

# **Greek dues support Machine**

By Tray Smith Special Projects Reporter ralphlesliesmith@gmail.com

Editor's Note: Three sources with direct knowledge of the Machine's finances and activities spoke to The Crimson White for this story.

Greek chapters at The University of Alabama are using a portion of member's dues to financially support the Machine, a secret political coalition of traditionally white fraternities and sororities, according to records obtained by The Crimson White.

### FAST FACTS

 Soroities and fraternities owe dues of \$850 to the Machine each semester • Some Machine money is used to fund bar tabs and beach trips for Machine representatives

houses make payments each semester to the organization, known officially as Theta Nu Epsilon.

A sorority ledger detailing The records reveal that multiple annual expenses for 2011 shows

two \$1000 payments for "Greek affiliated with the group. Honor Society" and two \$1000 payments for "Society of 1870." On the side of the ledger, the payments are described as "Old Row/Theta Nu Epsilon" in handwritten pen.

Additionally, a stub summarizing a check from a fraternity that was written in early September shows \$850 paid to support "QNE", the greek letters for Theta Nu Epsilon.

Although the records reveal a difference in sorority and fraternity payments, sources familiar with the Machine's financing confirmed that dues are

\$850 a semester for each house See MACHINE, page 2

Sources also said that the financial discrepancy between the records may exist because some Machine representatives charge their chapters more than they are obligated to pay in dues. The records were obtained

after two emails were sent to select greek students and The Crimson White last week from the email address capstoneunity@yahoo.com. The email said the Machine uses its money to fund bar tabs and beach trips for its members, which sources confirmed.

# Dorm intruder watches sleeping Alabama students

By Taylor Holland News Editor newsdesk@cw.ua.edu

Four University of Alabama students have reported that an unidentified male has entered their dorm rooms through an unlocked door in the past seven to 10 days, according to an email sent from Housing and Residential Communities to residents at 8:02 p.m. Tuesday.

UA spokeswoman Cathy Andreen said the incidents have occurred in the early morning while the students were sleeping. The students woke up to see the unidentified man in their room who then left once the students awoke, she said.

No injuries have been two students have reported the incidents as criminal trespassing and two as burglaries.

Alicia Browne, associate director for Information and Communication with Housing and Residential Communities, said one of the most important things that students can do to protect themselves and their belongings is to lock their doors.

"I'm glad that our residents feel so comfortable in their residence halls, but it is important See INTRUDER, page 3

### "I would also remind students that if a situation does not seem right or does not feel right, they should contact UAPD."

— Alicia Browne

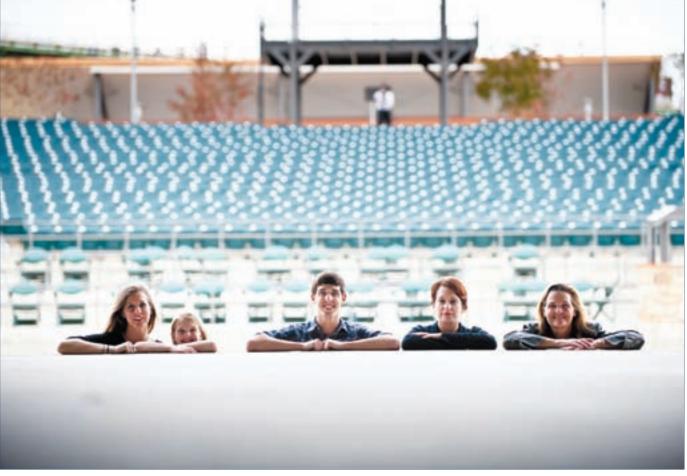
to make good decisions regarding safety, and keeping doors locked is always a good decision," Browne said. "I would also remind students that if a situation does not seem right or does not feel right, they should contact UAPD."

Browne said she spoke with all of the resident advisers on campus about the intruder in depth at their Tuesday night staff meetings.

"Safety is always a priority reported, Andreen said, but in our residence halls, especially as we approach break periods," Browne said. "Right now, the issue of reminding residents to always lock their doors has become even more important, and this is what we discussed with our staff. They will be actively reminding their residents of the importance of locking their doors at all times, whether they are in their rooms or not, both night and day."



### Tuscaloosa Amphitheater brings new life to downtown



### CW | Drew Hoover Left to right: Jesse Mezzel, Anna Kathryn Riggs, Donald Miller, Karen Williams, and Wendy Riggs lean on the amphitheater's stage.



Tusceleosa Amphilheater Read more on Page 14

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Crimson Tide sizing itself up in Puerto Rico

By Brett Hudson Senior Sports Reporter

bbhudson@crimson.ua.edu @Brett\_Hudson

For most, going to the Virgin Islands one year and Puerto Rico the next would be quite the enjoyable experience. For Alabama basketball, going to Puerto Rico is not a vacation, but a chance at redemption.

Alabama is now in San Juan for the Puerto Rico Tip-Off, and will look to right the wrongs from its last trip outside of the United States, when the Crimson Tide lost three games in four days to Seton Hall, Iowa and St. Peter's in last year's Paradise Jam.

trip more as a vacation instead of a business trip," point guard Trevor Releford said. "All the for granted, we have to come guys that went to the Virgin out and play hard every day."



Tony Mitchell slams the ball down against Oakland on Nov. 14 in Coleman Coliseum.

"I think last year we took the Islands last year learned from that. This could change our season. We can't take anything

Head coach Anthony Grant added, "There was an awakening while we were there, but again, this is a brand new team. This has nothing to do with last See BBALL, page 9

year's team. I understand the relationship there, but it has no bearing here. We have to prepare for this year."

The Tide will open up the tournament with one of the biggest names in college basketball, the Maryland Terrapins.

'Maryland is certainly one of the more storied programs in the country with the success they've had," Grant said. "I have a lot of respect for their program and their team."

Dependent on the result against Maryland, the Tide will either play Colorado, the team that Alabama beat in the semifinals of the National Invitational Tournament last year, or Wichita State, the team that beat Alabama in the NIT Championship Game last year.

Retired associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court John Paul Števens spoke at the Law School in McMillan Hall Wednesday afternoon. Stevens delivered the Albritton lecture as the Fall 2011 speaker.

# Former U.S. Justice speaks to Law School about time on bench

### By Rich Robinson Staff Writer rarobinson2@crimson.ua.edu

Former Associate Justice to the Supreme Court John Paul Stevens outlined some major cases in his career and imparted advice to the gathered students Wednesday during a lecture at UA's School of Law.

Much of Stevens' lecture was centered on the Supreme Court's controversial ruling Kelo v. City of New London.

The case, decided in 2005, came about when the city of New London, Conn., wanted to use eminent domain to force nine property owners off their land in order to use it in a redevelopment plan.

"In my view the Kelo majority opinion was rightly consistent with Supreme Court

precedent and with the Constitution's text and structure," Stevens said. "The popularity and policy wisdom of that decision may be an issue for the political branches as the Kelo majority noted, but it is not an issue for the Supreme Court."

Stevens authored the majority opinion in the 5-4 decision and does not regret it.

"I am not at all sure that the plan that we have approved was wise policy, but I remain firmly convinced that the 14th amendment did not deprive the states of the power to adopt it," he said.

Paul Rand, a second year law student who attended the lecture, said he appreciated the rare opportunity.

See **JUSTICE**, page 2



### The Crimson White

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# WEATHER today



Friday 61º/40º Partly Cloudy

### THE CALENDAR

### FRIDAY

What: How Technology is Used to Solve Problems of Living Independently...A Practical Approach by Allen Ray Where: Ferguson Student Center When: 11 a.m. to noon

What: International Coffee Hour Where: Room 121, B.B. Comer Hall When: 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

What: ABXY Game Night -Continue? Featuring Playstation Dorm Crashers Where: Gameroom, Ferguson Student Center When: 7 to 10 p.m.

### SATURDAY

What: Student recital featuring Wesley King, tenor

Where: Moody Music Building

When: 8 p.m.

### SUNDAY

What: Moundville Archaeological Park trip- to sign up, contact Cyndi Hamner at 348-5040

Where: Moundville Archaeological Park

When: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Submit your events to calendar@cw.ua.edu

### **ON THE MENU**

### BRYANT

LUNCH Southwest Chicken Fried Steak Beef Stroganoff

Four Cheese Pita Wrap Parmesan Chicken Pizza Country-Style Tomatoes Penne Pasta (Vegetarian)

JUSTICE

Continued from page 1

case in particular.'

became a justice.

said.

matter.

"There's only nine of them

so I didn't want to miss this,'

Rand said. "I really enjoyed the

fact that he only spoke on one

Stevens also fielded ques-

a wide variety of subjects

including what he was most

surprised about when he

"Honestly, the thing that sur-

prised and gratified me the

most about the Supreme Court

was that Thurgood Marshall

had been telling the truth

when he said that members of

the court got along beautifully

on a personal basis," Stevens

When asked about the pos-

sibility of allowing television

cameras in the Supreme Court,

Stevens gave two differing

opinions on the controversial

"I believe that it would be

desirable to have the public

better understand how well-

Stevens said he most regretted his decision in Jurek v. Texas, one of the five consolidated appeals that reinstated

**FRESH FOOD** 

LUNCH

Grilled Sweet Potato Wedges

Buttermilk Fried Chicken

Black Eved-Peas

Meatball Calzone

Vegetable Stuffed Pita

Pesto Cavatappi

(Vegetarian)

the death penalty in 1976. Since that decision, Stevens has become a vocal critic of

capital punishment. Stevens also weighed in on the brewing controversy surtions from the audience about rounding potential conflicts of interest in the judgment of the 2010 Affordable Care Act.

He said he doesn't believe that Justices Elena Kagan or Clarence Thomas should recuse themselves from the case since, "anytime a justice recuses himself or herself from a case, you run the risk of an eight-person divided court, which would cause all sorts of unnecessary expense."

Stevens then said he is "still of the view that we should trust members of the Supreme Court to act responsibly."

Stevens also lightly rebuked Justice Sonia Sotomayor's assertion made during her confirmation hearing that empathy does not play a role in judicial rulings. Stevens said. of wisdom for students.

"I think that it is inevitable that any judge is going to be affected by his or her background. It's not a plus or minus, it's just something that is there since you feel certain ways about certain things because of life experiences," Paul Horwitz, the Gordon Rosen Professor of Law, said he believed Stevens did students a great service by letting them see how far they can go. Stevens finished with words "Don't decide what vou're going to do 20 years from now, decide what you're going to do next," he said. "Take your problems one at a time. And don't be afraid to say 'I don't know.' And remember the one terribly important asset that you have in the legal profes-sion is that your word is good."

### The Crimson White Page 2 • Thursday, November 17, 2011

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### **VIDEO:** FOOTBALL PRACTICE

ONLINE

The Tide gets ready to face Georgia Southern and their triple option attack.

What: Xpress Night: On

Common Ground Where: Starbucks, Ferguson Student Center

TODAY

What: Astronaut Michael

Where: Room 205 Gorgas

What: Danielle McGuire to

speak on Black Women and the

Where: Room 324 Lloyd Hall

When: 1 to 2:30 p.m.

**Civil Rights Movement** 

When: 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Fincke speaks

Library

When: 6 to 9 p.m.

# Steak

Fresh Steamed Cauliflower Meatballs

Country Corn on the Cob Cantonese Stir-Fried Vegetables Greek Gyro Sandwich Creamy Tomato Soup

(Vegetarian)

### BURKE LUNCH

**Buttermilk Mashed Potatoes** 

### **ON CAMPUS**

accepting donations and giving

out promotional items and cou-

pons. Entertainment will be

provided by 90.7 The Capstone

campus radio station. This

week, supporters are encour-

aged to place nonperishable at

food items in the collection ua.edu and by texting BAMA to

barrels at locations on campus 27722 to donate \$10.

### Beat Auburn Beat Hunger in final week

The University of Alabama food drive organizers will be and around Tuscaloosa. Those Community Service Center is making a final push to reach its goal of collecting 250,000 pounds of food by Friday, Nov. 18, the end of the annual Beat Auburn Beat Hunger food drive. There will be a table at the Ferguson Center Plaza on Friday, Nov. 18, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. where

MACHINE

Continued from page 1

LUNCH

Moroccan Vegetable Stew

Spinach Dip and Pita Chips

Chicken Parmesan

Poached Eggs

Shrimp Po Boy

they got the email."

"The Machine pays for a beach trip for the 56 machine reps (As you know, every house has two representatives)," the email states. "The Machine pays for bar tabs at parties that only Machine reps can use."

The emails were sent to every national sorority president and all National Panhellenic officers, and some national organizations are looking into the allegations. Ashlyn Stallings, marketing and communications coordinator for Alpha Delta Pi, confirmed that the national sorority had received the email. "We got the Capstone email Wednesday November 9," she said. "Copied on the email were other NPC (National Panhellenic Conference) groups. I'm pretty sure every group got it... Our internation-

Happy Hour: 4 - 9 pm

Watch The Game on our

al organization has been talk- Mu and Zeta Tau Alpha did ing to others after we realized

Whitney Heckathorne of Chi Omega said their office also received the email and was unaware of some of the information included in the message. "We have to follow up with our chapter on a local level and ensure we are in communication with them," she said.

marketing and project management at the Delta Delta Delta sorority's national office, said their office had also received the email. However, she said she wasn't know they usually cost about sure if the allegations in the 5 cents per copy. I don't know email were accurate and that Delta Delta Delta national officials are not reviewing the head librarian at the Gorgas information "at this moment." The national offices of Alpha Chi Omega, Alpha Omicron Pi, Alpha Gamma Delta, Delta Zeta, Kappa Delta, Pi Beta Phi, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Phi

not respond to requests for comment.

Mckenzie Jones, a member of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and the chair of the SGA block seating committee, is the treasurer of the Machine and in line to become its next president, according to sources familiar with the organizational structure of the Machine. When asked to comment on the Holly Thompson, director of finances of the Machine, Jones referred to a copy machine.

"Again, I've never been given the name treasurer of

with large amounts of food to

donate can request pick up

by calling the CSC at 205/348-

2865. Monetary donations are

welcome and accepted at vari-

ous Bama Dining locations,

beatauburnbeathunger.

LAKESIDE DINNER Chicken Fajita Pizza Scalloped Potatoes

Sweet and Sour Vegan Grilled Chicken Thigh

Special Projects Account Rep

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the copy machine," Jones said in an emailed statement. "I how much maintenance (costs) but you might want to ask the (Library) or maybe even the University of Alabama Vice President of Financial Affairs will know. I doubt Dr. Witt would even know the details of that financial question."

1215 University Blvd.

On the Strip

prepared the justices are and what a good job they do discussing the issues of a case," he said. "But the problem with the televising is that whenever you introduce television in an area that it hasn't been before, sometimes unintended consequences flow," he said.

Stevens then went on to give the example of the commercial induced breaks during a football game to drive the point home about how TV can change the culture of an entity.

"And introducing television into the confirmation hearings has lengthened the process considerably," Stevens said. "When I went through the process, there were two or three minutes of introductions and then they started the questions. Now they spend the first day talking about how important the hearings are.'

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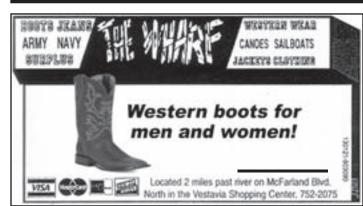
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### Kappa Alpha helps employee rebuild after tornado

### By Will Edwards Staff Reporter wgedwards@crimson.ua.edu

Larry O'Neal didn't ask for any help; he didn't have to. When his home was destroyed on April 27, his employer, the Kappa Alpha fraternity, came to his rescue both financially and physically.

After being let off work early that afternoon, he drove to his trailer home in Crescent Ridge and turned on the TV. He followed the advice of the man on the screen and took his family to the storm shelter behind the trailer. There, locked in fiberglass, he listened to the storm pass over and destroy his home, his truck and his entire way of life. A few minutes after what sounded like a train had passed, he rose out of the shelter to find nothing.

"I stepped out and could see a mile away," O'Neal said. "There was nothing there anymore.<sup>3</sup>

He didn't stop and take time to mourn the loss of his home; he did what so many others that were affected by the tornado did that day: he went looking for his friend.

Sal Merritt, a man who lived down the road from O'Neal, was lying beneath the rubble of his two-story home when O'Neal arrived. A few other men and O'Neal to purchase a much-needed new truck.

helped get him free from the debris. Coming out without a scratch and only a missing shoe, Merritt was grateful for his rescue.

"I was really in a daze after all that, and Larry helped me through it and got me up," Merritt said.

O'Neal, 51, was left with nothing but an old DVD of his niece's wedding that he found in the rubble and the blocks that once held up his home. He, like many in the community, had to start over. He found immediate shelter for him and his wheelchair-bound son, Antwone, at the Belk Center and was able to borrow his other son's truck to get to work, a day of which he never missed.

"I was bouncing around different friends' houses and borrowing just about everything, but I wasn't going to miss work," O'Neal said.

The Monday after the storm, he was taken to West Alabama Bank by Kappa Alpha member Mark Smith. There he learned that a bank account had been set up in his name by the fraternity to help him through his time of need. But that wasn't all. KA continued to support O'Neal by means of clothes, food and other goods from lawn mowers to mattresses. KA even supplied O'Neal with enough money

"We all knew we needed to help him," said Smith, KA's executive secretary. "Larry is a friend and a father-figure to everybody in that house."

Smith said O'Neal is someone people just enjoy being around, whether it's at the pool table or on the basketball court. Members of KA think of him as family, and O'Neal certainly reciprocates the feeling

"I was and am truly blessed," O'Neal said. "KA has really been taking care of me."

O'Neal hasn't been selfish with his gifts. Much of the money and goods he has been given he has shared with family and friends in need.

"It was all given to me, so I thought that should be giving to other people, too," O'Neal said.

He believes his generosity is part of the reason he has been given more than he ever hoped.

Today, Larry O'Neal wears a bracelet that reads "Praise You through the storm," drives a new truck and rents a room in his niece's house. He is thankful for the help he has received and credits KA with helping rebuild his life.

Whenever somebody asks me about KA, I point to that truck," he said. "KA did that for me."

### INTRUDER Continued from page 1

Alfred Hamilton, a sophomore majoring in biology and an RA, said there was a meeting with his residence hall's community director about trying to make sure that their residents followed guidelines in order to protect themselves.

"My floor partner and myself went door-to-door telling the residents to make sure they lock their doors when they're going in and out," Hamilton said. "We wanted to make sure that they were aware of what is going on, so we told them about how someone is going around taking things from rooms that were left unlocked."

Browne said keeping doors this article.

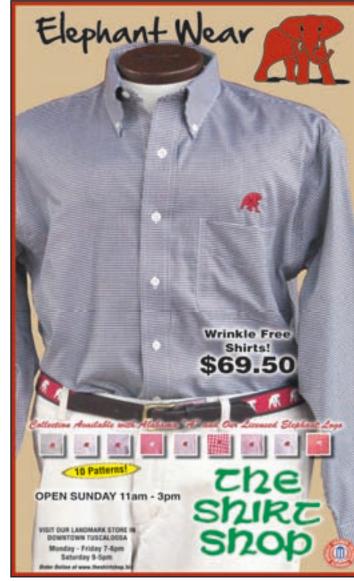
"We also tell students to never prop open exterior doors to residence halls and don't hold open a door for someone to follow you in."

### — Alicia Brown

locked is paramount in preventing the intruder from entering dorm rooms.

"Additionally, we also tell students to never prop open exterior doors to residence halls and don't hold open a door for someone to follow you in," she said. "Although that seems courteous, the truth is, people who need to enter a residence hall are the residents, and they have Action Card access.'

Briana Harris contributed to



# On-campus jobs help students get by financially

By Heather Lightsey and Hanna Roberts The Crimson White

With the economy in a bind, many students at the University of Alabama are on the prowl for a convenient, student-oriented job on campus. Through various forms of job-hunting, some students have found working on campus to be beneficial.

Student assistant jobs come from various UA departments and organizations, including many academic departments, housing communities, the Student Rec Center and Aquatic Center, UA Libraries and the SUPe Store, to name a few. These job opportunities range from retail sales, customer service and office assistant positions to jobs requiring specific skills in areas such as information technology, website development and program research.

Vaishali Patel, recruitment specialist for student employment and volunteer programs, said student assistant jobs are great alternatives for students who are not eligible for workstudy awards.

"Student assistant jobs become available based on the needs of individual University departments and organizations," Patel said. "While [human resources] does not create jobs, we do encourage all departments to post available jobs on the student employment jobsite whenever possible.'

Julie Morgan, a junior majoring in elementary education, chose to work on campus no holidays and no late nights." because of the benefits provided.

Morgan, a student employee at the University Medical Center, explained how positive her experience has been thus far.

"[The on-campus employers] are very understanding of the demands placed on you as a student," Morgan said. "They work around your school schedule. You do not have to work nights or weekends, and your job site is located on campus so you do not have to drive far to get to work."

Lindsay Knight, a junior majoring in nursing and student employee at the Capstone College of Nursing, agreed that working on campus is convenient.

"I thought working on campus would be a good way to earn extra money," Knight said. "The hours are great. No weekends,

Not only is convenience key when students make the decision to work on campus, the in-house networking attached with the employment doesn't hurt either. Whether students already have or will make connections along the way, networking becomes a major perk in on-campus jobs.

Morgan had connections to the University Medical Center before landing the job.

"My brother worked my exact same job when he was at UA a couple of vears ago," Morgan said. "He became very close to his boss, and when I moved here I contacted her to see if she had a job opening."

If not for her previous connections, finding an on-campus job would have been more difficult, Morgan believed.

"I have talked to other students who have told me they tried for years and were never able to get a job on campus," she said.

For questions about job opportunities on campus, students can contact the Office of Student Employment at 205-348-4354.

# YOU HAVE WE HAVE BOOKS I.A.S.H the SUP store.com



"HAVE A SEAT, BUT DON'T GET TOO COMFY. IT'S SPRING LOADED."

MCT Campus

# Farewell to the CW opinions page

Thursday, November 17, 2011 Editor • Tray Smith letters@cw.ua.edu Page 4



### (WEB COMMENTS)

"Quit fixing everything except ten Hoor. That place needs to be torn down and rebuilt. Why focus on the outdoors so much when there are several facilities on campus that could use a major renovation."

 "EyeoftheTide," in response to "UA releases new campus master plan"

"It's sad what these girls are doing. They will potentially have careers and, most importantly, families in a few years. Nothing like having naked pictures of your mom on everyBy Tray Smith @ralphlsmith

"Only a free and unrestrained press can effectively expose decep-tion in government." – Justice Hugo Black

The last thing I ever expected to be involved with in college was The Crimson White. The last thing I ever wanted to be in life was a journalist.

Why report news when you can make news? Why enter an industry in the midst of great transformation and instability when the economy is already struggling?

Freshman year, replete with all the wisdom and energy of a first year college student, I wouldn't have been able to answer those questions. I wouldn't have been able to answer them the day I walked into The Crimson White newsroom and dropped off a collection of columns I wrote for my hometown newspaper, The Atmore Advance. I was just trying to become a columnist in order to get involved and find my place on our sprawling campus.

I wouldn't have been able to answer them the day I was standing on the sidewalk in downtown Tuscaloosa and received a phone call informing me that I had been chosen as the new opinions editor of The Crimson White. My predecessor had resigned before ever officially taking office, and I was just falling in to take his place.

I probably couldn't have answered those questions until last April, when a tornado struck Tuscaloosa, and I saw colleagues work around the clock to provide the public with information. Information that allowed people to make decisions about the way they were going to respond to the tragedy, from where to pick up and drop off supplies to how to locate relatives and friends.

The tornado changed my perspec-

tive and my role in student media. At The Crimson White. that time, our student body was not in need of my opinion. Students needed to know why they couldn't get back to their homes in the Retreat, when the power was coming back on and where they could find shelter. As a member of The Crimson White staff, I had to find ways to be helpful and provide students with answers to those questions.

And that is what I have tried to do since; provide students with answers about how institutions on our campus operate, what motivates those operations and how those issues impact this university.

The goal of these stories is not to expose wrongdoing or target people; the goal is to give the student body the information it needs to make decisions about the way our campus will grow and thrive. Some of that information has exposed issues that caused concern, but the fact that those issues are now public knowledge has allowed students to demand accountability from those they trust with their money and their votes.

As Justice Black wrote, this is a function that only a free and unrestrained press can perform. However, while the press can reveal information, we can do nothing to act on it. That falls to you.

In some ways, The Crimson White is an ongoing narrative of our campus and the events that take place here. But the stories told on these pages aren't just for your enjoyment. They are a part of your education, and hopefully they will occasionally perk your interest or motivate you to action on a particular issue.

That is how society moves forward. That is why an informed, educated public is so important. That is why journalism is important. And that is why I am stepping down from You do not have to be a member of my position as opinions editor of the current opinions staff to apply.

It may seem ironic that I am leaving the section of The Crimson White that originally got me involved with this publication. However, remaining in my current capacity would only distract me from areas where I can better serve our readers, while confining the opinions page to a leader who is incapable of continuing to serve effectively.

Know this - I love the columns on page four more than anything else in this paper. And this semester's opinions page has been the best I have seen since I stepped foot on campus two years ago. The columnists and contributors who have invested their time in being a part of this section have done a remarkable job.

But this page functions best when the rest of the newspaper is filled with thorough and detailed stories that provoke us to think critically about our circumstances and the circumstances around us. So, for the rest of this year, I am going to focus on those stories. Hopefully, they will address issues that you care about, and perhaps cause you to think about something differently or approach a situation with a new light.

I could not be more proud to be a part of this year's Crimson White staff. I could not be more excited about continuing on in a new capacity. And I could not be more thankful for the support and feedback that you, our readers, have given me since I became opinions editor a year and a half ago.

Tray Smith is the opinions editor of The Crimson White.

Editor's Note: Applications for opinions editor will be welcome from today until Sunday, Nov. 27.

# Change on campus must happen now

### By Erin Hundall

Each day, we students read about, hear about, or see blatantly unfair acts being committed by the University itself and the students who attend it. Students write opinion-driven articles about these acts, organize protests against them and even call the University's administration to complain and bring to attention that these various acts keep occurring. My question is: what is the University doing to help prevent unfairness and prejudice towards other people on campus?

We understand that these continuing acts of racism are results of only the students who cannot see past their unrelenting prejudice. How is the University going to change the minds of those who are, for lack of better words, "set in their ways"? Well, they can't. Only the racist students themselves can change their minds.

Personally, I want to see someone from the University's administration (preferably Dr. Witt) firmly speak out against racism on campus. I feel as if the administration is only ignoring their students' cries for change. Why hasn't anyone from the administration responded to our protests consisting of rallies and constantly published opinions? It is obvious that a majority of the student body is not getting themselves involved with this

### If most of us are not participating in trying to get rid of inequality on campus, then why should the administration try and solve what looks, to them, like a miniscule issue?

ongoing battle for equality, which plays a large role in why the administration is not responding to the protests against racism. If most of us are not participating in trying to get rid of inequality on campus, then why should the administration try and solve what looks, to them, like a miniscule issue? The fact is that we students are not showing the University's administration that this is a big deal. Fighting against racism and inequality is important to us. If we want change, not only from the students, but from this University, then the movement needs more supporters and more actions taken in order to show that we protestors mean business.

We students are not just the financial building blocks of the University of Alabama, and I am tired of feeling as if I am worth only that to this place. We want change on campus. We want things to be done in retaliation to the actions we have been taking against the unfairness that is continuing towards our fellow students. It is the University's responsibility to preserve the overall pleasantness on campus, and that includes addressing the not-so-quietly-solved issues.

They are failing, and their students are calling them out.

Erin Hundall is a sophomore majoring on secondary English education.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### **Clinton, Carter policies true**

### one's iPhone or whatever."

– Eric Mitchell, in response to "UA students chosen to pose in Playboy's Girls of the SEC edition"

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### WE WELCOME YOUR OPINIONS

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

# Black and white greek life differ

### By Xavier Burgin

It has been a very exciting and introspective semester for many individuals if you've kept up with the plethora of on-campus political scandals and secret society exposés presented by The Crimson White. The majority of our informed readers' entertainment has stemmed from the current SGA political scandal along with detailed and straightforward information pertaining to Theta Nu Epsilon, lovingly referred to as The Machine. The mishaps, missteps and overall corruption of the Greek system at The University of Alabama has been picked, interviewed and explained from every angle possible. Virtually no stone has been left unturned. I can only predict the final feat left for The CW would involve finding a credible source that could name all members in the current incarnation of The Machine.

Still, one avenue has not been explored pertaining to greek life on campus. This would specifically be the relationship between the ongoing occurrences and its connection with the black-greek population. My beloved Caucasian and/or Anglo-American counterparts . . . yes, we have African-American students who are also greek.

If you recall, at the beginning of the semester Alabama had a semi-entertaining love romp with Daniel Tosh and Anderson Cooper in regards to the sorority rap video that went viral. I was the individual first contacted to record the video, but declined due to a lack of time in my schedule. I would later outsource the project to one of my

colleagues who also shoots commissioned work on the side.

Fast-forward to Anderson Cooper making semi-corny hip-hop quips as the sorority girls danced in the background. I thanked sweet baby Jesus the planets did not align and cause me to be the creator of the video. I also told my colleague to take the video down from his website so no one would trace the lyrical abomination back to him and attack his artistic credibility as a cinematographer. I say all of this to lead into the Youtube comments.

They were all unnecessarily vicious toward the girls, but one stood out to me. An individual defending the girls' attempts at rhyming explained the lack of African-American sorority members in the video as black greeks ostracizing themselves from the general greek community.

I could only scoff at the comment. How far from the truth could this person stray? To be an African-American greek on this campus is to live in a perpetual state of limbo outside of the general populace's understanding save other black students. We are a prominent fixture in UA's culture, yet our prominence only feebly reaches outside of the black community on campus. I am a part of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Our colors are purple and gold. We wear purple and gold combat boots in honor of our fraternity's hallowed traditions. Unfortunately, during the Alabama versus LSU weekend we were routinely mistaken for adamant LSU fans. The only reason we weren't constantly heckled is because our members tend to be very muscular, and very black.

This general ignorance of our presence is very noticeable in relations with predominately white fraternity and sororities. Ignorance may not be the right word. It would be better coined as a lack of acknowledgement. White fraternities and sororities know there are black greeks, but consider us another specific group outside of their comfort zone. There are exceptions. The women of Delta Gamma are quite possibly the most superfun-awesome individuals I've met on campus, but this was a very rare occurrence. It is one I don't expect to happen on a regular basis.

As black greeks, we look at the ongoing scandals pertaining to the white greeks and shrug our shoulders. The sheer amount of disconnect between the white and black greek community is so prevalent, we do not consider ourselves a part of the same system in an overall sense. Ironically, in times of crisis we tend to sway with the non-white greek campus' opinions on matters of The Machine. Even as greeks we consider it our enemy. Well...we consider it our enemy during SGA and Homecoming elections. We could care less afterwards, which is a terrible truth.

We work in our specific sphere of influence just as they do. We are the same, yet vastly different. Apples and oranges. Day and Night. Black and white.

Our only commonality seems to be the word "greek."

Xavier Burgin is senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies and film production. His column runs biweekly on Thursdays.

### reason for housing bubble

### By Adam Rawlins

On Tuesday, in a letter to the editor, a student wrote about the Occupy Wall Street protests, comparing them to the Civil Rights Movement (which it is nothing like) and stating "Wall Street institutions created this economic situation in the first place." The author of this letter is completely incorrect.

First of all, the housing bubble bursting caused the economic crisis. The reason for this occurrence is not, as many OWS protesters seem to think, "big, evil banks and corporations." The cause was actually an extraordinary amount of subprime mortgages and rampant speculation in the housing market. But why did this occur, and why were such a vast number of people who could not afford the homes they owned (the reason for the number of subprime mortgages) actually owners of those homes?

The first of the two biggest factors contributing to the housing bubble is the Community Reinvestment Act of 1977, signed by President Jimmy Carter. This legislation's goal was to eliminate discrimination in giving loans to residents and businesses in low-income areas. An effect of this, of course, was that it encouraged banks to give loans to individuals who could not afford to repay them.

The second of these two large factors was part of President Bill Clinton's plan to increase home ownership. Clinton directed Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros to create a plan to do just that. Known as the National Homeownership Strategy, it took fiscally irresponsible steps in order to increase the number of individuals who own homes (the documents can easily be found online). Just so no one feels I'm being partisan, President Bush continued with these policies.

These two things, which put additional regulations on the private sector, are the root cause of the recession. Both are examples of government overregulation. Maybe the OWS protesters should go occupy Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter's houses instead of trying to go back to Zucotti Park, especially since their policies are the reason we're in this mess in the first place.

Adam Rawlins is a junior majoring in political science.

**NEWS** 

# Astronaut to speak on experiences at Gorgas library

By Kris Mitchell Contributing Writer

Astronaut Col. Michael Fincke, recent spacewalker of STS-134 and former commander of Expedition 18 to the International Space Station, will speak today at 1 p.m. in Gorgas Library room 205.

Fincke will discuss the importance of international education or experience and working with astronauts from other countries. Fincke is a graduate of

the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University and has trained both with NASA and the Russian

### IF YOU GO ...

• What: Astronaut Col. Michael Fincke lecture

• Where: Today at 1 p.m.

### • When: Gorgas

Library Room 205

space system. He is fluent in Japanese and Russian and has logged 381 days in space, most recently on the final space shuttle mission in the summer of landing back in Kazakhstan on 2011.

Fincke was chosen as a speak er because he has international appeal, according to Mangala Krishnamurthy, Reference Librarian/Associate Professor.

Selected by NASA in April 1996, Fincke reported to the Johnson Space Center, where he completed two years of training and evaluation.

As the International Space Station commander, Fincke and his three-person crew helped prepare the station for future sixperson crews. The Expedition 18 mission concluded with undocking from the station and safely April 8, 2009.

The Astronaut Appearances Office receives thousands of requests each year, and very few of these requests can be accommodated due to the number of shuttle flights and support of the International Space Station. The University of Alabama has been selected to host an astronaut appearance during International Education Week.

International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Department of Education. It was first held in 2000, and it has been held every year since then on the third week of November. The University has sponsored

International Education Week annually since 2001.

Capstone International Programs, University Libraries, The International Honors Program and Capstone Conversations sponsored Col. Fincke's visit to the University.

According to Donna Adcock, Director of Public Relations of University Libraries, University Libraries has sponsored past guest speakers such as Aileen Henderson, B. J. Hollars and Dave Madden. Fincke is the last lecturer for the fall semester, but more speakers are planned for the spring.



Col. Michael Fincke

# Two UA students perform in the Country Music Awards

### By Melissa Brown Staff Reporter

mbrown104@crimson.ua.edu

When University of Alabama sophomore Danielle Heverin sold her LSU football ticket several weeks ago, she didn't use the extra money to buy a new outfit or pay the rent.

Instead, she paid for a twoweek hotel stay in Nashville, where Heverin and fellow UA student Carson Seeley performed as backup dancers on the Country Music Association Awards show and the CMA Country Christmas special.

dance majors, tried out for the job just weeks prior to the show.

world is really last minute," Heverin said

Like most auditions, Heverin said the girls were taught a 30 second routine then split into several groups to perform. Often they let the music stop, and the dancers have to freestyle.

"There's tension in the room. Everyone wants it just as bad as you do," she said. "You have to think about what you can do to make an impression. Then comes the worst part, waiting for

Heverin and Seeley, both days to hear if you booked the job or not."

Heverin and Seeley booked "Everything in the dance the job and travelled to Nashville a week before the show to begin rehearsals with choreographer Barry Lather. The dancers rehearsed every day for hours.

He just drilled us and drilled us," Heverin said.

The two performed in the CMA Awards opening number with Blake Shelton, and later with Luke Bryan. They filmed the Country Christmas special the next day, dancing numbers with Jennifer Nettles of the band Sugarland and Kellie Pickler.

For Seeley, all the preparation and hard work almost didn't pay off when she came down with a virus the day of the show.

"I was about to go onstage, and I was curled up in a ball it

was so bad," Seeley said. Thinking the adrenaline rush from performing might help her symptoms, she went onstage for

the Blake Shelton song. "After the number, I couldn't stop throwing up," Seeley said. "I

told the choreographer I couldn't do the Luke Bryan song. And I'm not that person that says she can't dance because of a tummy ache.

other dancers were trying to re-choreograph the routine without her, minutes before the song, when Seeley appeared in

costume. "I told [the choreographer] that I was going to go out there and do it," Seeley said. "I guess it's just the professionalism of the matter: pushing through and getting it done."

After the song, medics hooked Seeley up to an IV backstage. She was well enough in the morning to film the Christmas special.

Heverin said she and the at work didn't stop the dancers from enjoying the experience, though.

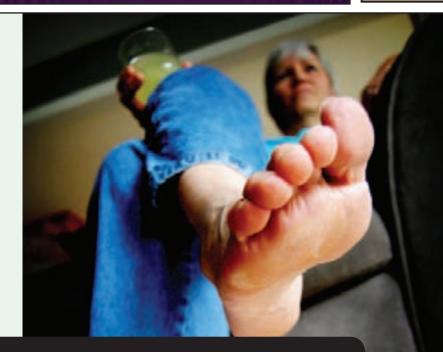
> "I was having a blast," Heverin said. "Celebrities walk by and you try to act all cool, but you really want to run up to them. Carrie Underwood was in the bathroom with me and I was just like 'Hey, what's up.' It was so cool."

The dancers have remained grounded despite their achievements. Seeley, a fashion merchandise and dance double major, said she keeps coming back to school after jobs so she'll









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**NEWS** 

# Crime not new to collegiate campuses, Alabama

By William Evans Senior Staff Reporter wjevans@crimson.ua.edu

The University of Alabama had the most alcohol and drug-related arrests of any collegiate institution in the state, according to a Birmingham News analysis of the last six years of crime data reported by Alabama colleges and universities.

UA had 540 alcohol-related arrests and 308 drug-related arrests over the time period studied by the Birmingham News. Second-place Auburn University had 208 alcohol-related arrests and The University of North Alabama, second in terms of the rate of arrests per 1,000 students, had 55 alcohol-related arrests.

Students at the University of Alabama, the University of South Alabama, Alabama A&M and Birmingham-Southern College also reported the most sexual offenses on campus, the data reveals.

The 11 schools in the state that enroll the most students in higher education reported an overall 170 robberies, 119 aggravated assaults and 97 forcible sexual offenses on campus from 2005-2010.

The Clery Act requires all colleges and universities to report their campus crime data to the U.S. Department of Education annually and to disseminate campus security reports to students and employees by Oct. 1 each year.

John Sloan, a professor in the Department of Justice Sciences at the University of Alabama at Birmingham and co-author of "The Dark Side of the Ivory Tower: Campus Crime as a Social Problem," said campus crime is nothing new but was elevated to a unique social problem in the late 1980s because interest groups held university administrators responsible for recurring patterns of campus crime and victimization.

"Campus crime - what we call 'violence, vice, and victimization' in our book – has existed since the founding of colleges and universities in the 17th century," he said. "It's not something that's suddenly appeared. In our book, we chronicle murders, rapes, riots and other forms of violence that were a routine part of college life in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries."

The interest groups that set the bait for modern media to paint college campuses as hotbeds of criminal activity included feminist groups holding paring the raw numbers released in campus administrators responsible for the various campus security reports

Campus crime – what we call "violence, vice, and victimization" in our book – has existed since the founding of colleges and universities in the 17th century.

– John Sloan, professor in the Department of Justice Sciences

violence against women; parents suing post-secondary institutions for not instituting a proper level of safety measures for their children as students; and public health researchers sounding the alarm over the prevalence and dangers of binge drinking on college campuses, he said.

'What changed were peoples' perceptions, fueled in part by interest groups using the 24-7-365 news cycle to get their message out that the 'dark side' of the Ivory Tower threatened to topple it and take millions of young people with it," he said. "Thus, the creation of a new social problem.'

Students who make a lifestyle out of partying open themselves to victimization

"For violent victimization, we know that students who spend a lot of their time out partying, including abusing alcohol and drugs, are at a much higher risk of experiencing a violent attack than students who do not do this," he said.

He said the few parents and students who do take the time to read the campus security reports would not be better informed of a particular campus level of safety by the numbers alone.

"The data that are available are raw numbers rather than rates per some unit population," he said. "At least with a rate, you can compare a small school with a large one since doing so controls for variation in population size.

"However, even if you are working with rates you still have to be careful when comparing, say, a Birmingham Southern College with UA. Clearly, the underlying dynamics associated with on-campus victimization are not the same at the two schools, and that matters greatly. The problem is such information does not appear in any of the Clery mandated reports."

UA Police Chief Tim Summerlin said caution should be used when com-

School	Forcible Sex Crimes	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Bulgary		
Alabama	24	28	18	545		
Alabama State	3	(44)	10	83		
Auburn	7	7	11	232		
Birmingham Southern	11	1	6	4		
Samford	2	0	0	96		
Alabama A&M	16	29	63	463		
Troy	5	8	2	139		
UAB	5	23	3	65		
UAH	8	1	6	86		

Source: Birmingham News

### Campus Crimes 2005-2010

because each college demographic and environment is different.

"Our campus is like a city within a city," he said. "You don't come through a big gate up front."

Summerlin called the University a large traditional college campus with a college-age generation of students mostly from ages 17-23. Of the approximately 32,000 students in the student body, 9,000 of that number lives on campus in either greek housing or residence halls, which contributes to on-campus disciplinary violations

With the growth of the student body comes the simultaneous growth of the city of Tuscaloosa. As a bustling college town, the city of Tuscaloosa attracts students to stay for the weekend rather than driving home, which attracts more businesses and social events for weekend activities that can open a space for alcohol violations.

Gameday Saturdays, for instance, bring in about 125,000 people to the city, some of whom are non-students committing alcohol violations on campus, but are nonetheless tallied in the campus security reports.

"Those folks are not just here for the game; they come and stay with us for the weekend," he said.

To combat alcohol violations, the UA police exercise an educational role on top of their enforcement duties.

The community services division of UAPD directs educational programming for incoming students and parents in orientation sessions. Police officers are also assigned to geographical areas or residence halls throughout the year to keep office hours.

Large gatherings such as orientation are not the preferred venues for UAPD's educational programming.

"Sometimes at orientation, you're speaking to a body of 150-200 people, and it's not very personal and there's not a lot of dialogue where you can go back and forth, so we like to get in small groups where there's 20-30 folks or less," Summerlin said.

In 2009, UAPD changed the way alcohol violations on campus are disciplined. Rather than sending first-time violators to Tuscaloosa City Municipal Court, UAPD has UA concentrate students in alcohol education programs and community service, which has held repeat offenders to just below three percent.

"It's about making our students successful," he said. "Those types of behaviors impact long-term success. It impacts academic performance, it impacts matriculation and so forth if they don't learn to positively deal with alcohol and the responsible use of alcohol.'





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# Not Isolated seeks improved greek, race relations

### By Melissa Brown Staff Writer mbrown104@crimson.ua.edu

The organizers of October's Not Isolated March engaged in heated debate with students over campus race and greek relations Wednesday at "Operation Not Isolated: The Conversation."

The event, held by the Social Workers Association for Cultural Awareness, was a follow-up event to October's

At the start of the meeting, SWACA president Adrienne McCollum asked for a show of hands from participants in the Not Isolated March. A handful of people in the room raised their hands.

McCollum then asked students

the greek community to raise their hands also. The majority of the audience identified as both.

Cameron Smith, SWACA covice president, opened the conversation by asking everyone if major Tori Luna disagreed. they felt that UA's campus was inclusive.

Jacqueline Prisock, a white 30-year-old nursing major, said she feels like the minority in many of her classes because she's so much older than everyone.

McCollum responded to the audience's silence against commenting on race relations.

"There are 28 white organizations on this campus that work

attending the event in order to with this Machine to run the racist, but when you choose to be receive extra credit points for campus," said McCollum. "Who their classes to raise their hands, really feels like everything is OK while also asking members of here? Who feels like everyone is welcome to join whatever organization they want?"

> When a comment was made that race on campus isn't a greek issue, senior visual journalism

> Luna, who is white, said she was in a sorority her freshman year and joined a Facebook group supporting Kendra Key, a black woman running for SGA president at the time

> "The sorority president pulled me aside and told me I had to get out of that Facebook group because it was against what we stood for," said Luna, who is no longer a member of the sorority. "I'm not saying all greeks are

a part of something that is racist, it's ignorance."

Gertudrudis Hunter, a graduate student in social work, echoed Luna's sentiments.

"These students that scream n---er at black students are the same students that march into the stadium and cheer on black football players to bring home a championship," Hunter said. "You can say you're against racism, but you're still supporting that organization unless you step away from it."

SWACA Vice President Brittany Ward stopped the conversation to ask students if anyone felt uncomfortable with the discussion. Several white students raised their hands.

that a hit dog will holler," Ward some of the audience, one audisaid. "So if you feel offended about something, maybe you are guilty. Would you let me in your sorority? I'm black. I'm not a size 6. Would you let me in? Hell no."

McCollum said SWACA chose to host the open dialogue after seeing the turn out of the Not Isolated March.

McCollum said. "I was expecting more people who had participated in the march. I expected more people from the unrepresented, minority groups.

McCollum was unsure that SWACA would host future forums.

"I'm not a quitter, but I'm not going to have events for people to get extra credit," she said.

Though McCollum expressed "My grandpa always told me frustration with the motives of

ence member said she found the conversation interesting and enlightening.

"I just came here for sociology extra credit. I knew that the biggest problem was everyone is divided," said Hannah Ward, a UA student.

Ward, a member of the greek community, said she was unaware of the dissatisfaction on campus regarding race relations. After hearing what other sides of campus had to say, she said she would like to be more involved.

There's no communication here between greeks and nongreeks," Ward said. "And I'm sure there are non-greeks out there that would like to support our philanthropies."

UA Professor attends television seminar in Hollywood

### By Lis García Contributing Writer

Only 20 faculty members across the country are selected annually for a trip to Hollywood per the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Foundation.

This year, Kristen Warner, assistant professor of telecommunication and film at the University, received an invitation to be one of the 20 to attend the foundation's annual faculty seminar on Nov. 8-12

"By bringing top-level insights directly to those who are guiding young minds, the Television Academy Foundation's faculty seminar serves as an invaluable resource for carrying televiProvencio Pichardo, executive director of the foundation, said in a press release.

The foundation is the charitable arm of the Television Academy, which votes for the Primetime Emmys, according to their website.

The seminar, in its 24th year, seeks to inspire the next generation of television leaders starting within the classroom.

Seminar fellows interacted with top programming and production executives including David A. Goodman from "Family Guy" and Bertram van Munster from "The Amazing Race," according to the press release.

Nancy Robinson, manager of education programs for the foun-

She said about 61 faculty members applied for the seminar.

Robinson said the selection committee chose the 20 applicants and two alternates based on what kind of courses the professors taught, the size of their departments, and how many students they would reach, among other qualities.

The select faculty members received up to \$1,000 of airfare and lodging expenses, funded internally from the Television Academy, she said. But there's a catch.

"Once a school is represented, they have to sit out for two years," Robinson said.

Warner said she applied for the seminar after hearing about

received her selection call in her first year of applying.

"It was like winning the lottery," she said.

Faculty members stayed in a hotel in the heart of Hollywood and rode a "schmoozing bus," Warner said.

She said the program is geared towards both teaching and research. By engaging with filmmakers, Warner has formed closer connections with students than professors with PhDs, she said

Beyond enabling her teaching skills, the seminar also helped Warner in her personal research. However, that wasn't the highlight of her trip.

"I think my favorite part was,

sion studies forward," Norma dation, put the program together. it from other professors. She well, outside of going to "The pulled him out," she said. Price is Right,' the last day we got to go to the NBC/Universal Studio," she said.

Seminar fellows spoke with programmers of the top five networks. They also visited the Warner Brothers and CBS back lots, she said.

Additionally, they saw multiple filming areas for shows such as "Two and a Half Men" - caught a glimpse of Ashton Kutcher and "CSI: New York."

"It's, like, a real place," she said of the CSI filming area. "It's not a set."

Warner said the area was complete with a ballistics lab with guns, offices and a morgue.

"One of my colleagues actually got in the cold fridge, and we

Warner said a Betty White sighting received the most excitement, but "The Price is

Right" attendance came in as a close second. "We looked like we didn't belong," she said. "It was notice-

Unlike other "Right" goers, Warner said her group lacked the laid-back clothing and matching t-shirts. They were even asked to show more enthusiasm, she said.

Warner said the experience has provided a jumping board for several teaching opportunities

"I can tell my students, "This is what the future looks like," she said.



### Project Rebound helps tornado victims

By Heather Lightsey Contributing Writer

Since an EF-4 tornado tore through Tuscaloosa in late April, many different organizations devoted to mental health and counseling have brought chapters to the Tuscaloosa community.

One such organization, called Project Rebound, has set up a chapter of its FEMA-funded organization at the University; the first team that is specific to a university committee.

Project Rebound is a crisis counselor program that FEMA created as a response to disasters, both man-created and natural. Chapters of the organization have been initiated after natural a college or university campus." disasters such as Hurricanes Ivan, Katrina, and Rita, as well

state of Alabama, launched in and to groups of people. response to the April 27 tornadoes.

Melanie Tucker, faculty sponsor of Project Rebound UA, said after the tornado, the College of Community Health Sciences was contacted by the Alabama Department of Mental Health to gauge their interest and need for crisis counseling on campus.

"We were definitely interested and decided to partner with ADMH in writing a grant to begin Project Rebound UA," Tucker said. "Project Rebound UA represents the first time that FEMA has provided such services on a university campus, thus making this a model program for implementing FEMA services on health research.

Michelle Tanner, one of the crisis counselors, said Project Rebound wants to provide help with emotional issues and personal problems that were a result of the tornado.

"We are an outreach program, meaning that counselors go in to the community and start conversations with individuals and gauge their need for further assistance, whether it be community services, mental health assistance, or medical treatment," Tanner said.

Shani Collins, another crisis counselor, wanted to become part of Project Rebound because of her strong interest in mental

"As a social work graduate The team currently has 19 student, our in-class discussions graduate students on staff as cri- often center on the role of social



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Rebound, an extension of the trained by FEMA to respond to Project Rebound UA, please call larger project offered within the crises, both on an individual level

backgrounds and areas of study. The University's Project These counselors have been

Contract and and a set of

workers in mental health settings," Collins said.

For more information about 205-348-0025.

\*\*\*\*

# FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK Saban reflects on dominant football class

By Zac Al-Khateeb Sports Reporter zialkhateeb@crimson.ua.edu @ZacAlKhateeb

As the Alabama Crimson Tide prepares for its last home game of the season, head coach Nick Saban is not allowing his team to overlook the Georgia Southern Eagles.

The Eagles bring in a 9-1 record and a confusing triple option attack Alabama hasn't seen this season.

"They do a really, really good job at what they do," Saban said. "They do what they do extremely well. Play hard, play tough, but they execute very, very well, and that's why they have so much success. So it's big that in this game that we play to our standards."

Still, Saban did take the time to reflect on what has been one of the most dominant classes in Alabama football, a class that has seen unprecedented success, a class that officially brought Alabama "back." It boasts Alabama's only Heisman winner, three first-round picks in the 2011 NFL Draft, 45 wins thus far and, most importantly, Alabama's first national championship since 1992.

"I hope our guys will really recognize the accomplishments of our seniors that will be recognized before this game," Saban said "....This group of guys came here when we weren't winning, we weren't having success, Alabama wasn't good. And there weren't a lot of good things happening here at the

### **PRACTICE NOTES**

Jesse Williams was no longer in a black jersey Wednesday.

Vinnie Sunseri practiced in a black jersey Wednesday, though Saban said he "was fine."

Saban described Barrett Jones and Darius Hanks as day-to-day on their playing status.

time. And this is certainly one of the best classes I have ever been associated with.

"I hope their teammates and everybody associated with them will go out there and play to a standard and give them a final good memory of playing in Bryant-Denny Stadium."

Senior wide receiver Brandon Gibson said there will be a lot of emotions out there for him, a senior on his final home game.

"It'll be definitely a lot of emotions there," Gibson said. "[I'm] probably going to have to hold it back a lot. Because I try to look all manly and stuff. But it'll be fine. It's the last home game... But it's going to be something that I remember for the rest of my life, and hopefully we'll come away with a win."



Saban paces the field during practice before Saturday's game against Georgia Southern

### **Players not** overlooking Eagles

Despite being the week before the Iron Bowl, Gibson said his team will not be looking ahead of the Eagles Saturday for next week's game. For Gibson, the only issue is with this week's

opponent, which brings triple option offense that's difficult to defend. "It'll be different," Gibson

said. "They'll do some different things. The defense will see something that they haven't seen all year, but you definitely got to respect your opponent. And we definitely respect them, coming in and playing on such a big stage. We're going to go in just like any other game. We're going to go out and compete for four quarters."

Senior linebacker Jerrell Harris said it wasn't fun preparing for the Eagles' triple

"It's very confusing," Harris said "You just have to really know your job description on each call and just take what the offense is giving you when you're supposed to be there." Jerrell said the defense

CW | John Michael Simpson

has been learning how to better approach defending the triple option as the week has worn on. "We're getting better as the

days go by," Harris said. "It was kind of difficult at first, but now we're getting a better option offense. grasp on how to play it.

# え

Page 9 • Thursday, November 17, 2010 Editor • Tony Tsoulukas crimsonwhitesports@ gmail.com

### BBALI

faces is an opportunity to see how the team has improved from the previous year, a way to measure itself against the team that barely missed the NCAA tournament last season.

"I think every game is a measuring stick for us," Grant said. "This tournament is a great opportunity. We try to take it one game at a time, so right now all the focus is on Maryland, but we also have the opportunity to face some very good competition down the road."

fans normally salivate over the fields that compete in

Iona and Temple are also

tion for themselves.

"It's a good challenge every

Putting together strong

"That's one of the toughest



### FOOTBALL

# Breaking down Georgia Southern's triple option offense

By Brett Hudson Senior Sports Reporter bbhudson@crimson.ua.edu @Brett\_Hudson

The flexbone triple option, is one of the most smash-mouth attacks in college football and is considered a dying art form. The teams that have perfected this art are nearly impossible to stop. Georgia Southern head coach Jeff Monken hopes this is the case as he takes his system into Bryant-Denny Stadium.

"This is a really challenging preparation, especially for our defense," head coach Nick Saban said. "Playing against an offense we have never played against before. We have worked really hard to get the repetitions we need to be to do things we need to do to be able to stop these guys."

The offense is very versatile despite very small changes in formation. The flexbone always has a fullback on the field and at least one wingback, but more in other plays, is no easy task. often two, and finds a way to run incorporate standard running plays.

The crux of the offense revolves around the triple option, where one of the wingbacks goes in motion in the backfield, getting a running start on the play. The quarterback then takes the snap and holds the ball out for the fullback.

The quarterback can hand the ball to his fullback or pull it away and go to the outside with the wingback previously in motion for a traditional Harris, who has never played option play, giving the quarterback the option to either run the ball himself or to pitch it to

the wingback.

Preparing to defend an offense with so many possibilities, both in the triple option and

We'll try to make adjustmany different option plays and ments to all of their formations and their motions, try to get our players to understand the plays and how to defend the plays,' Saban said. "When you play against the option, the point of attack changes during the play." Saban added, "This is an

offense that utilizes the cut block, so we've worked with our players on not getting chopped as well."

The preparation is a foreign one to most of the defense, including linebacker Jerrell against the flexbone triple option, even in high school.

"We're getting better at it as

the days go by," Harris said. "It was difficult at first but we're getting better at it. You just have to know what your job description on each call is and know where your spot is and know where you're supposed to be."

The defense's improvement needs to be able to overcome the consistent production of the Eagles offense out of this set. The team's combined rushing yards would rank second in the FBS, just behind Army.

The offense also has an uncanny balance between explosive plays and grind-it-out drives. The explosive Eagles ran for 634 yards on 9.3 yards per carry against Western Carolina, but the other side of this offense has had eight scoring drives that lasted over five minutes, with six of them being over six minutes long and one that lasted

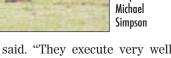


eight minutes and 42 seconds.

Senior Courtney Upshaw participates in contact drills in preparation for Georgia Southern.

CW | John Michael Simpson

"They do a really, really good and that's why they have so job with what they do," Saban much success."



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2) The Bama Theatre – Every week The Bama Theatre hosts a variety of different entertainment including concerts, movies and theatre shows. Each event ranges in price, but there is almost always something to do. Some events this week include:

-Tornado Benefit Show, Nov. 17, 8 p.m.

-WVUA Tornado Documentary, Nov. 21, 7 p.m.

3) Cobb Theatre movies - structure treaters (before 6 adult tickets \$9.50 and matinee tickets (before 6 Cobb Theatre movies - Student tickets are \$8.50, p.m.) are \$7.50. This week's shows include:

-Paranormal Activity 3

-Footloose -Rum Diary

-Puss In Boots

Bama Belle -4) The Bama Belle is Ťuscaloosa's famous riverboat often seen traveling the Black Warrior River. Bama Belle offers public and private charters.



Public charters run from

April to October in addition to a special Christmas and Valentine's Day charter. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by calling 205-339-1108.

5) Trivia Night - Trivia night is hosted around town at different locations during the week: Mellow Mushroom hosts trivia night on Tuesday, Innisfree and Buffalo Wild Wings on Wednesday and Wilhagan's on Thursday. Participants answer questions about everything under the sun and various prizes are awarded each night. And it's completely free to participate!

Bowling - Check out either Bama Bowl or Leland b) Lanes for specials on bowling different nights of the week. At Leland Lanes, it's never more than \$5 per game, but you can pay a flat \$16.50 for an hour of bowling before 5 p.m.

Art Night - Tuscaloosa's monthly Art Night from 5 to 9 p.m. is held the first Thursday of every month in downtown Northport and Tuscaloosa. Art Night features local galleries and venues for artists to display their pieces to the public. Admission is free and also includes music and refreshments for attendees. Locations include Gallery on the Boulevard, Duet Art and Jewelry, Harrison

Galleries, Bama Theatre galleries, Alabama Art Kitchen and Kentuck Art Center.

Lake Lurleen State Park -8) If you're looking for some outdoor fun, take a drive to Lake Lurleen State Park. Here, you'll find several hiking trails and areas for biking, swimming, boating and fishing. The cost is \$3 to enter the park.



By Lauren Ferguson

 $9) \label{eq:some stars} Thrift store shopping - For those looking to save some money while looking stylish, Tuscaloosa pro$ vides a variety of options for thrifty shopping. A little patience is all that's needed to find good deals for clothing and accessories. Déjà vu Consignment Boutique sells designer women's clothes such as dresses, jeans, jackets and skirts. Twice As Nice Consignment Shop buys and consigns original artwork, home accessories, furniture and antiques in addition to clothing. Plato's Closet and America's Thrift Store also provide cheaper alternatives for shopping.

10) Bower's Park Disc Golf - Bring your own disc and create your own fun by spending a day at Bower's Park playing disc golf. The course, constructed in 2003, features three open holes and 15 nestled in the woods. Although the course is challenging, all holes have three carpeted tee pads to accommodate all skill levels. 2101 Bowers Park Dr., 205-562-3220

Surin Midnight Sushi - Got late night cravings for cheap sushi? Try Surin of Thailand's midnight sushi special located on The Strip. Midnight Sushi runs every Thursday through Saturday starting at 11 p.m., featuring \$1 sushi and appetizers.



12) Xpress Night - Hosted by the Honors College Assembly, Xpress Night allows students to share their artistic talents with other students. Students can share music, art, poetry and more. The next event will be held Nov. 17 from 6-9 p.m. in the Ferguson Center.

13) UA Arboretum - The University of Alabama Arboretum provides a place for study and enjoyment. Operated by the Department of Biological Studies, the arboretum offers greenhouses, two miles of walking trails, wildflower gardens, a community organic garden and children's garden. Admission is free and the Arboretum is open daily from 8 a.m. to sunset. Tours are available upon request. 48000 Arboretum Way, 205-533-3278.

arboretum.ua.edu

14) All Fired Up - This contemporary ceramic studio opened 5 years ago and allows customers to become artists for the day. No appointment is necessary - customers simply arrive at the studio, select an item to paint, choose paint colors and be creative. The piece is then fired at the studio and is ready for pick up a week later. Customers can choose from a variety of mugs, bowls, trays, tiles, goblets and ornaments to paint. Weekday hours are Tuesday through Thursday 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Sunday 1 – 5 p.m. Prices for objects to paint range from \$3 to \$30.

Concerts at Moody - Moody Concert Hall comes 15) Concerts at Moody - Moody Concert Than 5000 - 1500 - 10000 - 1000 - 1000 ter to feature student recitals, guest recitals and groups such as the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra and various University ensembles. All events are free, except Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra, which costs \$5 for students.

Paul W. Bryant Museum - The Paul W. Bryant 16) Museum preserves a collection of historical sports memorabilia from the University of Alabama. The museum features six main exhibits: The Hall of Honor, Tide Through Time, Coach Bryant's Office, Crimson Tide Moments from the Broadcast Booth, The Crystal Hat and The Sack. The museum also provides a vast library collection of archived and published material about University of Alabama sports. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. daily and admission is \$2 for adults. 300 Paul W. Bryant Drive, 205-348-4668.

Bama Mini Golf - A fun and easy way to spend 17) Ballia willin Gon - A fun and care weekend, a weekday afternoon or an away-game weekend, Bama Mini Golf offers 18 holes for \$5. Located on Highway 69 South, Bama Mini Golf is open Monday-Friday 4-10 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Sunday 2-10 p.m. 7825 Highway 69 South, 205-391-6912

18) International Coffee Hour - Enjoy lively conver-sation with international students at UA every Friday in B.B. Comer Hall. Coffee Hour is held from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and is free to all students.

19) Lake Nicol - Spend a pleasant fall day with friends at Lake Nicol with hiking trails and picnic areas to enjoy the lakeside scenery. 3650 Lake Nicol Road.

20)Game Night - Wanting a night in? Try a game night with friends. Test your fun with games such as Apples to Apples, Catch Phrase, The Game of Things, Pictionary, Jenga or a good old game of cards. Texas Hold 'em anyone?

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Andy Hall plays

at The Bear

Trap.

# Musician flies solo, creates music by looping voice

### By Alexandra Ellsworth Senior Staff Reporter amellsworth@crimson.ua.edu

Anyone who frequents The Strip has probably heard Andy Hall's music drifting down from The Bear Trap's rooftop bar. A native from Hartselle, Ala., Hall has been playing music in Tuscaloosa for the past several years.

"As a musician you want to make the kind of music you'd want to listen to," Hall said. "I want to tell a story with my music and create a peaceful setting for people, because that is what music is for me.'

Hall uses a looping machine to layer different tracks and create his unique sound. A loop is a repeating section of sound material. A musician can record pieces of himself playing and have them looping as long as he needs them in the background.

"The loop station compounds every aspect of the songs that I write and piles them on top of each other in such a way that, if I were cloned five times, that is exactly how it would sound," Hall said. "That's something I enjoy about what I do. When you're by yourself you can do anything you want and go any direction just like you're every person in the band. That's why I get a kick out of playing with loop stations because I have to answer to me and me only.'

He described his process of looping music as always changing. Sometimes it is a bass rhythm or a rhythm guitar part or sometimes he will start with vocals

"I usually start with something to let me know the beat of the song, whether it is a cymbal track with my mouth or setting the delay on my pedals, where rhythmically, it's like a metronome," Hall said. "I'll go ahead and do that first, so I know exactly what the beat is.'

Getting started is the most important part for him, he said.

"Don't mess up' is really the only thing going through my head," he said. "You've got to redo everything if you mess up.'

Even in a place like The Bear Trap where he feels the most comfortable performing, Hall said it always takes him two or three songs to warm up.

"When I'm actually building this part up I think I could ignore a bombing of the city when I'm making that stuff," he said. "That's when I'm zoned in and really focused. The rest of it, when I'm singing or soloing up top, that's just me having fun.

times before when he has run I mess up, at least once every out of breath because he is concentrating so hard.

"I just forgot to take a breath until it was too late, then I took

The Crimson White

presents



hear it on the loop station," he Hall said there have been said. "I'm reminded every time few seconds."

Hall is in the process of producing his solo debut album, "Mighty Tree." Hall's family a big breath and you could has a big impact on his music

career, encouraging him to pursue what he loves. His parents were in a motorcycle accident last year. For him, that accident became a creative catalyst for

writing music. "It was like the creative switch just turned on," he said. time," Hall said. "It is a way to

### Local church offers turkey dinner

By Nathan Proctor Contributing Writer

For some students at the University, going home over Thanksgiving break simply isn't an option. With campus shut down and few dining options in Tuscaloosa on turkey day, some students may find their Thanksgiving feast comes from a microwave rather than an oven.

However, Calvary Tuscaloosa, a Baptist church is to be an all-inclusive communear Bryant-Denny Stadium, is offering students the early opportunity for a home-cooked Thanksgiving meal. The

p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 20, and is open to the public at the price of \$6 for adults, \$4 for students

His new album is devoted to

What I love about music is

the idea of family as a mighty

support tree and will be com-

how it can make you change

the way you feel at any given

ing out soon.

and \$3 for children. Calvary Communications Coordinator Kendra Watson said she looks forward to welcoming those outside of the usual congregation to the dinner and recognizing community members who assisted in tornado relief efforts.

"Our mission statement here nity," Watson said. "And opening this event to the community is part of living that out."

annual dinner begins at 4:45 night's attendants tend to be quite eclectic and youthful, and many UA students of the congregation have already registered for the dinner. She said that any students still on campus can find a warm family

CW | Megan Smith

let out emotion and a way to

bottle it up at the same time.

The way I see the world is

through music. If you could see my music, really see it, you

would be seeing the world as I

see it. That is what music does

for me.'

environment at Calvary. "They definitely won't be alone in their age bracket," Watson said. "Calvary is truly one of the most open and loving congregations, and because of our proximity to campus, we truly feel a connection to the students.

Students can register early for the dinner at www.calvary-According to Watson, the tuscaloosa.org/thanksgiving.



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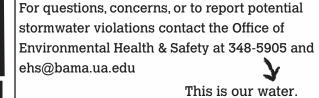
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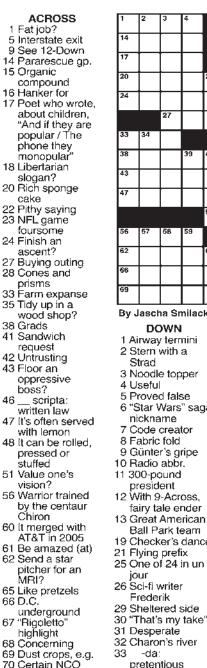




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# UD

### LIFESTYLES

Page 16 • Thursday, November 17, 2011 Editor • Stephanie Brumfield lifestyles@cw.ua.edu

### **Flicks** to catch this weekend

### COBB HOLLYWOOD 16

• Johnny English Reborn (PG)

- Paranormal Activity 3 (R)
- The Three Musketeers 3D
- (PG-13)
- The Big Year (PG)
- Footloose (PG-13)
- The Thing (R)
- Real Steel IMAX (PG-13)
- The Ides of March (R)
- 50/50 (R)
- Courageous (PG-13)
- Dream House (PG-13)
- Dolphin Tale 3D (PG)
- Moneyball (PG-13)
- The Lion King 3D (G)



The Scene goes behind-the-scenes at the Amp

### Organizers of the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater talk concerts, long hours and VIPs

By Jared Downing Staff Reporter wdowning@cri<sup>'</sup>mson.ua.edu

In its first season, the Tuscaloosa Amphitheater hosted 17 concerts, with acts ranging from ZZ Top to "A Prairie Home Companion," but all shows had one thing in common: each was run by three women.

Wendy Riggs, a grizzled veteran in theatre management with 30 years of showbiz behind her, got her hands on the city's new venue last December when she moved from Las Vegas to her native Tuscaloosa.

As the director, she immediately started adding life to the new but empty venue. She furnished it with seats, trash cans, bike racks and office furniture. She put mirrors in the dressing rooms and locks on the doors. If a room was too small, she took out a wall.

"Basically, if you shook anything it would fall," Riggs said.

Rigg's assistant, Jesse Mizzel, 22, is razor-sharp and quick on her feet, but never thinks more than a day ahead. Mizzel's boss at her first job was Riggs's veterinarian, but Riggs said nothing about their relationship during the extensive interview process. She didn't need to; Riggs said Mizzel was everyone's first pick.

Box Office Manager Karen Williams, 28, falls somewhere between the battle-scarred showbiz veteran and the spunky youngster. She is somewhat soft-spoken but carries a certain professionalism from a career with the Birmingham Jefferson Convention Complex.

The three are responsible for everything involved in an event, from the first negotiations to the final strike, from security placement to a star's latte. On the night of a show, the buck stops with them.

On show night Riggs is ruthless. She and Mizzel handle legions of artists, vendors, crew, security, production staff, bus drivers and 7500 patrons; facing every seating dispute, every security issue, every busted mic and drunk groupie; with nothing but a walkie-talkie, a handful of interns and fearsome will.

Williams is stuck in the front office. but that doesn't mean she spends her time clipping tickets. The office has six phones, and they ring constantly - wave after wave of caterers, ushers, paramedics, delivery people, production agents, volunteer coordinators, and anyone remotely involved with the event.

"This is where everybody comes," Karen explains.

The venue's personnel grows from 3 to 400 in a matter of hours. It technically isn't William's job to coordinate them, but she's usually the only staffer in the office, and somebody's got to do

In fact, on show night, nothing is technically anybody's job. Even the interns are trained like Swiss Army Knives, capable of rising to almost any task in a pinch.

"Improvisation is a big word around here," Mizzel said. "We just make it work.'

The Amphitheater team has come a long way since its first weekend. Now, everyone gets an "event packet" that includes maps, scans of various tickets and wristbands and a master timeline. "We don't even have to talk," Mizzel

explains. "We just look at each other and know what needs to be done."

But every show brings a new set of unknowns. A crowd is one of the toughest to account for. For "A Prairie Home Companion," several patrons requested the venue's hitherto unused hearing aids. Pretty Lights was full of drunks.

"It's not us against them, it's that you treat them like your kids," Riggs said. "If they can't walk when they try to come in, they ain't getting in. It seems tough, but you have to make sure they're safe.'

Backstage is an inner sanctum, offlimits to all but a chosen few. Riggs guards it like a bank vault.

"When you're a star, you have no privacy. If you [cause them to] lose that privacy, you lose their respect," she explains.

To Riggs, backstage is a star's home for a day, and at home, what the artist says, goes, even if it means Mizzel has to run sound checks while Riggs finds someone to take Garrison Keillor's dog for a walk.

One member of ZZ Top spent the day in flannel onesies.

"He just stayed in his pajamas all day 'cause this is home. He can do what he wants here," Riggs said.

Riggs, Williams and Mizzel say their jobs are tough. A good plan on paper often amounts to an electrical storm of small crises. During back-to-back events, sometimes the team goes for days on an hour or two of sleep. One event left Riggs hospitalized for dehydration.

But Mizzel lives for it. She remembers a time during her first concert when Riggs took her into the spotlight tower.

"I saw all these people dancing and having a blast, and I teared up. I was like, 'All this happened because we put it together.' I'd never had that feeling before," she said.

After the show, the staff of hundreds shrinks back to a handful. It was strange for Williams to switch from the bureaucratic BJCC to a place where the boss scrapes pigeon dung off the stage, but she said that's exactly what makes the venue so dynamic.

"If they want to change something, it's them," she said.



### DRESSING ROOM

performers playing a show at the venue.



### MEETING ROOM

season in a backstage meeting room.

In fact, Riggs said in performancespace lingo, the venue counts as a "shed." Despite its VIP boxes, sprawling concession stands and 50-stall bathrooms, it's philosophically no different than a metal shack at a county fare.

The season is over, but the team is keeping busy. Soon they'll manage two more I'm doing."

venues: the new Riverfront Market and Transportation Museum.

"I think the mayor said I was crazy," said Riggs, who can't wait for the next concert season.

"I get up every day, even if I've had an hour and a half of sleep, and I love what

### THURSDAY

 Improbable **Fictions presents** Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream: Bama Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

### FRIDAY

 Thoroughly Modern Millie Junior: Bama Theatre, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

•Hans Condor, Model **Citizen, Silverlions 20/20:** Green Bar, 10 p.m.

### SUNDAY

 Memorial Concert for Frederic Goossen: Moody Music Building, 3 p.m.

