cxntlid=inform_sr

FILL UP: Gas shortage hits students, not University

By: BRITTANY COFER

Posted: 9/25/08

Students may be scrambling to find fuel, but the University has yet to be hit hard by gas shortages rippling through the Southeast.

"So far we've been able to get [gas]," said Ron Hamlin, Campus Transit manager, in a phone interview Wednesday. "But ever since Hurricane Ike, we've been getting only half as much as we order."

If the situation does not improve soon, Campus Transit has back-up plans already set, such as buses running for only part of the day and fueling less frequently, Hamlin said.

But Hamlin said he does not anticipate anything bad happening with the fuel situation.

University Police have "plenty of fuel," despite shortages in the area, said University Police Chief Jimmy Williamson in a phone interview Wednesday.

They receive their gasoline from the Physical Plant.

"Based on the precautions [the University] has taken ... There should be enough for us."

"The situation might effect game day," Williamson said. "If people are traveling great distances, then they might want to think about that since we are experiencing shortages."

Williamson said police are doing trying to cut back on fuel consumption. Many are leaving their patrol cars parked and opting to walk, he said.

But students who refuel are feeling shortages at the pump.

"I told my friend to get gas and he drove around trying to get it," said Stuart Tench, a sophomore from Habersham, said Wednesday. "He couldn't get any."

The Athens Shell gas station at 2290 Barnett Shoals Rd. has mid-grade and premium gas, but the cashier was not sure when the station would receive regular fuel.

A cashier at the BP station on Alps Road said he received 3,000 gallons of regular gasoline Wednesday to last 24 hours.

But a cashier at the RaceTrac on Atlanta Highway said the regular gas would only last about three hours.

Megan Ramsey, a cashier at Kangaroo Express on Lumpkin Street, said the station would "hopefully receive some [gas] sometime" Wednesday.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/25/News/Fill-Up.Gas.Shortage.Hits.Students.Not.University-3450991.shtml>

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Police warn against scam

Fake tickets could sell

Issue date: 9/25/08 **Section:** [News](#)

Don't buy football tickets from someone you don't know on Saturday, University Police warned fans and visitors Wednesday.

Police expressed concern that a fraudulent ticket scam could hit Athens for the much-anticipated football game this weekend between No. 3 Georgia and No. 8 Alabama.

In a news release, police said police from the Alabama reported a large number of counterfeit tickets at the Auburn-Louisiana State game Sept. 20.

Both that game and the one this weekend are set at night preceded by the popular ESPN "College GameDay" show.

The magnitude of the two games is similar. Southeastern Conference foes Auburn and LSU were also ranked in the top 10 nationally.

These fake tickets look incredibly similar to the real tickets, police said. They also warned that counterfeit money is used to buy tickets.

"Individuals that sell counterfeit tickets do everything to blend in and look like the average fan, according to police and that the counterfeit tickets being sold are hard to recognize even for Athletic Association personnel," police wrote in the release.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/25/News/Police.Warn.Against.Scam-3451001.shtml>

- Kristen Coulter

Police Arrest Suspect After Chase Ends in Crash at Georgia State Campus

Last Edited: Thursday, 25 Sep 2008, 5:49 AM EDT Created: Thursday, 25 Sep 2008, 5:49 AM EDT

reported by: Marc Teichner
edited by: Jacqueline Gullede

ATLANTA (MyFOX Atlanta) -- Police want to know why a man with a broken tail-light led them on a wild chase from Cobb County into downtown Atlanta. The man eventually crashed on the Georgia State University campus and was arrested.

The chase began around midnight early Thursday morning as Cobb County police tried to pull over a Cadillac Escalade on Windy Hill Road. Police said the driver sped off, and police followed the SUV down Interstate 75 into downtown Atlanta.

Police said the suspect tried to hit a squad car before losing control and slamming into a closed garage door at Georgia State University's alumni hall.

GSU student Kylexia Pitts said the suspect appeared to have given police the slip but then slammed into the building.

GSU and Atlanta police arrested the injured suspect. The wreck destroyed his escalade and left a huge hole in a concrete wall.



<http://www.myfoxatlanta.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=7509312&version=1&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

Latest in News

DEVELOPING STORY: Suspicious Note Found on Campus

Written by Chris Buchanan Thursday, 25 September 2008 13:33

Georgia Southern validated rumors circulating around campus Wednesday when they released an official statement regarding a "suspicious note" found in a campus building.

Though neither the specific building nor the contents of the note were mentioned in the statement, some students reported a large police presence in and around the College of Information Technology

that morning.

“[Wednesday] morning, Georgia Southern University’s public safety department was alerted to a suspicious note found in a building on campus,” said Senior Communication Specialist Paul Floeckher.

“Officials immediately responded and they are continuing to proactively investigate,” he said.

He also said that no specific threat was made to GSU and classes remained in session for that reason.

“We have been in contact all day with university Public Safety and if there had been a threat, then we would have sent an alert,” he said.

Student Government Association President Brandon Cook was also informed of the issue during the day.

“To my understanding, the reason it was handled the way it was handled was so you don’t create a panic,” he said, “that’s not something we really want.”

Students should report suspicious letters and packages to the Office of Public Safety at 912-478-5234.

For more information about what to do in various emergencies, view Georgia Southern’s [Emergency Response Plan](#).

Among other emergencies, the plan includes precautions and recommendations for suspicious letters as well as criminal and terrorist behavior.

Continue to visit GADaily.com for more updates as they become available.

http://www.stp.georgiasouthern.edu/index.php?option=com_content&view=section&layout=blog&id=1&Itemid=53&limitstart=2

Student breaks into officer's home

By: SHANESSA FAKOUR

Posted: 9/26/08

A student illegally entered the home of a University police officer Thursday morning, according to a police report.

Robert Adam Kapfhamer, a senior from Charlotte, N.C., was arrested and charged with attempted burglary.

According the report:

A University police sergeant, who asked to not be named for security reasons, was awakened by the

sound of someone removing his screen around 3 a.m. The sergeant said he yelled at the suspect to get away from his window and stay where he was.

When the sergeant stepped on his front porch, Kapfhamer came towards him in an "aggressive manner" but stopped when he saw the sergeant's duty belt in his hand.

Kapfhamer told police he was playing volleyball earlier that evening and left his cell phone out by the volleyball courts. He said he came back to look for his phone. After some beer and a bottle of wine, Kapfhamer said he might have blacked out and later said he might have stumbled into the window screen. He denied he was trying to break in to the residence.

The sergeant was not authorized to comment on the details of the case, he told The Red & Black Thursday afternoon in a telephone interview.

Attempts to reach Kapfhamer were unsuccessful.

<http://media.www.redandblack.com/media/storage/paper871/news/2008/09/26/News/Student.Breaks.Into.Officers.Home-3454308.shtml>

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Public Safety goes green by patrolling on bikes

By: Amanda Boddy

Posted: 9/26/08

Due to the rise in gas prices and a move towards a more environmentally healthy campus, Public Safety's "Bike Patrol" has become increasingly popular among the officers.

Major Joe Grant, Sergeant Nick Reonas and Officer Jeff Miller have each found that using the bike in their efforts to deter crime has many benefits.

The most obvious is that Public Safety is having issues with its budget because of the demanding gas prices. Grant said that the agency spends around \$50 a day driving around their Ford Crown Victorias, which is one reason the officers have been more inclined to use their bikes.

The use of the bikes also helps to contribute towards a greener campus considering they produce no pollution and use no gas. Reonas said that the bikes benefit their efforts to prevent crime. Since the bikes are smaller and more quiet than cars, the officers on bike control can ride anywhere and easily respond to an issue if necessary. The bikes allow the officers to be on campus and between the buildings in spaces that don't favor a car's presence. Also, since the bikes do not make noise, an officer can easily reach someone without them knowing.

Miller said that he has been in situations where he appreciated being on a bike rather than in a car.

"On two separate occasions using the bike has helped us to break up fights," he said.

Another side of the bike patrol is that it makes the officers seem more approachable.

"We've had students come up to us while on the bikes, just to talk," said Reonas.

The officers value the student interaction they get when they are riding around campus because this is something they cannot achieve while in their cars.

The less convenient aspects of the bike patrol include weather and mobility. The warm, humid days make riding the bikes less comfortable than being in the air-conditioned cars. Also, it can often take longer for an officer to get somewhere on a bike rather than in a car.

The bike patrol has been around for a while, but according to Reonas the use of it has been on and off. Reonas said that when he started working with Public Safety two years ago, no one was on bike patrol. Since then, three officers have become regulars on the bikes.

The bike patrol became purposely more visible around campus in the spring in order to let others know about Public Safety's effort to be more environmentally responsible.

Reonas said that he and the other officers on bike patrol prefer using their own mountain bikes rather than the bicycles provided by the agency. The use of the bikes not only comes with many benefits, but sets the agency of Public Safety apart from the rest in Baldwin County.

"No other agency in Baldwin does any patrol on bike, foot, or golf cart; it puts us out there is the spotlight." Grant said. "We are in a unique situation with the way we do our law enforcement."

<http://media.www.gcsunade.com/media/storage/paper299/news/2008/09/26/CampusNews/Public.Safety.Goes.Green.By.Patrolling.On.Bikes-3452628.shtml>

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Updated: 11:28 a.m. September 27, 2008

Gas shortage may crimp weekend fun

By [MARCUS K. GARNER](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Thursday, September 25, 2008

The gas shortage continued to plague metro Atlanta Saturday, with stations either out of fuel or packed with customers seeking to fill up.

Motorists reported long lines at gas stations at all hours — including the wee hours of the morning.

The shortage is proving a complication for thousands of people, especially with all that's going on this weekend: The University of Georgia home game against Top-10 rival Alabama. The 20th anniversary of the Atlanta Football Classic. The North Georgia State Fair in Marietta. The PGA Tour Championship. Auburn at home versus Tennessee.

These are just a few of the major events within a day's drive of metro Atlanta planned for today through Sunday. But with North Georgia gas supplies spotty, will everyone be able to get where they're going?

The gas shortage extends beyond the metro area, but has hit hardest in Atlanta, Nashville, Tenn., and the Carolinas, including the Charlotte area and the mountain towns to the west. For days it has closed civic offices, cut short workdays and even canceled community college classes.

The result is that many who initially intended to visit Atlanta this weekend have changed their plans.

"I didn't want to come down there and be dealing with the same problems in an area I'm not that familiar with," said Spencer Rawlings, a Nashville resident who regularly makes the four-hour drive for the Atlanta Football Classic.

"In Atlanta on a weekend like this, you'll be sitting around in traffic, only burning up gas. I'll eat the cost of my ticket."

But some dedicated travelers refused to be hindered by the crisis. Forty-year Tennessee State University alum Martha Stratton, who drove from Nashville for the Classic, is relying on help from local friends to find gas.

"I decided I wouldn't let the idea of a gas shortage keep me from honoring my commitment of supporting my team," Stratton said.

In Athens, where UGA officials believe the city's population could double with game attendees as well as ticketless people just coming to party, campus Police Chief Jimmy Williamson acknowledged that the weekend growth spurt could strain the city's precarious gasoline levels.

Williamson warned would-be travelers to be smart before hitting the road.

"People traveling from deep south Georgia might get here, and there won't be enough gas for them to get back home," Williamson said. "My advice to you: If you don't have a place to stay or don't have a [game] ticket, you might want to rethink coming."

Organizers tracking attendance for other events were seeing mixed responses to the gas crisis.

"It was a little off than it has been on previous Thursdays," Rick Burton, general manager of the East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta, said of Tour Championship attendance. "Last year, we had about 15,000 to 16,000. [Thursday], we had maybe 10,000."

But John Grant, whose 100 Black Men of Atlanta Inc. on Saturday will sponsor the 20th Atlanta Classic football game at the Georgia Dome between the historically black Tennessee State and Florida A&M universities, said he still sees growth in ticket sales from people traveling to Atlanta.

“The trend around ticket sales don’t reflect that people are staying away,” Grant said.

Spokesman for the Governor’s office Bert Brantley said that the key to surviving the weekend “and the uncertain future beyond that” is not to panic.

“If everybody stops filling up every day,” he said, “we can get back to normal demand.”

” The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Find this article at:

http://www.ajc.com/print/content/metro/stories/2008/09/25/gas_shortage_weekend.html?cxntlid=inform_sr

GAS SHORTAGE STYMIES WEEKEND PLANS: Crisis or not, travelers hit the road

Officials advise visitors to rethink necessity of trip

By [Marcus K. Garner](#)

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Saturday, September 27, 2008

With all that’s going on this weekend within what ordinarily would be easy driving range, Georgia’s gas shortage could complicate many people’s plans.

The University of Georgia home game against Top-10 rival Alabama. The 20th anniversary of the Atlanta Football Classic. The North Georgia State Fair in Marietta. The PGA Tour Championship. Auburn at home versus Tennessee.

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— The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Find this article at:

<http://www.ajc.com/print/content/printedition/2008/09/27/gasweekend.html>

Arrests at frats will be probed

Underage drinking

By Lee Shearer | lee.shearer@onlineathens.com | Story updated at 11:38 pm on 9/29/2008

University of Georgia officials will investigate two fraternities to see if they violated university conduct codes after Athens-Clarke police arrested four students on underage drinking charges outside the Greek houses early Saturday morning.

Police routinely turn over police reports involving students to UGA officials under an agreement between the university and the Athens-Clarke County government. UGA officials in turn investigate those reports to see if students violated university conduct codes, said university spokesman Tom Jackson.

Depending on the severity of the violation, fraternities and other student organizations can be sanctioned - from a simple reprimand to losing status as a university-recognized organization - according to the UGA Code of Conduct.

Last spring, a fraternity that allowed underage drinkers into a party agreed to take a year's probation, to create a set of educational programs and to limit the number of fraternity events where alcohol is served.

This weekend, police arrested four underage drinkers, all men, on public sidewalks outside big parties at two fraternity houses, said Maj. Carter Greene, commander of the Athens-Clarke Police Department's Uniform Division.

Police stopped a University of Alabama student, Richard Hallett Ogburn, outside the Sigma Alpha Epsilon house on Pulaski Street near West Washington Street when an officer spotted Ogburn walking down the sidewalk drinking from a beer can, according to an Athens-Clarke police report.

Ogburn handed over a fake ID, but took off running. Police plan to charge him with escape, possession of a fake ID, underage drinking and open container.

Around the same time, an officer noticed an 18-year-old student walk down the front stairs of the SAE house, holding an open bottle of whiskey, police said. He charged the student with obstruction, underage drinking, fake ID and having alcohol in an open container.

Athens-Clarke police also charged two 19-year-old students - one from UGA and one from Alabama - with underage drinking and open container after an officer saw the two walking with beer cups on a sidewalk in front of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity on South Milledge Avenue.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Phi Kappa Tau will become at least the second and third fraternities to come under scrutiny this year for possibly violating rules that govern UGA students and organizations.

Phi Gamma Delta fraternity officers agreed to a year's probation in June after UGA police concluded that underage drinkers had been consuming alcohol at a fraternity-sponsored party in

April. The fraternity also agreed to reduce the number of social events where alcohol is served, but retained the right to serve alcohol at some events, including football tailgate parties.

UGA police began to investigate after a visiting college student from Milledgeville told police she may have been raped after a party at the fraternity house.

Forensic investigators didn't find evidence that the woman was raped.

Originally published in the Athens Banner-Herald on Tuesday, September 30, 2008

http://onlineathens.com/stories/093008/uga_338283187.shtml

Campus police Sgt. Medeiros killed in motorcycle accident

Written by Jessica Edens, Editor in Chief Tuesday, 30 September 2008

Staff Sgt. Steven R. Medeiros, 56, of the KSU Police Dept. was airlifted to Atlanta Medical Center the morning of Fri. Sept. 26, following a motorcycle accident. He did not survive.

Shortly before 7 a.m., “eyewitnesses saw his Harley Davison Springer motorcycle veer off the pavement, near the intersection of Ebenezer and Canton Roads, and into the brush,” said Kemper Anderson, assistant director of KSU Dept. of Public Safety, in an e-mail to faculty and staff.

No other vehicles were involved and Medeiros’ speed was not a factor.

Medeiros was a part of the KSU community and police dept. since 1992. He was a law enforcement trainer for both internal and regional police academies, and also served as a patrol supervisor. He was senior sergeant within the department.

“His steady and mature leadership, sense of humor and vocation for law enforcement will be sorely missed,” Anderson said.

His is survived by his wife Barbara, daughters Kara and Morgan and mother, Cora. Funeral services will be held this week, according to Anderson’s e-mail. Mrs. Medeiros has asked that in lieu of flowers, contributions be made towards heart disease and diabetes research.

http://www.ksusentinel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1687&Itemid=56