



8 McElroy addresses passing woes

The Crimson White

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City to file lawsuit about Bryce sale

Mayor: Tuscaloosa would lose 650 jobs if hospital moved

By Eryn Phillips Senior Staff Reporter

Mayor Walt Maddox asked members of Tuscaloosa City Council Tuesday to grant authorization for a lawsuit against the state for not

halting the sale of Bryce Hospital to both Caraway Hospital and the University.

Representatives from the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Gov. Bob Riley turned down the University's initial offer of \$60

million for the campus, but they said Caraway Hospital in Birmingham could be a better alternative for current Bryce patients.

Mayor Walt Maddox said the city intends to file the suit against the state to stop the sale of the campus to any potential buyer, including the University.

"We cannot have over 650 jobs move out of Tuscaloosa

in the middle of a recession," Maddox said. "This is not a decision that has been entered into lightly."

City, county and Northport officials stand behind the 8-count permanent injunction claim brought by Tuscaloosa, saying all departments asked to be made a part of the state's discussion about Bryce and were not made aware of the meeting last week with the

governor and mental health board members.

Maddox said Monday he hates the city had to resort to legal action, but he was afraid that if they did not, Tuscaloosa would be left behind in this decision.

"It's clear that if we sit and wait, we will wake up one morning to find Bryce Hospital closed," Maddox said.

Riley's press secretary, Todd Stacy, said he would be unable to release a large statement without first seeing a copy of the injunction after it is filed by the city. However, he did say the state has passed its financial capacity to support the maintenance and upkeep on the old facility. The University has been

See BRYCE, page 2

Lecture shows students how to be leaders

By Cate Kennedy Staff Writer

The "Habitudes Experience," a presentation of several principles on leadership, started night in the Morgan Auditorium. It was presented by Tim Elmore, who used pictures, videos, small group discussion and games to introduce the attending students to five of his principles of leadership.

Although some students were in attendance because it was a requirement for a class or for Freshman Forum, others students were interested in learning the key aspects of leadership.

For some, it was both. "It was a requirement through Freshman Forum, but I was extremely

interested," said Darby Hess, a freshman majoring in communication studies.

Many students said the seminar was very inspirational.

"I thought it was amazing," said Chelsea Henderson, a freshman majoring in dance and forensic psychologist. "[It was] a real inspiration to hear people talk about leading yourself before you lead others."

Hess said the event was excellent.

"I feel like students need to be in an environment that fuels who they are, not who society says they should be," Hess said.

Opening with a slideshow of humorous road signs found in small towns across America, Elmore said the importance of directions in any journey a person takes, whether it is a trip to the grocery store or learning how to lead other people. During a game student participated in during the lecture, Elmore discussed how leaders should build themselves from the inside out and that you need to "build your heart first."

The first habitude Elmore used was an image of an iceberg to introduce his first rule of leadership: You have to learn how to lead yourself before you can lead others. Part of leading yourself is having character, Elmore said.

"There are four ingredients to character: self-discipline, emotional security, core values and personal

See HABITS, page 2

Open mic provides laughs



CW | Katie Bennett

Nacomi Daiko, a community music group, plays Japanese drum music and performed at the Marr's Field Journal event "Rock n' Roll Over in Your Grave."

By Brett Murph Staff Writer

Most would argue that nothing is more befitting of

Halloween than a tale about the Grim Reaper, a ghastly story that students who participated in Marr's Field Journal's "Rock n' Roll Over

In Your Grave" open mic night got to hear Tuesday night.

Excitement seemed to chill the stage as Austin McDonald, a second-year

communications graduate student, took center stage with his grisly poem titled,

See OPEN MIC, page 7



CW | Nhung Walsh

Tim Elmore, president of Growing Leaders and author of "Habitudes: Images that form Leadership Habits and Attitudes" gave a lecture on understanding Gen Y at the Child Development Resource Center Tuesday.

See HABITS, page 2

UA earns B- on green report card

By Victor Luckerson Staff Reporter

Students aren't the only ones getting grades this semester. The University has been evaluated for its commitment to environmentalism and sustainability.

The University earned a B- on its 2010 Green Report Card from the Sustainable Endowments Institute. The institute, a non-profit organization dedicated

to advancing environmental issues on college campuses, evaluated more than 300 schools in categories such as transportation, recycling and student involvement.

This is the second consecutive year Alabama's Green Report Card has improved, from a D in 2007 to the current B-.

"We had input from a lot of people on campus," said UA energy manager Robert

Martin. "It's a campus-wide effort to raise our score. It shows that we're making an effort to do the right thing."

All categories centered around the idea of sustainability, or creating programs that don't permanently detract from natural resources.

"It's being able to keep doing what you're doing without degradation of the environment," said Daniel Marbury, president of the UA Environmental Council.

The University received an A in the transportation category for the CrimsonRide, the BamaBikes program and the new Zipcar car-sharing service. Top marks also were awarded in the investment priorities category, which analyzes whether a university is investing its endowment in community development and renewable energy funds.

See GREEN, page 5

Parent Programs seek student ambassadors for next year

By William Evans Staff Reporter

The transition from the structured life of high school to the freedom of college can be relatively rough for students and parents alike.

Parent Programs at the University seeks to smooth the transition and provide an outlet for parents to understand more about what their children will encounter at the University and how they can help their students to be successful.

"Along with the mandatory

orientation for all freshman, a parent orientation is held as well where parents can go to seminars, speak with admissions and housing officials and ask general questions about college life at the University," said Tiara Dees, team leader for Parent Ambassadors and a junior majoring in music composition.

Students can apply to be Parent Ambassadors online at parents.ua.edu. Students from any background can submit applications to assist parents at the annual orientation. Applications are due

by Friday

"Spring training is held for the applicants who are accepted, and the training lasts from January to May so that Parent Ambassadors can be as helpful as possible for concerned parents," Dees said.

Alison Leach, a graduate assistant for Parent Programs at the University, said the separate orientation for parents helps them to adjust to the fact that their child is now a college student away from home.

According to research, Leach said campus involvement

and being engaged in college life increases academic success and reduces the risk of dropping out before graduation.

"Along with Parent Orientation, we also have a Parents Association Board, which sponsors a variety of events such as Family Weekend," Leach said. "This weekend is usually held on a football weekend, and we sponsor the tailgating during the game."

Parent Programs at the University is a team dedicated to facilitating a continuing

relationship between parents and their children.

"We try to establish some

kind of connection between

See PARENT, page 2

FAST FACTS

- The UA Parent Amabassadors program is accepting applications through Friday.
Students can apply online at parents.ua.edu
For students who are selected, training will last from January to May to prepare.

Recycling logo, The Crimson White contact info, Inside today's paper table of contents, and Weather today forecast.

# NEWS in brief

## LOCAL | Council approves fundraiser at The Booth next week

Tuscaloosa City Council members voted unanimously Tuesday to allow downtown hotspot The Booth host a fundraiser to for the Absolute Hope Foundation.

Members of Absolute Hope will throw a Halloween party in the municipal building parking lot next Tuesday night, including catering from Moe's Southwest Grill, games and prizes. All benefits from the bash will help aid funding for area residents suffering from any kind of spinal injury. Members of the foundation told the Council about how excited they are to be hosting the event this year.

Mayor Walt Maddox said Tuesday he and the rest of the Council wish the team the best of luck in their cause.

## CAMPUS | Tickets for RAGE scholarship event on sale

Students can now purchase tickets to the SGA-hosted event Nov. 4-6 to raise money for the RAGE scholarship. For \$25, students get an all-access pass to the three events as well as a T-shirt and koozie. The three events include Tim Reynolds' concert at the Bama Theatre, Taste of Tuscaloosa on the Quad and late-night Chick-fil-A biscuits.

Tickets are on sale at [crimsonartstickets.com](http://crimsonartstickets.com).

## CAMPUS | SGA gives away three prizes for UT football ticket donations

Three students who donate their UT football ticket will have the chance of winning one of the following SGA incentive prizes: one pair of bowl game tickets, one autographed football from head coach Nick Saban and one Bama Cash gift certificate.

## CAMPUS | Parking cleared, traffic limited on Colonial Drive this Friday

To accommodate CBS television trucks, all parking on Colonial Drive must be cleared by 5 a.m. Friday. Students who are designated as orange residential parking and park on Colonial will need to relocate to an alternate parking area. Visit [bamaparking.ua.edu](http://bamaparking.ua.edu) for detailed information about the alternate parking. Traffic through this area will be very restricted on Friday, so avoid this roadway if possible.

## STATE | Red Flags of Awareness

Oct. 19-23 is UA Alcohol Awareness Week. The Office of Student Judicial Affairs encourages UA students to visit the Red Flag of Awareness display on the Quad. The 1,700 red flags displayed on the Quad represent the national number of college student deaths relating from alcohol misuse and abuse. The objective of the flag display is to promote awareness and provide a visual representation of the effects of alcohol abuse. The display will be up for the entire week.

Send announcements and campus news to [cwnews@sa.ua.edu](mailto:cwnews@sa.ua.edu)

# CAMPUS this week

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

- Jazz Faculty Quartet featuring jazz pianist Bill Anshel: 7:30 p.m., Moody Music Building
- Communication Career Fair: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ferguson Ballroom

For more events, see calendars on Arts & Entertainment and Sports.

## The Crimson White

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- Drew Taylor, admin affairs editor
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# PARENT

Continued from page 1

the parents and the University by function as an outlet for the parents' concerns," Leach said. "Parents want to know how they can help their children to get involved on campus since the act of being involved contributes to overall collegiate success."

Jessica Criswell, coordinator for Parent Orientation,

said the Parents Association Board has between 20-30 active members who meet from two to three times a year.

"The Parents Association Board is so valuable because these are parents who really care and want to keep the student body involved in campus life," Criswell said. "This is their opportunity to make a difference and their outlet to better the UA community."

# BRYCE

Continued from page 1

trying to move in on the purchase for use and further expansion projects, and is now virtually land-locked from any more outward growth. UA System Board of Trustees officials were unavailable to comment.

"The city is not opposed to [the University] purchasing the property," Maddox said. "The growth of the University is in the city's best interest in the short term and the long term."

Tuscaloosa city attorney

Bob Ennis said the city is suing because it is the local municipality where the facility is located and provides fire and rescue services to it.

Ennis said that the city's legal department will release copies of the pending litigation as soon as it is filed. City Council authorized the mayor's proposal almost unanimously.

Finance committee chairman Lee Garrison said he voted down the suit, stating that elected officials in Montgomery "do have the best interest of Tuscaloosa in mind, and the state government will prevail."

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"The city is not opposed to [the University] purchasing the property. The growth of the University is in the city's best interest in the short term and in the long term."

-Mayor Walt Maddox

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# HABITS

Continued from page 1

identity," Elmore said.

Elmer's second habitude was the story of the golden Buddha. The story said there was a concrete statue of Buddha that the elements and people's litter had ruined. A rich man saw this and decided to move the statue to a temple. However, when they were moving the statue, it began to crack. Looking inside the crack, one of the workers saw there was something golden. Inside the statue was an eight-foot tall block of gold.

Elmore used this story to explain his goal for his "Habitudes" series. Rather than inspiring people to become great leaders, Elmore hopes his books will give people skills so that when they find themselves in leadership positions, they will be able to handle things better.

"Your greatest influence lies in your inner golden Buddha," Elmore said.

Along with the golden Buddha story, Elmore compared people's potential to their perspective. Elmore gave the audience advice for increasing their worth in the eyes of future employers.

"Spend the majority of your time developing your [strengths]," Elmore said.

The third habitude covered was the idea of thermometers and thermostats. While thermometers simply reflect what is going on around them, thermostats change what happens around them. Elmore gave the audience two ways to become thermostats. The first was to live by values, and the second was to add values to others.

"Leadership is about service, not power," Elmore said.

Elmore's fourth habitude is a picture of a starving baker. This habitude teaches the audience that before they can fully lead others, they must be able to take care of themselves. After explaining this habitude, he challenged the audience to make a plan for their personal growth.

Introducing his fifth habitude, drivers and passengers, Elmore said most people in the world insist on being passengers, being along for the ride but not taking responsibility for any of the results or consequences. Elmore told his audience that leaders are drivers, the people who are in charge of getting to the destination safely. He then told his audience that their lives were going to be judged not by the conditions around them but by the choices they make.

Elmore finished his presentation with the habitude of the life sentence.

"[Future generations] are going to summarize your entire life in one sentence," Elmore said.

Inspiring the students in attendance to do something meaningful with their lives, Elmore told them they could choose what their life sentence is.

"Habitudes" is a four-book series published by Growing Leaders, a non-profit organization that teaches leadership skills around the world. Each of the four books focuses on a different level of leadership. The first book concentrates on self-leadership while the following three books focus on relationships with others, leading others and changing culture, respectively.

### IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW\*

## Lesson Five: ON GETTING BACKSTAGE AT A SHOW

When it comes to good things, there isn't much better than live music. But there is something better than being stuck in the back of a club next to that guy who looks like he's never even heard of the band and a girl who only came because of the guy. So here's a little secret: band equipment is heavy and there's a lot of it. Go early—as in really early, wait by the back door and when the band shows up, offer to lend a hand. They'll be grateful and you just might end up backstage. Best heavy lifting you'll ever do.



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# Annual housing report released

## Alabama housing market shows signs of recovery

By Desiree Mahr  
Staff Writer

As the nation slowly begins to recover from the economic crisis, reports show the housing market is beginning to recover as well.

The Alabama Center for Real Estate, a research and service component of the Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, has released its annual housing report. The report includes statistics on the Alabama housing market up to August 2009 and analyzes housing sales and new construction rates throughout the state.

This year, ACRE reported that state home sales are down 12.7 percent from last year. The average selling price for the state is down 11.4 percent from last year, now standing at \$149,342. In Tuscaloosa County, housing sales are up 1.79 percent from last year. The average selling price for Tuscaloosa County, however, is down 6.86 percent, now standing at \$176,867.

Grayson Glaze, executive

**In Tuscaloosa County, housing sales are up 1.79 percent from last year. The average selling price for Tuscaloosa County, however, is down 6.86 percent.**

director of ACRE, predicted that the housing market would improve even more in 2010.

"It will be gradual due to an anticipated slow growing economy, highlighted by historically high unemployment rates and below normal levels of consumer confidence," Glaze said in an e-mail.

Glaze also said the three types of markets in the state — metro, mid-size and rural — are recovering at different rates.

"Metro and rural markets are taking the longest to recover," he said. "Mid-size markets have significantly outperformed the metro market, down only 11 percent from the prior year compared to 20 percent experienced by metro markets and 18 percent for rural."

Sales at both the state and national level have improved partly due to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Glaze said. According to a news release, this program allows first-time homebuyers to earn up to \$8,000 in tax credit.

"But for the tax credit, our statewide sales were likely to end [this year] 19 percent down from 2008. Instead were looking at an estimated 13 percent decline," Glaze said.

Nicki Simmons, executive vice president of the Tuscaloosa Realtor's Association, said the Tuscaloosa County housing

market has performed well, in spite of all the economic problems.

"Tuscaloosa County is probably one of the few counties that has not been hit as hard as some of the other ones. Tuscaloosa County is kind of insulated. We have a lot of industry and a condominium market that has been pretty strong — they've continued to sell," Simmons said.

In addition, Simmons said Huntsville and Mobile are the top two Alabama housing markets because of the industry in each city. Birmingham and Montgomery have taken a few more hits because of the economy, she said.

Simmons also said there is normally a decrease in activity in the housing market while coming out of the summer months, but the rates from this year still are not at a normal level.

"It is still lagging behind. I think the general consensus is that we probably won't see the market come out of this until spring or summer," she said.

The local economy will play a huge role in bringing the housing market back up to speed, Simmons said.

"They're very hesitant to do anything because they don't know what their job situation is going to be. People would have to be more comfortable with the job environment in our area before we see some positive activity," she said.

# UA duo discover bacteria connected to Parkinson's

By Amy Castleberry  
Staff Reporter

Guy and Kim Caldwell, University associate professors in biological sciences, have discovered recent findings in their lab that could further scientific research on Parkinson's disease.

In their findings, they have discovered that a chemical produced commonly by soil bacteria may kill neurons that produce dopamine. This demise of dopamine neurons leads to prime symptoms of Parkinson's disease. The Caldwells, a husband and wife team, are current recipients of the Blackmon-Moody Professor award, the top faculty award at the University, for their work with students on human neurological diseases.

Michelle Tucci, a doctorate student in the program; Susan DeLeon, a senior McNair and Goldwater scholar. Former UA students Jeana Blalock, Shermeen Memon and Jafa Armagost all assisted and contributed to the study.

Guy said he was pleased with the recent findings and happy to contribute an idea to

the science community that might not have been considered previously.

"I believe this work, which is a nice outcome of collaborative research between experts in molecular genetics, microbial ecology and a Parkinson's clinician, represents an outcome of multidisciplinary approaches to investigating disease that would be unlikely by an individual research lab," Caldwell said. "Personally, I am grateful to have the opportunity to explore such an out-of-the-box idea and that is a result of working with undergraduate researchers that let us test some of more creative or risky hypotheses with limited risk on the careers of grad students or postdoctoral residents."

While the bacteria discovered in the study was identified as common in soil, Guy said it is too soon to consider the findings as a daily threat to the local community.

"It is premature to consider the data we have as any threat to the community, or that any precautions are necessary at all at the current time, as much more experimentation is required," Guy

said. "However, it is our hope that the work we have done to date will serve as a springboard for the types of community-based epidemiological studies and carefully conducted environmental analyses required to come to more firm conclusions in terms of impact and exposures."

Guy said, he and his wife currently are working with Robert Findlay, a professor in biological sciences at the University, to conclusively purify the neurotoxic metabolite produced by the bacteria.

"This will be essential prior to more extensive, and expensive, studies to evaluate if the bacterial toxin can induce Parkinsonian-like behavioral issues in rodent models," Guy said. "That would represent very convincing evidence of the significance of the finding. Since PD is likely a shared outcome of genetics and environmental exposures, we are also using worms and are collaborating with fruit fly researcher and UA geneticist Dr. Janis O'Donnell to evaluate the impact of different genetic factors on susceptibility to the toxin."

# Robots inspire teen reading

By Cate Kennedy  
Staff Writer

**"Today's teens seem to have less and less free time... That is why it's important to encourage teens to set aside some time to read."**

— Jana Fine

During Teen Read Week, a national campaign to increase literacy among young adults, the Tuscaloosa Public Library is hosting several events to boost Tuscaloosa County teens' interest in books.

Teen Read Week occurs annually during the third week of October across the nation. This year's theme is "Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library" and spotlights science-fiction novels and related activities. The College

of Engineering will present robots at the Tuscaloosa Public Library Wednesday at 5 p.m.

Monica Anderson, assistant professor of computer science, will demonstrate robots as part of an effort to attract youth to books. The robots in the library program will create a connection between the science-fiction world and the real world by showing real-world applications of science-fiction creations.

By showing them modern technology that they may be unfamiliar with, the Young Adult Library Services Association hopes to create and fuel a desire to read novels about topics that seem unlikely and out of the reach of today's technology for these teens, accord-

ing to information about the event.

"Today's teens seem to have less and less free time, and there are increasingly more activities for them to take part in during what little leisure time they have. That is why it's important to encourage teens to set aside some time to read," said Jana Fine, Tuscaloosa public library's youth services coordinator, in a written statement.

As a part of the theme, "Read Beyond Reality @ Your Library," the Tuscaloosa Public Library also is hosting an event Thursday by the Tuscaloosa Paranormal Research Society and is holding a young-adult fantasy and sci-fi book discussion on Friday.

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## Trial a chance for justice

On Monday morning, Birmingham Mayor Larry Langford entered a Tuscaloosa courthouse for the start of his trial on federal corruption charges.

Langford, a Democrat, faces about 60 counts over allegations that he accepted \$260,000 in bribes while serving as president of the Jefferson County Commission.

**In short: With the mayor's trial, federal prosecutors can send the message that corrupt politicians will be prosecuted.**

Langford's trial is an opportunity for federal prosecutors to do two things.

First, Langford's trial can send another strong message to politicians throughout the state that corruption is no longer going to be a stalwart aspect of political life. A guilty verdict, if appropriate, would demonstrate that politicians, even a powerful one in the state's largest city, are not above the law.

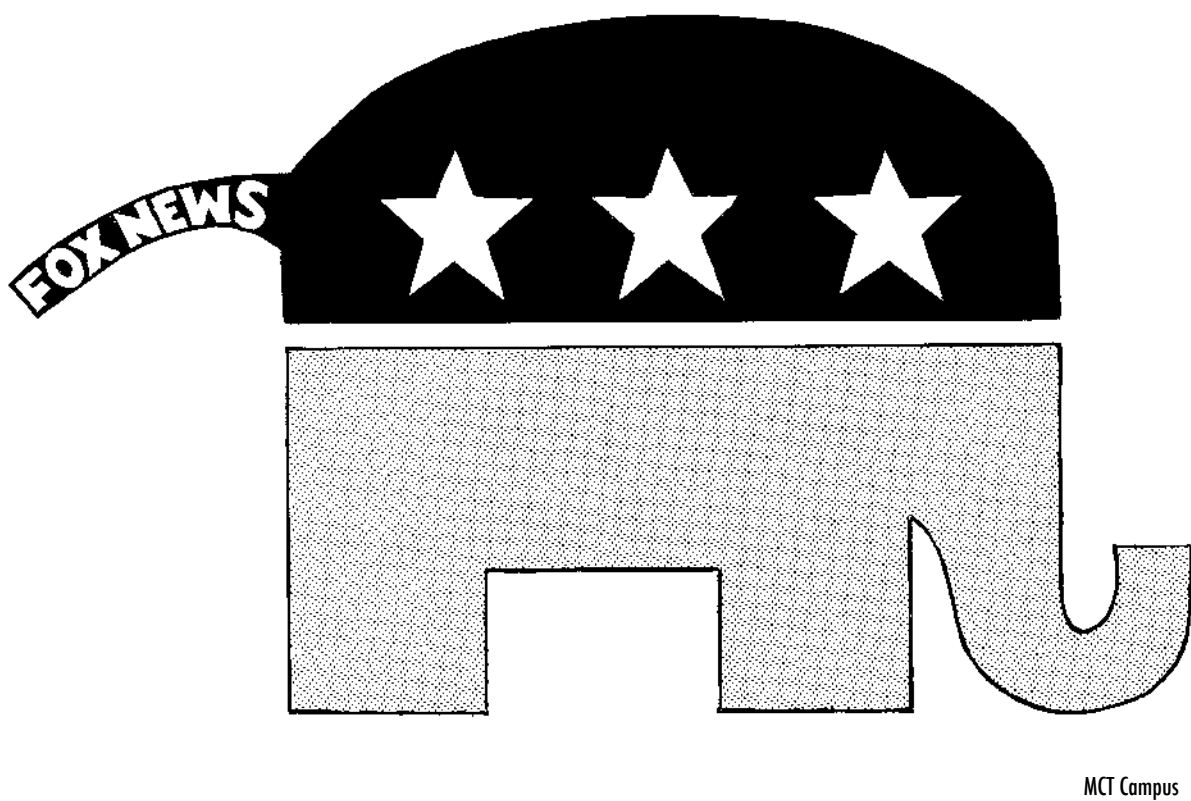
Second, the trial can restore some credibility for federal prosecutors handling corruption trials. Earlier this year, the Department of Justice ended up with egg on its face after Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, walked free after the attorney general found numerous examples of prosecutorial misconduct.

Attorney General Eric Holder asked for a dismissal of charges after he found prosecutors had withheld evidence from the defense and sent a witness back to Alaska when he could have been of use to Stevens' lawyers. A whistleblower also accused an investigating FBI agent of inappropriate conduct with a witness.

By presenting a prosecution free of errors in a high-profile corruption case, the Justice Department can earn some of its credibility back. While federal prosecutors have a long track record of success in winning guilty verdicts for corruption, missteps in the Stevens case and alleged problems with the prosecution of former Alabama Gov. Don Siegelman have resulted in a tarnished reputation.

We hope justice is served in the trial of Larry Langford, not far from our campus. It is in the best interest of millions of Americans for Langford to receive a just and fair trial, one that sets a new standard for excellence in fighting corruption in government.

*Our View is the consensus of The CW's editorial board.*



## GOP needs to man up

By Josh Veazey

The Congressional Budget Office has blown a hole in what could be considered the Republicans' only recurring talking point in the health care debate.

Placing limits on medical malpractice lawsuits has been the GOP's primary explanation for rising health care costs for a decade. The effects of malpractice suits, however, appear to be negligible. Last week, the CBO director told Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, a package of typical proposals to limit malpractice awards would reduce the national health care cost by about 0.5 percent.

The office cites a study done by the University of California, Dartmouth and Harvard, as well as a study by the Bureau of Economic Research. I cite common sense. Yes, it would be nice if doctors were relieved of the costs of overambitious suits. But even if it were sizeable, do you really think those savings would be passed from doctor to insurance company to consumer? The way seizing Iraq's oil supply led to lower gas prices?

Sure, defensive medicine and frivolous lawsuits are a problem. For example, doctors may be more likely to perform a Cesarean section not necessarily because it is the best option, but because it is more likely to be covered. But why put it at the

center of your explanation of why the entire system is unsustainable? My only guess is the idea strikes with people's small-town-values sensibilities. Wealth is something that has to be achieved by hard work, and suing someone is an unnatural, dishonest way of short-circuiting that process, especially if you're doing to someone as upstanding in the community as a doctor.

So what about those patients who get genuinely screwed? Let's say you're looking for a competent lawyer to get compensation after a botched major surgery and the widely proposed federal cap of \$250,000 is in place. Not many top-notch lawyers would take your case if they know their payout will be a small fraction of that. Or most of that money goes to paying the lawyer and you have next to nothing to help with a lifetime of expenses. So there's a limited extent that you can push down the cap without causing more suffering.

But it works as a talking point when they're asked by pundits, "Well, what would you do?" — lest we think Republicans have absolutely no ideas on how to fix health care. And it seems to work reciprocally with that ethnocentric oldie-but-goody idea that immigrants are driving up the cost of everything. Never mind there are laws on the books preventing them from using federal health programs. Never

mind that, according to the Pew Hispanic Center, about half of illegal immigrants have health insurance now through their employers. Nevermind that illegal immigrants tend to avoid getting health care for the same reason they commit crimes at lower rates than citizens—they don't want to get caught. If something, or some group of people, have traditionally made my pastoral, patriotic blood boil, it follows they also are the source of any given problem.

I think the idea that those problems are secondary of those two could be the source of the health care crisis only is possible through a failure to understand the sheer magnitude of the health care crisis. In two decades, the number of uninsured has increased 40 percent. Since 1970, health care expenditure has gone from 7 percent of the GDP to more than 15 percent. Medicare will be unsustainable in a decade. Next time a complex issue comes around, Republicans have to come to the table with more than this. Stop thinking every issue boils down to the five-or-so exigencies you can pull out your decades-old moralistic playbook. Join the search for pragmatic solutions.

*Josh Veazey is a senior majoring in telecommunication and film. His column runs biweekly on Wednesdays.*

Wednesday  
October 21, 2009  
Editor • Alan Blinder  
letters@cw.ua.edu

### YOUR VIEW

SHOULD GITMO DETAINEES BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN THE U.S. ONCE CLEARED OF CHARGES?

"Absolutely. If they're not threats, then there's no need to detain them. They're no longer a threat to national security, and they have the same inalienable rights as any other human being does."

— David McRae, graduate student, history

"I don't see anything wrong with it if they're not threats."

— Tariah Hunt, freshman, pre-dental

"They probably should not be allowed back into the United States. I know they have constraints for all that, but I just don't think that was the right solution."

— Cory Burkhalter, junior, mechanical engineering

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Letters to the editor must be less than 300 words and guest columns less than 800. Send submissions to letters@cw.ua.edu. Submissions must include the author's name, year, major and daytime phone number. Phone numbers are for verification and will not be published. Students should also include their year in school and major. For more information, call 348-6144. The CW reserves the right to edit all submissions.

## Parents of 'Balloon Boy' should be punished

By Avery Adcock

Switching through the channels last week, the last thing I expected to encounter was a weather balloon thousands of feet above the ground, possibly containing a six-year-old boy. Little did I know, "Balloon Boy" would soon become a media frenzy.

When I first started watching the broadcast, I couldn't help but chuckle. As more information came in, millions of other Americans watched in horror, praying that six-year-old Falcon Heene was not aboard the aircraft.

After watching the aircraft soar through the skies, Americans prepared for the impact. Fortunately, once the balloon finally touched down, Falcon was not inside. Soon

after, the search for the boy began. Pictures, which appeared to show objects falling from the balloon, surfaced. Every network covered the story as officials continued their frantic search. Finally, the Heene family revealed Falcon had been hiding in the attic the entire time.

The most shocking twist was soon to come. While being interviewed, Falcon confessed he hid in the attic because his parents said he had to for the show. When asked if he heard his parents calling for him, he said yes.

This event says more about what America has become concerning entertainment than anything. It is ridiculous that a media-hungry family can stop flights and cost taxpayers over \$1 million. Clearly, people will do anything to get on TV, even at the expense of their own chil-

dren. Law enforcement should set an example that you cannot start national chaos without a punishment.

It is now clear that the Heene family put the nation in a state of panic, only hoping to gain a reality show out of it.

Larimer County Sheriff Jim Alderden said, "We have evidence at this point to indicate that it was a publicity stunt done with the hopes of marketing themselves, or better marketing themselves, for a reality television show at some point in the future."

The Heene family should not only be charged with the numerous pending charges against them, but also should reimburse their state of Colorado for their search efforts.

Once I heard of the Heene family's previous two appear-

ances on the ABC show, "Wife Swap," I became skeptical. Self-promoted storm chasers, Richard and Mayumi Heene, along with their three sons clearly will stop at nothing to get fame. In reality television, this kind of outlandish behavior may be acceptable, but not in the real world.

The Heenes' parenting methods also should be further examined. On recent interviews, Falcon vomited due to the media exposure. It is obvious that keeping up with their parents has started to take a toll on the Heene children. I do not think it is appropriate to bring your children along on storm-chasing adventures when they should be out of harm's way and in school.

It is impossible to turn on the TV today without encountering a reality television show. We

have to ask ourselves: What do events like this tell us about our society? It may seem like a joke to many, but this caused serious panic and should not be taken lightly. It is time for behavior such as this to have consequences and not just be appreciated on YouTube. It may be a funny story, but there are many more implications.

Balloon Boy's saga will live on for a long time, but it also should serve as a reminder that American's infatuation with media and publicity might be getting a little out of control. So the next time you are looking up in the sky, look a little farther because a media story may be in the wind.

*Avery Adcock is a sophomore majoring in political science. Her column runs on Wednesday.*

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Stars and Bars stunt tasteless

By Jonathan Duchock

Like many others, I had the chance to attend last weekend's football game. It's the first one I've been able to go to this year, so I was excited. And being Homecoming, I naturally went all out with body paint and withstood the cold weather.

With that said, you can probably infer that I'm an independent, so assume what prejudices you will from that. That doesn't change the fact that I was utterly disgusted with a stunt one of the fraternities pulled during the game. And no, I'm not talking about the chatter going on during the moment of silence for recently deceased members of the alumni band.

As the Million Dollar Marching Band played our national anthem, someone amongst the greek section pulled out a Stars and Bars in front of 92,012 people, in front of all our

potential football recruits and in front of a national television audience. The Stars and Bars was the official flag of the Confederacy. Apparently, some people in the greek section thought those guys had some pretty good ideas.

Most people attending probably missed it since they were doing what they learned in grade school: hand on your heart, eyes towards the flag and stop picking your nose.

So congratulations to whatever frat pulled off this wonderful salute to your ancestors. After all, what is being greek without tradition? And what better tradition than white supremacy.

I'm not accusing all greeks of being racist, irreverent bigots — just the people who did this really, really ignorant stunt. I'm fully aware that not all greeks have a homogeneous culture, are part of the Machine and want to revert to an age where a straight, white male majority roams the earth feeding on lesser beings.

But this stunt, along with Kappa Alpha's Old South march from last year, with no official response from the University is utterly shameful, embar-

assing and ultimately malicious to the University's image. Something needs to be done about this before it lands the University on the national news for something other than USA Today scholars.

*Jonathan Duchock is a junior majoring in international relations.*

#### Erasing chalkings is un-Christian

By Charles McCullough

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. This is the central tenet of Christian philosophy, yet a small subset of Christians on campus seems to ignore it studiously.

The controversial group Atheists and Agnostics of Alabama had chalkings defaced and erased again on Sunday. As a Christian, I find this unacceptable.

Despite the fact that I believe their ideas are incorrect, I recognize the way to refute them is by reasoned debate, not by trying to silence them before they can speak.

Christians are commanded to love our enemies. How much more then should we love those who have done nothing to harm us, who are only trying to expound their beliefs? Thus, I beg whoever is responsible for defacing these chalkings to stop. Instead, talk reasonably with atheist and agnostic students, and above all, show love and tolerance as Christ would. Besides, by trying to stifle and persecute this group, you are strengthening it and weakening Christianity. Your intolerance reflects badly on all Christians, even the majority who do not engage in such persecution. Why do you think so many people believe Christians are illogical and biased? If you think someone has faulty or flawed beliefs, logical argument is the only tool to use to convince them otherwise. Scorn and persecution are not only ineffective, but wrong as well.

How would you feel if AAA erased all the Christian chalkings on campus?

*Charles McCullough is a sophomore majoring in mechanical engineering and music performance.*

# How to eat healthy

By Cindy Jade Waldrop

College students have a lot on their plates. Between class, work, organizations and a social life, we do not think about what we are eating and how it affects our body. Research has shown that eating balanced meals promotes excellent health. As young adults, it is important to start paying attention to what goes in our bodies. Building your plate with the right foods will help support growth, decrease your risk of chronic disease and maintain a healthy weight while increasing your overall quality of life. Flu season has arrived and a great way to fight off infection is to eat the right foods.

There are set guidelines that let us know how much food we need. You can visit mypyramid.gov to individualize your specific daily nutrient needs. Since most of us are stressed for time, a better way to judge our intake is to know how to build your plate to make it nutritious.

The food groups consist of meat, beans, grains, fruits, vegetables and dairy. They supply us with wonderful nutrients that keep us energized and alive. Variety is important when planning a meal because each food item provides specific nutrients. These nutrients have certain functions in the body. Start your plate off by filling half with a protein and a starch or grain. The other half should be filled with colorful veggies. Variety is the key. Add a glass of low-fat milk and a side of fruit, and you have a well-balanced meal.

Protein builds lean muscle and helps repair tissue damage. One-fourth of your plate should consist of a protein like meat. Quality is key when choosing your meat. Leaner meat has less saturated fat, which provides fewer calories. Fatty meats build up in the body causing future heart complications like strokes and heart attacks. Chicken and turkey are good examples of

leaner meats. Judge the quality of meat by looking at the label and make sure that it is less than 5 percent fat, leaving 95 percent lean. If it says more than 30 percent, this is considered a high amount of fat. Do not add extra fat when cooking. Bake, broil or grill, and try to avoid frying at all cost. A serving of meat should be about the size of a deck of cards or the size of your palm. If you do not prefer meat, have some beans, nuts, peanut butter or seeds.

Grains give our body fiber and energy to burn. Starches and grains should fill one-fourth of your plate. The dietary guidelines tell us we need to make half of our grains, if not all, whole grains. Substitute white breads with whole wheat bread and eat whole-wheat pastas. Veggies are piled on the other half of your plate. Vegetables provide long lasting energy for your body. They contain fiber, vitamins and minerals. When preparing your vegetables, you can steam, bake, broil or boil. Raw also is an option, just make sure to properly wash the veggie before you eat it. Fruits give us short-term energy. They are packed with antioxidants that help fight off infection. This is the perfect time of year to keep our immune system working properly to avoid the flu. Dairy products include milk, yogurt and cheese. All of these products need to be as low fat, reduced-fat or fat-free. Calcium is a mineral found in dairy products. Dairy products promote bone health by keeping enough calcium in the body to support bone structure.

Proper portion sizes are important. However, measuring out amounts of food is a timely process. Understanding what a healthy plate looks like will help you build your plate to reach all of your daily nutritional needs. If you find it hard to get three balanced meals a day, follow these tips to help keep your body energized and healthy. Start the day off

with breakfast. Studies have found that having a meal in the morning jump-starts your metabolism, aids in weight loss and supports brain function by keeping you alert and ready to learn. Take a multivitamin everyday to provide the vitamins and minerals your body may be missing. Adequate sleep is very important. Research shows sleep deprived Americans are more likely to be overweight and develop chronic diseases due to hormone imbalance. An increase in physical activity will help you sleep better and aid in weight loss and maintenance. Exercise aids in stress management by releasing bottled up stress. We all can agree that many college students are overly stressed. On most days of the week, aim for at least 30 minutes a day for weight maintenance. If you are looking to lose weight get at least 60 minutes a day on most days of the week.

Lastly, stay hydrated. Water makes up 50 to 75 percent of our body, so is it important to keep sufficient amounts coming in.

"A bare minimum of half your body weight needs to be ingested from beverages," said Jessica-Lauren Roberts, a graduate assistant at the Student Recreation Center. "The other 20 percent will come from food. At least half of this fluid should be water."

Roberts also said she loves to use bottledwater.org for a calculator.

Remember to think about what you eat and how it is going to affect your body. The five food groups are important to consider when choosing your meals. Developing healthy habits young will help support an overall increased quality of life. Balanced meals need to be accompanied by adequate sleep, a daily multivitamin, exercise and proper hydration.

Happy eating!

Cindy Waldrop is a senior majoring in nutrition. Her health column runs biweekly on Wednesday.

## Healthy Living

### Staying on a sugar high

Eating too many sugary, fatty foods alters brain receptors, a change that may help explain bulimia and other binge eating disorders.

#### A bad way to feel good

- A study shows that continuously eating or binging on high-fat, high-sugar foods enhances opioids in a part of the brain that regulates food intake

- Opioids, which exist naturally in the brain, are linked to feelings of pleasure and euphoria; they are part of a family of chemicals whose affects are similar to those of morphine, other opiates

- Higher levels of opioids may encourage overeaters to continue overeating

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Source: Society for the Study of Ingestive Behavior, MCT Photo Service  
Graphic: Pat Carr



## Healthy Living

### Packing a good lunch

One way to teach your kids about eating well is to urge them to pick nutritious items for their lunch boxes.

#### Some healthy choices

- Sandwiches on whole grain, not white bread; fill them with organic peanut butter or lower-fat deli meats, such as turkey or chicken

- Soups, salads, leftovers from last night's supper

- Baked chips, air-popped popcorn, trail mix; nix the fried chips

- Thinly-sliced veggies and dip, low-fat yogurt, fresh fruit or fruit in natural juices (not syrup)

- Homemade baked goods, such as peanut butter or oatmeal cookies, fruit muffins

- Water, low-fat milk, 100 percent fruit juice, no soda or fruit drinks

Source: Kidshealth.org, MCT Photo Service  
Graphic: Pat Carr



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## GREEN

(Continued from page 1)

On the other end of the spectrum, the University received a D in the Green Building category that looks at the sustainability of campus infrastructure. The lack of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-certified buildings hurt the University in this category, Martin said. LEED is a private certification system that measures environmental sustainability of newly constructed buildings.

"[LEED] has requirements that may not be as economical," Martin said. "We probably could do that in the future, but we just haven't pursued it."

Martin said the Riverside and Lakeside dormitories are receiving Energy Star certification awarded to buildings that excel in energy efficiency.

"Any time you save energy, you save money for other programs," Martin said. "If we were really poor in energy efficiency, that would take money away from other programs. We're pretty diligent in trying not to let that happen."

Alabama's score places them near the top of Southeastern Conference schools. Only South Carolina, Tennessee and Florida ranked higher.

Marbury said the main thing that propels these schools past the University is having an Office of Sustainability.

"We're about one grade

below the best of the best," Marbury said. "Although we're taking individual steps to promote sustainability, there isn't a long-term plan. We're taking steps, but the steps don't have a direction."

Currently, the closest thing the University has to an Office of Sustainability is the Environmental Stewardship Committee, a body of faculty and students that meets monthly and reports to the administration on ways to improve sustainability on campus.

Marbury, a student representative on the committee, said the monthly meetings are not enough to show the University's dedication to environmental issues.

"We need to say this is what

we commit to and this is why," he said. "The more we can do to showcase our efforts as a permanent symbol of our commitment to sustainability, the more our grade will improve."

He said he would like to see more administrative involvement in sustainability efforts in the future.

"What makes the difference between a B and an A is the administration jumping on board," he said. "If the administration makes a clear commitment to sustainability, it will necessarily reflect in our actions. Commitment could aggregate all our actions and give them strength."

The Environmental Stewardship Committee currently is working to develop a sustainability Web site,

another feature that most top-ranked schools possess.

Marbury said while the Green Report Card might not be perfect, it was a positive step for universities.

"Given that there has been little effort to quantify these issues in the past, it's an important step that we start to distinguish based on these values," he said. "Schools making an extraordinary effort should be rewarded."

He said the best way to improve the Green Report Card was for more unified and dedicated participation from schools.

"The more that universities commit to it in a unified way, the more refined the method can be for quantifying effort," Marbury said.

## SEC RANKINGS

- Florida: B
- Tennessee: B
- South Carolina: B
- Alabama: B-
- Kentucky: B-
- Arkansas: C+
- Auburn: C+
- Ole Miss: C+
- Miss. State: C+
- Vanderbilt: C+
- Georgia: C
- LSU: C

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# Fraternity spreads alcohol awareness

By Jennie Kushner  
Staff Writer

In honor of Alcohol Awareness Week and a Colorado State University coed, Sigma Pi Fraternity partnered with the department of health promotion to host the first cookout to benefit the Sam Spady Foundation Tuesday.

The Sam Spady Foundation, the fraternity's national philanthropy, was founded after Spady died of alcohol poisoning at the CSU Sigma Pi fraternity house in 2004. The goal of the two-hour cookout with hamburgers and hotdogs was to raise awareness of the severity of the dangers of alcohol.

"The Sam Spady Foundation is a good philanthropy for us because it provides a service and it helps spread a message," said Jacob Adrian, a freshman majoring in economics.

With about 300 people in attendance and about \$1,500 raised, Sigma Pi Vice President Alex Supinski, a junior majoring in English education, called the cookout a success.

"Alcohol is so prevalent on

a college campus. It is nearly impossible to escape it," Supinski said. "Our cookout informed people about the negative effects it can have on a person and how to be safe when drinking."

Philanthropy chair Ford Henley, a senior majoring in marketing, said the community supported the event.

"Coke and Pepsi provided the drinks, and the department of health promotion gave us \$300 to buy food for the event," Henley said. "Colin Maxwell, from the Delta Tau Delta house, plays rugby with me, so he helped out and played the guitar."

Fact cards were given out to all in attendance. The cards listed six signs of alcohol poisoning and had a picture of Spady to remind people of the true dangers of drinking.

"The cookout raises money. It gets people to know about our fraternity and everyone [was] invited to not only enjoy food and music, but also to learn the dangers of alcohol," said Nick Smith, a freshman majoring in political science.

The cookout was hosted at

Sigma Pi's house located on University Boulevard, previously the Sigma Pi Epsilon House.

Supinski said the brothers of Sigma Pi hope to make this event annual, especially once the fraternity relocates to Pi Kappa Alpha's old house.

"We have it at a fraternity house where there are usually a lot of parties going on," Henley said. "So ironically, it's the best place to promote alcohol awareness."

"Our cookout is a good thing because it brings out a lot of people together. It shows that we can have a good time without having to drink, which is prevalent in the greek community," said Jacob Adrian, a freshman majoring in economics. "It sends a good message that people in the greek system do not have to drink to have fun."

Henley said the philanthropy was fitting for the fraternity because of the newness of each. Sigma Pi colonized on campus in 2003, and the philanthropy originated in 2004.

"We both began close to the same time," Henley said, "so it's only appropriate that we grow together."

# Students increase career experience with game

By Jessica Williams  
Staff Writer

PricewaterhouseCoopers offers UA students a unique competition, xTREME Games, which gains crucial experience by solving real-world business challenges.

xTREME began at the University in 2007 and includes xACT, short for "Extreme Accounting." The competition provides students with the chance to demonstrate and strengthen teamwork, communication and critical thinking abilities.

The competition includes a scenario where a team performs as PwC personnel to evaluate and choose between two considered alternatives. Each team is assigned a case where they have two weeks to research, develop and prepare their presentation. The games allow the participants to build a foundation to enter the work field.

"The games provide a great opportunity for UA students to improve their analytical and presentation skills and to compete with teams from top universities across the country," said Mary

Stone, head of the Culverhouse School of Accountancy.

In the upcoming weeks, accounting students from over 80 schools across the country will compete in five-person teams to potentially make it to the national finals in January. Four of the members must be enrolled in their first accounting class or be an accounting major or minor. Of those four, two must be sophomores, one must be a junior accounting major and the fourth can be at any level of education. The final member is a wildcard and is allowed to have any business-related major.

"When it comes to preparing students for successful careers in the accounting profession, there is no substitute for hands-on, real-world experience," said Christina Fitzpatrick, national campus sourcing programs leader for PricewaterhouseCoopers. "With the xTREME Games, students get a firsthand look at the type of intricate challenges that tax and accounting professionals face on a daily basis. The competition builds collaboration and problem-solving skills while also requiring that ideas are effectively presented—all crucial skills in

a competitive job environment."

Tom Fitzgibbon, one of the faculty advisors for the UA teams, said the competition provides the opportunity for students to directly network with representatives and personnel from leading professional-service corporations nationwide.

"The University has enjoyed a very positive working relationship with PricewaterhouseCoopers," Fitzgibbon said. "The firm has been extremely supportive of the University. It maintains a significant recruiting presence on campus, and several of our alumni and advisors hold or have held leadership positions within that firm."

Created by PwC in 2002, the xTREME Games competition has grown progressively to incorporate more than 2,500 teams comprised of 13,000 participants.

Students who participate in PwC's xTREME Games compete for more than \$300,000 in total prize money, and around \$1.5 million in prize money has been given to college students since xTREME began.

More information about xTREME can be found at [www.pwc.com/xtreme](http://www.pwc.com/xtreme).

# Lambda Chi Alpha wins service award

By Sean Abdoli  
Senior Staff Reporter

The UA chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha has been named the Club of the Year, a service award from Easter Seals Alabama.

The organization is a non-profit organization that aims to provide services to those with physical and mental disabilities.

The award will be presented to Lambda Chi Alpha on Nov. 6 at the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel in Mobile.

Easter Seals West Alabama's director of community relations Pat Gregg said the award is being given to the fraternity because of the members' help over the last few years.

"For the past eight years, they've assisted us with our fundraisers," Gregg said. "It takes a lot of manpower with strong backs and willing hands to help us, and this group of young men has always been willing to step up and help us."

Gregg also said because of their help, the non-profit organization was able to divert more money to the services it provides.

The fraternity helped out at Eastern Seals fundraisers by setting up and taking down before and after fundraisers among other things,

**"For the past eight years, they've assisted us with our fundraisers. It takes a lot of manpower with strong backs and willing hands to help us, and this group of young men has always been willing to step up and help us."**

— Pat Gregg

he said.

"Not only do they help us with the logistics," Gregg said. "They're really helpful to the children at the events. They help participants find their way."

Gregg said he attributes the increase of other willing greek organizations helping Eastern Seals to Lambda Chi Alpha.

"Over the last few years, we've had several other greek organizations, fraternities and sororities, that have helped us. They've helped raise awareness of our organization."

Lambda Chi Alpha's faculty advisor is Roy Gregg, Pat Gregg's husband and the director of cooperative education at the University. Gregg said he thinks the Lambda Chi Alpha has earned the award through hard work.

"This state award is an accumulation of five years in which these men have helped Easter Seals," Roy Gregg said.

He said the dedication of

the fraternity is apparent at the work they have done helping Easter Seals.

"I've had 100 young men come in the dark at 5:30 a.m., and that's a labor of love and community."

"I'm extremely proud of them getting recognized for their community service," he said. "One of the things we've stressed at this fraternity is being aware of people in the community around you."

Jake Burchfield, the UA chapter president of Lambda Chi Alpha and a senior majoring in English, said he and his organization are proud to win the award.

"It's a culmination of a lot of work," Burchfield said. "We're all really excited."



Burchfield said the fraternity brothers enjoy working with the organization and the children it serves.

"A lot of people don't understand how much help disabled individuals need," Burchfield said. "And all of us are really glad to be able to help them out."

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# Jazz pianist comes to campus

By Brad Lake  
Staff Writer

Bill Anschell, a jazz piano player out of Seattle, is playing with the UA Faculty Jazz Quartet in the Moody Music Building at 7:30 tonight. The quartet consists of Chris Kozak, double bass; Mark Lanter, drum set; Jonathan Noffsinger, saxophone; and Tom Wolfe, guitar. The group will play selections from Bill Anschell's original compositions, and they might play an arrangement of The Beatles' "Come Together."

Chris Kozak, the bass player, contacted Anschell and asked him to send his compilations

for the show. Kozak, Wolfe, Lanter and Noffsinger play together in town regularly.

"Bill has played with Tom and Mark before, so this should be a mini-reunion for those guys," Kozak said. "I have never played with him before, but I am very excited about the performance. One thing I like about Bill is he is a sensitive player but performs with great conviction."

The band will play mainly jazz with explosive improvisations and complex arrangement, he said.

"The thing I like most about jazz is that it incorporates improvisation into the music,"

Kozak said. "It allows more freedom to have musical conversation with the rest of the group."

Anschell said in his early experiences with jazz, he completely fell in love with the creativity that was available in it.

"I played by ear all my life. I had some band experience too, but I always just played piano for fun," Anschell said.

"It wasn't until my sophomore year in college that I took my first piano lesson. At that time I played sax and piano, and I just decided to pick one. I had more fun playing piano, so I stuck with that."

Anschell is a jazz pianist who

has impressed people with his smooth sounds, according to a news release. He is a native of Seattle, and after studying for two years at Oberlin College in Ohio, Anschell earned a music degree from Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

During his time at Wesleyan, Anschell worked with saxophone player Bill Barron. He also studied with South Indian mrdangam player T Ranganathan, which led him to discover his passion for more rhythmic experimentation. He also won the Northwest Jazz Instrumentalist of the Year award in 2005, and in 2006 his trio was named the Northwest

Acoustic Jazz Ensemble of the Year. Anschell has played at the Capstone once before in 1996, leading to him being stranded in Tuscaloosa due to a blizzard.

He also will perform Thursday with the Alabama Jazz Ensemble at 7:30 p.m. in the concert hall, which is a free show. The group will play songs such "Bright Eyes to Me" by Bill Holman, "Mean to Me" by Thad Jones, "Have You Met Miss Jones?" by Richard Rogers and Lorenz Hart and "Mr. Fonebone" by Bob Mintzer. For more information on any of these events, call 348-7111.



# Performances to reveal roots of 'Hair'

By Steven Nalley  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Tom Ashby has a few reasons he wants to see his son, Wil Ashby, perform in "The History of Hair."

"I feel like he has the ability to do some performing," Ashby said. "Since it was a performance that I played a part in, it just seemed apropos that he give it a try."

Tom Ashby is one of the Vietnam War veterans to be portrayed in "The History of Hair," a program exploring the real events that inspired the musical and the protests that rocked the Alabama campus in May 1970. The program begins at 5:45 p.m. Wednesday in Galloway Theatre.

teaches honors classes for documentary film production and screenwriting, organized the event after looking at a series of alternatives for exploring the history behind the theatre department's upcoming production of "Hair." Field said he started out wanting to bring two of his friends from Hollywood who had worked on the original "Woodstock" movie.

"They were making a movie in Hollywood and they didn't have time to come," Field said.

He then considered featuring Vietnam veterans and friends who were involved in anti-war protests on campus, but he did not have the money to pay for gas, food and lodging for each of them.

"Somebody pointed out to me that it could get pretty boring to have a bunch of old hippies sitting up on stage talking about the good old days," Field said. "I can't stand boring."

So, one night, he came up with the idea of having veterans and hippies send him their stories, which students would read as dramatic monologues.

"I'm also having live music,



Charlie Stimpson, a sophomore majoring in theatre; Dianna Duffy, a junior majoring in musical theatre and public relations and Jacob Crawford, a freshman majoring in English and theatre; rehearse a line from the program "The spirit of the bayonet is to kill, drill sergeant."

and I'm having a guy named Bo Hembree put together the music," Field said. "Sarah Crocker-Buta is going to sing. They're going to rock out the songs from the period, they're putting it together just for this."

Wil Ashby said his father had told him his performance in "History of Hair" would mean a lot to him, but he also enjoyed the chance to perform with college students.

"I've learned a lot in the few days I've been here," Wil

Ashby said. "It's doing justice to the on-campus movement."

Spencer Collins, a sophomore in theatre and economics, is playing Tom Ashby. He said Wil appearing in it was a nice story, and he was impressed that the team had put the production together in just a few days.

"If you have none of the historic background of Vietnam, you're still going to feel the power of Hair," Collins said. "If you do, it becomes an even better play."

Field said his goal beyond "Hair" was to make students think.

"A patriot is someone who takes the time to learn how to think, then looks up all sides of the story, then decide for themselves what is right, and then has the courage to act on that," Field said. "What I'd like students to come away with at this is the fact that it is their obligation as a citizen of the world to learn how to think and then have the courage to do the right thing."

## OPEN MIC

(Continued from page 1)

"On the Day the Icons Died."

"Death reminds me that he

still exists," McDonald read. "Death is not dead, but he's alive and making his rounds around the town."

McDonald said his poem was inspired by the series of

celebrity deaths over the summer. McDonald said in particular Michael Jackson's death touched him the most because his father and the pop star share the same birth year — 1958. McDonald said his heart was telling him to be ready, for death could come to his father this year or 15 years.

However the evening was not limited to cryptic stories, as McDonald also recited a comical poem, "Letter to my dumbass roommate who decided to get married on Halloween." In his poem, McDonald said he asks such questions as whether spaghetti will be replaced with bloody worms at the wedding reception. He said he also asks his roommate if he needs to bring anything for black magic summoning, such as a puppy's tail or a rotten corpse.

In addition to his roommate, McDonald said inspiration

for this poem also developed from watching a program on the Travel Channel highlighting people who get married on Halloween. He said he collaborated on the poem with his cousin Jake.

"I still don't have an explanation for why," McDonald said. "I'm sure I'm going to get one before the night's over."

McDonald said he also enjoys comedy. He painted the night with humor by poking fun at the Saw movies. He proposed that Saw 76 would be called "The Passion of the Saw" and that Saw 55 would be dubbed, "Fat Camp." He said Saw 89 would be branded "The Sawshank Redemption."

McDonald also delivered posed another joke. He asked the audience what blood type does a misspeller have.

McDonald's answer? "Typo."

McDonald said there's something about an open mic night that he could not resist. However, he said the audience can be intimidating.

McDonald recalled one instance when he went to Bama Theatre. He said the audience

was interactive in their disapproval of his comedy act. He explained that when some people in the performance don't get something, there is a disturbing thought within them that prevents them from enjoying the comedy.

McDonald referred to the Laramie Project, which raises awareness of hate crimes. He explained that comedians don't do performances to upset people.

"The audience is a very interesting creature to encounter," McDonald said.

Jake Smith, a staff member from the Marr's Field Journal also contributed to the night's festivities. Smith performed covers by Jimi Hendrix, such as "Manic Depression." He also performed Hendrix's, "The Wind Cries Mary," which he described as a song about time and how nothing lasts.

Smith said he'll perform anything. He also covered "Engine" by Neutral Milk Hotel and "Lizzy" by Ben Kweller. Smith is part of the band "Kadesh and The Perfect Strangers," a jazz-hip-hop rock band.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
Page 7 • Wednesday,  
October 21, 2009  
Editor • Steven Nalley  
smnalley@crimson.ua.edu

**A&E**  
this weekend

TODAY

- "The History of Hair": Galloway Theater, 5:45 p.m.
- Jazz Faculty Quartet featuring Bill Anschell: Moody Music Building, 7:30 p.m.
- The Jupiter Bar and Grill: VibeSquad, 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

- Kathryn Davis presented by the Bankhead Visiting Writers Series: Gorgas Library, 7:30 p.m.
- Alabama Jazz Ensemble featuring Bill Anschell: Moody Music Building, 7:30 p.m.
- The Jupiter Bar and Grill: The Ugly Stick, 9 p.m.

# McElroy promises return to old form



By Spencer White  
Assistant Sports Editor

CW | Tori Gordon

If there is one trait Alabama quarterback Greg McElroy has learned in his football career, it's patience.

The junior spent six of the last eight years of his gridiron life sitting on the bench, watching and learning from the older quarterbacks who played in front of him. He saw their mistakes, watched their poor games and learned how Chase Daniel and John Parker Wilson bounced back after sliding performances.

Now it's his turn. McElroy started off the year in impressive fashion, completing 66 percent of his passes and compiling nine touchdowns, all while throwing 141 pass attempts without an interception.

But quiet games against Kentucky and Ole Miss, instead of simply being off-nights for

the Dallas native, led to an outright poor performance against South Carolina, where McElroy threw two interceptions in the first quarter and gained a meager 92 yards through the air.

"You have to put it behind you," McElroy said. "You'd like to have a great game every week...this is my first year starting. We're going to have some ups-and-downs."

McElroy has never been one to lose confidence, priding his ability to study film, break down tendencies and improve each week.

"You want a perfect game," McElroy said. "I'm a perfectionist. That's just the way I was taught. If you don't do things right, why do them at all?"

For head coach Nick Saban, the advice he gave his field-general simply was about getting back to basics.

"You've got to go back to what got you there," Saban

said. "You've got to remember the fundamental things that are most important to you and that's being able to execute and play winning football at your position."

For McElroy, the test will only get tougher this week. The No. 2 Crimson Tide go up against the Tennessee Volunteers and head coach Lane Kiffin. An already talented defense was bolstered by the arrival of defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin, Lane's father and one of the most renowned defensive minds in the history of the NFL.

While an assistant for Jon Gruden's Tampa Bay Buccaneers team, the elder Kiffin developed the Tampa 2 defense, a new spin on the traditional cover 2 zone defense that has successfully confounded quarterbacks for years and helped lead the Bucs to a Super Bowl victory in 2002.

"The middle linebacker

shoots to the back, so it actually creates a three-deep look," McElroy said. "It's a very popular defense, especially at the college level...our defense plays quite a bit of it."

It remains to be seen exactly how well McElroy will bounce back after the last three weeks, but it appears Florida quarterback Tim Tebow is not the only gunslinger who can make promises. After the 20-6 victory against the Gamecocks, where McElroy only took one snap under center for the Tide's final touchdown drive, a visibly upset McElroy had some words for media members regarding his preparation for the upcoming game.

"I haven't been playing real good," McElroy said. "But we'll get it figured out, I promise. I promise the fans, promise the coaches and promise the players that I will get it figured out and get it straightened out."

Left: Junior starting quarterback Greg McElroy receives the play call from the sideline during last Saturday's 20-6 victory over South Carolina. Right: McElroy passes against South Carolina.

CW | Tori Gordon



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Pamela Warren, Cybercrime Strategist, McAfee

**Malware & Social Networking:**  
Brian Tillett, Symantec

**Cyberbullying & Sexual Exploitation:**  
Joshua Buford, UA Community Services Center

**Online Sharing & Copyright Infringement**  
D. Jay Cervino, UA Office of Information Technology

**Wednesday, October 21 at 2 p.m.**  
**360 Ferguson Center**  
*Information Security for Faculty and Staff*

**Confidential Information & Data Breaches at UA:**  
Ashley Ewing, UA Director of Information Security

**Identity Theft & Social Networking:**  
Pamela Warren, Cybercrime Strategist, McAfee

**Malware & Social Networking:**  
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To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** -- Today is a 7 -- Take every chance to share your feelings, enjoy the scenery and sample the food. Today is a day to relax.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** -- Today is a 7 -- Pay attention to attire, makeup and environmental arrangements. This could be the party to top all parties.

**Gemini (May 21-June 21)** -- Today is a 7 -- If you stay at home, you'll discover that comfort begins in the kitchen. Actually, a shopping trip is in order.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22)** -- Today is a 7 -- It's all an act, but you are so good at it. By the end of the day, you're no longer acting.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** -- Today is a 7 -- Romance is the stuff of fairy tales. You can have your story today if you pay attention to the moral.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** -- Today is a 6 -- Beautify your environment. This could include food preparation, or something that you've wanted for a long time.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** -- Today is a 7 -- Whatever you want you can have. Opportunities pop out of the woodwork at the most unexpected moments. Pay attention.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** -- Today is a 6 -- Pay attention to what you eat today. You may find yourself presented with the exotic food you've been craving.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** -- Today is a 6 -- Life may seem like an uphill battle, but you're almost at the summit. Once you get there, you can see forever.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** -- Today is a 7 -- Group activities provide opportunities for gathering information and fitting pieces into the puzzle.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** -- Today is a 7 -- This is a really good time to paint or decorate. Tackle a project you've had on hold.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** -- Today is a 6 -- Schmooze with the group. Plan a nice dinner and celebrate remarkable success.

(Daily Horoscope Alerts Subscription. \$9.99/mo. Text your sign to 94847. Std msg charges apply. Txt HELP for info, STOP to cancel. Cust. Svc: 1-866-663-3313.)

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17 "Like secret military facilities, to civilians  
19 "Lucy, you got a \_\_\_ 'splainin' to do!"  
20 High on the hwy.  
21 Scatterbrained  
22 Gillette razors  
23 Slip by  
25 Give life to  
27 Artist's support  
30 401(k) cousin, briefly  
31 Like horror films  
34 Not worth debating  
36 Chowder ingredient  
40 Actress Spelling  
41 Moisten the bird  
42 One who saves the day  
43 Screwy  
44 Golden \_\_\_: senior citizen  
45 Part of VCR  
46 Souse's affliction, for short  
48 Red-breasted bird  
50 "The Avengers" heroine, to Steed  
54 Log-on need  
58 Old photo tint  
59 Muscat resident  
62 Suffix in enzyme names  
63 Towels (off)  
64 "Furniture with folding legs, usually  
66 1/16 of a pound  
67 Cancel, as a newspaper story  
68 Ski slope lift  
69 Villainous look  
70 \_\_\_ gin fizz  
71 Given moment, which can begin both parts of the answers to started clues

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						71								

By Pancho Harrison 11/2/09

**DOWN**  
1 Crystalline stone  
2 Beyond bad  
3 Cosa Nostra  
4 NBC show with Baba Wawa skits  
5 Military forces  
6 IOU  
7 Queens ball team  
8 Unchallenging college course  
9 Oblong cream puff  
10 "One-armed bandit  
11 Prefix with -cycline  
12 Trouble greatly  
13 Clear, as a tape  
18 "My guess is ..."  
24 "Movie that evokes prior times  
26 TV's Nick at \_\_\_  
28 'Zine on the Net  
29 Runner-up  
31 Initials on a Cardinal's cap  
32 Dove sound  
33 Golf ball path  
35 Other, in Mexico  
37 Had followers

**Saturday's Puzzle Solved**

E	W	I	L	E	O	T	S	H	E	N	S		
H	V	B	L	T	T	K	E	C	O	N	O		
E	T	B	V	I	D	H	V	C	S	E	I	H	D
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D	I	H	E	S	N	T	E	E	D	S	H	W	
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O	H	E	H	E	L	S	V	B	I	H	O	L	
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				V	H	I	T	E	S	V	E		
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S	V	H	L	V	A	S	L	I	D	I	N	D	
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H	E	L	S	E	V	M	C	V	S	W	A	D	

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38 " you kidding?"  
39 Cow sound  
41 Military command center  
45 Stop in lure you in  
47 Ad to lure you in  
49 \_\_\_ of joy: new baby  
50 Popular PC interface before Windows  
51 Second showing

52 Chiropractor's target  
53 Secures using a key  
55 Synagogue leader  
56 Muslim's faith  
57 Tractor maker John  
60 Letters in a box  
61 Singer Guthrie  
65 Lawyer: Abbr.

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## Bama gears up for an SEC title run

By Brian Bishop  
Staff Writer

The Alabama men's cross-country team competed in the NCAA Pre-National Invitational Saturday, where the Tide took second place overall. Indiana State University held the meet at the Wabash Valley Family Sports Center on Lavern Gibson Championship Cross Country Course. This is the same course where the Tide will compete in the NCAA Championships in November.

"It was great to get some experience running in colder weather and especially getting to preview the course we will be competing at in November for nationals," said Coach Joe Walker.

Alabama fell to the No. 7 Oregon Ducks only two weeks after beating them in Eugene, Ore., when they were the top-ranked team.

"Oregon came back pretty strong. I think they had something to prove after we beat them in Oregon a couple of weeks ago," Walker said.

The Tide did, however, beat No. 2 Northern Arizona by squeaking out a one-point win in team scoring. Alabama has

now defeated the No. 1 and No. 2 ranked teams this year and is now considered the No. 1 team in the southern region.

"It's a great accomplishment to beat two great teams like that in one season. It really says a lot about the character of our team," Walker said. "I don't feel like it was our best effort, but it was an average day and a good effort. But we still need to improve with the Southeastern Conference Championships coming up."

Moses Kiptoo, who finished 13th in the 8,000 meter course, led the Tide.

"Moses had a great day for us as well as Julius Bor and Fred Samoei. Those guys really stood out and all had solid runs," Walker said.

Five Crimson Tide runners finished in the top 50 with Bor placing 15th, Samoei placing 17th, Tyson David placing 26th and Andrew Kirwa finishing 43rd.

"Pre-Nationals is such a huge event. It was really good to see all our guys compete so well at such a high level," Walker said.

The Tide will have the week off before preparing for the SEC Championships held in Oxford, Miss. on Oct. 31.

"We are really looking for-



UA Athletics  
Cross country head coach Joe Walker talks to his team at this year's Crimson Classic. Alabama dropped from No. 3 to No. 6 in the coaches' poll this week.

ward to competing for an SEC title. That was one of our main goals coming into this season, and we have a really good chance of achieving that this year," Walker said. "We will take it pretty easy this week, and then we'll get back to work pretty

hard next week to prepare to go to Oxford."

The Tide will be going into Oxford as a heavy favorite to bring back a second straight SEC title to Tuscaloosa. Alabama will go in with a No. 6 national ranking and a well tested, expe-

rienced group of runners who have proven they can compete with the best. The Tide's main competition will be the No. 24 Auburn Tigers and the No. 28 Arkansas Razorbacks, who are both traditional SEC powers in cross-country.

Page 10 • Wednesday,  
October 21, 2009  
Editor • Jason Galloway  
crimsonwhitesports@  
gmail.com

### SPORTS this weekend

#### THURSDAY

• Women's soccer vs. Georgia: Athens, Ga., 7 p.m.

• Men's tennis: New Orleans, La., All Day

#### FRIDAY

• Women's volleyball vs. Auburn: Auburn, 6 p.m.

• Women's golf: Landfall Tradition, Wilmington, N.C., All Day

• Women's tennis: Day One, Auburn, All Day

### WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

## Tide ends regular season in pre-national

By NiCarla Friend  
Staff Writer

The Crimson Tide's women's cross country team finished 23rd out of 37 teams in the Pre-National Invitational Saturday in Terre Haute, Ind. The team competed against close to 300 other individual runners.

"It was a big race, but really it didn't seem like it because the course was wide," said freshman Katlyn Will. "At the beginning, we were together, but then we started spreading out. And I had seen races before, and I mean that is a lot of people, but it didn't really seem like that many people, so I really wasn't intimidated

by that."

"Well, the pre-national meet [is] the first time since I've been here that we've taken our team up to that meet, and that is a completely different environment," said head coach Randy Hasenbank. "[It is] very intense, all of the top teams of the country have been there, and I feel like with our young squad, it is better to go up there sooner than later."

Kelsey Johnson was the first woman from the Tide to cross the finish line with a time of 22:48.7 that landed her in 70th place. Some of the other top finishers for the Tide were Will (110th) Sara Vaughn (131st) who finished with times of 22:15.0 and

22:27.8, respectively.

"I think we ran okay in a few spots," Hasenbank said. "We did have some pretty nice performances, but it doesn't necessarily look like it on paper. Katlyn Will and the Gilmores ran times fast enough to go on Alabama's all-time 6K list...as far as the way they competed and the way they ran, they competed very well and ran well."

Though this was Will's first 6K meet, she said she could have done better.

"My performance was good for my first 6K, but I was not happy with the time," Will said. "The place does not really bother me because it was a big meet and

there was a lot of solid, good competition, so the place could mean nothing to me. But the time, I wish, could've been faster. It was a good starting run for me."

But Will said the changes need to be made in race strategy, not training.

"I probably would have tried to get out better. I'm not used to races that big, so I kind of got boxed in the beginning. So I probably would have gotten out faster if I'd known that. Then maybe I could've gotten into a better rhythm, therefore a whole much better pace."

"Overall, they competed pretty well," Hasenbank said. "You know, I'm not going to lie, we

were hoping to compete a little bit better in that meet and a little bit higher, but I feel that it was a pretty good eye-opener for them. The field is so deep, and if you don't get out there and compete early, you can get lost in the wave of humanity there."

"It was close to 300 runners in that race, and it can be difficult sometimes to move up in a field that's that big. So I think that our young runners needed to be in that; they needed to see that, and it will [prepare them for] well down the road."

The next time the Tide will compete is at the Southeastern Conference Championships in Oxford, Miss., on Oct. 31.

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