



ONLINE: FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK

Coach Saban says young players need to learn to listen to team leaders.



FALL BREAK

The Crimson White will resume production after Fall Break on Tuesday, Oct. 9



The Crimson White

Wednesday, October 3, 2012

Serving the University of Alabama since 1894

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NEWS | MARS



TO INFINITY, BEYOND

By Marc Torrence
Assistant Sports Editor

NASA scientist and Bama fan hopes to name Martian landmark after University

NASA scientist James Rice has had the rare privilege of naming Martian landmarks, and he didn't forget his roots on Earth when he did - one is named after his hometown of Tuscaloosa. He grew up and studied in Tuscaloosa and still finds time to visit, even though his work is 250 million miles away.

He said he hopes to one day name a rock or other landmark after his favorite football team, whom he saw beat Ole Miss 33-14 this weekend.

"I wanted to name something Alabama or Crimson Tide, [but] I can't promise it's going to happen," Rice said. "If you [name something] Alabama, you'd like to do University of Alabama,

because you don't want Auburn to have any credit or anything."

Rice and Ryan Ewing, an assistant professor in the Department of Geological Sciences, represent a crimson connection to the red planet - a small part of a large team trying to uncover Mars' secrets.

Rice is an astrogeologist studying rocks and the Martian landscape for NASA. He graduated from the University in 1984 with a degree in geology, received a master's degree from Northeast Louisiana University and then a Ph.D. from Arizona State.

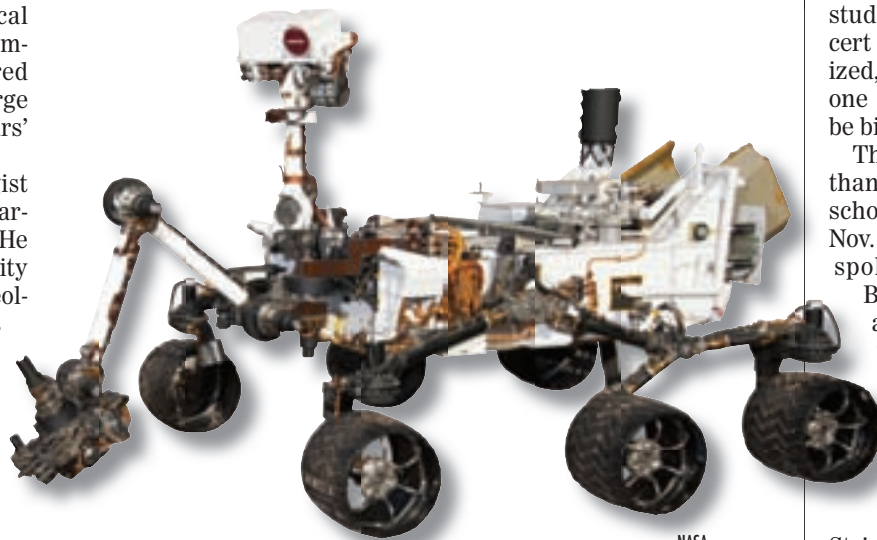
His love for Alabama, though, does not get lost as he explains some of the

specifics of his geology work. Rice recalled sitting in Bryant-Denny Stadium in disgust when Cam Newton - "Scam," he calls him - beat Alabama in the 2010 Iron Bowl. He includes scores to Alabama games in his email to his

NASA colleagues.

But he's always had a certain fascination with Mars. It began in elementary school and continued when he was a student at Tuscaloosa High School.

SEE MARS PAGE 2



NASA

NEWS | SGA CONCERT

SGA sets goal of \$100,000 for RAGE concert

Amphitheater booked for show

By Sarah Elizabeth Tooker
Contributing Writer

The Student Government Association is keeping quiet about the particulars of this year's student-only RAGE concert until details are finalized, but they're clear on one thing: they want it to be big.

They hope to raise more than \$100,000 for student scholarships through the Nov. 8 concert event, SGA spokesperson Meagan Bryant said, and they are currently finalizing plans for a headlining act at the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater to be preceded by a Battle of the Bands event at Jupiter on the Strip Tuesday, Nov. 6.

In the past, the RAGE concert has taken place at the Bama Theatre, but in order to accommodate the expected larger crowd, this year's main concert will take place at a much bigger venue, the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater.

"A contract has been signed for the Nov. 8 concert; however we are waiting on ticket pricing and logistics before we reveal the act and details," Bryant said. "We do know that only UA students will be able to purchase tickets for the concert. Details on how and when to buy tickets along with the headlining act will be available next week after fall break."

Three local bands will perform at the Battle of the Bands and the audience will vote via Twitter on their favorite performance.

"Whoever wins will be awarded an opportunity to perform before the mainstream act, during

the first ever SGA-hosted concert in the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater," Matt Harris, SGA executive vice president, said in a press release.

The second-place performance will perform at the Jupiter again following the Nov. 8 concert.

Students interested in applying to perform should either drop off a demo in person in the SGA office or via the Ask SGA tab on myBama by Oct. 17. Winners will be notified Oct. 19.

If this event is as successful as they hope, the SGA Scholarship Endowment Fund could potentially grow to impact more students.

Currently, students are encouraged to apply for the \$1000 need-based scholarships throughout the year through a form located in the SGA office. The SGA is not only working to raise the available funds they have to offer but also to improve the process by which candidates are selected.

"The applications are blinded after they are submitted and we are working on getting the application online," Bryant said.

To some students, this is exciting news. Kayla Haynes, a junior majoring in chemical engineering, said this is a significant step in the right direction for students helping students.

"If the student body can help the SGA raise over \$100,000 going directly to help other students, it seems like everyone should want to attend," Haynes said. "I think they just need to really get the word out there that while this is promoting student unity, it's also for a really great cause."

SEE RAGE PAGE 2

CULTURE | DOWNTOWN NORTHPORT

Fifth and Main reopens, sticks to roots

Northport restaurant will serve similar menu

By Abbey Crain
Staff Reporter

Changes have come to a trademark in local cuisine, downtown Northport's Fifth and Main, which reopened earlier this summer featuring a new home-cooked menu and a new owner, Anita Thornhill, at the helm.

Thornhill and her husband moved to Tuscaloosa from Marengo County to be near their two sons. Here, she began a career in the food industry, selling cakes, pies and jellies out of her house to raise money for

her grandchildren's after-school activities. After customers began calling in orders for her home cooked treats, Thornhill decided it was time to move her business out of her kitchen and start looking for a restaurant.

"We talked over several months and did a lot of praying," Thornhill said. "The door opened, and it just seemed that was the route God wanted me to go."

The new Fifth and Main stays true to its roots with a similar soup, sandwich and salad menu

and some of the old staff staying on board. Thornhill has added her own personal touch to the dishes, adding "Soul Food Thursday" and "Seafood Friday" to the specials. The menu also includes burgers and barbecue items.

"I cook what we have in the kitchen," Thornhill said. "If I have an abundance of chocolate, I'm going to make fudge. Almost all of the dishes have personal touches that come from my kitchen."

Thornhill cooks for her customers just like she would cook

for her family.

"I incorporate my pepper jelly into a lot of dishes," Thornhill said. "I use a lot of what I bake at home. When I'm baking, I'm thinking of my family."

Thornhill tries to cook with "farm-to-table" ingredients and prefers baking in small batches to ensure freshness. Her most popular items include the strawberry turkey brie panini, coconut cake and her famous banana pudding.

"We're back there chopping those potatoes and making those fries," Thornhill said. "We make small batches because it just tastes better."

SEE CAFÉ PAGE 2

SPORTS | SWIMMING AND DIVING

Tide's Hall of Fame coach ready to bring new era of Bama Swimming

After busy summer at Olympics, British Swimming's head coach comes to Alabama

By Charlie Potter
Contributing Writer

The Alabama swimming and diving team will begin the 2012

season Saturday, Oct. 6, when they host Delta State at 1:30 p.m. at the Alabama Aquatic Center.

The Crimson Tide will usher

in a new but familiar era in Alabama swimming and diving under its new Hall of Fame head coach, Dennis Pursley. Pursley swam for the Tide during his collegiate career, earning All-Southeastern Conference honors and an SEC 200-meter breaststroke title. He

also began his coaching career at the Capstone as a volunteer coach.

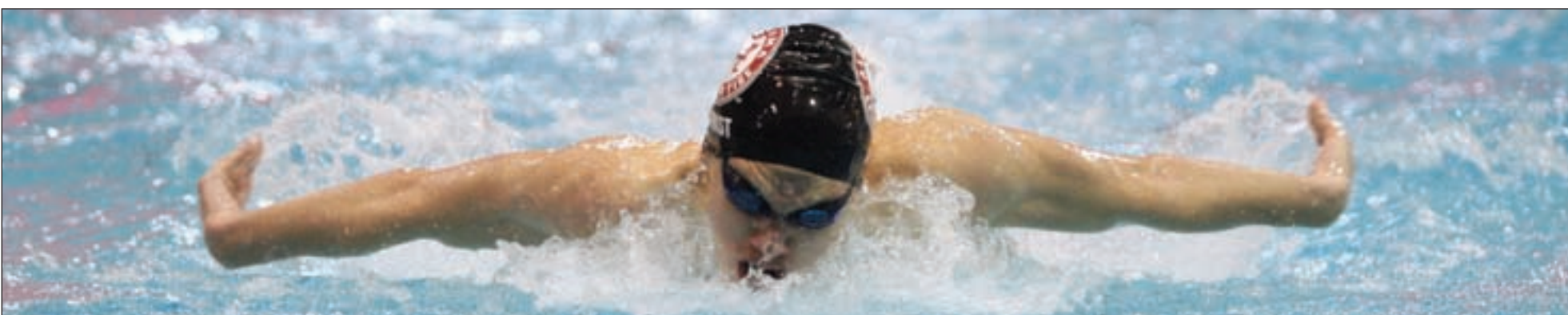
Pursley returns to The University of Alabama after a busy summer in London for the 2012 Olympic Games. He is currently the head coach of British Swimming.

"It's been great," Pursley said. "I really haven't had a minute to even look back or look as forward as far as I would like to. It's just getting the ball rolling in the direction that we want it to go is where my focus is right now, and we're really pleased with the

progress we're making."

Pursley compared the makeup of his new roster to that of an Olympic team, and he addressed the challenge of bringing the swimmers and divers together.

SEE SWIMMING PAGE 2



Tide's new head coach likens Alabama's lineup to an olympic team.

UA Athletics



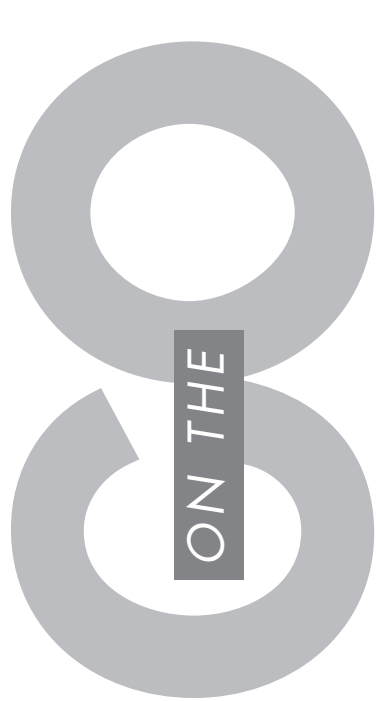
INSIDE today's paper

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WEATHER today

Mostly cloudy
95°/73°

Thursday 67°/52°
Chance of rain



ONLINE

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ON THE CALENDAR

TODAY

What: Feminism Spoken
Here: Brown Bag Lecture Series

Where: Ferguson Center 360

When: 12 – 1:30 p.m.

What: The French Table

Where: Starbucks at the Ferguson Center

When: 4 – 5 p.m.

What: Trivia Night and Dance Party

Where: Egan's

When: 9 p.m.

THURSDAY

What: Homegrown Alabama Farmers Market

Where: Canterbury Chapel

When: 3 – 6 p.m.

What: Rock the Vote!

Where: Jemison-Van de Graaff Mansion

When: 6 – 8 p.m.

What: A Nite on the Green

Where: Cypress Inn Pavilion

When: 5 – 10 p.m.

Submit your events to
calendar@cw.ua.edu

FRIDAY

What: Electric Moon, no cover

Where: Egan's

When: 11 p.m.

What: "The Dixie Swim Club"

Where: Theatre Tuscaloosa

When: 7:30 p.m.

What: "Into the Woods, Jr."

Where: Bama Theatre

When: 7 p.m.

ON THE MENU

LAKESIDE

LUNCH

Steak
Broccoli Cheddar Spud
Green Beans
Corn on the Cobb
Fresh Tomato Basil Penne
Broccoli & Cheddar Strata
Sautéed Mushroom
(Vegetarian)

DINNER

Pork with Caramelized Onion Gravy
Chicken Burrito
Cavatappi Marinara with Arugula
Deep Fried Okra
White Rice
Roasted Corn & Potato Soup
Garden Burger Taco

LUNCH

Chicken Parmesan
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce
Beef Stroganoff
Pumpkin Coconut Bisque
Pasta Ziti
Seasoned Corn
Italian Green beans
(Vegetarian)

BURKE

DINNER

BBQ Smoked Turkey Leg
Beef Brisket
Turkey Breast
Wild Mushroom Pizza
White Rice
Baked Macaroni & Cheese
Black-eyed Peas
(Vegetarian)

FRESH FOOD

LUNCH

Roasted Pork Loin
Grilled Chicken Herb Sandwich
Seafood Salad
Polenta with Broccoli Rabe
Mashed Red Potatoes
Deep Fried Okra
Turnip Greens (Vegetarian)

Professors connect UA to Mars projects

MARS FROM PAGE 1

"I think Mars is the most interesting planet in the solar system," he said. "Maybe even more than Earth sometimes."

The Mars Odyssey orbiter, which arrived at Mars in 2001 and is still in orbit today, was one of the first projects he worked on, and he was involved in the landing site selection for Curiosity, the rover which landed in early August 2012.

"They've got a lot to live up to," he said of the Curiosity team. "Spirit and Opportunity rewrote the science book of Mars."

He holds Spirit and

Opportunity, two rovers that landed on opposite sides of Mars in January 2004, close to his heart. While Curiosity has dominated the science headlines since its landing, he has worked more closely with the twin rovers and is still collecting and analyzing data from the Opportunity as a member of the science team.

The goal for the two rovers was just three months and 1,800 feet of driving distance. Spirit "died" two years ago after six years and 4.8 miles of exploration, while Opportunity is still alive and well, eight and a half years and more than 21 miles later.

Naming landmarks is a small perk his job entails. The crater Tuscaloosa dots the surface of Mars along with Northport crater, and both names are a direct

result of Rice's work. Also in the Victoria crater there is a rock named after Eugene Smith, the 19th century UA geology professor after whom Smith Hall is named.

Ewing, meanwhile, is collaborating with Gary Kocurek, a participating scientist on the Curiosity mission. Ewing and Kocurek are studying wind-blown sediments and rocks created by Martian winds.

The first challenge is differentiating the wind-blown sediments from sediments created by water. From there, the rocks can offer numerous clues to Mars' history.

"Within that, we can say something about the wind conditions at that time," Ewing said. "Are they different from today? How dynamic has Mars been through

time? Is it possible that for four billion years Mars has been in the same general state it is in now? Or have things changed dramatically? That's one of the questions we can pull out by looking at these rocks."

Ewing has been fascinated by Mars ever since his undergraduate years at Colorado College.

"I kind of got obsessed," he said.

He did an internship with NASA's Lunar and Planetary Space Institute in Houston and went on to graduate school at the University of Texas.

Now in his second year as a faculty member at Alabama, Ewing is attempting to share his love for Mars and astrogeology with his students.

"He tried to get people

interested in being geologists and how there's going to be a new field of geologist astronauts," said Noah Chisum, a UA junior who took Ewing's Geology 101 class in fall 2011, which was Ewing's first semester on campus and a year before Curiosity's landing. "He was excited about [Curiosity] and about what it was going to teach us about the solar system."

Rice and Ewing met briefly in the spring and while their paths don't cross often, they both connect Tuscaloosa to the solar system's the fourth planet.

"It's like a football team. Everybody's got a role to play," Rice said. "They've got to know what their job is. And when you do it and do it right, you win championships or survive on Mars for eight and a half years."

Café owner has new vision for restaurant

CAFÉ FROM PAGE 1

Marlena McConville, a junior majoring in environmental science, has been to Fifth and Main multiple times during her time at The University of Alabama.

"Fifth and Main is so unique to the city of Tuscaloosa," McConville said. "I have enjoyed the new home cooked dessert menu, especially the blueberry cobbler. It is to die for."

In the future, Thornhill hopes to use her restaurant as a tool to

reach out into the community.

"I can visualize this place as a French bistro where people can come and relax and eat really fresh food," Thornhill said. "That's what I see here. That's my vision."

The revamped Fifth and Main will continue to feed the Tuscaloosa and Northport communities from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

"If you had asked me a year ago would I have dreamed of being here, I would have told you no," Thornhill said. "God opens doors. This is totally different than what I've ever done. I just plunged into this, and I've enjoyed it."

Headliner for RAGE concert undetermined

RAGE FROM PAGE 1

Though the event has grown in size, the goals of RAGE remain unchanged.

"This event will give students a chance to gather in the same

location, at the same time, to support the same cause," Caroline Campbell, director of RAGE, said in a press release.

In regard to the mainstream band, students are encouraged to be on the lookout for more information after fall break.

"SGA is still working on pricing and logistics for the concert and artist," Bryant said.

Coach says 1st meet will build team unity

SWIMMING FROM PAGE 1

"There are some similarities," Pursley said. "An Olympic team is comprised of swimmers from all over the home country. The same is true for an NCAA team, where you get swimmers from all over the country and all over the world. It's a matter of trying to blend together a real cohesive group."

The Tide may not have complete team unity yet, but Pursley has begun to see leaders emerge within his first UA team.

On the men's team, junior All-American BJ Hornikel will lead the Crimson Tide against Delta State and the rest of its opponents. Hornikel, from Boblingen, Germany, finished

second in the 100- and 200-meter freestyles at the SEC Championship last season.

All-American and 2012 Olympian Kristel Vourna will lead the Alabama women's team. Vourna, a junior from Patpas, Greece, finished 12th in the London Olympic Games this summer. Pursley will rely on her experience to benefit the Tide versus their toughest competitors.

Saturday will be a new challenge for the Alabama teams as they begin a new era with the Statesmen of Delta State. Pursley has high hopes, but he also realizes that he and his swimmers will have to get adjusted to each other.

"We're hopeful we will get off to a good start," Pursley said. "That's our goal and our expectation, but it's not the end of the season if it doesn't go according to plan."

GO YOUR OWN WAY

Don't get caught in rush hour traffic or construction or bad driving conditions. GTR is the same distance as Birmingham but with much easier driving conditions.

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Online resumes, portfolio may give students leg up

By Madison Roberts
Contributing Writer

While applying for a job or an internship, students are likely to spend time perfecting their resume – the one thing that stays with interviewers after you walk out the door.

In today's digital age, however, professors and employers alike agree that creating an online portfolio or resume is an effective way for students to showcase their talents, experience and work samples. From portfolios to resumes to job applications, it is very rare to send in a hard copy of anything anymore.

Some University of Alabama students are getting

firsthand experience in creating their online resumes in the classroom.

As part of the curriculum for JN 101, each student is required to create a Wordpress blog to serve as their "professional home on the web" through college and beyond.

Jessie Jones is the communications specialist for University Alumni Affairs and also teaches a JN 101 class. She feels it is important for students to have the blog as a professional home, and she encourages them to get involved in other online networking sites, as well.

"Creating a professional home online is a great way

to start showcasing almost anything you do. From a link to a story you've written, to showcasing photos or video you've worked with, it can all go in one place," Jones said. "Wordpress, or even Blogger, can be great tools to host a site like this for free," she said. "It's also important to join professional networking sites like LinkedIn and to remember that even your Facebook and Twitter pages can be searched by potential employers. Keep everything clean and professional."

Jeff Baggett, the benefits delivery manager for business Aon Hewitt, said that online resumes and portfolios through sites such as LinkedIn

or Monster.com are a good way for students to get started, but online content doesn't replace the importance of face-to-face interaction.

"[Online portfolios] definitely do to get your foot in the door," Baggett said. "Once we identify them online and know that we're interested in them, we call them in for an interview and do a background check, which are really the deciding factors on whether or not we extend a job offer."

Jones said an online portfolio is a convenient way for students to prepare themselves for a spur-of-the-moment job application or internship.

"Today, we live and work in a fast-moving world. Jobs

can come open quickly and be filled just as quickly," Jones said. "To always be prepared to take that next step and have your link ready to go on a moment's notice could help you land that dream internship if it comes open suddenly."

Baggett says because his company looks through so many online resumes and portfolios each week, they want someone who stands out to them at first glance.

"I think probably the best way is when they apply for jobs online, they need to sell themselves in the first one or two sentences," Baggett said. "We're looking for somebody who jumps off the page at us."

Jones said the earlier students start branding their work, the better.

"I think it is important to brand yourself, especially early in your career," Jones said. "Everything you do and put your name on helps create and establish your brand."

Taylor Harrison, a freshman nursing major, said she has already started creating an online resume and portfolio, which she hopes will help her land jobs or internships throughout college.

"I don't think you necessarily need to create an online portfolio, but I think it helps you," Harrison said. "I'm hoping this will put me one step ahead of the game."

Graduate student research conference abstracts due Friday

By Molly Olmstead
Contributing Writer

Graduate students interested in showcasing their research are invited to submit abstracts to the Graduate Student Assembly by 5 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 6 for consideration for the 14th Annual Research and Thesis Conference.

The conference will be held Oct. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Shelby Hall. UA graduate students across disciplines are invited to submit their research for consideration.

Registrants can display posters and give seminar presentations, which should last around 15 minutes and allow time for questions at the end.

A primary goal of the conference is to allow graduate

students a chance to practice the communication of their research to a general audience, Joseph Meany, vice president for Research and Thesis Conferences for the GSA, said.

Meany, a doctoral student studying chemistry, said the GSA also aims to foster a greater sense of a community among graduate students on campus by allowing students to share their research with one another.

"I hope to see this as a jumping-off point for more interdepartmental communication," he said.

Andrew Greff, a master's student in mechanical engineering, said that in his experience, the graduate student population already seems close.

"We all help each other without hesitation, whether

it be homework or research. We loan each other our equipment, too, to help others finish. We even work with other disciplines without issue," Greff said.

Rosalind Moore, director of Graduate Student Services, said there are three primary benefits to student participation in the conference.

First, she said, is the chance for students to learn about one another's work.

"The GSA Research and Thesis Conference is a great opportunity for graduate students to come together in an interdisciplinary nature and learn about each other's academic endeavors," Moore said.

Moore also said the conference will present a good testing ground for the projects.

"This conference gives graduate students the

opportunity to hone their presentations and perfect any loose ends in their research before taking them off to major national and international arenas within their field," she said.

The final benefit to attending the conference is the possibility of monetary reward.

First, second and third places in the both the seminar presentations and the posters will receive monetary prizes. Moore said these prizes are intended to help defray the cost of attending academic conferences.

All graduate students participating in research are

invited to submit abstracts by 5 p.m. on Oct. 6. Abstracts should be between 250 to 300 words in length, and any posters included should measure 36 by 48 inches. Students can pay \$7 to register at sa.tix.com or email Joseph Meany at jemeany@crimson.ua.edu for more information.

Break hours differ at UA facilities

By Madison Roberts
Contributing Writer

Fall break begins on Wednesday, Oct. 3 and, although The University of Alabama website states that campus will be open for normal business hours, some buildings and popular spots may be closed or operating on special hours.

All dorms are required to stay open during the break for students who are not going home. There will be resident advisors on duty in each of the dorms and campus police will be working their regular hours as well.

According to Greek Affairs,

each house is managed by a local house corporation, which decides whether or not the house will stay open.

This means that some students who live in their sorority or fraternity houses will have to go home or find somewhere to stay for the duration of the break.

According to the Bama Dining calendar, the food court in Ferguson Center will be closed starting Thursday, and some restaurants such as The Dog House/Spudz and Zoca will be closed starting Wednesday.

Burke dining hall and Fresh Food Company will be closed starting Thursday, leaving only

Bryant and Lakeside dining halls open. Starbucks and Java City in Gorgas will be closed, and Dunkin Donuts will operate from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Students wanting to hit the books to prepare for upcoming midterms should also be aware of library special hours.

Gorgas will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

The Recreation Center will operate on normal hours, but all group exercise classes have been cancelled.

Although the dorms are required to stay open during the break, some Greek houses will be closing.

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Twitter encouraging us to shorten more than just sentences

By Tara Massouleh
Staff Columnist

I have recently become aware of how ridiculous I become when drafting a tweet. Seriously, one sentence, maybe two, sans punctuation, without capitalization, and often leaving out words in lieu of crude abbreviations could take me up to 20 minutes to form – all so I can condense my thoughts into one perfectly formed statement that will both reflect my personality and impress all 147 (give or take) of my followers.

Sometimes, I find myself thinking in tweets. Something happens – say I see an oddly dressed pedestrian crossing the streets or hear the tail end of a dramatic conversation while waiting in line at Publix – and my mind immediately begins to concoct some sort of witty one-liner about said happening. All of this got me thinking about whether or not Twitter is good for my aspiring writing career. Is it possible that my beloved social networking site is doing more bad than good?

Since our later years of elementary school, when we first began to test our hands in extended writing, we were given limits on how much we could write before our teachers became tired of reading the same unimaginative papers and correcting the same irritating grammatical errors. My first experience with this came in the fifth grade when we were asked to write at least three pages describing our rooms using all of our senses. While everyone else moaned about how it was totally unfair that we were being expected to write three whole pages, I grew nervous as the initial three-page assignment grew to six and finally 10 pages.

Much later in life, I encountered the same basic problem as I struggled to crank out scholarship essays that would both move my readers to tears and perfectly express my character, all while staying under the allotted 5,000 characters. The struggle continues, as even this article will be cut short the moment I venture over the 600-word limit.

We are constantly being reminded to make everything we write short and sweet because our audiences might lose interest. Twitter is only reinforcing these habits that have forced me to shorten my thoughts into small, easily digestible fragments. For example, if I go on a Twitter rant, chances are, most people will stop reading after the first tweet, and the ones who don't will be hitting unfollow before they can even scroll up and read my carefully planned conclusion in the last.

Suddenly, the thought of writing an entire novel, as was my childhood dream, seems almost as impossible as climbing Mount Everest, curing cancer or finding out just how many licks it really takes to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop. Could it be that the years of careful conditioning to write perfect three-paged, five-paragraphed essays, coupled with my more recent religious use of Twitter have rendered me incapable of pursuing my chosen career?

If so, I guess it's time I switch over to more lenient forms of journaling. I hear blogs are still a thing, and Mark Zuckerberg has yet to put a character limit on Facebook statuses. Sure, I understand the importance of brevity and succinctness when writing, but there's still a word (or two) to be said for elaboration and detail – because sometimes, a tweet is worthy of just a couple more than 140 characters.

Tara Massouleh is a freshman majoring in journalism and English. Her column runs on Wednesday.

Debate important for candidates, voters

By Austin Gaddis
Senior Columnist

Tonight marks the first of three debates where Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney and President Barack Obama will each have their chance to make a distinct case to the American people, detailing their vision for the next four crucial years in our country's history. With the constant barrage of campaign ads and sparring statements over the past year, the stakes are high – and the expectations are even higher. Both candidates have been religiously preparing for these debates for months, fielding unending strings of tough questions and harsh accusations in practice sessions. Obama and Romney will need to be direct, honing in on their shared tendency to ramble in their answers. They've practiced this format repeatedly, but as past presidential debates have shown, a blind-side question or an easy misstep can lead to a devastating performance.

It may have taken him two campaigns, but when Romney takes the stage in Denver tonight, he will complete his long-sought goal to share the stage with President Obama. He's no

“It may have taken him two campaigns, but when Romney takes the stage in Denver tonight, he will complete his long-sought goal to share the stage with President Obama.”

stranger to the debate stage, having meticulously picked off his former rivals in the many Republican primary debates earlier this year. There is no doubt that his experience during the primaries gives him a slight advantage against a president who carries the responsibility of having to govern in addition to campaigning.

But Romney must overcome several daunting obstacles if he hopes to have a shot of convincing swing voters he is the best choice to take over the presidency in November.

Most importantly, Romney must offer specifics on his plan to fix the economy. Both he and his campaign have been strangely vague about how they expect to spur staggering economic growth. Romney has proposed a tax plan that reduces the deficit by lowering income tax rates on all brackets and eliminating certain deductions and loopholes for high-income earners. Economists have called on the campaign to release specifics about how their plan would work, but no one seems to have any answers.

In a clear showing of just how desperate the campaign is to not talk specifics, when Republican vice presidential nominee Paul Ryan was asked to detail Romney's economic plan during an interview on

Fox News Sunday this week, Ryan brushed off the question, saying, “It would take me too long to go through all of the math.”

The other mountain Romney must conquer tonight seems simple but has proven perpetually difficult for the super-wealthy businessman – he must be human. Romney has failed to genuinely connect with voters on a personal level, a quality Obama overwhelmingly enjoys. A recent poll by Reuters/Ipsos found Obama's likeability rating sits at around 54 percent, compared to Romney's rating at just 24 percent among voters.

President Obama also has a significant burden placed on him. As the incumbent, Obama doesn't enjoy the same atmosphere of hope and change that his campaign capitalized on in the last election. He must answer tough attacks on mishaps and errors made during his first term in office and convincingly assure voters he will work harder to keep his campaign promises if re-elected.

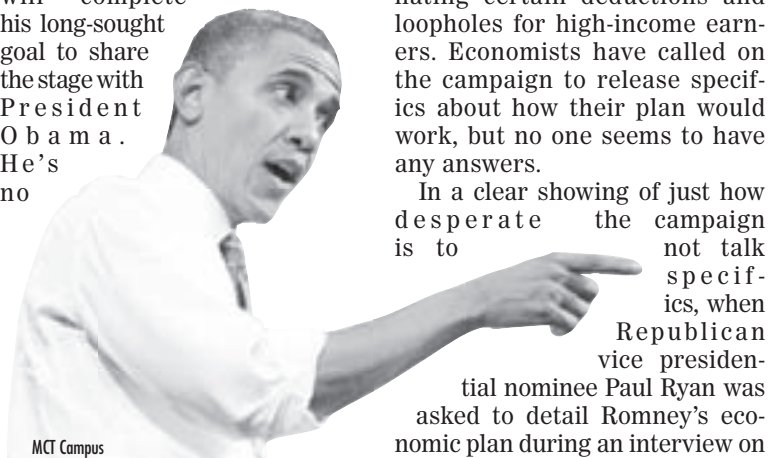
Obama's most important issue will be his administration's response to the economic crisis that has come to define many elements of his presidency. In a precise manner, he must make the case that recovery is happening, and the country's economic outlook is promising. With voters overwhelmingly united in their claim that the economy is the top issue for them in this

election, you can bet Obama will be championing how his plan and policies saved an economy in free-fall.

The president must also be sure to present himself to the American people as the humble, yet exceedingly capable, leader of the free world. His infamous jabs and smug attitude in debates with Hillary Clinton caused him some political damage in the 2008 election. Obama must be calm, collected and methodical in his answers, not allowing a zinger from Romney to throw off his momentum.

The debates will provide a unique opportunity to see two very different proposals for America's future. As the election reaches its fever pitch, both campaigns are going into overdrive. Daily poll numbers continue to favor Obama, but he must be focused on staying the course and above the fray, allowing Romney's campaign to continue to write its own obituary.

Austin Gaddis is a senior majoring in communication studies and public relations. His column runs on Wednesdays.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

In response to 'Wilson reminds us to daydream'

In regards to Sophia Fazal's article in late September on rubbing elbows with rock star, E.O. Wilson: I, too, have had the great fortune of reading his book “The Creation,” which has created a spark in the minds of Christian preachers, priests and evolutionary biologists everywhere. I feel Wilson's plea in his book can be extended to our campus.

E.O. Wilson makes an appeal to these preachers to close the schism between church and science in order to preserve what minimal creation we have left. Wilson says the Earth is falling apart, and one

need not be an award-winning evolutionary biologist to figure that out. Wilson ventures to state the only way we can save Mother Nature is to, as The Beatles say, come together.

Wilson's argument is right. There is so much tension on campus between Christians and evolutionary thinkers, and I think to myself, it doesn't have to be that way. In classrooms, we raise the argument, and we pursue it. That's where the argument belongs – not, however, in preservation efforts.

Raised here in the South, I understand Christian thinkers' hesitation in joining

arms with evolutionists. I can understand that terms like evolution and natural selection can make a fundamentalist Christian cringe, especially given Alabama's poor education in the field. (We've always got Mississippi, right boys?)

Trust me – I watch my family squirm in their chairs at the dinner table every holiday when someone asks me what my major is. However, Jesus hung out with the “bad guys,” the perceived sinners. A very misunderstood Mr. Darwin did not boil down creation to reductionist terms, but instead stated, “There is grandeur in

this view of life...” It is easy for us to find common ground, so why don't we?

Christians and evolutionists alike contain a fondness for creation. Regardless of motivation, we all preach the gospel of preservation. We all believe humankind belongs in creation – either that we were made for it, or it was made for us. However, due to minor paradigm differences, we refuse to work together in preservation efforts.

Evolutionary biologists turn their noses up at Christian efforts to save creation. Christians push legislation

through that denies our children the right to a well-rounded natural sciences education. Obviously, neither school of thought is being very effective.

In the end, we have to banish these hierarchical thoughts – from science, the thought that we are somehow smarter or more clued in; from Christianity, the thought that science is wrong and will remain that way. We are to meet on common ground. Neither one of us is more ethical or altruistic than the other. The common ground can be found in profound love for the creation and determination to

not see it perish.

Success in preservation efforts lies in seeing the fire of disagreement put to rest and no longer fueling the imaginary controversy that lies between Christians and evolutionists. We all experience those same idiosyncrasies available, as far as we know, only to humans.

We can let go of petty metaphysical differences and meet on the plane of human existence. We can reverse centuries of schism and preserve creation.

Malia Blunt is a senior majoring in anthropology.

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Department of Journalism adds new curriculum track for sports reporters

By Adrienne Burch
Staff Reporter

The UA Department of Journalism has announced the addition of a new sports news and information track for undergraduate majors.

Students choosing this new track learn basic journalistic skills but take more sports-focused courses.

“The industry demand for people specializing in sports news and information is at an all-time high,” Jennifer Greer, chair of the UA Department of Journalism, said. “We felt the need to meet this demand.”

The UA Department of Journalism has trained students in sports journalism since its conception in the 1920s, but they’ve never formally called it that until now, Greer said.

Students on this new sports news and information track will take most of the basic journalism classes, but there will be a few key exceptions.

Following JN 311, News Writing and Reporting, sports students will enter a JN 318 course that focuses on the beginning of

sports reporting taught by Tuscaloosa News sports reporter Aaron Suttles. This course will be offered for the first time in the fall of 2013.

Students in this new track will also take an advanced sports writing course that has previously been taught as an elective but will now be required for those with this concentration.

Sports students are also required to have sports-focused internships at news outlets like the Tuscaloosa News.

Current freshmen and sophomores can add this concentration easily without affecting their graduation date, Greer said. She hopes many will consider this option.

For years, students interested in sports have chosen to follow the public relations track because of the stigma of journalism, Greer said.

“Some students are

afraid of the news,” Greer said. “They think it’s all about covering war, crime and disasters.”

She said that through this new concentration in sports, the department hopes students will begin to understand that there is much more to journalism than covering the murder down the street.

“We want people to realize how much you can do with a journalism degree,” Greer said. “It’s one of the broadest degrees out there.”

Freshman journalism major Hamilton Bromhead said he personally is not a fan of what he calls “plain newspaper journalism,” but

instead prefers to cover subjects like sports.

“This new focus on sports writing will expand people’s opinion of journalism,” Bromhead said. “There will be more of a distinction between a ‘news’ writer and a ‘sports’ writer.”

Bromhead said students interested in sports writing can now take a different path than those whose interests are elsewhere.

In adding this new concentration, the Department of Journalism is joining the rest of the College of Communication and Information Sciences in a recent push to expose students to a sports-oriented field of communications.

This fall, the college also founded the University of Alabama Program in Sports Communication (ASPC), which is aimed at bringing all the different sports communication programs at the University under one name.

“It’s one-stop shopping for people interested in sports communication in all of its forms,” Andrew Billings, director of the ASPC, said.

The ASPC is responsible for bringing sports communication events to campus, including guest speaker ESPN President George Bodenheimer, who will speak on campus Oct. 11 at 4 p.m. in the Ferguson Theater.

REQUIREMENTS

- JN 101 Journalistic Principles, JN 150 Mechanics of Writing, MC 101 Intro to Mass Communication
- JN 261 Beginning Visual Journalism, JN 311 News Writing and Reporting
- JN 312 Editing and JN 318 Beginning Sports Reporting
- JN 382 Sports-related internship, APR 231 Intro to Public Relations
- MC 401 Mass Comm Law and JN 418 Advanced Sports Writing
- JN 499 JN Issues, Practices and Ethics, Converged Media Capstone JN 417, 430, 461, 492

ACS hosts walk to fight cancer

By Angie Bartelt
Contributing Writer

October is nationally recognized as Breast Cancer Awareness month, and for many, that means it is time to get involved and fight for a cure. The American Cancer Society’s 2nd Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5k Walk will be held in Tuscaloosa this Saturday.

This is one of at least 270 events across the country this year to support the fight against breast cancer.

The American Cancer Society will hold three walks in Alabama throughout the month of October in Mobile, Montgomery and Tuscaloosa.

Over 3,450 women in Alabama are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2012, and over 710 will die from the disease, according to Mary-Kathryn Walker, associate director of communications and marketing for the Mid-South Division of the American Cancer Society. Walker said it is imperative that students involve themselves with Making Strides to add to the success of the overall fight to end cancer.

“This walk is geared towards the students for research and awareness. Breast cancer does not discriminate; women need to know that it is important to get screened,” Walker said.

In the last two decades, over 8 million participants have walked for breast cancer, raising over \$460 million to fund a cure for this life-threatening disease. Breast cancer is one of the most commonly diagnosed types of cancer in women and the second-leading cause of death in women.

“When more walkers raise money to end breast cancer, there will be more survivors able to celebrate more birthdays,” Anna Lisa Sexton, Making Strides event manager, said.

The Tuscaloosa Making Strides Walk will take place on Saturday, Oct. 6th at Government Plaza. Registration begins at 8 a.m., and the walk, which is open to the public, begins at 9 a.m. Also, volunteers are needed to help make sure this year’s Making Strides event is a success.

UA Summersell Center to give southern history book award

By Katherine Langner
Contributing Writer

The University of Alabama’s Frances S. Summersell Center for the Study of the South will be giving out a newly created award to an author who, it claims, exemplifies the best account of southern history.

The first Deep South Book Prize is being awarded to the

book “Boll Weevil Blues: Cotton, Myth, and Power in the American South” by James Giesen, an associate professor of history at Mississippi State University.

The book examines how the boll weevil, a small beetle that feeds on cotton buds and flowers, became a widespread issue for the southern region of the United States in the early 20th century. The insect infested and

destroyed much of the South’s most valuable crop: cotton.

Giesen’s book was chosen from more than three dozen books nominated by nearly a dozen different presses. It stood out to the award committee which determined the finalists for the prize, Joshua Rothman, director of the Summersell Center, said.

“I’m honored and humbled by the award,” Giesen said. “It took

me more than six years to write this book, and to have it selected by the Summersell Center for this prize is very meaningful.”

The idea for the Deep South Book Prize originated as a means to recognize the top scholarship in the Southern American history field and to spread knowledge of the Summersell Center.

“As a work that allows us to see and understand the South,

its past and its culture in new ways, [“Boll Weevil Blues”] fits with the Center’s goals perfectly,” Rothman said.

According to the Summersell Center’s website, its mission is to investigate and promote understanding of the history and culture of the American South through research and public programming.

“Mostly what we do is try to

use the Center’s resources to explore the American South and its past in as many different forums as possible,” Rothman said. “We invite speakers, sponsor films and concerts, support researchers and research fellowships and help underwrite publications of various kinds. And, of course, beginning this year, we will be awarding a book prize biennially.”

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Theatre Tuscaloosa to debut new season with comedy

By Abbey Crain
Staff Reporter

Theatre Tuscaloosa, one of the city's longest standing theatre companies, will debut their 2012-2013 season, Rockin' and Rollin' in the Aisles, with "The Dixie Swim Club." The performance will run Oct. 5 to 14 in the Bean-Brown Theatre on Shelton State's Martin Campus.

"The Dixie Swim Club" follows five women from North Carolina who meet once a year for a long weekend in August to renew their

friendship, which started on their college swim team.

Adam Miller, Theatre Tuscaloosa's managing director, will make his directorial debut, directing Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Woote's "The Dixie Swim Club."

"I would say that casting was the most difficult part," Miller said. "I've been very fortunate to cast five very talented women. For me, it has been more coaching in the right direction. They have such good instincts."

Miller, a UA graduate, chose

this play because of the positive response to Theatre Tuscaloosa's "Dearly Departed," written by the same author.

"It's got a southern flair to it," Miller said. "It's a really funny play. There's a lot of great humor in it, and it fits with this season's theme of all comedies and musicals."

Theatre Tuscaloosa holds open auditions for each production that usually span over a few days so that anyone in the community who wants to come can have the opportunity.

"We had a lot of good choices," Miller said. "It's hard when you have a lot of good talent. Just about every member of our cast is attached to UA."

It is not unusual for Theatre Tuscaloosa's productions to be speckled with UA students and faculty. In TDSC, three of the five cast members, Tina Turley, Jenny Ryan and Lauren Wilson, all hold degrees from the University.

Ashlyn Lambert, a sophomore majoring in theatre, has been a stage manager for multiple Theatre Tuscaloosa productions,

including TDSC. Lambert began volunteering and ushering after taking a theatre appreciation class at Shelton State.

"I've danced and been around theatre my whole life," Lambert said. "I just really like the technical aspect of the theatre."

Lambert said being around theatre is a great escape from the routine of classes and homework, and said she loves Theatre Tuscaloosa's sense of family-like community.

"The Dixie Swim Club' is a funny show," Lambert said.

"There are some great emotional moments - some sad, some happy. You will laugh, and you will cry; it's just an all around great show."

Tickets are \$12 for students and can be purchased online at theatretusc.com or through the box office by calling (205) 391-2277.

The final dress rehearsal is Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. and is open to the public as a "pay-what-you-can" event. All proceeds from the production will go toward the Charlie Dennis Memorial Scholarship, benefiting Shelton State theatre students.

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COLUMN FOOD

Cooler weather ushers in opportunity for healthy, delicious fall food options

By Sophia Jones

The weather's getting cooler, meaning it's time to heat your kitchen up with the seasonal foods of fall. Because of the weather and the holidays, it is often harder for many students to get outdoors and stay active during the fall months. Fortunately, there are some healthy and equally delicious fruits and vegetables worth trying that also keep your waistline from expanding. Apples are a versatile fruit, good for snacks, desserts

“With October's arrival, try something new, and take advantage of these festive foods found at your local grocery store or farmers' market.

and drinks – perfect for fall meals. Not only are they good for your heart, the peel is full of antioxidants and dietary fiber. Personally, I enjoy adding sliced apples to my salad with balsamic vinaigrette and Gorgonzola cheese. If salad is

not your choice, warm apple pie is a classic fall dessert – throw in a scoop of nonfat vanilla ice cream, and you've got melt-in-your-mouth bliss. If you have an oven, you can bake apple slices soaked in sugar and cinnamon for a warm treat.

If you are missing the citrusy, tart tastes of summer foods, try grapefruit as an option. Grapefruit has 75 percent of your daily-recommended dose of vitamin C, which helps fight against cold and flu once they start circling around campus. Grapefruit juice can also help

lower cholesterol and can add a zing to any salad or drink.

Winter squash, different than summer squash, has a surprisingly sweet flavor and a fine texture with a thick skin that allows it to be stored for months at a time. Winter squash comes into harvest in October and is great to put over any pasta dish. Filled with lots of vitamin A, this vegetable is easily flavored with ginger or cinnamon to become a tasty snack.

Believe it or not, pumpkin is a type of winter squash and

can be used for more than just Halloween decorating or Starbucks' famous Pumpkin Spice Latte. This hearty vegetable is full of vitamin B, potassium and fiber but has a sweet taste perfect for making puddings, pies, cakes, cookies and even waffles. Even after you're done carving your jack-o'-lantern this Halloween, the seeds can be salvaged and baked in the oven for a crunchy snack.

Sweet potatoes are the most traditional vegetable of fall, with their orange coloring and wide variety of recipe options.

Sweet potatoes are best to eat between the months of September and December, and with their high vitamin A and iron content, these colorful spuds have more nutrition than regular potatoes. You can boil or bake sweet potatoes to eat them plain. I love to cut them up into thin slices and bake them for homemade sweet potato fries.

With October's arrival, try something new, and take advantage of these festive foods found at your local grocery store or farmers' market.

COLUMN | TELEVISION

'Sherlock' presents brilliant, entertaining take on Doyle's classic consulting detective

By Asher Elbein

In an age where the term “remake” is a dirty word, it's easy to be suspicious of BBC's “Sherlock.” Set in modern London, the show follows the exploits of the abrasive consulting detective Sherlock Holmes (Benedict Cumberbatch) and his friend John Watson (Martin Freeman) as they bicker and deduce their way through a series of baffling crimes. While modern re-tellings of older stories tend toward the dull and uninspired, Sherlock bucks the trend with sharp writing and a pair of truly outstanding lead performances.

The structure of “Sherlock” is a large part of its appeal, and it works on two different layers. Each episode is 90 minutes long, and this length gives the creators a chance to spin out a series of intriguingly complex mysteries. Some episodes focus tightly on a single case. Others feature more intricate narratives, spinning out seemingly unrelated cases before fitting them together in a grand finish. Under the trickery, though, is a sense of

tight control. Sherlock turns nimbly from hilarious to heartbreaking with occasionally jaw-dropping speed, and it is spectacularly good at building tension.

The banter is similarly well-constructed; half the fun of Sherlock Holmes is watching him talk, and the dialogue doesn't disappoint. Sherlock's sparring matches are fast, funny and extremely quotable. This narrative complexity isn't without cost; occasionally the writing can feel self-satisfied and airy, more concerned with glib wit than with character development. Luckily, the two lead actors are more than up to the challenge.

Benedict Cumberbatch is, simply put, a revelation. His Holmes is a lanky, brooding presence who skulks at the sides of the screen, cold eyes coming alight only at the prospect of solving a particularly vexing crime. Moments of genuine affection and charm are even more effective for being rare; Cumberbatch's delivery is callous, bordering on the cruel, but it's possible to detect warmer feelings underneath the hard shell. He sells the intellectual moments, as well.

Cumberbatch rattles off deductions with such speed and assurance that the viewer is left wondering whether he actually needs to breathe. It's a magnetic performance and would be worth watching even if the rest of the actors were terrible.

It's difficult not to be upstaged by acting like that, and it's a testament to Martin Freeman's skill that he holds his own. John Watson has been a character much abused in many adaptations, often relegated to being the comic relief or the bumbling fool. Freeman's Watson is neither. Capable and quietly funny, he acts as Sherlock's conscience and confidant. Freeman brings an appropriately long suffering air to the role, as befits a man who often awakes to find eyeballs in the microwave.

This fantastic double act, backed up by some excellent writing, produces a show that could easily be the definitive 21st century interpretation of Sherlock Holmes. Whether you're an old fan or a curious newcomer, “Sherlock” is a smart, thrilling reinterpretation of the greatest detective in English literature.

COLUMN | MUSIC

Gaga's leaked single a hoax?

By Noelle Brake

Leaked singles are nothing new to the public. Hackers “leak” singles out onto the Internet, and sometimes, even the artists themselves “leak” singles to get attention. But none so far have caused as much uproar, both positive and negative, as the newly leaked single from Mother Monster herself, Lady Gaga.

The new song, supposedly from her upcoming album, ARTPOP, is called “Cake Like Lady Gaga,” and has had mixed reviews from the public. Why so much controversy? The song is a rap by Gaga, featuring DJ White Shadow. The public often doesn't favor rap by pop artists (unless you're Ke\$ha) and overall seems unimpressed by this single.

Several music and news sites have gotten hold of the single, including Queerty.com, who says the song isn't good, but it is “kind of fun, and we can see enjoying it at 2 a.m. in the middle of the dance floor.” Spin.com thinks it is a hoax by Lady Gaga and her producer. Lady Gaga has yet to claim the track or comment on the situation.

I agree with Spin.com that it is a phony track released to fool her fans. Anyone who is a fan of Lady Gaga knows that she is not above major publicity stunts (i.e. posing nude to dispute rumors of her being a hermaphrodite, her meat dress on the red carpet at the 2011 MTV awards, etc). She is definitely a shock

“Anyone who is a fan of Lady Gaga knows that she is not above major publicity stunts.

performer, as is shown by her elaborate concerts and her Monster Ball tours.

I do not think Lady Gaga is above pulling a stunt like this, whether it is just a joke, a way of keeping people from trying to hack into her new album, or, as MTV.com thinks, released as backlash to her recent weight controversy. One of the lines of the song says, “I'm I'm I'm/ Getting fat, and so is my bankroll.”

Either way, I still think the song is a fake single and that it will not be on her new album. The song is bad, and I say this as a longtime fan of Mother Monster.

The lyrics and beat sound like a Gaga original, but three albums into her career, and she hasn't had a single leaked song so far. Upon listening to the track, the lyrics are over-the-top critical and dramatic, so the only good thing about this song is the beat. If the song is indeed part of her new album, I fear for the album's success.

The song is available on Queerty.com, YouTube and several other sites. The new album, ARTPOP, is set to be released in early 2013.

Students off to Advanced Preparation

By Melissa Brown
Senior Staff Reporter

Though many students spend the summer blissfully disconnected from school work, indulging in vacation, hot weather and summer activities, more than 100 Tuscaloosa City and Tuscaloosa County students are spending their free time preparing for Advanced Placement classes. CollegeFirst at the University of Alabama Center for Social Responsibility will present their experience to their peers, cultivating their skills and preparing the way.

students' success. The program is an advanced Placement class. Twenty-two students from Tuscaloosa County and Tuscaloosa City are participating in the program. The students will be attending the CollegeFirst at the University of Alabama Center for Social Responsibility.

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of the Center for Ethics and Social Responsibility, said in a CollegeFirst press release that the program helps high schools students excel in college, not just attend college. “All high school students deserve an opportunity to succeed in rigorous, college-level experiences,” Black said. For Scholes Blowers, the program means more than just the AP test. “We want our students to do more than pass a test,” she said. “We want them to blow the test out of the water and then apply the skills they have gained to bigger and better and more meaningful things — because they are entirely capable of doing so.”

UA

By Emily Dallas
Contributing Writer

More than two weeks ago, students from across the country gathered in Tuscaloosa to learn new things and science. The Air Force and the U.S. Air Force, M. Bakker, associate professor of chemistry, said.

39 such camps take place across the country, plus another dozen around the world. The Air Force not only helped fund the camp, but they also came to talk to the teachers personally about how science and mathematics are used in their daily lives.

“Maxwell Air Force Base came and they presented their experience to their peers, cultivating their skills and preparing the way.”

The program is an advanced Placement class. The students will be attending the CollegeFirst at the University of Alabama Center for Social Responsibility.

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The program is an advanced Placement class. The students will be attending the CollegeFirst at the University of Alabama Center for Social Responsibility.

Alabama laws that allowed many craft breweries, Osk Blues was unable to bring their products to the state, but thanks to recent efforts from Free the Hop, it became possible. “Free the Hop has done a wonderful job,” Katechis said. “This year we added 20 percent of our beer production to the state, which allowed us to come to Alabama.”

He said the main purpose of the launch parties this week will be to engage with consumers and retailers and educate them about their beer and also provide samples to taste. “I'll have some swag to give away, answer any questions and just explain more about us,” Katechis said. The launch parties will be held this evening at Corks n Tops at 5 p.m., Wihagan's at 6 p.m., The Alcove at 7 p.m. and Mellow Mushroom at 8 p.m. Katechis said he is excited to be in Tuscaloosa and bring his beer along with him. “Roll Tide, baby, Roll Tide,” he said. “I'm looking forward to supporting the football team



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COLUMN | FOOTBALL

McCarron has reason to have swagger, national media should pay attention

By Aldo Amato
Staff Reporter

For the past five years, the main focus of Alabama's offense has revolved around the running back position, and rightly so. A Heisman Trophy winner and a finalist in the past three years are not too shabby, and the future sure looks bright for this position. But there is one person who the national media has slept on all season and who is not getting enough praise for his arm, accuracy and impeccable bow tie fashion: junior quarterback AJ McCarron. McCarron has been nearly flawless through the Tide's first five games this season, tossing 12 touchdowns with zero

interceptions, and has completed nearly 70 percent of his passes. He is only eight touchdowns and 700 yards behind West Virginia quarterback and Heisman Trophy frontrunner Geno Smith. Yet the two-time national championship player has not gained enough credit for carrying much of the Tide's offense this season. Yes, junior Eddie Lacy and freshman phenom TJ Yeldon have been outstanding and exciting to watch in the ground game, and the defense has once again remained stout early on. However, we are witnessing something we have not seen since the Croyle-to-Prothro days: a legitimate and consistent air attack. So, what has changed since last

year that has the Mobile native all of a sudden looking like Peyton Manning? Most refer back to the BCS National Championship game in New Orleans, where McCarron picked apart a then highly-touted LSU secondary. Most viewed it as McCarron's redemption game where he got his revenge and was fearless passing the ball. Others may point to the fact that Trent Richardson is no longer hovering over McCarron's shoulder, thus freeing up some reps. One could even say that new offensive coordinator Doug Nussmeier has developed more plays for McCarron. While most of those assertions are likely true, the main answer to McCarron's recent success is

quite simple. He literally came into this season with a ton of confidence and "swag" that has translated onto the field. Take this summer's Twitter spat with former LSU standout and Heisman finalist Tyrann Mathieu. While it is never the "Saban way" to go public with comments about an opponent, it was McCarron who showed poise when responding to Mathieu's bait. Instead of dragging it out for a course of days, McCarron simply referred to facts while countering an aggressive "Honey Badger," who made no effort to end the exchange. In the end, it would be McCarron who would have the final word both on and off the field. There is a

fine line between having swagger and acting irrational, and Mathieu chose the latter. McCarron, however, recognized that he can tread that line of having confidence and being grounded at the same time. His swagger was on full display when the Tide opened against Michigan, and I'm not talking about all the great throws he made. It was before the game when he let the world know he had arrived. Enter the bow tie. McCarron chose to forego the plain suit-and-tie look he normally donned last season, instead opting for the "Gangam Style" look with shades and a bow tie. Without saying a word,

McCarron's confidence looked to be on another level. So far this season, McCarron has donned a different bow tie before most of the games. Arrogance? I think not. What separates his swagger from most in the Southeastern Conference is that it has given him a mental edge over his opponents this year. He has strayed away from becoming arrogant and reckless, instead translating his pre-game swagger and hype into touchdowns on the field. A good leader must be able to make smart decisions and not be afraid to take risks. McCarron, this season, looks to have found that perfect balance.

VOLLEYBALL

Crimson Tide to face Missouri

By Mary Grace Showfety
Staff Reporter

After a sweeping loss to one of its newest SEC competitors, Alabama will return to Foster Auditorium on Sunday, Oct. 7 to take on Missouri. Still on the road to recovery, the Crimson Tide is ready for another chance to prove their worth. Freshman outside hitter Kryssi Daniels said Mizzou has the team's undivided attention. "I think it's going to help that we don't have a game on Friday, so we basically get seven days off from the last game," Daniels said. "So, starting today, our main focus is on Mizzou." Daniels and the rest of the Tide have put Sunday's loss to Texas A&M behind in hopes of being able to adequately prepare for their next match. Head coach Ed Allen expects

to see a similar level of competition in the Tide's upcoming match, as in the Texas A&M match. Mizzou (12-4, SEC 3-0), however, seems to have experience on their side. The Tigers only have two freshmen on the roster, compared to Alabama's nine new players. Though the Tide does not have the same amount of experience as Mizzou, the team has complete confidence they will get there one day, and this is the year to rebuild, especially after a disappointing last season. "We have a great group of girls, and I think, with a little bit more experience and playing together more, I have no doubt that this program is going to the right place," Daniels said. Looking back at the Tide's season last year, the team seems to be steadily improving. On Oct. 3, 2011, the Crimson

Tide (8-8, SEC 2-4) held a record slightly worse than the one it holds now (13-5, SEC 2-4), much of which can be attributed to the Tide's preseason. Freshman Sierra Wilson said the issue currently facing the Tide is maintaining energy. "It's basically finding a level of energy where we can be successful at maintaining that consistently throughout the entire match," Wilson said. That same point has not gone unnoticed by Allen, either. "I think we play hard throughout sets," Allen said. "But, we've got to string it together for longer periods of time and try to get closer to 25 points." Along with energy, though, comes consistency, and with consistency comes victory. Consistency is something the Tide still has issues with, but has made a priority to improve upon over the course of the season.

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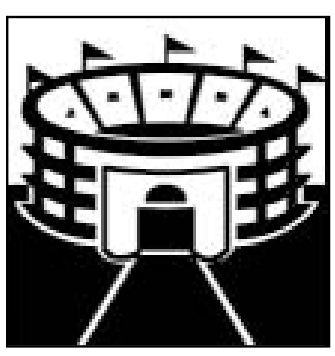
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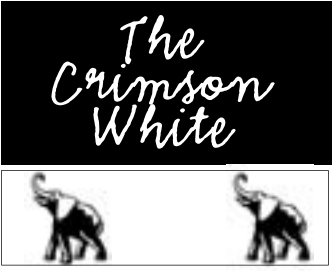
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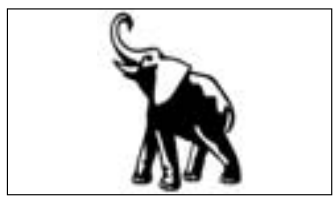
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Omega-3 fatty acids are needed to build cell membranes in the brain and may protect against heart disease, cancer and other autoimmune diseases, such as lupus and rheumatoid arthritis.
Fish story
• One of the best sources of omega-3's is oily fish, such as salmon, herring, mackerel, trout and sardines
• The American Heart Association recommends eating omega-3-rich fish at least twice a week
• Other good sources include walnuts, flaxseeds, beans, winter squash and extra virgin olive oil
• Avoid taking more than 3 grams daily of omega-3 as a supplement without medical supervision; high doses may cause bleeding or may interact badly with other medications
Source: University of Maryland Medical Center, Harvard School of Public Health, MCT Photo Service © 2012 MCT



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★HOROSCOPES

Today's Birthday (10/03/12). You're thirsty to discover new horizons this year, and boundaries keep expanding. Study, travel and great teachers grow your perspective, especially in philosophy and spirituality. Grow career skills as well to maximize opportunities. Less is more. To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.
Aries (Mar. 21-April 19) -- Today is a 7 -- The next three weeks are good for achieving romantic goals. Get yourself something useful and pretty, or make it from what you have. Put love in your work.
Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Encourage all opinions, and get some creative ideas. For four weeks, you're very lucky in love. Invest in home, family and/or real estate. Nobody needs to know how little you spent.
Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 6 -- There's really a light at the end of the tunnel, but you could bypass the tunnel altogether. Or wander around in it and discover hidden treasure. Bring a flashlight and plenty of water.
Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is an 8 -- This month, you're even smarter than usual. Trust your own heart to lead you. Create peace. Postpone shopping and gambling. It's a good time to save.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Take a firm stand, and heed the voice of experience. For the next month, it's easy to make money. Your partner demonstrates compassion. Provide support.
Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Cash in your coupons. You're lucky in love. Keep reviewing possibilities. Friends help you make a distant connection. Try a new sport.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is a 6 -- Take advantage of abundant imagination. Make sure you know what's required. Romance may be involved at times, but also quiet time in solitude.
Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is an 8 -- Continue to build assets, and get public. Balance family and social activities carefully. Your reputation precedes you. The first reaction may seem negative, but don't give up.
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 7 -- Friends help you advance. Level up at work over the next three weeks. Be practical. It's easier to advance your agenda. Forgive a foolish misunderstanding.
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- The next month's good for setting goals. Costs may be higher than expected. Ask for more and get it; an angel's watching over you. Get lost in your studies.
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is a 9 -- Stay focused. The foreseeable future is good for saving money, so go over the numbers. Demonstrate compassion for partners, even if you don't always agree.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is an 8 -- You're gaining skills and confidence. Compromise comes easier. Avoid temptation and assumptions. Self-discipline enables creativity. Female magnetism plays a big role.

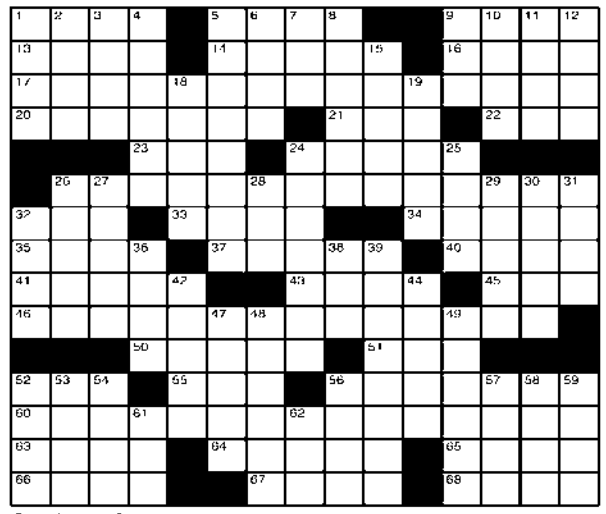
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- ACROSS**
1 Hunger hint
5 Shorn shes
9 Indonesian island
13 Pinza of "South Pacific"
14 Pulsate
16 Yaks, e.g.
17 Endures an onslaught of criticism
20 Prognosticator
21 RR terminus
22 Center opening?
23 Aus. setting
24 Puts the kibosh on
26 Kind of contact banned by the NFL
32 Golden Bears' school, familiarly
33 "Joanie Loves Chachi" co-star
34 Like James Bond
35 Carpeting computation
37 Cyclist
Armstrong, or what completes the ensemble found in the four long across answers
40 It may be impish
41 24-hr. news source
43 "If ___ a nickel..."
45 Category
46 Use a sun visor, say
50 Currently occupied with
51 She, in Lisbon
52 Justice Dept. bureau
55 Greeting card figure, maybe
56 Pacific Surfline and Acela
60 Vulnerable spot
63 Muslim pilgrim
64 Passover month
65 Melville South Seas novel
66 Candy bar with a cookie center
67 More than just hard to find
68 Stir-fry cookware
DOWN
1 Cop's quarry



- By Michael Dewey 10/3/12
2 Côte d' ___: French resort area
3 Padre's boy
4 Mass reading
5 Unworldly
6 Sparkle, as an appetite
7 Unit of energy
8 Such that one may
9 Put (down) on paper
10 Car bar
11 Prez's backup
12 Opponent
15 ___ that deep romantic chasm...: Coleridge
18 Hitchhiker's aid
19 Neck parts
24 Lining with decorative rock
25 Slimy garden pest
26 Severe
27 Nicholas Gage memoir
28 Mexican aunt
29 Antarctica's ___ Byrd Land
30 Pandora's boxful
31 Six-mile-plus run, briefly
32 Rotating machine parts
36 In the sack

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved
R I T A R E B A G O J O S
A L O T D E I G N P U R E
W E S T W A R D H O E S C E
L U C I E S A M A N T H A
S M A L L A D S E L L S
W A D R I F T M I A M I
E R O S S L O M O E N E R
D F N O T F J A V A O N F
S A T B Y M O D E R N
O V E R E A S Y S H O U T
A I T S I T O L D Y O U S O
R A G U L I D D Y P R E P
S L O P S C A R E E N D S
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38 Activist Guevara
39 Nonowner's property right
42 Commonly long garment
44 ___ blues: Mississippi genre
47 "Eat up!"
48 Frequent final soccer score
49 Peter who co-wrote "Puff, the Magic Dragon"

Sudoku

	7	5					4	6	
						3			1
2		6							8
				5		2	6		
			4	8		9	1		
			3			6			
4							8		5
7				6					
	5	8					7	9	

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