

Checks cont. from pg. 1

contest and deferred adjudication will be considered in determining an applicant's suitability for employment." If an individual was detained or arrested without a conviction, she will usually not warrant concern.

The "Criminal Convictions" section of the background check policy cites that a current Meredith employee may lose her position if her background check results are negative, if she refuses to submit herself to a background check or if it is proven that she falsified initial application paperwork.

Any perspective or current employee of the college who disputes her background check results has three working days to prove the information obtained to be inaccurate, states the new background check policy.

The college's background-check policy also has a stipulation for future criminal convictions. If a Meredith employee is criminally convicted any time after her background check, she must notify the Office of Human Resources. If the conviction does not prove relevant to the employee's position at Meredith, no action will be taken. However, if the conviction is deemed related to her position, she may be fired. The opportunity to resign also exists.

Employment may also be terminated if a college employee fails to report a new criminal conviction, regardless of the severity.

For more information on Meredith's new background check policy, examine the webpage <http://www.meredith.edu/humres/BackgroundCheck.htm>.

Student and faculty reactions to this new pol-

icy have been mixed.

Sophomore Meghan Kent remarks that background checks aid in preventing dishonesty and are helpful in high-security positions. However, she feels that the Meredith community poses her no threat. Kent says, "I'm more worried about people from the outside coming to Meredith."

Hailey Phillips, also a sophomore, believes that employee background checks are necessary for safety reasons. She states, "If you don't have anything to hide, you shouldn't have a problem with it [a background check]."

Both students agree that other methods exist to increase the college's security. Kent says, "I would stress working on well-lit areas and emergency action plans." Phillips would like to see Camcard access to all academic buildings established after 10 p.m.

Carmen Christopher, English professor and Learning Center director, states, "In general I disagree with them [background checks], but when you work at an institution and with people's kids, there is an ethical responsibility."

Cynthia Edwards, professor of psychology and director of Meredith's Honors Program, remarks that background checks allow students a level of confidence when working with faculty and staff members.

Edwards adds that personal responsibility is the best way to increase the security of the college. She makes this suggestion for Meredith students: "This place feels safe and by and large it is safe, but if we take that for granted it leaves us feeling vulnerable."

Christopher has no

comment on this issue, citing that she has been an employee of the college for only three weeks and does not know the campus crime rate.

Clearly, the issue of background checks for faculty, staff, and students will remain debatable for the foreseeable future.

Explains cont. from pg. 1

and 2006.

The Meredith community insures the safety of all who live, work and study at the campus by encouraging all employees and students to follow numerous guidelines

and by enforcing such rules as mandatory background checks for faculty and staff. "Meredith is a safe campus—something we who live and work here experience every day," Dr Jackson says.

Room cont. from pg. 3

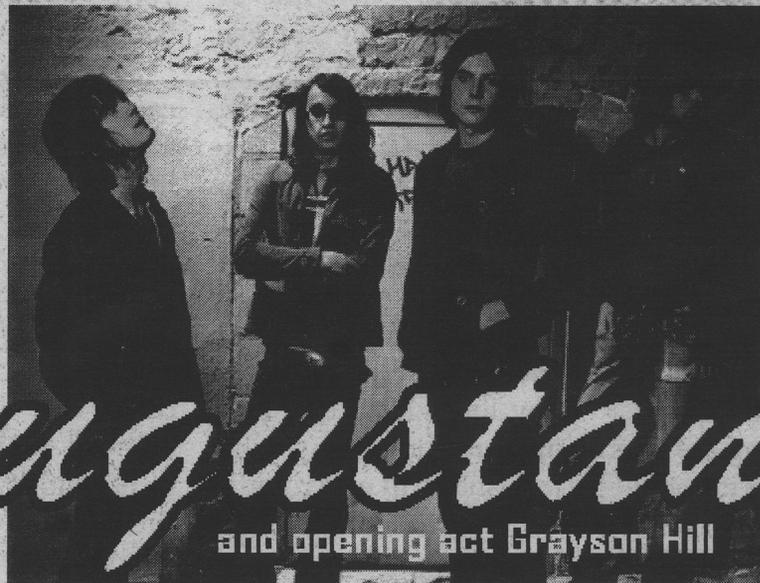
ment heats to a boil and explodes out of her. By addressing these little aggravations before they get out of hand, you can successfully avoid a nasty fight and a few days (or months) of feuding with the other people in your suite.

## Wanted

A part-time nanny for two girls—one 3 years old, one 1 year old—for Mondays through Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All applicants must have a car, a good driving record and references. The position will pay \$11 per hour.

Contact Amy Wahl at [amybritellwahl@yahoo.com](mailto:amybritellwahl@yahoo.com)

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