

First & Goal

Mascot mystery unravels

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On Thursday a search of The Red & Black archives in the main library uncovered two articles about a former mascot, Mr. Angel, who stood between the hedges from 1944 to 1946 but is left out of the current media guide.

Both articles were written by former sports editor Don Downs. In a phone interview Downs said he does not remember most of the articles he wrote more than sixty years ago, including those about Mr. Angel.

Nevertheless, the articles have his byline and are in his column titled "At Sundown."

Downs introduced the bulldog to fans in October, 1944.

Downs wrote, "The latest Bulldog of the '42 squad weighed in tonight at little over sixty pounds. He has had no previous experience but is expected to perform this evening for the first time. He is known, affectionately, as Mr. Angel. ... as handsome an English bulldog as has ever been seen."

Mr. Angel's looks would

later gain him more statewide fame.

On Nov. 3, 1944 Downs wrote, "Georgia Bulldog wins victory in Atlanta Saturday! 'Mr. Angel, Georgia Bulldog,' said the announcer at the Atlanta Dog Show, and the spectators gave him a grand hand. Mr. Angel ran away with the first prize for the English Bulldogs in the novice class and won second of all the bulldogs, in spite of his bad behavior. He left before the grand finale, thus giving up a crack at another prize, to get to the game on time. This was his first experience in the ring. Mr. Angel is the prized possession of Miss Bootee Coleman, Kappa Alpha Theta of Georgia."

The articles confirm a story about Mr. Angel in The Red & Black that appeared in Wednesday's paper.

The articles are on microfilm in the main library on North Campus and are available for public viewing free of charge.