

# ATHENS BANNER-HERALD

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SYSTEM FORGING POLICY ON INTERNET HARASSMENT

## Oconee schools standing up to 'cyberbullies'

By Adam Thompson  
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WATKINSVILLE — U R going to be in trouble if you send threatening electronic messages in school or carry an online dispute into the classroom in Oconee County.

School system administrators, faced with the next generation of student harassment over the Internet and cell phones, asked school officials this year to clarify the system's policy on so-called "cyberbullying."  
Next week, Oconee school board members are expected to update the dis-

trict's code of student conduct to do just that.  
Transmitting threats or taunts through e-mail, instant messages, text messages or Web site and blog posts would be covered under the district's  
See **OCONEE SCHOOLS** on A5



**"When they bring that on school campus and it disrupts the school environment, then that's when we have to step in."**  
— Oconee High Principal Mark Channell on student disputes aired on the Web

## THIEVES TAKE TOLL, BUT BELL WILL BE READY FOR COMMENCEMENT



Photos by Tricia Spaulding/Staff

Bernard Brantley, foreman of the University of Georgia sign department, measures the substitute bell for a sign Tuesday morning.

AFTER RULING UPHOLDING INJECTION

## State first to resume executions

By Shannon McCaffrey  
Associated Press

JACKSON — A Georgia man who killed his live-in girlfriend was executed Tuesday, the first inmate put to death since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of lethal injections.  
William Earl Lynd was pronounced dead at 7:51 p.m., Georgia Department of Corrections spokeswoman Mallie McCord told The Associated Press. It came less than an hour after the U.S. Supreme Court rejected efforts to block it.  
Lynd, 53, was sentenced to die for kidnapping and shooting his live-in girlfriend, Ginger Moore, three

times in the face and head two decades ago. After he buried Moore's body in a shallow grave near a South Georgia farm, authorities said Lynd fled to Ohio, where he shot and killed another woman who had stopped along the side of the road to help him.  
Lynd never denied killing Moore, 26, two days before Christmas in 1988. But his lawyers had sought a last minute reprieve from the courts, arguing that new forensic evidence showed he could not have kidnapped her because she was already dead when he stuffed her in the trunk of her car.



LYND

See **EXECUTION** on A4

## Let Graduation Ring

By Ryan Blackburn  
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Pranksters already have yanked the clapper off the substitute bell the University of Georgia erected last week while the UGA Chapel bell undergoes months of repair — just as vandals did to the

original bell 69 years ago.  
UGA officials will weld a new clapper onto the substitute bell to foil thieves, just like they did in 1939, when rambunctious students kept stealing the Chapel bell's clapper.  
UGA hung the substitute bell, 300 pounds lighter than the Chapel bell, from

a temporary stand outside of the Chapel on historic North Campus for new graduates to ring Saturday, an important rite of passage, said Janine Duncan, a UGA grounds preservation planner researching the history of the bells on campus.  
See **BELL** on A6

ALLEGED ASSAULT ISSUE IN SCHOOL SUIT

## Parents: District put son in danger

By Joe Johnson  
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The parents of a Clarke Middle School student claim in a lawsuit against the Clarke County School District that school administrators failed to protect their mentally disabled son from a classmate who sexually assaulted him.  
The suit, filed Friday in Clarke County Superior Court, seeks unspecified damages for a number of claims, including that the

school district failed to provide a safe environment for their son and didn't notify them that their son had been assaulted.  
The student, identified only as "A.B." in the lawsuit, was assaulted by a profoundly mentally disabled classmate in May 2005 at Ogleshorpe Avenue Elementary School, according to the suit.  
The other student was removed from A.B.'s class  
See **PARENTS** on A4

Robert McCurley, right, lowers the Chapel bell from the tower Tuesday morning. The bell is being shipped to Ohio for months of repairs. University of Georgia administrators expect to have the original Chapel bell and its tower completely restored before the first football game of the season



BACKYARD SERVICE REMAINS

## Commission hikes trash pickup rates

By Blake Aued  
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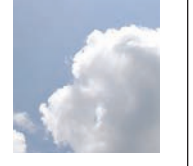
Athenians who pay extra for garbagemen to pull their trash cans from their backyards won't have to give up the service.  
The Athens-Clarke Commission voted unanimously Tuesday night to keep backyard pickup, but raise the rates for both backyard and curbside service. Curbside customers will pay between \$3 and \$7 more beginning July 1,

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FORECAST



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NCAA NOTES ACADEMIC PROGRESS

## Dogs gaining in classroom

By Marc Weiszer  
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The University of Georgia's football team not only is winning on the field, but scoring well in the NCAA's barometer for academic performance.

Coach Mark Richt's Bulldogs scored a 965 on the latest Academic Progress Rate that the NCAA released Tuesday. APR, which the NCAA implemented in 2005, measures the success or failure of collegiate athletic teams in moving stu-

dent-athletes towards graduation. Georgia ranked highest among SEC football programs, just ahead of Florida's 962, and was in the top 20 percent in the sport.

Every Georgia sports program met the 925 threshold needed to avoid NCAA penalties that include the loss of scholarships.

The NCAA estimates that an APR of 925 translates to an NCAA graduation success rate of about 60 percent.

See **UGA SPORTS** on A5



Athletic director Damon Evans said school sports are "moving in the right direction."