



# The Crimson White

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Serving the University of Alabama since 1894

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## Two dead after apparent shooting

After incident at University Downs, city police remain silent on victims' identities, circumstances of deaths

By HEATHER HENDERSON  
Metro/State Editor

Two people are dead after an apparent shooting Tuesday night in Building 5 of the University Downs Apartments on 15th Street East.

A little after 5 p.m. Tuesday, residents said, at least two gunshots rang out, and several said they heard a third muffled sound, then a scream of "Call an ambulance!"

The third noise "sounded like someone hit metal with a hammer," said Kyle Westbrook, a freshman

radiology major.

Residents said they saw ambulances arrive at the scene about 5:30 p.m. and leave empty.

Two bodies were removed later in the night.

"All we know is two people are dead," said Lt. Loyd Baker, head of the Tuscaloosa Metro Homicide Unit.

Police would not confirm the identity of the victims or the manner or cause of death. They also would not confirm whether the victims were

See HOMICIDE, Page 2



ABOVE: The sun briefly lights the sky after a tornado swept through Tuscaloosa on Tuesday afternoon as workers survey the damage to the CVS Pharmacy on the corner of 15th Street East and McFarland Boulevard. BELOW: Three Amason & Associates employees work to cover the exposed roof of the CVS.

CW Photos/ Lindsay Morrison

## Tornado hits area, damages businesses

By JON GARGIS and JOAN GARRETT  
The Crimson White

A storm system came and went Tuesday, but not without leaving a mark on the Tuscaloosa community.

Businesses and homes alike received damage from a small tornado that passed through the city shortly before noon Tuesday. The worst damage seemed to occur near the intersection of 15th Street East and McFarland Boulevard. Power outages also affected the area, knocking out power to homes and traffic lights across the area.

County officials received no confirmed reports of injuries. UA officials met during the day to decide whether to cancel classes, but administrators issued no cancellation order. Parts of the southwest end of campus lost power briefly, but it was restored later in the afternoon.

See TORNADO, Page 5



Check out *The CW* photo gallery of the tornado damage online at [www.cw.ua.edu](http://www.cw.ua.edu).



CW/ Luisa Morenilla

Tuscaloosa Police Department forensic investigators unload and gather their equipment before heading up to the crime scene Tuesday night at University Downs Apartments.

## Moore ponders his next steps

By SAMANTHA HALL  
Senior Staff Reporter

Former Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore met with lawyers Tuesday to decide his next steps after being removed from office.



Roy Moore

Moore can still try to appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court to have himself reinstated, an appeal acting Chief Justice Gorman Houston said he plans to hear if it comes before him.

Houston said the law does not require him to step down from hearing

the case, but he said other justices are considering stepping down because the case involves a former colleague.

The seven justices voted unanimously last week to remove Moore from office.

Moore now has 30 days to make an appeal against his removal from the Alabama Supreme Court, but a Moore spokeswoman said it is still unclear whether that will be the choice Moore and his attorneys make.

See MOORE, Page 3

## Students undereducated on T-town politics

By CAITLIN TUDZIN  
Senior Staff Reporter

The majority of students in an informal *Crimson White* poll were unable to identify Tuscaloosa city leaders.

Of 101 students polled, only 20.8 percent could correctly identify Tuscaloosa Mayor Al DuPont; and only 22.8 percent knew one of Tuscaloosa's seven city councilmen.

James Cunningham, Harrison Taylor, Jerry Plott, Lee Garrison, Kip Tyner, Walter Maddox and Joe Powell.

Junior English major Robert Mudd was one of the few students to identify correctly DuPont as Tuscaloosa mayor and Tyner as one of the seven city councilmen.

Mudd thinks students should be more aware of what goes on in Tuscaloosa government, because it will ultimately influence them.

"Whatever decisions [Tuscaloosa government leaders] come up with affect

students, because [students] have to follow whatever laws [the leaders] come up with, such as how many people are living in a house and bar restrictions," Mudd said.

He also believes students should consider themselves residents of Tuscaloosa who are involved with government activity.

"When you're a student at Alabama, you're living in Tuscaloosa, which means you follow decisions made by the City Council, so you should be aware of decisions that affect you," Mudd said.

Sophomore public relations major Lana Kassis said she could understand how students would be more involved with the University as opposed to the city.

"I don't think it reflects poorly on students to not know city officials, especially since most students are from other cities," Kassis said. "Why would they care too much about Tuscaloosa if it only affects them in the short

See POLITICS, Page 2  
Check us out online at [www.cw.ua.edu](http://www.cw.ua.edu)



James Cunningham



Lee Garrison



Walter Maddox



Jerry Plott

Only 22.8 percent of students polled could name one of Tuscaloosa's seven city councilmen. Only 20.8 percent could identify Tuscaloosa Mayor Al DuPont.



Al DuPont



Joe Powell



Harrison Taylor



Kip Tyner



# The World IN Brief

## CAMPUS

### AIDS quilt on display in Ferguson Center until finals week

The Names Project Foundation AIDS Memorial Quilt will be on display at the Ferguson Center today through Dec. 5. It will be hung for viewing in the stairwell behind the information desk from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday.

The AIDS Memorial Quilt is a visual reminder of the AIDS pandemic that includes more than 42,000 individual 3-by-6-foot memorial panels, each one commemorating the life of someone who has died of complications related to AIDS.

The AIDS Memorial Quilt display is hosted by the Ferguson Center, Russell Student Health Center, Eta Sigma Gamma health education honorary, Queer-Straight Alliance and West Alabama AIDS Outreach in observance of World AIDS Day on Dec. 1. For more information on the quilt display at the Ferguson Center, call Kelli Knox-Hall at 348-3250 or e-mail kknnox-hall@sa.ua.edu.

### Bar report: 97 percent of UA law graduates pass state exam

Ninety-seven percent of May graduates of the UA School of Law who took the Alabama bar exam passed, according to the Alabama State Bar report.

The report said 95 percent of UA law graduates who took the exam for the first time in July passed. That figure includes some graduates from earlier classes who had not yet taken the exam. The statewide passage rate for first-time takers was 83 percent.

Overall, 94 percent of the UA graduates who took the exam in July passed, compared with an overall state rate of 70 percent.

National figures for 2003 bar passage rates are not available, but the 97 percent passage rate would place the UA School of Law among the top six law schools nationally based on 2002 figures reported in *U.S. News & World Report's* annual rankings of law schools.

### Red Cross, SGA team up to sponsor blood drive

The Alabama Red Cross will hold a blood drive today and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Presidential Pavilion. The SGA is sponsoring the event, aimed at reducing the large blood shortage in West Alabama.

### Delta Xi Phi to hold interest meeting tonight

Delta Xi Phi multicultural sorority will hold an interest meeting tonight at 7 in Ferguson Center Room 300. For more information, e-mail uadxp@yahoo.com or call new-member educator Miranda Warner at 347-4516.

### Career Center sponsors job search strategies seminar

The Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration will host its Brown Bag Luncheon Series today from noon to 1 p.m. in 13 Bidgood Hall. The luncheon will feature a session on job search strategies. Students can learn ways to locate positions and research companies on the Internet and offline. The Career Center sponsors the series.

## LOCAL

### Man wanted for impersonating police officer

Tuscaloosa police are looking for a man who used a blue flashing light to stop a vehicle early Sunday morning.

A woman told police that at 3 a.m. Sunday, she stopped for a vehicle displaying a single revolving blue light on the roof at 1600 block of Veterans Memorial Parkway. She described the car as a maroon or brown older model car, like a Chevrolet Caprice.

The man driving the car told her he was a police officer and asked to see her driver's license and proof of insurance. She described the man as a thin white male, between 35 and 40 years old, with bad acne on his forehead and one of his cheeks. He was wearing a dark suit with a tie. The man did not display a badge or any identification. He told the woman she would be mailed a ticket for speeding.

The Tuscaloosa Police Department's policy is to use marked police cars for traffic stops whenever possible. Motorists should expect an officer driving an unmarked car to have proper identification. A marked car should arrive shortly after a traffic stop by an unmarked car.

Police ask anyone with information in the case to call the TPD Criminal Investigations Division at 349-0420, the TPD at 349-2121 or CrimeStoppers at 752-7867.

### One lane of Lurleen Wallace bridge to be closed today

The right northbound lane of the Hugh Thomas Bridge on Lurleen Wallace Boulevard will be closed today from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The closure will continue through Friday, and it will also be in effect Monday between the same times. The Tuscaloosa Department of Transportation has contracted with Reco Electrical to install streetlights on the bridge.

## WEB POLL RESULTS

Will you attend any Alabama-Cuba Conference events this week?

- 87.9% No
- 12.1% Yes

Total votes: 58

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## HOMICIDE

Continued from Page 1

UA students. College students rent most of the apartments at the Downs.

Many residents said the victims were one male and one female.

Forensics teams were still on the scene late Tuesday night. Police tape surrounded the parking lot in front of Building 5, and outside, a small group of people, apparently acquaintances of one or both of the victims, wept and hugged each other.

Residents on the scene offered varying stories of

what happened Tuesday afternoon.

"I heard it was a boyfriend-girlfriend thing," said Trey Sawyer, a freshman communications major who lives in a nearby building.

Sawyer said the incident happened in two different apartments, and at least one of the victims lived at the Downs. He would not identify his source of information.

Mallory Wrenn, a sophomore graphic design major, lives in Building 7, just a few yards away from Building 5.

"I heard two shots but not a third," she said. "We hear shots here all the time, so I

didn't think anything about it."

Beau Daniel, manager of the Downs I and II, said the police had not yet shared details of the incident with him.

"I don't know anything more than you guys," he said.

Brian Sharp, a junior public relations major, said he went to see his girlfriend at the Downs shortly after the incident occurred.

Sharp said fire trucks, police cars and ambulances were still on the scene.

"They brought the stretcher up, but they

brought it down empty," he said.

Most residents at the scene offered a version of the incident that depicted a murder-suicide scenario.

But Sharp said some residents standing around the scene at that time told him the incident involved a third party, a male.

Residents' accounts differed as to who did the shooting.

Additional information about the incident will be posted as it becomes available today on *The Crimson White's* Web site at [www.cw.ua.edu](http://www.cw.ua.edu).

## POLITICS

Continued from Page 1

period they go here?"

Kassis said the city of Tuscaloosa and the University should be better connected instead of seeming like separate entities.

"I don't really think of Tuscaloosa as being a city; I think of it as the location of the campus," Kassis said.

Nick Anderson, a sophomore in pre-law studies, said students don't need to worry very much about Tuscaloosa politics because he thinks the Tuscaloosa City Council has little concern for what students want.

"I don't know who the mayor is because it doesn't apply to me, because technically I'm not under his sphere of influence since I'm not really a resident of Tuscaloosa," Anderson said.

Anderson does not think the mayor is very concerned with UA affairs because it isn't his job.

"[DuPont] is interested in Tuscaloosa and less interested in the welfare of students," he said. "It's not his job to take care of students. It's his job to take care of the city."

Anderson said students would be a more powerful part of the city if they were less apathetic and if they voted. He said it is understandable students are not active voters because the University has its own government to worry about in the form of the SGA.

"SGA regulates us. I just don't believe Tuscaloosa government is on the minds of that many students," Anderson said.

Though the SGA has some control over facets of students' lives, it tends to have little to no regulatory power and can usually only express its sentiments on campus issues.

For example, earlier this semester, the student government suggested the Russell Student Health Center carry the morning-after pill at its pharmacy through a SGA Senate resolution. Ultimately, it was an administrative decision that put that recommendation into action.

Kelli Allred, a senior majoring in international relations, said she thought it was more important for students to know about city officials from the town they are from.

"Usually when you need to take an issue to a city councilperson you want to go through your hometown," she said.

However, Allred said, she believes students should try to become more knowledgeable about what is going on

in Tuscaloosa politics.

"We should definitely know who the mayor is and at least three of the city councilpersons," Allred said.

Allred also said she believes the SGA and Tuscaloosa city government should be more collaborative on their ideas, especially since UA students make up such a large part of the city.

Robby Cole, a senior majoring in English and history, agreed that the city should be more attentive to what students want.

Cole said he did not approve of the University possibly condoning city ordinances such as limiting bar hours, banning couches on front porches and not allowing a certain number of unrelated people to live together.

"We should have a lot more sway since we're the city's main source of income," Cole said.

Staff reporter Jenny Thompson and senior staff reporter Joan Garrett contributed to this report.

**"I don't know who the mayor is because it doesn't apply to me, because technically I'm not under his sphere of influence since I'm not really a resident of Tuscaloosa."**

—NICK ANDERSON  
Sophomore in pre-law studies

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Page 12



# MOORE

Continued from Page 1

Jessica Attebery, spokeswoman for Moore, said an appeal to the Alabama Supreme Court is still pending.

**"I haven't decided on running for anything yet; I'm just trying to get over this latest episode in my life."**

—Roy Moore  
Former Alabama chief justice

"There may or may not be any decisions made before the holidays," Attebery said. "He is still considering this option while deciding what other alternatives might be open."

Moore may no longer be a justice, but he plans to continue pushing for the public display of the Ten Commandments through other platforms.

Moore said in a statement released Monday he plans to present legislation to Congress under Article III of the Constitution.

He said this legislation would allow Congress to limit the power of lower federal courts and make exceptions to the appellate jurisdiction of the U.S. Supreme Court. Moore said in the release that he would make further details of the legislation public after Congress reconvenes.

Moore said this legislation could possibly "alter the direction of our country."

A poll conducted by the *Mobile Register* and the University of South Alabama showed Moore, a Republican, would win more votes than Gov. Bob Riley, also a Republican, would if they both ran in the governor's race in 2006.

Some experts have said Moore might run for governor in 2006 while others said he might run for U.S. senator against Richard Shelby, R-Ala. One expert, however, said that might not be such an easy accomplishment.

Patrick Cotter, professor of Southern politics, said it is possible that Moore might run for a state office, but it is not as likely that he would win. Cotter said that though Moore ran for chief justice on his Ten Commandments platform, there is no evidence it was the reason he won the position.

"There is no indication that he won for any other reason than because he ran as a Republican," Cotter said.

"If we look at who voted or where the vote for Moore came from, there is not indication that he has any special constituency other than being a Republican."

Cotter said Moore's opponent would also have a lot to

do with whether the ex-jurist would win. Cotter said that if Moore ran against Shelby, it would be a difficult battle for Moore.

"Shelby would be a hard opponent for anybody," Cotter said.

"I think there is a chance given the composition of the Republican Party that a very conservative candidate like Moore could be successful, but Shelby would be a hard one to beat."

Moore has been asked about his political future by various news organizations, and he has given the same answer to most.

"I haven't decided on running for anything yet; I'm just trying to get over this latest episode in my life," Moore told NBC's *Today* show after being asked if he'd run for Alabama governor or for president.

Attebery said that even if the former judge did not run for an office, he would not be left without something to do.

"He has received numerous requests for speaking appearances," Attebery said. "People want to hear him speak on the issues he has stood for and still stands for."

Moore said in the press release Monday that he looked forward to speaking to the people about the importance of acknowledging God in the country.

*The Associated Press contributed to this report.*

# Bachus speaks on Israeli-American relations

By ALISE HOLT  
Staff Reporter

"The voice of a lamb with the heart of a lion."

This is what attendees may have been thinking upon leaving the speech given by soft-spoken U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus, R-Vestavia Hills, on Monday in the Ferguson Center Forum. Bachus' speech, which was sponsored by Friends of Israel, Adopt-A-Legislator Committee and College Republicans, focused mainly on the United States' relationship with Israel and the improvements needed to strengthen ties between the two nations.

Bachus said millions of Americans and Israelis have common interests because Christians and Jews share a heritage of teaching the same values and fundamentals.

"Each of the religions teaches the idea of justice and compassion," Bachus said. "All the religions of the world, in their purest state, teach this."

Bachus said he is concerned about the Middle East and the conflicts in the world today. He said he is motivated to increase awareness of Israel's problems and asks Americans to be supportive.

Bachus briefly touched on his experience as a Vietnam War veteran and related it to the conflict between Iraq and the United States. "If you're going to fight, you fight to win," he said.

Bachus said he feels that if the United States and Israel can



U.S. Rep. Spencer Bachus, R-Vestavia Hills, addresses members of the College Republicans and Alabama Friends of Israel Monday afternoon.

CW/Bethy Collins

embrace one another and join together, Israel's enemies will not destroy the country.

Bachus believes that Americans can begin to strengthen their relationship with Israel by learning about the problems in Israel and other countries. "Students need to demand that both sides of the story be told. Point out what Israel is all about — democracy, freedom of speech, and religion," he said.

Bachus said he wants students to confront the truth about hatred toward the people of Israel. He believes movements students begin can not only spread and increase awareness about the hatred but also can increase the positive relationship between the United States and Israel.

Bachus, a Birmingham native and graduate of Auburn University and the UA Law School, serves on the Financial Services Committee and the Sub-Committee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit, as well as the

Transportation and Judiciary Committees.

Before his election in 1991, Bachus served in Alabama's House of Representatives and the state Senate. He has served as Alabama Republican Party chairman and was the first Republican elected to the Alabama Board of Education in 100 years. While in the state Senate, Bachus received the Legislator of the Year award.

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# SGA tries to prevent Dead Week from becoming academic zombie

By JOAN GARRETT  
Senior Staff Reporter

The SGA is asking UA students to tattletale on their instructors and organizational leaders this semester to enforce the University's Dead Week policy, which has suffered from rampant disregard in the past.

A memorandum was sent out by UA Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Judy Bonner in October that told faculty and staff to adhere to Dead Week policy not to reschedule any final exams during the study week nor hold any tests or have any major assignments due that can be completed prior to that period.

Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs Hank Lazer said the memo was sent to clarify the existing Dead Week policy.

He said the policy would not be enforced as strictly as it will be in the spring because teachers have already arranged their syllabi.

"There was strong agreement among students and faculty about the goals of Dead Week," Lazer said. "Some people might be innocently breaking the rules for study week, and this memo would help clear it up."

"Extended assignments" — projects assigned to be worked on during the semester and due during

Dead Week — will still be allowed this semester, Lazer said.

He said extended assignments did not include assignments due during Dead Week that required class information covered up to study week.

There are no defined repercussions for violating Dead Week policy, Lazer said. He said each case will be examined on an individual basis by the dean or department chairman in the college in which an incident occurs.

SGA Executive Secretary Wesley Reynolds said the SGA would hold instructors accountable through the SGA Web site, [www.sga.ua.edu](http://www.sga.ua.edu), which will have a forum where students can post concerns or violations of the Dead Week policy.

At the end of the semester, the SGA will compile a report regarding violations and send it to Bonner.

"I have complete confidence in Dr. Bonner that she will deal with the instances in such a manner that they will not occur again," SGA President Katie Boyd said.

Though the fall semester will be a little more lenient concerning extended assignments due during Dead Week, SGA Vice President of Academic Affairs Stephen McNair said that is not saying this semester is a trial period.

"There will be a zero-tolerance policy [in the spring

semester]," McNair said.

Boyd said instructors will be able to adjust their syllabi for the spring semester to adhere to the policies guidelines but said lab finals cannot be changed because they are departmental.

The enforcement of Dead Week policy will affect student organizations as well as UA faculty because the SGA will seek to eliminate end-of-semester organizational meetings that are crammed into Dead Week, Boyd said.

"We didn't want to have a double standard; if we are going to ask faculty to abide by it, we have to ask student organizations as well," Boyd said.

"Teachers and organizations had violated rules that were already set in place."

McNair said the SGA discussed the importance of Dead Week and enforcing its policy during the summer months with faculty.

He said the newly formed SGA academic concerns committee will deal with students' complaints about academic problems such as assignments during Dead Week.

McNair and Boyd met with Lazer along with other student leaders and representatives from each college a couple months ago to discuss the legalities of the Dead Week policy.

To ensure that strict adherence to the policy was what

students wanted, the SGA surveyed 1,000 students for their input about Dead Week policy, McNair said.

SGA press secretary Laura Neergaard said the SGA will inform students of how to contact the SGA about Dead Week policy violations through fliers, sidewalk chalkings on the Quad and advertisements in *The Crimson White* this week.

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## Killing us softly with Dead Week

For students, the week shall forever carry great promise. And among those whose promises are fulfilled, it shall always serve as a return to the carefree life of a child or hippie, the last good days before the inevitable hell we academics always face in finals form.

Semana Muerta. The week that is dead. Such a thing of beauty she has been crafted as, rivaling Botticelli's "Birth of Venus" in that the latter doesn't provide students some guarantee they'll have at least a week free from testing and new material before exams begin.

Magnifique! Perhaps the best thing about Dead Week, however, is the way that even though it's easily the most perfect week ever, with just a small amount of tweaking, it naturally attains even more awesomeness.

Those tweaks often come hidden among kindhearted teachers' words, and they are especially prevalent in sentences of these forms: "I know you don't want to sit around all finals week, so feel free to come in during Dead Week and take the final early if you want to," or "Well, you should have had ample time to finish that paper, but if you really want to turn it in during Dead Week, I guess I'll just pretend it was in earlier."

Few things in this world, so we hear, compare favorably with the joy of getting past a final exam early or receiving an extension on a particularly tedious and trying assignment. Though administrators' commitment to ensuring Dead Week doesn't just become another Alive Week is admirable, it's important they note no harm is being done in some situations.

As a matter of fact, students would be done a grave injustice should these options be taken away. We cannot support the Dead Week crackdown if it means a blanket ban on possible early finals and late-but-it's-OK assignments.

Despite that, it's nice to see Dead Week's fidelity being defended against those teachers who would treat it as just any other week, assigning tests and homework and covering new material willy-nilly with no concern for their students or their students' grades.

It's people like that who can make Dead Week just a little too lively.

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

## Letter to the Editor

### Fair-weather fans too critical

You know what I'm tired of? "Fans" calling for the blood of coaches who don't set the world on fire in their first year.

Did Georgia win the SEC championship Mark Richt's first year? No. Did the Bear's first squad take everyone to school? No. If you're going to talk smack about Mike Shula after he inherited a program in shambles, you can go to school in Gainesville or College Station, because that's where people like that belong.

Shula did a brave thing taking this job. He could've stayed out of the fishbowl and kept his position in Miami. Lord knows he wouldn't have fair-weather fans like a lot of people down here calling for his head every time the Dolphins dropped a game.

I understand that you must demand perfection to achieve perfection, but that's not going to happen to a team that's going through what we're going through right now.

Aside from SMU getting hit with the death penalty in 1987, no other team has faced so much adversity in the history of the NCAA. We've faced suspensions, probations, a ridiculous amount of injuries and three

head coaches with three very different offensive schemes.

Let's face it: It's going to take some time to rebuild. All we can do right now is hope we beat the Auburn Tigers and grit our teeth and bear it if we don't.

The fact is, being an arm-chair quarterback is just about the easiest thing to do. If it were a paying job, I would've dropped out of college a long time ago.

What makes it so easy is the lack of pressure. We don't have offensive or defensive coordinators yelling in our headsets. We don't have 83,818 fans screaming in our faces.

We don't have millions of people, including a pack of rabid alumni who want to see national championship No. 13 before they visit that big Rose Bowl in the sky, watching us, criticizing us and breathing down our necks every chance they get.

There are no quick and easy solutions to what's going on in Tuscaloosa right now.

If we keep going through coaches like toilet paper, no one will want to come and work for us. Let the man recruit; let the man coach. Show some class and shut your mouth.

Sean Magers  
Junior, C&IS

## Thanksgiving the first Libertarian holiday

By MATTHEW A. GIVENS

Thanksgiving is approaching once again, and with it come visions of children's plays with Indians and Pilgrims, complete with little Pilgrim hats made of construction paper. The story told in these plays and learned by public school students at every grade level is a simple one.

The Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth Rock late in 1620. The first winter was harsh, but the colonists worked hard and applied themselves industriously to their own survival. They had help from the local Indian tribes, who helped them learn how to survive. The result was a plentiful harvest in fall 1621, not to mention the first celebration of Thanksgiving.

It's a wonderful story. There's only one problem with it: It isn't true.

It contains elements of truth. For example, the first winter was harsh, and the local Indian tribes did help the colonists learn how to survive, what to plant and how to prepare the food. But the 1621 harvest was not bountiful. In fact, famine haunted the fledgling colony.

When the colonists first landed, they signed something called the Mayflower Compact. Most of us have heard this document praised as an early social contract helping different people to live together. What most of us never learned was that it was also an experiment in socialism.

The Mayflower Compact required that "all profits and benefits that are got by trade, working, fishing or any other means" were placed in the common stock

of the colony. Further, it required that "all such persons as are of this colony are to have their meat, drink, apparel and all provisions out of this common stock." People were required to put into the common stock everything they could, and take out only what they needed.

William Bradford, governor of the colony at the time, wrote History of Plymouth Plantation. In it, he wrote that "young men that are most able and fit for labor and service" complained about being forced to "spend their time and strength to work for other men's wives and children." Since "the strong, or man of parts, had no more division of victuals and clothes than he that was weak," the strong men simply refused to work, and the amount of food produced was never adequate.

In fact, the colony went hungry for years as strong men refused to work hard, and theft of crops still in the ground ran rampant. Bradford wrote that the colony was riddled with "corruption and discontent." The crops were small because "much was stolen both by night and day, before it became scarce eatable."

The harvests of 1621 and 1622 were adequate enough so that "all had their hungry bellies filled," but that did not last. Deaths from malnutrition continued into the next year.

But in 1623, something changed. Bradford reported, "Instead of famine now God gave them plenty, and the face of things was changed to the rejoicing of the hearts of many, for which they blessed

God." By 1624, the colony was producing so much food that it began exporting corn.

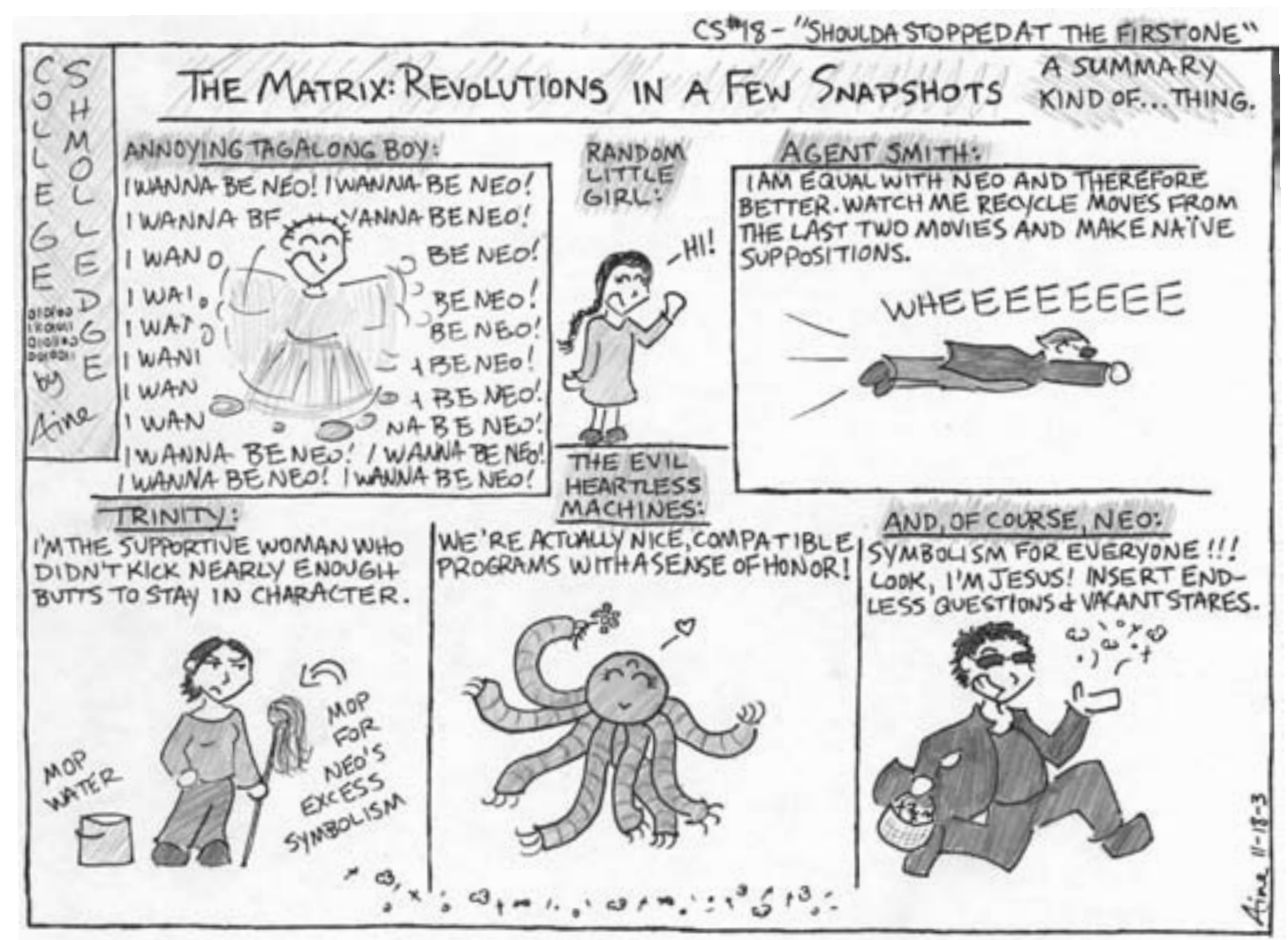
What caused this change? After the poor harvest of 1622, the colony brainstormed for a way to raise more corn and obtain a better crop. The solution, like the Thanksgiving story told today, was simple. In 1623, Bradford "gave each household a parcel of land and told them they could keep what they produced, or trade it away as they saw fit."

The socialistic experiment that had failed them was abandoned and replaced with capitalism. That turned the colonists away from failure and forward into success and growth. And this move away from socialism, along with the resulting prosperity, is what we truly celebrate today. It is easy to see why I call Thanksgiving the first Libertarian holiday.

Thanksgiving, far from being the simple and uninspiring story of a group of people learning how to farm, is actually a celebration of what has made America itself great. It is the story of people working together by working for themselves first, and in so doing, improving the standard of living for everyone. These are the American ideas we hold dear.

As you sit down to your table laden with turkey, dressing and pumpkin pie, remember the true story of Thanksgiving, and what it means to all.

Matthew A. Givens is a resident of Montgomery and former vice chairman of the Libertarian Party of Alabama.



CW/ Anna Crabtree

## Drunken-driving awareness needed on college campuses

By LORI RITCHEY  
Daily Forty-Niner (California State U.-Long Beach)

(U-WIRE) LONG BEACH, Calif. — "I started to drive away, Mom. As I pulled into the road, the other guy didn't see me, and he hit me like a load. I lay there on the pavement, Mom. I heard the policeman say, 'The other guy was drunk,' now I'm the one to pay."

That is an excerpt from a poem by Amy Cain. This poem always brings tears to my eyes. Every year too many innocent people die of drunken driving. In this poem, the girl went to the party and did not even drink, but she was the one to pay. Unfortunately, it happens every day.

The point is to make teens and young adults aware of how dangerous drunken driving is. However, as my mother always says, "You always have to watch out for the other person." In many cases, the drunken driver hits you, and you have to pay.

In 2000, America experienced the largest percentage increase in alcohol-related traffic deaths on record. According to the National Highway Traffic

Too many people die because someone had too much to drink and decided to get behind the wheel. All you have to do is call a friend or call a taxi.

Safety Administration, 40 percent of all traffic crash fatalities were related to alcohol, versus 38.3 percent in 1999.

This problem is not getting any better. It is only getting worse. To fix this problem, we need to create awareness that drinking and driving result in death.

That brings me to our Cal State-Long Beach campus. Everyone likes to go out to the bars and go to parties. However, at the end of the night, they do not realize that by getting into a car and driving drunk, they are becoming a statistic. The highest intoxication rates in fatal crashes were recorded for drivers who are 21 to 24 years old. That is affecting us college students.

To fix that, there need to be other alternatives for people who have been drink-

ing. There are other options, but people are not aware of them. If people know they are going to be drinking, they should put the number in their cell phone, make a call and save a life.

Another option for the drunken college student: Call a friend. There is always someone to help. Call that sober sister or that brother with whom you share a special kinship. There is no reason to get behind the wheel if you have been drinking. There are always other options. It is better to save a life and get someone out of bed than to drive under the influence.

All we need to do is create awareness and make people think before they start the car when they have been drinking. The National Commission Against Drunk Driving says, "On an average day, 46 people die in alcohol-related traffic crashes, accounting for 41 percent of traffic deaths." Too many people die because someone had too much to drink and decided to get behind the wheel. All you have to do is call a friend or call a taxi.

Whatever you do, do not get into that car if you have been drinking. You will save your life and maybe someone else's.



**ABOVE:** Workers try to repair damage at the Chevron gas station from the tornado that touched down at the intersection of McFarland Boulevard and 15th Street East on Tuesday.



Alabama Power workers act quickly to repair damaged power lines at the intersection of 15th Street East and McFarland Boulevard on Tuesday afternoon.

# TORNADO

Continued from Page 1

The CVS Pharmacy at the corner of 15th Street East and McFarland Boulevard was hit especially hard by the storm, as a portion of the west wall of the building was torn down.

Pharmacy manager Ronnie Criss said the wall collapse happened about noon. He and shift supervisor Brian Flanigan witnessed the bad weather outside and gathered employees and customers in the back.

"We were standing here in [the front door]; we saw some tiles moving around, so we got everyone in the back," Criss said. He estimated seven employees and eight customers were in the store at the time.

Pharmacy employees, prescriptions and computers were moved to the Cottondale CVS Pharmacy location to accommodate customers. Criss said one reason for the move was to accommodate Bama Cash customers, as the Cottondale location is the only location other than the 15th Street location that takes Bama Cash.

Workers from the front area of the CVS Pharmacy may come back to work today to help clean up the inside of the store if they get the go-ahead from engineers, Criss said.

Workers from Amason & Associates spent Tuesday clearing the collapsed pieces of the wall.

Other than the wall, the store itself had little damage. Water damage was evident in a few areas, and some debris was

found in and on the building. Small pieces of metal and wire had been driven into the outside walls.

One piece of debris that flew in the store was a hanging sign that flew off of the McFarland Boulevard and 15th Street intersection.

The pharmacy was left intact, and only a few products were blown from their shelves.

Flanigan said that even after the wall collapsed, a few people came in. "A lot of people were in shock. ... It was crazy."

Criss estimated it would take two weeks to repair the store's structural damage. "If it doesn't rain anymore, we'll be in good shape," Criss said.

Other buildings in the area also incurred damage. Pieces of the Burch & Hatfield tuxedo shop sign were ripped off, and the Tuscaloosa Pistol, Knife & Pawn shop sign was totally taken off the building and lay in multiple pieces in front of the business. The Chevron gas station at the intersection faced damage after a sign fell on it. It and the Amoco gas station across 15th Street were closed Tuesday night.

A Pate Properties building, which does not house any businesses, had a few of its bricks ripped off by the tornado, which was estimated to be a Category F0 or F1 storm.

## UA student finds parents' house damaged in storm

Tuscaloosa businesses did not bear alone the brunt of the tornado's damage Tuesday afternoon. One student discov-

ered his family's house had been hit by the storm.

Justin Hicks, a junior majoring in anthropology, said he was shocked to find out that his parents' house, located in a neighborhood behind Big Lots on McFarland Boulevard, suffered damage from the tornado. He said he was at work at 2:30 p.m. when he found out from his mother that their house had been hit, destroying the fence around the house, bringing down two large trees in the yard and damaging a wall and roof of their house.

"My mom was pretty shocked," Hicks said.

The tornado sirens went off about noon Tuesday — minutes before the storm hit — and

Hicks said he was really worried once he found out the tornado had hit near McFarland Boulevard.

No one was in the house when the tornado hit, which was a huge relief because the house had no ideal storm shelter, Hicks said.

"It was good thing no one was home. If anyone had been home, they probably would have gotten hurt."

Hicks said he is just glad nobody in his family was hurt.

His mother tried to enter the road to the family's house after hearing about the damage, but she could not go to assess the damage because the power lines and trees were blocking the road to the house.



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# Faculty Senate passes resolution defending artists' academic freedom

By TIFFANY SUMMERVILLE  
Administrative Affairs Editor

The Faculty Senate passed a resolution Tuesday in support of UA instructor and Shelton State Community College professor John Trobaugh, whose artwork — which some have labeled homosexual in nature — was removed from display at Shelton State by the college's administration on Oct. 8.

Declaring Shelton State's removal of the previously approved art display as a violation of academic freedom, the resolution calls for Shelton State administrators to take action immediately to return the photographs to their original promised location for display.

The "Resolution to Defend Academic Freedom at Shelton State Community College," proposed by history professor David Beito and passed by a 23-13 vote with three abstentions, says, "Any threat to the academic freedom of faculty at another public institution of higher learning in Tuscaloosa also threatens the academic freedom of faculty at the University of Alabama."

"I think this is a clear academic freedom issue," Beito said.

Shelton State President Rick Rogers told *The Tuscaloosa News* in a prepared statement that the controversial photographs were not appropriate to be displayed at the original location because children and families attending the college's production of the play *Arsenic and Old Lace* could view them.

Bruce Barrett, an associate professor in the Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration, spoke against the resolution, passing out copies of some of Trobaugh's artwork to senators to support his argument that Rogers may have acted prudently when he removed the photographs from display.

Other opposition to the resolution came from Harry Price, chairman of the department of music education, who said that though he wholeheartedly supported academic freedom, he did not feel it was the University's place to pass a resolution regarding Shelton State. Price said he would feel uncomfortable if a faculty body at Shelton State passed a resolution concerning the University. Faculty Senate Vice President Matthew Winston echoed Price's sentiment, saying he would resent Shelton State faculty intruding on UA affairs. Winston said he would defend Trobaugh if UA administrators moved his artwork from display.

But Charles Nuckolls, an anthropology professor who was one of five senators who requested the resolution be placed on the Senate agenda, said the University had a responsibility to come to Trobaugh's defense since it was a community issue.

Trobaugh, a part-time temporary instructor at the University and an adjunct art professor at Shelton State, received his master's degree from the University. Trobaugh displayed some of the same photographs removed from Shelton State at the Capstone last spring.


In other business, the Senate voted down a resolution that proposed the removal the Rec Center as a listed benefit in the Faculty Handbook and the University's benefits statement. The resolution, proposed by the faculty life committee, said the Rec Center should not be considered as a benefit since faculty members are required to pay for membership.

Some faculty members said they felt the fee was reasonable compared to the prices charged by other gyms in the area and said they believed the Rec Center was beneficial to faculty. Also, Winston withdrew a resolution he proposed concerning the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, which has taken steps to increase power over Alabama institutions of higher education.

The commission, composed of members appointed by the governor, has the statutory responsibility of the overall statewide planning and coordination of higher education within the state, including approving the new academic programs of public two-year and four-year colleges and universities and providing higher education funding recommendations to the governor and Legislature. The Senate resolution included a proposed UA response to ensure that the administration and faculty maintain power over the University's mission, performance and accountability standards, programs and budget allocation. Winston called the document stating the proposed power increase of the ACHE "scary." After discussion, senators concluded more information was needed regarding the ACHE, saying the Senate can make a better-informed decision with additional information since the ACHE has not yet accepted the policy.

Law professor Wythe Holt gave a presentation to the Senate regarding the University's health care costs, which administrators have announced will rise at the beginning of next year. The rising costs are to cover the depleted UA reserve fund used to pay for faculty health care. Some changes include an increase in co-pays for prescription drugs, which would take effect in January. Holt said the faculty should pressure the University to lobby Congress for lower health care costs.

The Senate also accepted nominations for new members to the merger and discontinuance academic units committee and the mediation committee. Nominations can also be made at the December meeting, when the Senate will vote on the nominees and fill the vacant committee positions.




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DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT TWO NEWER ADDITIONS—STONE CREEK AND REGAL POINTE

# Three months later, Shae still gone but remembered

By **CASSANDRA MICKENS**  
Senior Staff Reporter

A brown-eyed, red-haired girl would walk down to the bus stop every morning and wait for her sixth-grade social studies teacher to pass by in her car. She would greet her teacher with excitement every morning with her waving arms, her Tigger jump and her infectious smile.

"Ms. Collins! Ms. Collins!" she would scream, making sure her teacher would notice her. Collins responded with a beep of her car horn and a wave as she slowly passed the entrance of Willowbrook trailer park, and passed the bus stop where she would meet her student each day. That was always their morning routine: the beep and the wave.

The girl has been missing now for three months, and Northport investigators say no substantial clues have developed in the case.

It was raining on the morning of Aug. 19, and Collins drove by the Willowbrook entrance later than usual. Eleven-year-old Heaven LaShae Ross was gone. No waving arms, no Tigger jump, no infectious smile. No beep, no wave.

"She was here on a Monday and not here on a Tuesday," Collins said, reflecting on that



Eleven-year-old Heaven LaShae Ross of Northport has been missing now for three months. Investigators say they still have no major leads in the case.

Courtesy/ Ross family

morning. "If I had just been on time to see her."

Her face has been posted on the doors of gas stations and schools, broadcast on television and printed in newspapers across the state. Her story caught the eye of the nation when she was featured on the news program *Dateline NBC*.

Since that fateful morning, many people have been searching for the Northport girl. She is known by many, but only a few know who she is: a guarded, energetic, happy and sensitive young girl wise beyond her years.

To her family, Heaven is simply known as Shae. Beth Lowery, Heaven's mother, surrounds herself with pictures of her daughter in the living room of their home. She stares at a

picture of Shae and nods her head in disbelief as she talks about her baby girl.

"Shae is redheaded, and it's true what they say about redheads: they do have a nasty temper, but she's very good-natured," Lowery said.

"Shae is the type of person if you treat her right, and you respect her, and you show her that she is something more than just a child, you are somebody to her."

Betrayal is something Shae cannot forgive.

She makes sure one is worthy of her trust before she extends her hand in friendship.

The minute you lie to her, the minute you hurt her, then "she's not going to mess with you any more," Lowery said.

## Twelve hugs a day

UA sophomore Jessica Gonzalez worked with Shae in the ABC after-school program at Matthews Elementary School. Gonzalez remembers Shae as "a wonderful girl with a glow of life to her." At first, Shae was hesitant to open up to Gonzalez, but she soon warmed up to her as they got to know each other.

"She didn't want to put her trust in someone she wasn't sure about," Gonzalez said. "She let down her walls and saw someone that just wanted to be her friend."

Once Shae let down her walls, she was a playful and warmhearted girl who supplied lots of hugs to the people she loved most.

"My preacher always said in order to be healthy, you need 12 hugs a day," Collins said. "I got my allotment just from Heaven. You could always count on a good hug from Heaven."

Shae was a student in Collins' fifth-period social studies class at Collins-Riverside Middle School. Each day she would pop her head in Collins' door to begin the countdown.

"Three more classes ... two more classes," Shae would say as she raised up her fingers to match how many periods she

had remaining before she would be in Collins' classroom.

"She was always eager for the next thing and bouncy, bouncy, bouncy," Collins said.

Glen Gregory, a UA junior, described Heaven as loving, fun and sensitive. He also worked with Shae at Matthews Elementary's after-school program. "She was the first to run and give me a hug when I walked in," Gregory said. "She always had a chair pulled up beside her desk just for me."

Shae was becoming more conscientious of her peers at Collins-Riverside. She never wanted anyone to dislike her. She never wanted anyone to be mad at her. "She had all the concerns of a sixth-grade student," said Jacqueline Hope, Shae's math teacher.

## A beep and a wave

Shae is the quintessential tomboy. When she plays, she plays hard. Lowery recalled another time when Shae was outside playing a game of softball with her neighborhood friends. The softball accidentally hit her in the eye, and it immediately began to swell. By the time Shae reached the house, she had a bloodshot, black eye. Lowery was standing in the kitchen, and when Shae entered the house, and she panicked. "Calm down,

Mama! It don't even hurt!" Shae repeated.

Shae always comforted her mother and stepfather, Kevin Thompson, in the best of times and in the worst of times. Shae was the peacemaker of the household and would try her hardest to make everything perfect for the people in her life. She was sensitive to other people's feelings and genuinely cared if someone was sad or upset about something.

"If you were fussing at somebody, she would tell you to stop and she would say, 'You do not have to fuss. You do not have to yell and scream,'" Lowery said. "That's just how she is." Shae brought vivacious energy to the family. Lowery said it is a miracle that her house hasn't fallen apart since Shae has been gone. "There's no laughter here; there's no good times; there's no talking; there's no communication," Lowery said.

Every morning, Collins continues to pass the Willowbrook entrance. A "sinking, sick feeling" comes over her each morning as she passes by. She doesn't see the brown-eyed, red-haired girl at the bus stop. There is still no beep and wave. She can't believe Shae is gone.

"I want to see the Tigger jump, the smile and the arms waving," Collins said. "I'm waiting to see it again."

# Some SGA senators question UA Student Code of Conduct change

By **MEGAN NICHOLS**  
Senior Staff Reporter

The SGA Senate passed a resolution Nov. 6 approving language changes to the UA Code of Student Conduct, but some senators disagree with the way the changes were made.

SGA Resolution 41-03 states the terms to be changed in the document are "case" to "complaint," "guilty" to "held responsible" and "charged" to "alleged violation."

Graduate School Sen. Adam Edgar said the University has already made the changes to the Code of Student Conduct, but they do not reflect those approved in the resolution.

"The word 'charged' was supposed to be changed to 'alleged violation,' but the word 'alleged violation' is nowhere in the new [Code of Student Conduct]," Edgar said. "That makes me wonder why this is wrong."

Tim Hebson, associate dean of students and director of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs said the changes have been made, but they were made to a specific part of the code.

"There is a proscribed conduct, which actually just lists the different violations, but then there are the procedures. That's where it was changed in the Code of Conduct," Hebson said.

"Any of those words they mentioned were not actually in the proscribed conduct. But they are in the Code of Conduct and have been

changed correctly."

He said the words in the Senate resolution are not in the proscribed code and thus would not have been changed. Furthermore, Hebson said, to alter the proscribed Code of Conduct one would probably first have to go before the Student Life Committee.

Edgar said the main problem with the resolution is that senators never saw a copy of the old Code of Student Conduct to make comparisons and determine what the specific changes would be.

"Basically, we voted on something where we want to change a very important document that deals with students, but we never saw the differences in the old and new Code," Edgar said. "And I just couldn't believe someone could vote knowingly with this missing."

In addition to disagreeing with the way the resolution

was presented, Edgar said, making blanket language changes throughout the document rather than making changes on a case-by-case basis could actually cause more confusion because the terms being changed do not always mean the same things.

"'Guilty' and 'held responsible' don't mean the same thing," Edgar said.

"'Case' and 'complaint' can in some places be the same; but 'charged' to 'alleged violation'? One word is a verb, and the other is a noun."

Law School Sen. Richie Sparkman also voiced concerns about the terms being changed.

He and Law School Sen. Daniel Blotcky voted against the resolution.

"I'm very supportive of what they are trying to do," Sparkman said. "I know when I was an undergrad, I didn't know what half the stuff I was

reading meant. However, legal words have very precise definitions. That's why you use legal words instead of other words."

Sparkman said going through the code and trying to match up each word in question and substituting a new one would not lead to a correct translation.

"I think you could get yourself into some problems, and you could have some real ambiguity and vagueness, and

it won't make sense," he said.

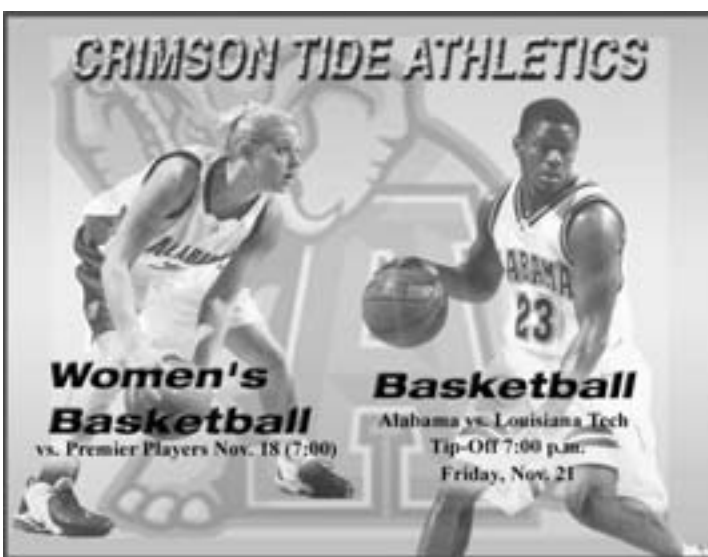
The senators responsible for the legislation, however, were not responsible for the changes made to the document. Judicial Affairs has been carefully going through the Code of Conduct and deciding what to change all year, Hebson said.

"When we first started talking to the SGA folks about it, that was when we were in the last stages of doing it," Hebson said.

"We just wanted to let them know what we were doing and give them a chance to OK it."

The University is not the only college to make changes to its Code of Student Conduct recently, Hebson said.

He said colleges and universities across the nation are altering the language to help students understand that Judicial Affairs is not a court of law, and the alterations have made the code easier to read and understand.



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## No time to wallow

Alabama's challenge: Forget about getting thumped by LSU, prepare to attempt an Iron Bowl upset

**GW/ Tom Neil**  
Alabama head coach Mike Shula participated in three Iron Bowls as a player, including the famous 1985 game that ended in "The Kick" by Van Tiffin. Shula will face the Auburn Tigers as a coach for the first time on Saturday at Jordan-Hare Stadium.



Alabama was expected to struggle this season as a result of a coaching change. But have a losing record? Surely not.

Auburn was expected to contend for the national championship. Now the result of the upcoming Iron Bowl will likely determine whether the Tigers spend the holidays in Shreveport, La., for the Independence Bowl or Nashville, Tenn., for the Music City Bowl.

With the Crimson Tide at 4-7 and the Tigers at 6-5, the 12 combined losses are the most in series history. But don't be fooled into thinking that the game is insignificant.

"It's the biggest game I'll ever prepare for in my career," Tide head coach Mike Shula said.

This coming from a man who was offensive coordinator for the NFL's Tampa Bay Buccaneers just a few years back, when the Buccaneers were in the NFC Championship Game — one game away from the Super Bowl.



FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK  
Drew Champlin

"There's so much attention brought on the game about the rivalry, and you hear about families being split," Shula said. "When you get out there on the field, I always had respect for those guys. You

know you're playing against a good football team."

Shula started at quarterback for Alabama in the games from 1984-86. In the 1984 game, the Tide entered with a 4-6 record but shocked the Tigers with a 17-15 win. The game is remembered by many as when Auburn star halfback Bo Jackson "went the wrong way" as the blocker, leaving fullback and ball carrier Brent Fullwood all alone where Tide defensive back Rory Turner "waxed that dude" (Fullwood) to prevent the score. The win for the Tide helped ease some of the pain from a losing season.

"It helped soothe that part a little bit, but more so it gave us

momentum going into the off-season," Shula said. "I remember the losses that year, believe me I remember the first losing season in what, 25 years? That won't go away."

—Mike Shula  
Alabama head football coach  
In 1985, Shula's other Iron Bowl win as a starter, the Tide won 25-23 on a last-second 52-yard field goal by Van Tiffin. In that game, the lead changed hands four times in the fourth quarter.

"I remember I was tired,"

See SHULA, Page 8

## Bucs bench disgruntled Keyshawn for rest of season

The Associated Press

**TAMPA, Fla.** — Keyshawn Johnson will get his wish to leave Tampa Bay — once the season is over.

The Buccaneers shelved their disgruntled star receiver for the rest of the year Tuesday, saying he had become disruptive during a disappointing 4-6 start for the defending Super Bowl champions.

"For whatever reason, he didn't want to be here. He let me know that some time after one of our early games," head coach Jon Gruden said.

The Bucs said they would deactivate Johnson for the remaining six games. He will be paid his full salary and was not fined, general manager Rich McKay said.

Reached in Miami by the *St. Petersburg Times*, the two-time Pro Bowl selection said he was shocked by the move.

"I really don't know what to say. Basically, they are shutting me down for the rest of the season. I don't understand it," Johnson told the newspaper.

"I gave them everything I had between the white lines. I did everything they asked me to do. But it's OK; I'll continue to work out and stay in shape and look forward to playing somewhere else next year," he said.

## Women's basketball team drops exhibition, 71-60

By BUDDY HUGHES  
Sports Reporter

The Alabama women's basketball team lost to the Premier Players 70-61 Tuesday night in Coleman Coliseum in its last exhibition game of the season.

Junior guard Katie Sipe led the Crimson Tide with 12 points. All of Sipe's points came from behind the three-point line in the second half.

True freshman Navonda Moore chipped in 10 points and eight rebounds. Alabama coach Rick Moody said he is pleased with Moore's development.

"Navonda is a very talented young lady," Moody said. "I think she's got a brilliant future. She's an offensive threat, and I think tonight just the fact that she had 10 points was a big lift for us." Premier came out shooting lights out, starting the game with a 12-4 run. The Tide got back into the game with a 9-3 run of its own to tie the game at 15. That was as close as the Tide would get.

Premier dominated the rest of the first half, outscoring Alabama 23-8 in the last 13 minutes of the half, including a five-minute Alabama scoring drought to end the half. Premier went

into the locker room with a 38-23 lead. Moody said Premier's first half performance set the tone for the game.

"The bottom line is you can't get behind against a team that is as skilled as this team," Moody said.

Alabama struggled on many fronts in the first half. Starting

See HOOPS, Page 8

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# Alabama gets 11 verbal commitments from 2004 prospects

By ERICK BLACKWOOD  
Sports Reporter

Speculating on an incoming recruiting class before the start of the signing period is tricky. Neither Alabama head coach Mike Shula nor his staff can comment about recruiting until the prospects are signed and are enrolled in school.

Alabama can only sign 19 athletes in 2004 as a part of the NCAA's sanctions. However, the Crimson Tide will probably over-sign, expecting a few players to not qualify.

So far 11 players have verbally committed to the Tide.

Ezekiel Knight of Randolph County High in Wedowee, Aaron McDaniel of Fort Payne and Titus Ryan of East Central Mississippi Community College could all start their college careers at wide receiver, but Knight is projected to end up playing linebacker before he leaves school.

Ryan can also line up at tailback, and McDaniel could possibly end up at safety or cornerback.

Aaron Johns from Thomasville tore up opposing teams at running back this season, and could be a great pickup for the Tide's backfield. Johns can also play cornerback.

Nikita Stover of Hartselle and Will Oakley of

St. Augustine, Fla., are considered by many to be two of the best receivers in the country.

In addition to their similar pass-catching skills, the two potential recruits have comparable size and speed. Both are 6-foot-1, weigh about 185 pounds and run the 40-yard dash in 4.45 seconds.

The two linemen in this class are B.J. Stabler of Clarke County High in Grove Hill and Justin Britt of Cullman. Stabler is considered an offensive lineman, but Britt, the younger brother of current Tide linemen Wesley and Taylor Britt, could play either defensive or offensive line in college.

Nick Walker of Pike County in Brundidge and

Trent Davidson of T.R. Miller in Brewton possess good size and speed for the tight end position.

Last but not least, Travis Robinson of Hillcrest has speed and skills that could add depth at the cornerback position for the Tide. Robinson could also get a look at kickoffs.

Alabama's new potential recruits can't sign until February, so the verbal commitments are built on trust until then. Fans can watch for updates on the new players throughout the recruiting season.

*Information from Rodney Orr's TiderInsider.com was used in this report.*

CW/Tom Weil  
Alabama's Navonda Moore scored 10 points on 5-of-13 shooting against Premier Players on Tuesday. Moore and Katie Sipe were the Crimson Tide's only two double-digit scorers in the exhibition. Moore also collected eight rebounds, which tied her for the team lead. The women's basketball team starts its regular season Monday at Michigan.



## HOOPS

Continued from Page 7

center Dee Merriweather got into early foul trouble with three in the first half. The Tide shot only 37 percent in the first half, including 0 for 6 from behind the three-point line. Alabama also hurt its cause with 12 first-half turnovers.

There were some positives in the first half for the Tide. Alabama's transition defense held Premier to only two fast-break points.

The Tide also out-rebounded Premier 22-18.

In the second half, Alabama's offense woke up with Sipe's contribution from the three-point line to outscore Premier by four points. However, the Tide's improved offensive play was not enough to overtake Premier's lead.

Sipe's two three-pointers sparked a 10-2 Alabama run.

But the Tide lost some steam when Merriweather picked up her fourth foul with 15 minutes left in the game. Every time Alabama seemed to have the momentum, Premier got a key basket to stave off the Tide.

The closest Alabama came was 11.

Despite losing the game, the Tide managed to dominate the

boards with a 51-29 rebounding edge. Moody also got lots of minutes for players who do not have much college experience, like true freshman Tamisha Hamilton.

Merriweather's foul trouble meant more playing time for Hamilton, who took advantage of the opportunity with eight points and eight rebounds.

Redshirt freshmen Kate Mastin and Lauren Hill also saw significant minutes down the stretch.

"We got to play a lot of people," Moody said. "We got a lot of people experience that needed experience."

Some of the Tide's better players struggled. Leading scorer Monique Bivins struggled with her shot all night, scoring only eight points on 3-of-14 shooting. Bivins scored 18 points in Alabama's first

exhibition game against Berry College.

The Tide will try to shake off the loss when it begins its regular season Monday on the road against Michigan.

## SHULA

Continued from Page 7

Shula said. "I barely made it off the sidelines by the time Van kicked the ball, but that may have been the fastest I've ever sprinted back on the field."

Offense, special teams getting better

Shula was pretty pleased with the progress of the offense — that is, until a lackluster showing against LSU on Saturday.

The Tide was held to 65 yards rushing, and quarterback Brodie Croyle completed only 12 of 33 passes. Consistency has been the goal for the Tide this season, and so far the results have been inconsistent.

"We've flashed," Shula said. "We've come close to making some plays that would have made a big difference. We've had to adjust our offense because of injuries. Consistency throwing the football is something we've got to get better on."

The special teams unit was much maligned earlier this

season but steadily improved at least until the LSU game.

Punt coverage struggled early in the game, as LSU's Skyler Green returned punts 24 and 36 yards to set up a field goal and a touchdown in the first quarter.

"Our coverage teams have gotten progressively better, but last week we did not cover well," Shula said.

"Similar to the offense, we haven't been as consistent as we need to be. We show phases of being real good; we just have to do it more often."

Hudson's status still uncertain

Backup running back Ray Hudson did not dress for the Tide's loss to LSU on Saturday. He was arrested last week on a misdemeanor charge of possession of marijuana. Shula had not made a final decision regarding Hudson's playing status, but Hudson is practicing with the team.

"We made the decision not to play him [against LSU]," Shula said.

"He's not suspended. We're

still gathering things. We'll handle it within our own framework. That's what we've done since I've been here."

Hudson has rushed for 405 yards and one touchdown this season.

*Drew Champlin is sports editor of The Crimson White.*

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Courtesy/ Disney

After a bear kills his oldest brother in *Brother Bear*, the impulsive youngest brother, Kenai, kills the bear in revenge, only to be transformed into a bear himself. Denami, the middle brother, comes upon this bear and, thinking it killed Kenai, vows revenge. Now brother hunts brother and Kenai's only hope for survival is to befriend his own worst enemy, a grizzly cub named Koda. Koda's main goal is to show Kenai the real meaning of brotherhood.

# Brother Bear? Oh, brother

By HEATHER HENDERSON

Set in a strangely warm Ice Age, Disney's *Brother Bear* offers some humor, some weak plot development and lots of Phil Collins.

The hero of our movie, Kenai, a Native American boy trying to prove his manhood, sets out to kill the bear responsible for the death of his oldest brother. The bear is Kenai's "manhood symbol," which represents love, given to him by the holy woman of his tribe. After the bear kills his brother, Kenai casts off his bear necklace, vowing he would never use love to become a man.

Kenai tracks down the bear and kills her, only to be transformed into a bear by the spirit of his brother, which has taken on the form of an eagle. Kenai's middle brother, Denami, comes upon the bear that Kenai has become, and begins to pursue the bear-form of Kenai, thinking the bear has now killed his youngest brother, too.

Kenai is told he must find where "the lights touch the earth" to transform back into a human.

On his journey, Kenai befriends a bear cub named Koda, who has lost his mother and needs a guardian. And herein lies the plot of the story,

with Kenai meeting bears and learning about how wonderful the creatures he has grown to hate can be and what it means to love, with his remaining brother unknowingly hunting him down all the way.

The holy woman of the tribe guides Kenai and in the end delivers the message that bears and humans are exactly alike.

At first glance, this plot takes on the same feel as a typical cheesy-but-nice Disney cartoon. However, the plot development is slow and unclear at the beginning of the movie, and it takes several minutes for any characters to enter the movie that would hope to entertain children (two goofy moose brothers with Canadian accents). If I had brought children to this movie, they would have been crying and complaining within the first half hour of the movie (at least that's what I had the urge to do).

And every time the movie starts to recover some of its dignity, whether with a semi-touching moment or a bit of cheap humor, a Phil Collins song bursts through the air, ruining the moment (not that I don't like Collins music, but these songs did not exactly spice up the flavor).

What I want to know is, what happened to the Disney cartoons we all

know and love? What happened to memorable, lovable characters like Mowgli from *The Jungle Book* and Ariel from *The Little Mermaid*? It seems we've lost these high-quality characters to an era of New Age cartoons, where "Love the Earth" or "Hug a Tree" may as well be the titles of all the movies.

Not that I disagree with promoting responsible care of the earth and all its creatures to America's children, but let's do it in a subtle, clever way, void of an old woman who tells the children that a bear cub is exactly like their next-door-neighbor Bob.

In conclusion, the movie had a good but blatant, cheesy message.

Better movie-going could have been had by all in the theater that night (which consisted of only me and my movie-going companion) if Disney would have cut a couple or more Collins songs, not jumped through so many hoops to provide a far-fetched plot and added more funny characters like the moose brothers.

However, I do have a confession: I bawled my eyes out at the end. (It was so sweet!) Call me a sucker.

Heather Henderson is the metrostate editor of *The Crimson White*.

# Peter Weir's *Master and Commander* brings back fun on high seas

By BEN FLANAGAN  
Special to *The Crimson White*

It's rare these days for Hollywood to shell out a movie set out on the open seas.

Nautical adventures like *Mutiny on the Bounty* and *The Sea Hawk*, with exhilarating ocean stories and thrilling swashbuckling action sequences have gone missing from the world of genre filmmaking. The most recent venture into the world of pirates and the high seas is, of course, Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, which was by all means fun and timely entertainment, but what's wrong with wanting more?

Luckily, Australian director Peter Weir's latest effort, *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*, is an exceptional seafaring esca-pade with magnificent action-set pieces and amusing characters to keep you thoroughly pleased during its hefty 138-minute running time.

Adapted from notable author Patrick O'Brian's novel, the film follows Captain "Lucky" Jack Aubrey (Russell Crowe), his longtime companion and shipmate Stephen Maturin (Paul Bettany) and the British naval crew of the *HMS Surprise* during the Napoleonic wars, circa 1805.

When the *Surprise* has an unfortunate quarrel with a French phantom ship called the *Acheron*, the crew must play a dangerous cat-and-mouse game with the adversary until Aubrey can devise a plan to counter the ship's attack and occupy it in the process.

As said before, the film does contain its fair share of high-seas, swashbuckling action, but it does not rely on these sequences to be a successful

project. The best scenes arrive between the blasting of cannons and the clanging of swords, where Aubrey interacts with his shipmates and especially with his friend Maturin, the ship's surgeon.

Aubrey is portrayed as a man of strategy and discipline but also one who understands that men are equal despite rank. While on the ship, Aubrey treats every man fairly; thus the crew's display of respect for the captain reflects their attitudes.

Peter Weir has the wonderful ability to strictly supervise while he lets the characters and story do most of the work. Working with cinematographer Russell Boyd, who has collaborated with Weir on three separate occasions, the director creates simple images that tell their own stories without any sort of overly fancy style or technique. What is awesome about the photography of this film is that you don't really notice anything about it in

particular; you just gladly accept what's provided on-screen.

Weir also handles many of the scenes with silence or fantastic classical music. The most noteworthy of these scenes comes when the *Surprise* takes a short leave on the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador. This sequence features Bettany's character, a naturalist and lover of biology, taking a hike across the islands to discover new species of plants, lizards, birds and many other forms of life. The scene is accompanied by a soft piece from Bach that slightly sedates you into a firm sense of relaxation, helping you to forget there is even a war being fought.

This scene fondly reminded me of Weir's previous work on his Australian World War I drama: the masterpiece *Gallipoli*, which is in many ways very similar to *Master and Commander* in its style and technique.

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There are also some very squeamish sequences that again remind us of the war at hand. One involves a 13-year-old boy whose freshly broken arm must immediately be amputated from his body. We do not actually see any cutting, but the boy's face is filled with enough anguish to have your stomach churning.

Another has the good doctor Maturin performing surgery on himself after a bullet has mistakenly been lodged into his hip region. Nauseating stuff.

Truth be told, *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World* is an excellent high-seas tale that reminds us of the fun we can have while aboard a hardy, wooden ship as it

traverses the deep ocean blue. The two leads deliver fine performances that will probably be recognized (especially for Bettany) come springtime 2004.

It also serves as a fine history lesson. I have not been so interested in the Napoleonic wars since my last viewing of Woody Allen's epic *Love and Death*. Peter Weir appreciates this genre and provides us with another amusing, solid effort. I can't wait for his next picture and all the ones that follow.

Rating:



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directed by Jesse  
Dylan (2003)



## Oh, yes, my friends... we do have an anime club

By **GRAHAM FLANAGAN**  
Entertainment Editor

**Nicole Vest:** Take, for example, [the series] *Berserk*; I kind of didn't like us watching it because the ending was basically tentacle rape.

**GF:** Tentacle rape?

**NV:** Yes, tentacle rape is common in a lot of Hentai.

**GF:** Hmmm.

Above is a sample of the enlightening conversation I shared with Nicole Vest, president of the Bama Anime and Manga Association just a few hours before Saturday's heartbreaking Alabama/LSU football game.

Upon learning that our university does indeed officially sponsor a club solely devoted to the viewing and discussion of Japanese animation (anime) and drawing (Manga), I decided I should get to the bottom of the club: what they watch, what they don't (or won't) watch, what they're into and what they think sucks.

The exchange above took place during a section of our chat having to do with her (and the club's) refusal to screen "Hentai," a style of anime that Vest, a senior majoring in English, describes simply as "cartoon porn."

"I have a few things that I will not show when we're on campus," Vest said. "It's an integrity thing... and it's dishonorable to the campus that is letting us have this club.

"Plus we'd have to card, and I don't want to have to do that."

Vest said BAMA, which meets Tuesday nights from 7 to 10 in 247 B.B. Comer Hall, conducts its meetings in a very laidback, casual manner. Meetings usually involve screenings of various episodes of different anime series and even anime feature films.

"It's kind of random," Vest said about the meetings. "I ask people to bring stuff... We bring our collections, and we have another guy that downloads the newest stuff.

"We'll either say, 'OK, this is what we're going to watch,' or we just watch what people ask for."

The club was founded in September 2000, and it is sponsored by Japanese professor Koki Arizumi. Vest cites Arizumi as being instrumental in securing the space for the club to hold its meetings. While the club initially attempted to use the Ferguson Center Theater as its regular venue, the monetary charges, red tape and endless bureaucracy typically associated with the facility made B.B. Comer Hall the sensible place to hold the meetings.

Back to the "newest stuff" to which Vest refers; it is the anime that has

recently been broadcast in Japan. Because this content is unlicensed in the United States, it is legal for the club to screen it without living in fear of the consequences associated with copyright violations.

"My goal is to open people's minds to this different culture wave that people are going to call alternative or underground or foreign," Vest said.

Vest and fellow member William Wellemeyer, a sophomore majoring in aerospace engineering, named *Full Metal Alchemist*, *Naruto* and *Gunslinger Girls* as some of their favorite "fresh" anime programs that have yet to air in the United States.

Much of the anime that is readily available to American audiences, such as all of the programs shown on Cartoon Network's Adult Swim, is somewhat dated. For example, *Fooly Cooly*, currently one of the most popular programs airing on Adult Swim, originally aired in Japan in 2000.

Sure, at this point, the typical reader might be saying: "What? Anime, Manga? Tentacle rape? Whoa, what, huh?"

Therefore, a little background shall be laid forth.

Anime (pronounced by the Japanese and snooty Americans as "ah-nee-may") is a style of animation derived from the Japanese comic form known as Manga (pronounced "Mahn-gah" by everyone). Many cite the 1963 TV series *Astro Boy*, developed by Osamu Tezuka, as being the earliest credible example of true anime.

One of the pioneers of the medium is director Hayao Miyazaki, director of the Academy Award-winning *Spirited Away*. Miyazaki also served as a director on the influential, still-popular 1970s anime program *Lupin the Third*, which has run in the past on Adult Swim.

The art form evolved to become one of the most popular, profitable and obsessed-over mediums in the history of movies and television, spurring much negative criticism due to its often violent and sexual imagery.

Vest and Wellemeyer explained that these artistic tendencies are related to the amount of mental strain experienced by the average Japanese high school student, a character that appears regularly in all kinds of anime.

"I don't know if there's anything equivalent to [the Japanese mentality] in our society," Vest said. "We're usually allowed, in one way or another, to break free from our jobs or whatever.

"In Japan, it's just not like that. And it comes into the anime when it's these high school kids who want to break free early... who want to be special and unique."

So with the existence of BAMA at the Capstone, Vest and her fellow members have made a plethora of different types of anime readily available for the average college student.

And by "average," I also mean poor.

Aside from the programs that air Sunday through Thursday on Adult Swim, the questionable selections available at local video stores and the weekly treasure trove of material

See **ANIME**, Page 11



# It's Japanese for anime



CW/Trey Brannon



Graham Flanagan

Granted, I enjoy giant robot warfare as much as the next weirdo, but it isn't this aspect of *The Big O* that intrigues me the most.

## Flanagan likes anime, too... especially *The Big O*

By **GRAHAM FLANAGAN**  
Entertainment Editor

In all honesty, I must admit I wrote the piece on the anime club not because I had to, but rather because I have a growing interest in the subject. The root of this interest lies in my semester-long obsession with the fantastic anime series *The Big O*, which can be seen in reruns Monday through Thursday at 10:30 p.m. on Cartoon Network.

Self-described as a cross between *Batman* and *Mobile Suit Gundam Wing*, *The Big O* follows the exploits of the Bruce Wayne-esque multimillionaire playboy Roger Smith (voiced by Steven Blum, who also voices Spike on *Cowboy Bebop*) as he pilots the titular "megadeus" (giant robot) in an effort to protect the amnesia-suffering Paradigm City from a rash of other, slightly more evil "megadeuses."

Granted, I enjoy giant robot warfare as much as the next weirdo, but it isn't this aspect of *The Big O* that intrigues me the most. On the contrary, it is more the part of the story dealing with the relationship between Roger and his female android companion R: Dorothy Waynright.

That's right, "Weekend Warrior" fans! I said female android companion! That's where it all came from! I'll admit it — *The Big O* rules!

And I mean rules. While the show already encompasses the things I've already mentioned (giant robot war, human-android love), what it is for me that nudges the show into the realm of

cinematic greatness is the visual and narrative styles through which the story is told.

After watching a bulk of the second season of *The Big O*, as well as part of the first, I believe I now have somewhat of a grasp on what it is that people mean when they use the term "mouth-watering, dreamy anime."

One instance where this term can easily be applied occurs in the episode from the second season titled "The Greatest Villain," during the scene in which Dorothy rides her futuristic super-bike through the rain soaked streets of the metropolis that is Paradigm City. After viewing this sequence, and the rest of the episode for that matter (my first), I could only say one thing: "I'm in."

Ever since getting into *The Big O*, I have also been turned on to a number of other anime series that are, at times, just as impressive and enjoyable such as *FLCL*, *Inuyasha* and *Cowboy Bebop*.

Look, non-believers, skeptics and people who say things like, "Yeah, right nerd," it's time to recognize a simple fact: If you give it a chance, anime will blow our mind, and in most cases in a very cool way.

Looking for the perfect place to start? Try *The Big O*. You won't be sorry.

I'm not. That's for damn sure.

