

The Crimson White

Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Serving the University of Alabama since 1894

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NEWS | HATTIESBURG, MISS.

Students organizing to give back to Hattiesburg

Tornado hit campus in Mississippi town

By Adrienne Burch
Assistant News Editor

An EF4 tornado struck Hattiesburg, Miss., Sunday, damaging the town and the University of Southern Mississippi campus and leaving more than 60 people injured, according to a report by the Associated Press.

This is a scene all too familiar for the residents of Tuscaloosa and students at The University of Alabama. Those who lived in Tuscaloosa on April 27, 2011 when a similar tornado tore through town know better than anyone the emotions being felt in Hattiesburg during the aftermath of Sunday's storms.

These emotions are what led freshman Michael McFillin to want to take action to aid those being affected in

Hattiesburg. McFillin, who has grown up visiting Tuscaloosa, was watching the news of the destruction on his TV Sunday night and was immediately reminded of when the April 27, 2011 tornado tore through his beloved Tuscaloosa.

"Tuscaloosa has been important to my life since the day I was born," McFillin said. "I can't let them go through what happened to us."

McSillin immediately started calling around to different

UA student leaders. He got in touch with Paige Bussanich, director of civic engagement for the UA Community Service Center, and she agreed to help organize a relief effort just hours after the storm hit in southern Mississippi.

"I just remember how it felt, I remember what it was like, and I want to give back," Bussanich said. "Students from Southern Miss came to help us two years ago and now it's time to return the favor for them."

Bussanich and the CSC are collecting gift cards to send to the Office of Community Service Learning at the University of Southern Mississippi.

"We thought gift cards would be an easy way to donate," she said. "People will be able to get whatever they need at Walmart, Target or even Home Depot," she said.

The CSC is asking students and anyone interested in helping to bring gift cards of no

more than \$25 to the CSC office in room 346 in the Ferguson Center.

Bussanich said students can give as much as they want, but to easily distribute the funds equally they want to limit each card to \$25.

Wahnee Sherman, director of the CSC, said she also wants to urge students not to rush down to Hattiesburg to try to help.

SEE HATTIESBURG PAGE 3

NEWS | UAPD

University police department lacks information officer

UA Media Relations fills typical PIO role

By Sarah Elizabeth Tooker and Colby Leopard
CW Staff

The University of Alabama Police Department currently employs 72 authorized, full-time sworn police officers, Police Chief Tim Summerlin said, a force that is comparable in size to many other SEC schools. Unlike those schools, UAPD does not employ a Public Information Officer and instead requires that all public information requests be carried out through the Office of Media Relations.

In this system, UAPD releases little information about its functions and operations, despite operating as an independent police department in conjunction with the University of Alabama's Media Relations. UA spokeswoman Cathy Andreen said the reason why the Capstone uses this system is that UAPD officers are busy doing other work, so they don't have anyone who is specifically appointed a PIO.

"As the central media relations office for the University, the UA office of Media Relations functions as the public information office for UAPD," Andreen said. "All media requests come through

Media Relations."

Sgt. Brent Blankley, the Public Information Officer for the Tuscaloosa Police Department, said his department utilizes a PIO to keep the public informed and protected in a timely manner.

"We feel that it is very important to have a PIO because it's the easiest way to get your message out to the public," Blankley said. "We're a transparent department, so when things happen, good or bad, we release that information to the public because the citizens that we're there to protect have a right to be informed about everything going on."

SEE UAPD PAGE 5



CW | Mattie Clark

NEWS | GENERAL BUSINESS



CW | Jingyu Wan

"Local folklore" holds that Lonnie Strickland has the toughest class, GBA 490, available at UA.

Lonnie Strickland's GBA 490 class has been called most difficult at University

By Tori Linville
Contributing Writer

Professor Lonnie Strickland doesn't have students. He has customers.

"It costs about \$250,000 to get to 21, and if you take that and divide it against 30 classes, that's about \$3,800 a class. It comes out to be \$133 a minute that you're paying me to teach you," Strickland said. "So it ought to be good, and besides that, it ought to

be beneficial." Strickland teaches General Business Administration 490, a strategic management class for graduating seniors at The University of Alabama, on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8, 9:30 and 11 a.m. GBA 490 has a reputation for being one of the hardest classes at the University. The course is known for its heavy workload and Strickland addresses this part of the "local folklore" to be true in his 14-page syllabus.

The requirements for customers entail preparing for class discussion about cases, or business stories, playing a management simulation game known as The Business Strategy Game and other assignments. The minimum time spent on the work requirements should be no less than 11 hours, Strickland says in his syllabus, not counting reading the course textbook and preparing for exams and quizzes.

He begins each class with iPad in hand, checking off attendance through Blackboard Learn and uses

it for managing participation throughout the class.

"To me the workload is not what I'm imposing on them, it's what they're imposing on themselves, and it's demanding," Strickland said. "We have a no excuse policy for being absent - absent is you come in one second late and you're [marked] absent. That iPad, I'm checking that, and there's no such thing as tardy. No excuses are accepted for anything, so there's a lot of discipline to it."

SEE STRICKLAND PAGE 3

NEWS | MARDI GRAS

Mobile natives find ways to celebrate Mardi Gras away from home

Tuscaloosa has few Fat Tuesday options

By Judah Martin
Contributing Writer

In Kelsi Taylor's house, the Mardi Gras decorations go up as soon as the Christmas decorations come down, and that's the way it's always been.

Born and raised in America's oldest Mardi Gras city, Mobile, Ala., Taylor has anxiously awaited the arrival of February for as long as she remembers.

Taylor, her sister and her grandfather began each Mardi

Gras season the same as the last, with a chocolate chip cookie dough milkshake from Three George's parlor and a trip to the floral parade.

"Of course everyone has their favorite parades that they have to go to every year so they can see their favorite floats," Taylor said. "Most Mobilians will agree that The Mystics of Time is the best parade of the entire Mardi Gras season. You can almost always find people going to the same spot every year for every parade. Everyone claims that their spot is the best and they catch the best stuff there."

Of course, things have

changed since Taylor began studying music therapy at The University of Alabama two

years ago. These days she can't help but to feel a little down during the time of year that once excited her most.

"It's been hard being in Tuscaloosa with really no way to actually celebrate Mardi Gras," Taylor said. "But I try to make it as much like home as I can by putting beads everywhere just like my mom

and grandmother do. It feels weird going to school on Fat Tuesday, because I've never had to in my entire life.

"It feels weird going to school on Fat Tuesday, because I've never had to in my entire life. I guess I'll make the most of it and just wear beads around my neck and pretend like I'm there."

She isn't alone, though. Mobile, Ala., native Katie Tait, a sophomore majoring in criminal justice, said she feels a little left after leaving for college. Her family is involved with several Mardi Gras organiza-

tions for traditions.

"To Mobile, Mardi Gras is more important than Christmas," Tait said. "I wasn't able to go home because I have to work every weekend. I wasn't able to celebrate this year at all."

Tait and Taylor may be in luck this year, though. Although they'll miss the parades, the UA French house will host its second annual Mardi Gras celebration Tuesday, Feb. 12 from 7-10 p.m. at the French House on campus.

"The event is targeted toward anyone interested in French and Francophone culture,

with a special interest in students, faculty and staff of the University as well as French speaking members of the Tuscaloosa community," said Melissa Henderson, director of the French House.

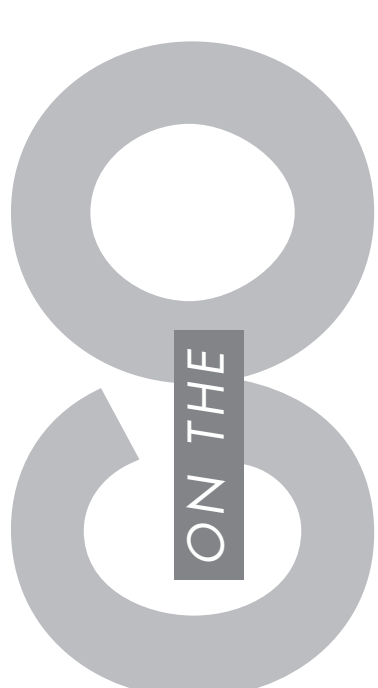
Henderson said she and co-director Alfred Hamilton have decorated the French house with streamers, French royal symbols, a French flag and even a Mardi Gras cut-out girl. Henderson said the event will even feature Cajun dancing lessons from Michael Picone, professor of French and linguistics.

SEE MARDI GRAS PAGE 3

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WEATHER
todayWednesday 57°/37°
Chance of rain



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ON THE CALENDAR

TODAY

What: Study Abroad Fair
Where: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
When: Ferguson Student Center 2nd Floor

What: Mardi Gras Ball
Where: The French House
When: 7 - 10 p.m.

What: Bama Art House presents 'It's a Disaster'
Where: The Bama Theatre
When: 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

What: Harbor Training
Where: Women's Resource Center
When: 2 - 4 p.m.

What: Theatre Tuscaloosa presents 'Ain't Misbehavin''
Where: Bean-Brown Theatre
When: 2 - 4 p.m.

What: Application for SGA candidates due
Where: Ferguson Center Room 356
When: 5 p.m.

Submit your events to
calendar@cw.ua.edu

THURSDAY

What: Immortal Life Across Campus
Where: Gorgas Library 205
When: 7 p.m.

What: The Blackwater Thieves
Where: Green Bar
When: 8 p.m.

What: Bowling with the German Club
Where: Leland Lanes
When: 8:30 p.m.

ON THE MENU

LAKESIDE

LUNCH

Tender Tuesday
Mashed Potatoes
Green Peas
Vegetable Blend
Garden Burger (Vegetarian)

DINNER

Baked Pollock
Confetti Rice
Capri Blend Vegetables
Steamed Brussel Sprouts
Fresh Vegetable Alfredo (Vegetarian)

BURKE

LUNCH

Salisbury Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Corn
Peas & Carrots
Penne Broccoli Salad (Vegetarian)

DINNER

BBQ Chicken Pizza
Pureed Sweet Potatoes
Grilled Vegetables
Spiced Peach Cobbler
Cheddar Beer Soup (Vegetarian)

FRESH FOOD

LUNCH

Steak
Baked Potato Bar
Corn on the Cobb
Fresh Steamed Broccoli Florets
Vegetable Soup (Vegetarian)

ON THE RADAR

GOP senators to Supreme Court: Uphold Defense of Marriage Act

MCT Campus

WASHINGTON — Ten U.S. senators are urging the Supreme Court to overturn the rulings of multiple lower courts and to uphold a 1996 law that defined marriage as a union between a man and a woman and freed states not to recognize same-sex marriages from other states.

President Barack Obama equated gay Americans' push for equal rights to the civil rights movement in his inaugural speech last month.

Congress passed the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act by large majorities in both the House and

the Senate, and President Bill Clinton signed it into law.

Each of the 10 senators now asking the Supreme Court to uphold the Defense of Marriage Act, known as DOMA, voted for it in 1996 either as senators or as House members.

In a friend-of-the-court brief filed Jan. 29, the senators said it is inconsistent for the Justice Department to have assured Congress the law was constitutional while it was being crafted in the mid-1990s but to raise questions now.

"The time to speak was in 1996, when Congress gave careful consideration to the need for DOMA," said the senators, all of

whom are Republican.

But the senators acknowledged that public sentiment toward same-sex marriage has changed in the subsequent 17 years: "It is manifest that the traditional definition of marriage, which was overwhelmingly supported by bipartisan majorities in 1996, is more controversial today, both among the public and their elected representatives."

The law did not prohibit states from recognizing same-sex marriages, and nine states have enacted laws doing so since 1996. But the law also doesn't require states to recognize those marriages from

other states, which makes many couples ineligible for federal spousal benefits under Medicare, Social Security and other programs if they change residences.

Two different federal appellate courts last year upheld several lower courts' rulings that DOMA is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court took up the case in December and has set oral arguments for March 27.

In a related development, outgoing Defense Secretary Leon Panetta on Monday extended some minor benefits to the same-sex spouses of service members, making available perks that the Pentagon

previously had denied.

In explaining why he hadn't extended all military benefits to same-sex spouses of service members, Panetta made an indirect reference to the high court's pending review of the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act.

"I foresee a time when the law will allow the (Defense) Department to grant full benefits to service members and their dependents, irrespective of sexual orientation," Panetta said. "Until then, the department will continue to comply with current law while doing all we can to take care of all soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and their families."

Despite sanctions, US aid to Afghanistan might also be helping Iran

From MCT Campus

WASHINGTON — The Afghan National Army may have broken the U.S.-led economic embargo against Iran by using American aid to buy Iranian fuel for its military vehicles, generators and cooking processes, according to a military audit and experts on the region.

Recent safeguards installed to stop the possibility of the practice might not be enough, according to the audit, which came out in January.

While there is no direct evidence that the Afghan army actually purchased Iranian oil

with American tax dollars, the report by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction describes the possibility as a cause for concern.

Between a third and half of all fuel bought by Afghanistan comes from Iran, the audit stated, citing figures compiled by the Department of State. Another quarter of its supply comes from Turkmenistan, and is commonly mixed with Iranian fuel.

The report notes that the U.S.-funded fuel purchasing program between 2007 and 2012 provided at least \$1.1 billion to the Afghan army. But

the money has been so poorly tracked, the audit notes, that it is impossible to determine the origin of the fuel.

"The fact that the United States paid for the acquisition and delivery of imported fuel for the Afghan National Security Forces ... raises concerns that U.S. funds could have been used to pay for imports of fuel potentially in violation of U.S. economic sanctions against Iran," the audit stated.

In a related development, the U.S. Government Accountability Office on Monday issued a wide-ranging report on Afghanistan funding

that noted, "Persistent corruption in Afghanistan undermines security and the people's belief in the government, as well as effective accountability of U.S. funds provided directly to the Afghan government."

Afghanistan gets around international sanction requirements on Iranian goods for reasons of economic necessity, and — on a more practical level — because the countries share a long border, and goods into Afghanistan increasingly pass through Iranian ports.

Jamie Graybeal, deputy public affairs officer for the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, said the Combined Security Transition Command responsible for overseeing the fuel program "recognizes and appreciates" the concerns of the report.

"Despite actions taken by the Department of Defense to prevent the purchase of Iranian fuel with U.S. funds, risk remains for the potential violation of U.S. economic sanctions," he said by email.

He added that the command has conducted a review, but found no support for allegations that "DOD funds were used to support the Iranian petroleum industry, but we will continue to work closely with (the special inspector general) on this and other issues."

The report, however, raises questions about whether the primary means to address this concern — a requirement that all Afghan companies selling fuel to the Afghan National Security Forces certify that their fuel does not come from Iran — lacks the investigative teeth to ensure that it occurs.

Drew Pusateri, a spokesman for Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo., who leads the Senate Subcommittee on Contracting Oversight, said by email that the senator was "concerned by the lack of oversight and accountability detailed in the report and will be reviewing it with her policy staff in the coming days."

A House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee will hold a hearing Wednesday on concerns with the fuel program, including the failure to be able to account for \$475 million in 2012.

The audit also questioned whether the fuel program was excessive. It also said that Iranian fuel is less refined than fuel from other sources, and if used to power machines and vehicles provided by the United States and the international community, could lead to premature deterioration of the equipment.

Another major concern was that as the mission in Afghanistan begins to shrink, cash for the fuel program is supposed to expand to an estimated \$2.8 billion between now and 2018. The report reflects a fear that without a reliable system in place by the end of 2014 to track the money, it's unlikely after that point that Afghan government officials will heed American concerns.

A recent United Nations report on corruption in Afghanistan, notes: "While corruption is seen by Afghans as one of the most urgent challenges facing their country, it seems to be increasingly embedded in social practices, with patronage and bribery being an acceptable part of day to day life."

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SPLC official speaks on social equality

Economic, racial disparities discussed during annual Black History month program

By Kyle Dennon
Contributing Writer

Southern Poverty Law Center director of public outreach spoke on campus Monday afternoon about the modern day issues surrounding racial and social equality.

Lecia Brooks said Black History Month is a time to think about the past injustices, progress that has already been made, and change that still needs to occur.

"Black History Month provides an opportunity for us to reflect back and see where we've come from, the things we've fought for relative to racial justice and equality," Brooks said. "When we do that, that naturally begs the question 'what's going on today.' It causes us to pause. When we look at history, it prompts us to more closely examine the present."

Brooks came to speak at Alabama on Monday afternoon as a part of the Dr. Ethel H. Hall Twenty-Fourth Annual African-American Heritage Month Celebration, which is sponsored by the School of Social Work. The celebration has been happening for 24

"Black history month provides an opportunity for us to reflect back and see where we've come from, the things we've fought for relative to racial justice and equality," Brooks said. "When we do that, that naturally begs the question 'what's going on today.' It causes us to pause. When we look at history, it prompts us to more closely examine the present."

— Lecia Brooks

years. Its namesake, Ethel H. Hall, was the first black woman elected to the Alabama Board of Education, elected to that position in 1986. She was also the first black woman to earn a doctorate in social work from the Capstone.

LaTangela Fuller, a senior majoring in social work, said Brooks' talk spurred her to think about the need for action against inequality.

"It reiterated to me that I have a voice. Not to sit back and be idle, but to do something," Fuller said. "The more information that you acquire, the more it's almost like you are required to make a social change. [Brooks] reiterated that you actually have a voice in making a change."

Fuller said one issue that Brooks said SPLC is currently involved in litigating particularly affected her: the use of mace by School Resource Officers in Birmingham schools.

"What stuck out in my head was that you have young kids getting maced," Fuller said. "I am from Birmingham and I was unaware of that."

Cassandra Simon, associate professor of social work and chair of the planning committee for this event, annually brings students to SPLC as part of an interim course on civil rights and social work.

She said she thinks more people on campus are concerned with issues of injustice than actually speak up.

"I believe that most people here on campus are moral,

good people who don't have their voices heard for whatever reason," Simon said.

Brooks said the election of President Obama has not eliminated the need for work to increase racial equality.

"There continues to be significant inequalities relative to race. Although some people want to think that because we have a black president or because there seems to be more parity around elected officials that necessarily means that everything is okay. Our work is important because we bring out the facts that are often hidden," Brooks said.

Brooks also noted the SPLC has seen a 500 percent increase in anti-government groups since Obama's election.

The SPLC has also seen a 70 percent increase in all hate groups since 2000.

Brooks said she believes that this is because of shifting demographics, the election of President Obama and the economy, which causes people to scapegoat minorities for their personal difficulties; but she believes education and honesty can help reduce bigotry.

"When they're feeling marginalized, people really want to talk about what's going on with them, or what their situation is. Once you acknowledge that, then the other distractions are taken away," Brooks said.

Some of the facts that Brooks referenced show serious disparities between white Americans and minority Americans.

A white family's median net worth is, on average, 22 times greater than blacks and 14 times greater than Hispanic. Fourteen percent of white children live in poverty, compared to more than double that in black, Hispanic and Native American children. Additionally, the unemployment rate is higher for blacks, Hispanics and Native Americans.

Simon said it was particularly important to have this event at Alabama and that she believes that the University should address its history head-on.

"We have the opportunity to be a model for other schools who might have a history they are not so proud of," she said.

FAST FACTS

• Median family net worth:	• Children in poverty:	• Unemployment rate:
White (\$110,729)	White (14 percent)	White (7.2 percent)
Black (\$4,955)	Black (39 percent)	Black (15.9 percent)
Hispanic (\$7,424)	Hispanic (34 percent)	Hispanic (11.5 percent)
	Native American (37 percent)	Native American (14.6 percent)

Mardi Gras gets underway in Ala.

MARDI GRAS FROM PAGE 1

The event will also include awards for attendees with the most creative costume and mask. A selection of Cajun cuisine including gumbo, red beans and rice, and king cake will be available as well.

"There's tons of kids looking for a fun way to celebrate Mardi Gras," Henderson said. "I just love the fact that we have a little French culture here in Alabama, and I love anything Cajun. We're basically trying to create a New Orleans in Tuscaloosa for Mardi Gras."

UA CSC reaches out after tornado

HATTIESBURG FROM PAGE 1

"What we learned from our tornado is that they need a few days or weeks to get settled and to give them time to do search and rescue," Sherman said.

Sherman said the UA CSC has already reached out to the OCSL at Southern Miss, and they are waiting for them to set up a time frame to send a team of UA students to help with recovery.

"We have a strong relationship," Sherman said. "They'll be back in touch." Bussanich said they hope to plan this trip for sometime in early March. But Sherman encouraged students to focus on collecting the gift cards to send to victims of the tornado right now.

"I think our students understand what the needs in a community affected by a natural disaster can be," she said. "We need to return the favor."



Professor takes pride in teaching 'best of the best'

STICKLAND FROM PAGE 1

Taking pride in the reputation of his class, Strickland is aware of the demands. He knows he's teaching "the best of the best" and his customers come to class ready to hear what he has to say.

Strickland sends out Podcasts after class critiquing how the class went and giving helpful tips. In his first Podcast he describes his "sweet spot," a beneficial place in class to sit in order to soak in all the material he covers.

"The sweet spot is the middle to my right. And the reason is I'm right-handed, and because I'm right-handed, I tend to look to the right," Strickland said. "If you sit in the back, you may not be engaged, but you get the signal that you're disengaged. And I'll tell you it's worth a half-letter grade, m a y b e more."

"He cares about us learning the material and he goes out of his way to involve students in the class."

— Brian Park

Strickland's class may be time-consuming but for many he makes up for it by his enthusiastic teaching. Brian Park, a senior majoring in accounting and management, explained how Strickland makes GBA 490 so captivating.

"The metaphors that he uses in class stick in your head. Instead of just reading endless PowerPoints, he goes around different teaching strategies and really figures out how to teach it to students, which I love," Park said.

"He cares about us learning the material and he goes out of his way to involve students in class, like asking them questions, or using them as part of a way of picturing different scenarios."

To make sure he reaches every student, Strickland also requires his customers to create nameplates that play a subtle but important role in every class. By using the nameplates as references, he notoriously addresses students throughout his lecture.

"Personally, it scares me to death. Every time I talk or get asked a question I'm nervous and afraid he's going to call me out," Leslee Griggers, a senior majoring in business and restaurant hospitality management, said. "At the same time it makes you be more assertive and confident. He wants us to say things with confidence."

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

UA gymnastics coach Sarah Patterson: student supporters of team are champions

As we reach the midpoint of our regular season, I want to take a moment to thank our amazing students. Through our first two home meets, we have averaged over 2,300 students per meet in Coleman Coliseum and your overwhelming support of our gymnastics team will help propel our ladies to great heights. After two weeks on the road, I can tell you that there is nothing more exciting to our team than to be able to come home this Friday and compete in Coleman in front of the greatest fans in the world! The energy and excitement you generate are like nothing else I've experienced. Our ladies love going to the floor

exercise on the last event, seeing their classmates raise four fingers in the air for the fourth rotation and performing in front of the student section because the atmosphere is always electric.

Our students are a huge part in the reason we haven't lost in Coleman Coliseum in more than four years and we hope you'll help us keep that streak alive as we go for our 106th victory in a row over the Auburn Tigers this Friday at 7:30 p.m. It's going to be another tough, challenging Southeastern Conference meet, and we'll need every one of you in the stands cheering our ladies on.

In addition to amazing gymnastics, there will be a

ton of giveaways for Alabama students including an iPad Mini, T-shirts, gift cards and so much more, courtesy of Tuscaloosa Toyota.

Again I want to thank each and every Alabama student who has come to our meets and supported this team. You are CHAMPIONS! I want to personally invite you all back this Friday and encourage you to bring a friend as we take on the Auburn Tigers. With your help, it will be another amazing Friday night in Coleman Coliseum.

Roll Tide Roll!

Sarah Patterson is the head coach of The University of Alabama gymnastics team.



Gymnastics Coach Sarah Patterson thanks students for their support.

CW | Shannon Auvil

TOPIC: IFC RUSH

A discussion on the future of fraternity rush at Alabama

By Tray Smith
Senior Staff Columnist

This University values tradition. It provides some of our most memorable experiences as students, like Homecoming and Honors Week. Unfortunately, it also causes some of our largest challenges.

UA students are going to have to decide how to respect these customs as our student body grows and changes. This is particularly true for greeks, a major pillar of the student body that is especially bound by tradition.

For many fraternity members, at least, there is perhaps no greater tradition than rush – the series of parties held each spring and summer to select the year's pledge class.

These parties are a conse-

quence of Alabama's informal fraternity recruitment process. While sorority recruits spend a week visiting chapters and attending formal events, fraternities recruit members by communicating with them directly and inviting them to informal events.

Sorority recruitment allows incoming women students to choose the sororities that appeal to them while simultaneously allowing sororities to identify the women who may contribute the most to their chapter. Students determine the sororities they like best, sororities determine the students they like best, and then they are paired.

That is the same way fraternity recruitment is handled at some other universities.

At Alabama, though, fraternity recruitment is handled

differently. It is a much more flexible system but comes at the price of outreach. Many students choose Alabama at least partially because they are interested in going greek; they want to start the rush process before orientation. Indeed, many students start rushing before they graduate high school.

The more these students become involved with and connected to the greek community on campus, the more fondly they remember rush, their first introduction to it all.

Strong tradition and good memories make it difficult to find popular support for changing rush among fraternity members. After all, students who have succeeded in rush are unlikely to advocate changing it, and every member of a fraternity on campus today got there by going through

the current rush process.

But will the same system work for a student body that comes mostly from other states? Under the current system, potential recruits are identified and rushed primarily by other people from their high school who are greek. That hinders the increasing number of students who come from high schools that have produced few, if any, other UA students in recent years.

Would a formal rush system work better? Are there any other options? What is rush's role in the freshman experience?

There are passionate views on both sides.

Tray Smith is a senior majoring in political science and journalism and a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. His column runs weekly.

GREEK LIFE

It's time for fraternities to go formal

By John Brinkerhoff
Opinion Editor

One of the most visible products of The University of Alabama's growth is the wave of freshmen girls that arrive a week early for sorority rush. With record setting rush class sizes, it's clear that UA's Panhellenic sororities are doing something right. They have fully taken advantage of this campus' growth.

However, the same cannot be said about their male counterparts down University Boulevard. The number of rushees for IFC has not matched the growth in the student body. In fact, it hasn't even come close.

The issue at stake is not a lack of interest on the part of incoming students or a lack of offerings by the greek community. Rather, it is the informal rush process.

In theory, informal rush should work effectively: Any interested student contacts a fraternity and is invited to rush events over the spring, summer and early fall. Every interested individual gets a chance and all parties share control.

In practice, however, the process unfortunately falls short. It fails to recognize the breadth of the greek community's appeal to incoming students. Instead, it is a relic of bygone days when interest in greek organizations was largely derived from well-informed groups that were able to attend rush events over the summer.

Now, with students enrolling from all corners of the nation, relying upon the expectation that freshmen know active brothers in a fraternity and are able to travel to Tuscaloosa



John Brinkerhoff

in the summer is nothing short of absurd.

There is a break in communication such that many out of state students, or even students whose parents were not greek, are unfamiliar with the rush process and do not know where to start when rushing a fraternity.

By rejecting an organized way to rush, the University's greek system is also shooting itself in the foot in regards to the size of its selection pool, which directly affects the quality of its new members. A formalized rush system would draw more students into events and would enable fraternities to better decide what members would thrive in their culture.

On the other side, it would also enable interested students to experience the breadth of options in the UA greek system. Instead of attending the rush events of a few fraternities, a formal rush would facilitate exposure to a much broader range of fraternities. In turn, this would enable rushees to find the fraternities, if any, that fit them best.

There is untapped potential for growth that can be seen in a formal rush system. Establishing a formal time period for rush events, after

students move and with a visible schedule, would take great strides toward breaking down barriers that prevent interested individuals from rushing.

Implementing a formalized rush system would not require an overhaul of the current process either. It should go without saying that a formal fraternity rush would not need to be as rigid as Panhellenic rush, with applications, workshops and oddly specific events. In fact, an IFC formal rush would probably work best if individual chapters are allowed to design their own events. Still, having an established, well-advertised, period for rush is the right step for the fraternities to adapt their traditions and experiences into the new Alabama.

Fraternity members, including myself, have complained that our greek system stereotyped and misunderstood, that our practices are not archaic. Now is our chance to change this. Adopting a formalized rush would work to overcome these stereotypes by tearing down the mysterious veil of rush and placing the onus on those outside the system to truly experience what the greek community can offer.

The University of Alabama is changing. From the new construction on campus to bigger sorority rush classes, this reality is clear. What isn't clear is how our greek system will respond. If we want to keep up with a campus that is growing in size and diversity, we must change as well.

John Brinkerhoff is the Opinion Editor of The Crimson White and a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity. His column runs weekly.

GREEK LIFE

Not everything has to be so formal

By Davis Vaughn
Staff Columnist

"Miserable. Emotional train wreck. Unnecessarily longggggg." While these lines may sound like the take of some critics on Taylor Swift's album, "Red," they're actually the answers I received from sorority women when responding to the question, "If you had to describe the way y'all rush, what would you say?"

I asked the same question to fraternity members and received the following answers: "Laid back and easy. Personable. A great time. Best time of the year."

This begs asking the question: How can two groups who are trying to accomplish the same task of recruiting quality members have clearly opposite feelings?

The answer is quite simple: the process. Fraternities operate on an informal rush system. Beginning in the spring, prospective members are either contacted by a fraternity directly, through friends, Alumni, IFC or Greek Affairs.

In turn, a "rushee" has the choice of attending functions over the next few months, with the potential of receiving a bid.

However, potential sorority new members have the choice made for them as they are told whom they will be grouped with, where they will go, and how long they can stay. This "formal" approach has its supposed advantages in that everyone sees everyone, providing an equal shot for both parties. For an institution in the midst of growth from all areas of the country, the idea of a come one, come all time for rush seems inclusive and fair.

Yet, this "equal shot" often



Davis Vaughn

consists of just a 10-minute conversation, a thorough Facebook check, judging fluff in recommendation letters, wearing the day's proper uniform, and finally, a click of a button in a computer lab.

Conversely, the informal approach lets guys come at their convenience, begin the process when they are ready, and spend as much time with an organization as they need. It also allows chapters the flexibility to extend bids on their own terms. Instead of only having a limited time period to interact, fraternities can continue to see rushees throughout the entire summer and make a truly informed choice.

This creates a "supply and demand" system. As bids are given out, less bids become available, meaning the chapter has to be more selective in whom they would like to give a bid.

In fact, this process embodies a rolling admission, which is what our very own University uses to fill their classrooms. The University sets up application deadlines and minimum requirements. Students apply and schedule visits on their own time. The University then begins to accept individuals as applications are received. Once a Capstone "bid"

is offered, the student can accept, hold or deny it. IFC Fraternities have a similar outline of dates and regulations. Yet, the majority of the decision lies within the House and the rushee, just as the decision lies with the student applying for the University.

Currently, the IFC provides rushee information obtained on their website to all houses. It is almost guaranteed that several houses will contact that person and inform them of the rush process. On the off chance that it doesn't happen, IFC suggests that these rushees contact the recruitment chairs themselves.

However, to help alleviate the awkwardness of a first email, we can make adjustments. We should be actively seeking out new areas to find members. IFC and Greek Affairs should continue to push for recruiting expansion, allowing individuals to hear about UA fraternities early and often. Bids for the fall should be saved (or added) in the event that a guy from the far north did not have the opportunity to come down.

All of this can be done as we take in our growing mindset. Our greek system is the largest and strongest it has ever been. Yet, we cannot throw away what has helped build our fraternities to where they are today. Growth means fraternities should adjust, not abandon, the practices that have been tried and true for over 150 years.

Davis Vaughn is a junior majoring in communication studies and political science and a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. His column runs biweekly on Tuesdays.

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Letters to the editor must be less than 300 words and guest columns less than 800. Send submissions to letters@cw.ua.edu. Submissions must include the author's name, year, major and daytime phone number. Phone numbers are for verification and will not be published. Students should also include their year in school and major.

TWEET AT US

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The Crimson White reserves the right to edit all guest columns and letters to the editor.



Tax season provides accounting students experience

By Rich Robinson
Staff Reporter

As all working people know, tax season is upon us. But for some UA students, this potentially stressful time of year gives them an opportunity to expand their professional horizons and get on-the-job experience that can prove invaluable.

Accounting professor Peter Johnson said his department encourages its students to get an internship during this rush so they can gain experience during what is known as the "busy season." Johnson said

“It was especially good to see the real-world side of accounting because everything we do in school is very technical-based and more in the details.

— Katie Eagan

this has been the name given to the period between Jan. 1 and April 15, and it has been traditionally associated with taxes, but is also a busy time for auditing as well.

"Anecdotal evidence suggests that many firms now perform over 60 percent of their work during this period, obviously this places a burden on the firms and their employees," Johnson said. "In an effort to partially alleviate the problem, firms have searched for methods of increasing their staffs for this period of time followed by a return to 'normal' for the rest of the year. Increasingly, a source for additional help during busy season has been fourth-year accounting students serving as interns."

Kerry Franks, who earned her bachelor's degree in accounting at the University last year, is working on her masters in tax accounting after interning at Ernst and Young in Birmingham, Ala., during the spring 2012 semester.

"I interned from January to spring break of last year and then took a class in a mini semester after the break," Franks said.

Franks also said they worked roughly 40 hours a week and then got paid

overtime. She is going to start full time with Ernst and Young next fall after graduating later this year.

According to the accounting department's website, during the spring semester, two accounting courses are offered in a "mini-semester" format similar to those offered in summer school.

"Students will be able to serve an internship during the period January to mid-March, and earn nine semester hours of credit, [which are] the two courses and the internship," according to the website. "Since a student often earns 15 hours during a semester, he/she could remain on course for graduation by taking six hours during the summer before or after the internship."

Mac Hamilton, a junior majoring in accounting, plans to do an internship next spring and said he thinks it's a necessary step towards getting a position in the field.

"It's pretty important if you want to get a job after college," Hamilton said. "I think it's a really good major if you

want to run your own business. Anything that requires money, accounting is going to be useful for."

Katie Eagan is a master of accountancy student who will graduate in May. Eagan interned at JamisonMoneyFarmer PC in Tuscaloosa last spring and is now working part time at the firm.

"I'm still technically an intern, but I'll be a staff accountant in the fall," Eagan said.

She said she felt it was positive to experience the internship as it gave her the taste of what the profession is really like.

"It was especially good to see the real world side of accounting because everything we do in school is very technical-based and more in the details," Eagan said. "In the professional world it's more of a big picture type experience."

Alex Jackson, a junior majoring in accounting, is attracted to the field because of its tangible uses in the real world.

"You're almost guaranteed a job with an accounting

degree," Jackson said. "You come out of college knowing how to do something; it's not really theoretical, you actually have a real skill set."

Lauren Hammonds, a master of accountancy student who interned at Deloitte in Atlanta, Ga., last year, said she worked on average 40 to 45 hours a week.

"The most I ever worked was 54," Hammonds said. "I interned at their audit service line, so I audited various companies, looked at cash statements, reconciliation notes, account receivables, some inventory, just did the basic top of the balance sheet."

She also said the interns were paid very well and also had the potential to make overtime. Hammonds said she got a taste of what auditing is going to be like and the internship made her excited about the future.

"I feel it was a great experience because I was able to tie in all my accounting classes and apply it to the real world," Hammonds said. "I'm very excited to go back to work."

UGA Chief of Police explained differences in policy, personnel expected in separate areas

UAPD FROM PAGE 1

Although the Tuscaloosa Police Department operates as a separate entity from UAPD, the departments collaborate in certain situations, such as on football gamedays and fringe patrol. Summerlin explained that like any other police force, UA officers are also granted arrest powers under state law and are certified by the State of Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission.

"UAPD's sworn officers are fully qualified police officers who meet the same standards and have the same authority as Tuscaloosa PD officers

and other city and county law enforcement officials statewide," Summerlin said.

Blankley said when TPD is involved with a case with other departments, they make sure that all information released comes through his office.

"When you have information coming out from one centralized location, such as my office, they know exactly who to call," he said. "You have one source sending information out, not partial information from three or four different places."

The University of Georgia police department, which employs 90 police officers to

serve a similar campus population of 34,000 students, does allow their Chief of Police to interact directly with the media in handling public information requests.

The Chief of Police of their department, Jimmy Williamson, said he takes the lead for the university from a police standpoint, and their Vice President for Public Affairs Tom Jackson actually prefers it that way.

"We've found bureaucracy slows it done and makes y'all (the media) search more," Williamson said. "That way they don't feel like they're keeping something from someone."

Williamson said Georgia ranks second after Florida for being the most open state when it comes to making

public information and records the most accessible, and UGA posts all police reports taken from the previous day on their department website every morning.

"I want to be as transparent as humanly possible," he said. "The community has a right to know and I have a responsibility."

Williamson explained that the different systems UGA and UA have in place when handling media requests are expected across various police departments.

"When you compare us to other police departments everyone is going to be slightly different because we're handling different communities," he said. "This is all based on community needs as everyone is serving a unique city."

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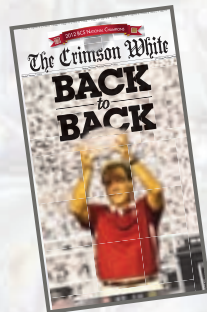


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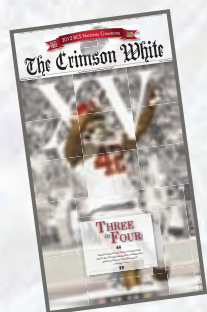


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Student athletes say most perks outweigh demands

Factors such as bedtime, diet and hours make sports like a 'job' for members of Crimson Tide teams

By Adrienne Burch
Assistant News Editor

6 a.m. in the pool.
8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in class.
2:30 p.m. back in the water. 5
to 6 p.m. in the weight room.
6 to 10 p.m. homework and
friends. 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.
sleep. Repeat.

This is the daily life of
The University of Alabama
men's swim team captain,
Jake Reynolds.

The life of a Division 1 college athlete is demanding. They spend hours in the gym, pool or on the field all while keeping up with a college course load. Athletes may not go out on weeknights or have lots of spare time, but the demands are worth getting to do what they love.

Nikki Hegstetter is a freshman on the UA women's basketball team. She said adjusting to college has been difficult not only because of basketball but because of her course load.

"I expected basketball to be as demanding as it is, but I didn't think school would be," she said. "School is hard. College is strenuous in general, but playing a sport makes it much harder to manage."

Hegstetter said an example would be when the team got home from a road trip at 2 a.m., and she had class at 8 a.m.

"It takes mental toughness as a coach would say," she said. "I have to remember I'm not only here to play basketball but also get an education."

But, Hegstetter said she wouldn't rather be doing any-

“

I've been blessed with more opportunities than the ordinary college student," she said. "What other college students can say they've competed in 20-something countries?"

— Ashley Priess

thing else. She watched her sister choose to forgo a college basketball career, and Hegstetter said her sister constantly tells her she is missing out on typical college experiences like sorority life and going out on weeknights.

"My sister doesn't love it as much as I do," she said. "To me it's not a sacrifice. It's doing what I love and getting my college paid for. It's like having a job you're in love with."

Reynolds also said he approaches swimming as if it were a job. He swims 20-30 hours a week while a typical college student may work that same amount.

It's like a job you have to take home, Reynolds said. In addition to all of the time in the pool, he also has to eat right and make sure to get in bed early.

Reynolds said what other students might view as sacrifices, he just takes it as what he needs to do to be successful at what he loves.

"It's what needs to be done for me to achieve to the highest degree," Reynolds said. "I am getting to do what 1 percent of college stu-

dents get to do by playing a Division 1 sport."

Despite all of the time in the pool, Reynolds said he still finds time to do activities he enjoys.

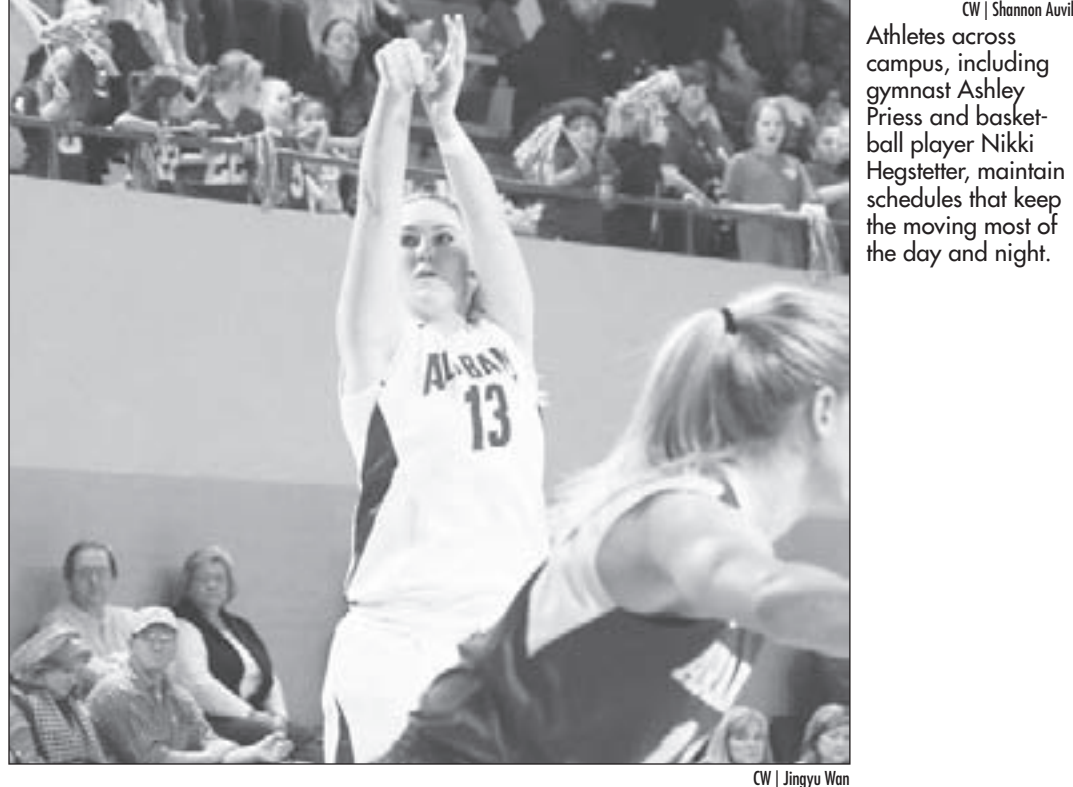
"I find time for doing things I like," Reynolds said. "If not, I would go stir crazy."

Ashley Priess, a senior gymnast, said she lived a lifestyle that was different than the average girl her age even in high school. She was an elite gymnast throughout high school and spent 40 hours a week in the gym before even coming to college.

"College actually opened up my schedule," Priess said. "I had certain goals I wanted to accomplish, and I had to do what it took to accomplish them, but, I loved every minute of it."

Priess said she has no regrets and even praises the opportunities she has had because she is a college gymnast.

"I've been blessed with more opportunities than the ordinary college student," she said. "What other college students can say they've competed in 20-something countries?"



CW | Shannon Auvil
Athletes across campus, including gymnast Ashley Priess and basketball player Nikki Hegstetter, maintain schedules that keep the moving most of the day and night.

CW | Jingyu Wan

Menus changing to accommodate gluten-free diet, lifestyles

Nutrition experts suggest individuals with Celiac disease find alternatives to help maintain health



By Taylor Veazey
CW Staff

Since July 2012, Karina Simonis has cut all foods like pizza, bagels and fried chicken out of her diet. She isn't trying to lose weight — after noticing that many different types of food were making her sick, Simonis was diagnosed as gluten-intolerant.

"It's hard because I went my whole life eating bread and pasta, and suddenly had to cut it out of my diet," Simonis said. "I didn't realize how sick it was making me until I took it out."

Simonis, a sophomore majoring in musical theatre, is part of a statistic that is quickly rising. Celiac disease, a condition in which the body rejects food containing gluten, is considered the most under-diagnosed common disease today and affects approximately one in 133 people, according to the Gluten Intolerance Group website.

Sheena Gregg, assistant director of nutrition education and health services in the department of health and wellness, said gluten is a protein found in wheat, barley and rye. This can be problematic because many common foods contain it.

"People who are gluten-intolerant needed to be educated to learn what substitutions they can make to maintain a balanced diet," Gregg said.

Simonis' immune system has also been affected by the change in her diet. She said she gets sick more easily and often since cutting out gluten. She blames the lack of nutrients in the foods she eats.

"It's hard to eat a well-balanced meal now," Simonis said. "You can eat healthy, but

compared to a well-rounded meal, it's not balanced. There aren't a lot of complex sugars or carbs."

Simonis, whose diet consists of a lot of potatoes, rice and grilled chicken, said finding food to eat on campus and in dining halls is difficult because most foods contain gluten, including the vegetarian and vegan options.

"Vegan pastas all have glu-

ten, and almost everything

has wheat,"

Simonis said.

"Most chicken is breaded.

Hamburgers are on buns and

tacos are on tortillas. Pizza

crust also contains gluten. I

always just eat vegetables and

rice."

But a gluten-free diet isn't

just for those intolerant to

it anymore.

Gregg said

many of her clients ask about

going gluten-free as a way

to lose weight, and that it is

quickly becoming a fad diet.

But Gregg warned against

cutting out gluten completely

if you do not have to.

"I think when people

hear about gluten-free, they

think it just cuts out bread

products," Gregg said. "It

becomes problematic when

they cut out foods that con-

tain gluten but they don't try

to replenish with carbs that

the brain needs."

If someone cuts out those

carbohydrates, they risk

becoming malnourished,

Gregg said. Foods containing

gluten are also fortified with

vitamins and minerals that

we need.

"I usually tell them to not

pursue going gluten-free for

weight loss purposes," Gregg

said. "They can still include

gluten in their calories with

things like wheat bread and

wheat pasta. We can find

healthier sources of gluten-

products. It's not necessary

to cut it out of your life."

“

I think when people hear about gluten-free, they think it just cuts out bread products. It becomes problematic when they cut out foods that contain gluten but they don't try to replenish with carbs that the brain needs.

— Sheena Gregg

CW | Cameron Hammer

Bama Dining offers gluten-free pizza, pasta and bread at its Fresh Food Company location.

Staff Picks: Books editors are reading now

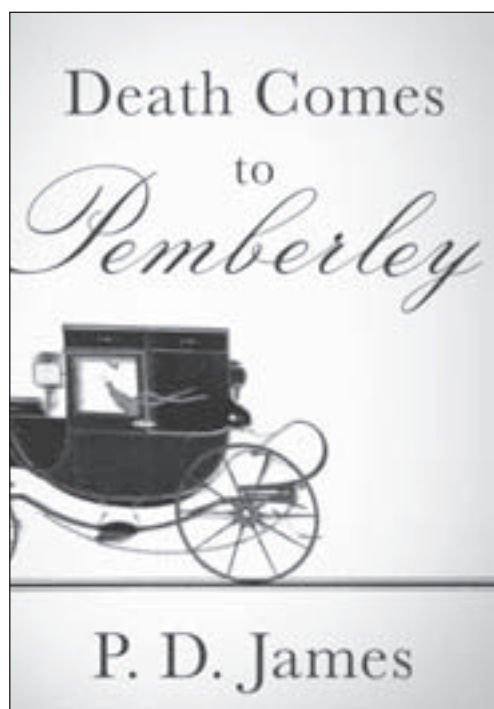
With midterms on the horizon, some UA students may be short on time for reading anything but their textbooks and notes. But for those looking for a study break or a relaxing activity in the dreary weather, members of the CW staff are sharing our current reads worth checking out.

“Death Comes to Pemberley”
by P.D. James

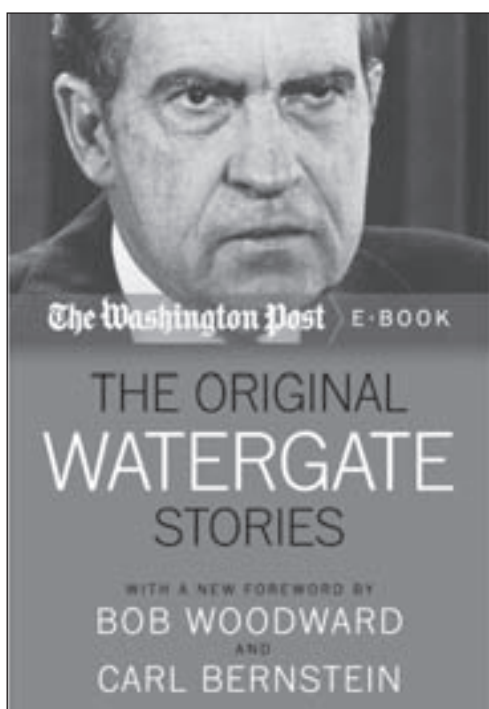
“The Original Watergate Stories”
by Bob Woodward and
Carl Bernstein

“Letters”
by Kurt Vonnegut

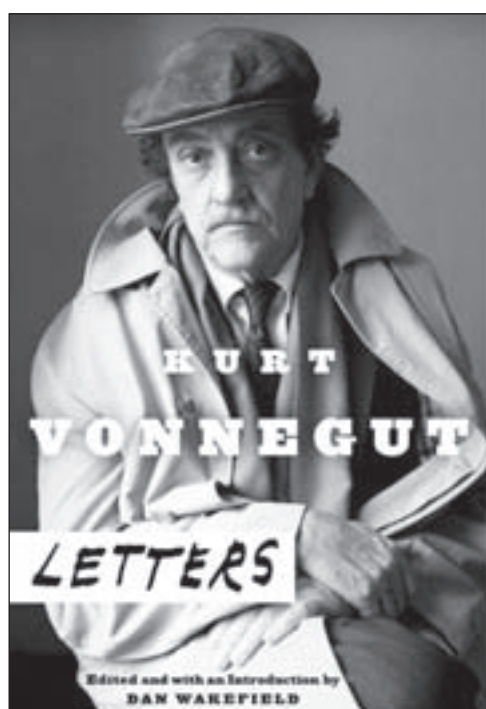
“The Art of Racing in the Rain”
by Garth Stein



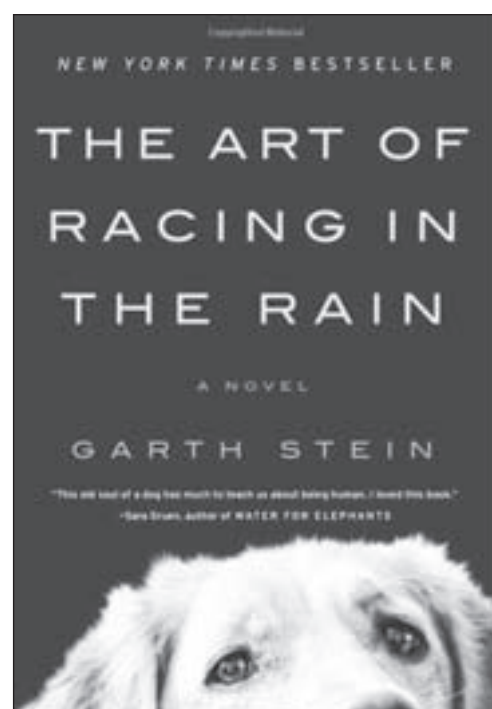
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By Lauren Ferguson

Set in 1803 as a sequel to “Pride and Prejudice,” “Death Comes to Pemberley” offers a new read for avid Jane Austen fans. While the story includes elements reminiscent of Austen’s writing and character styles, renowned British author P.D. James adds a murder into the plot. The sequel commences six years after the marriage of Fitzwilliam Darcy and Elizabeth Bennet who now reside at the Derbyshire estate, Pemberley, with their two sons. But soon after, their classic Victorian-era lifestyle is turned upside into the setting of a murder mystery.

By Will Tucker

Yes, I really am reading this, not just saying so. And I’m thoroughly enjoying it. The Washington Post collected all the original reporting by historic journalists Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein about the “third-rate burglary” that led to a cover-up that brought down a president and put it all in an ebook. It’s just timeless journalism. Yet, read it on an iPad or Kindle, and you’re inevitably reminded of how the times – and the law – have changed since the days of Deepthroat and Tricky Dick. What would President Nixon have had to cover up if he’d just had a Super PAC?

By Stephen Dethrage

A quick confession: I love Kurt Vonnegut. “Letters” is a collection of correspondence between Vonnegut and his friends and family, his peers and his publishers. I adore this book because I’ve always been a letter-writer myself and the craft is dying. It’s fascinating to read those that were expertly penned by Kurt, arranged chronologically and read in his letters the story of a storyteller. Vonnegut’s highest highs are recorded here, as are his darkest depths. Before CW readers pick up “Letters,” they should probably be familiar with Vonnegut’s other work. I’ve got to warn you, though. Chances are good that once you start reading Vonnegut, you’ll be hooked.

By Melissa Brown

I typically have two books on my night stand at once, something non-fiction (this month, it’s a biography of Catherine the Great) and a lighter read for when I need a brain break. If you need a short, simple read that isn’t fluff, this is your book. Told from the point of view of a family dog, Enzo, the story cuts to the heart of any reader who has ever loved a pet like a member of a family. On the eve of his death, Enzo recounts his life spent alongside his master Denny and Denny’s family. Though he’s voiceless to his human companions, Enzo offers hilarious and heartbreaking insight on the human (and animal) condition to the reader.

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‘Ain’t Misbehavin’ to take audience back to Harlem



CW | Jingyu Wan

Theatre Tuscaloosa will host ‘Ain’t Misbehavin’ at Shelton State.

By Bianca Martin
Contributing Writer

Theatre Tuscaloosa will take audiences back to the age of the Harlem Renaissance when they perform the musical “Ain’t Misbehavin’” at Shelton State Community College this week.

The musical pays tribute to the historical Harlem Renaissance time period and its famous musician, Fats Waller. It consists of five characters singing and dancing their way through many of Waller’s greatest hits.

Set in New York City, the show centers around performances in famous night clubs such as the Cotton Club and the Savoy Ballroom.

The play is almost entirely sung with only a few spoken lines. The musical styles include swing, blues, ballad, scat and stride. With big voices and energetic dance moves, the dancers imitated the dance styles in numbers reminiscent of the time period.

Nick Burroughs, a student at The University of Alabama, choreographed the show. Before the play began, Burroughs said he felt confident in the performance.

“I feel really awesome about it,” he said. “They had a really great final dress rehearsal last night.”

Burroughs, a junior

majoring in musical theatre, said he believes the audience would enjoy how lively the cast would be.

“I think the audience will enjoy the cast’s energy,” he said. “They’re going to be excited about seeing the energy and connection that the five characters have with each other on stage. They’ll also love their voices. Their voices are amazing.”

The theatre was almost full at the opening night performance. Before the show, the audience appeared to be very excited about the musical.

Two audience members, Wesley King and Craig First, said the cast and music made them want to see the show.

“We’ve worked with a lot of the cast before,” said King, a UA graduate. “We wanted to come support them and hear the music.”

King and First also said they were expecting a great show. “I’d heard good things about the show,” said First, a student at Northridge High School. First said he came to the show expecting “phenomenal voices and really good dancers.”

Throughout the show the performers had the audience bobbing their heads, snapping their fingers, and even dancing in their seats. The show relies on audience reactions at various parts. During one musical

IF YOU GO...

- **What:** Theatre
Tuscaloosa’s production of “Ain’t Misbehavin’”
- **When:** Feb. 12-17
- **Where:** Shelton State Community College’s Bean-Brown Theatre

number, “Fat and Greasy,” the performers ask the audience to sing along.

Audience member Joyce Grubbs said she was very impressed by the show.

“It was more than I expected,” she said. “It was very professional. I really loved it.”

“Ain’t Misbehavin’” will continue running until Sunday, Feb. 17 in the Bean-Brown Theatre at Shelton State Community College.

Performances taking place Thursday-Saturday will begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday and Sunday performances will begin at 2 p.m. Tickets costs \$14 for students and children, \$16 for senior citizens, and \$22 for adults. They can be purchased at theatretusc.com. For more information, call (205) 391-2277.

'Vloggers' on YouTube making names for themselves

By Mary Kathryn Patterson
Contributing Writer

Spending hours on YouTube is a fun way to waste time for many students, but for the actual video creators, or vloggers, it's a way to inspire others and explore possible career opportunities.

Caitlin Corsetti graduated from The University of Alabama last May with a degree in telecommunication and film and is now living in her dream city - New York City. She said she owes a lot of her success to her time video blogging for CollegeCandy.com while she was in college.

"I started blogging for College Candy in 2009 when I became their freshman voice writer," Corsetti said. "A beauty [video] blogger position became open, and I jumped to fill the spot." Corsetti became the host of

CC Beauty Live where she gave tutorials on makeup and other beauty products.

"It turned out to be one of our most popular columns," Corsetti said. "We had over 200 episodes, and we developed a huge Twitter following."

Corsetti said some of the fans of the College Candy vlog began to follow her personal Twitter account and would tweet questions and experiences to her.

"Once I moved to New York, I started my own YouTube channel and I would vlog about my experiences in the city," Corsetti said. "I wanted to branch out and do more than beauty, and some of my followers from CC Beauty Live also subscribed to my personal account."

Corsetti said having a degree in telecommunication and film with a concentration in broadcast news helped her to have a

natural camera presence when talking to her viewers.

"I am always extremely open with my viewers," Corsetti said. "I share a lot on camera because I want them to feel like they know me, and they do know me."

Corsetti said her experiences vlogging for College Candy also helped to get a new job with the website gurl.com. She said she plans on continuing to vlog for her job, as well as for her personal YouTube account.

"It's important to remember you are doing this for you," Corsetti said. "I never vlog just for the money or to get hits. I do it because I love it."

Founded in 2005, YouTube now sees over two billion views a day, according to their company timeline. Vloggers upload everything from beauty tutorials to gaming-world commentary. And for many vloggers, it

is a personal outlet.

Sophomore Kady Wohlfarth began vlogging after she broke her back last August to share her experiences and recovery process.

"After I broke my back, I had a lot of free time," Wohlfarth said. "I started vlogging because I wanted to turn my negative experience into something positive."

Wohlfarth's first vlog received almost 1,200 hits in four days. She said she originally posted the video as a way for her friends to keep up with her while she was at home, and she was surprised at how popular it had become.

"I have no idea why it gained so much popularity," Wohlfarth said. "If I helped even one person by telling my story, then it was worth it."

Wohlfarth has returned to the University and does not



Kady Wohlfarth started her YouTube channel and blog after an injury to keep herself busy and connected online.

vlog currently, but she said if given the time, she would do it again.

"I think vlogging is a positive thing because you are

becoming famous for the reasons that you wish," Wohlfarth said. "You are defining yourself and other people by what you have to say."

Kentuck offers clay crafting class

By Ashley Montgomery
Contributing Writer

For those looking to get in touch with their inner artist or enjoy the aesthetic of handmade pottery, the Kentuck Clay Co-op offers students and Tuscaloosa residents a chance to do just that. While some students opt for ceramics instruction at the University, the Kentuck Clay Co-op allows beginners and masters of clay to practice their craft on their own time.

"You can just create what you want," Shweta Gamble, executive director of Kentuck, said.

Kentuck offers a class in which students will learn and practice throwing in the wheel, slab rolling, wedging and hand building. Then they can choose to become a regular member of the Clay Co-op. Monthly membership costs are \$50 and discounted to \$35 for students. Membership allows co-op

participants studio space where they can work on their own time without the upkeep of a personal studio.

According to Kentuck's website, the co-op acts as an extension of the organization's ongoing mission to perpetuate the arts, engage the community and empower the artists. Since its launch, the co-op has provided artists and students a place and community to practice their skills.

For local artist Joe McComb, ceramics started out as a hobby at the Clay Co-op and grew into an avid interest. McComb has had his ceramics work displayed at various locations including Kentuck Museum, Wild Birds Unlimited and the Makers Market.

Kerry Kennedy, an alumnus of The University of Alabama, created a name and career for herself through the Kentuck's Clay Co-op. Kennedy studied ceramics through the College of Arts and Sciences. With

seven years at the Clay Co-op, Kennedy has a personal art studio at Kentuck and is a paid, traveling artist. She credits most of her success to the late professor W. Lowell Baker, in the fine arts department at the University.

"He taught me a fantastic work of how to unhinge myself," Kennedy said. "He taught me to look beyond the object and focus on learning the craft and gaining the skill."

Kennedy's art ranges from \$5 to \$30 for each piece, but it's not money that keeps Kennedy in the studio every day.

"I just have fun doing it," Kennedy said.

She shares her talent at the institute by teaching ceramic classes for new and regular members. Kennedy will also be showing her work at the Alabama Clay Conference in Birmingham, Ala., from Feb. 21 to March 3.

For more information, visit kentuck.org.

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BASEBALL

Crimson Tide's freshmen ready to start, make impact

By Billy Whyte
Staff Reporter

Outfielder Taylor Dugas was a three-time All-SEC and one-time All-American that was a constant force for the University of Alabama baseball team during the last four years, including leading the team last year in batting average, runs, doubles, triples, walks and slugging percentage. Dugas, coupled with drafted shortstop Jared Reaves, represented the heart and soul of the Crimson Tide the last two years. So the question becomes, how do you replace them?

Meet Mikey White, freshman shortstop for the Tide who played for the 2011 U-18 USA Baseball team, was named 2012 Mr. Baseball and whose dad, Mike White, played for the Alabama back in the 1980s. Along with fellow freshman second baseman Kyle Overstreet and outfielder Georgie Salem, White will look to make an immediate impact as a starter on opening day.

One of the immediate benefits that should come from the three freshmen is their fielding ability, which will be a needed boost from last year's defensive struggles.

"[It's] a defense that's very athletic and is very consistent in making the routine play, and can also occasionally make a great play and can also turn double plays," head coach Mitch Gaspard said.

Gaspard said while he expects there to be struggles early on, they should be assimilated quickly into the pace and adjustments of college baseball.

"I don't know that you go into the first

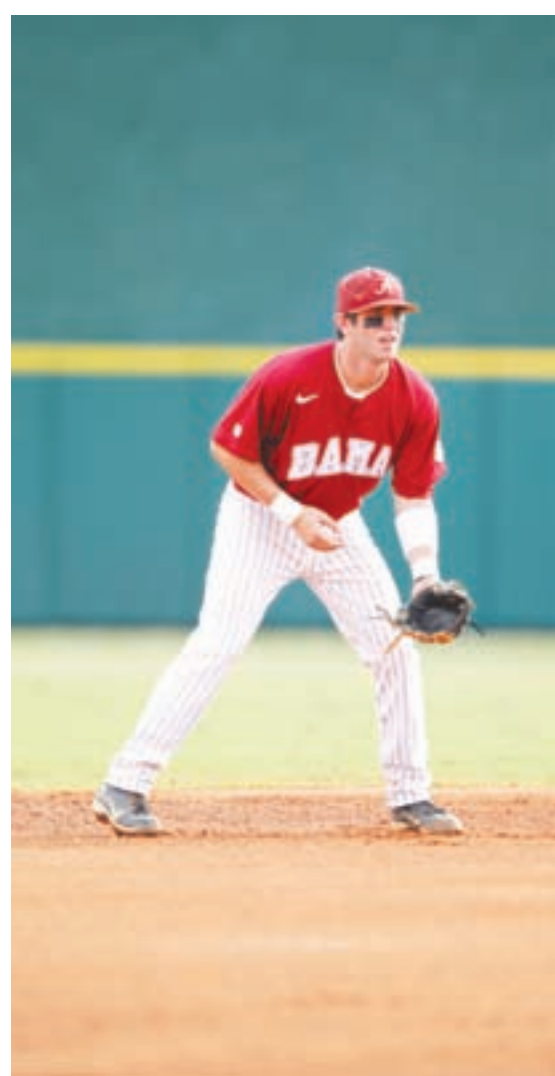
week and you see three freshmen that play like they've been out there for three years, I think there are a little bit of growing pains in there," Gaspard said. "They are very good baseball players, they have very good baseball IQ, and they've played at the highest level you can play at prior to coming into the SEC and Alabama. I think there is going to be a comfort level that is going to get there pretty quick with this group."

Senior infielder and catcher Brett Booth said the key to the incoming freshmen is helping them stay mentally strong throughout the course of the season.

"The biggest thing is just keeping their confidence every day for a young player," Booth said. "You can see how they like to compete, they are good players, you don't have to teach them much on the baseball side of stuff, they are handling their own, but the biggest thing is mentally. Letting them know what they are getting into when in two months, when we've been playing almost every day for two months and they are zero for their last ten or zero for their last fifteen."

Gaspard said he is very proud of how the older players have helped the younger players adjust as they prepare for the upcoming season.

"The returning players have done a really good job at helping the young guys coming into the program as for as just showing the ropes and what it's all about," Gaspard said. "And I think we also got a great group of young players who are really respectful and really understand their situation."



Baseball coach Mitch Gaspard will rely on freshmen like Mikey White, whom he says have "very good baseball IQ," to gain their confidence quickly and make an impact for the team this season.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Alabama holds 4-shot lead heading into final round of 2013 Lady Puerto Rico Classic; Texas Tech and TCU tied for second place

CW Staff

The Alabama women's golf team staked claim to the team top spot after 36 holes of the 2013 Lady Puerto Rico Classic on Feb. 11 at the par-72, 6,191-yard River Course at the Rio Mar Beach Resort with a 2-over-par round of 290.

The Crimson Tide is four shots ahead of first-round leader Arkansas at 7-over 583. Alabama's round of 290 was six shots better than the Razorbacks and nine shot better than any other team in the field. Texas Tech and TCU are tied for second at 21-over 597 with Iowa State in fifth place

at 22-over 598.

Junior Stephanie Meadow moved into second place in the individual standings at 1-under 143, three shots back of tournament leader Emily Tubert of Arkansas. Meadow carded a 2-under-par round of 70 on Monday to pace the Crimson Tide.

True freshman Emma Talley is two shots back of Meadow in a tie for third place at 1-over 145 after firing an even-par 72 in the second round. Junior Hannah Collier also finds herself inside the top 10 in a tie for sixth after an even-par round of 72 left her in a tie for sixth at

2-over 146.

Senior Jennifer Kirby and sophomore Daniela Lendl both shot 4-over 76 on Tuesday to tie for the Tide's No. 4 score. Kirby is tied for 19th overall at 5-over 149 while Lendl is tied for 37th at 10-over 154. Johanna Tilström is playing as an individual

and carded a 78 in round two.

The Crimson Tide will begin its third round at 5:30 a.m. (CST) on Tuesday and will be paired with Arkansas, TCU and Texas Tech. Among other SEC schools in the 15-team field, Kentucky is in 10th at 35-over 611 and Auburn is 11th at 35-over 612.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Grant preps team for games against Bulldogs

By Kevin Connell
Contributing Writer

Following a bounce-back win against LSU on Saturday, the Alabama men's basketball team will travel to Athens, Ga., Tuesday night to take on a red-hot Georgia Bulldogs team.

The Crimson Tide (15-8, 7-3 SEC) has won in its past three meetings over the Bulldogs (12-11, 6-4) and four out of the last five, including a 2011 SEC Tournament quarterfinal win at the Georgia Dome.

With just eight games left on its regular season schedule, the Tide will look to continue to improve its position in the SEC standings, where it currently sits tied for third

with Ole Miss.

Head coach Anthony Grant said he expects another physical game ahead of them, like it has been all season.

"This league plays a physical brand of basketball," Grant said. "We expect it to be a physical game again with their style of play, and obvi-

ously, we're going to try to do a good job in matching that."

The Bulldogs are winners of five straight games, tying them with Kentucky for the longest current streak in the SEC. Their team will look to continue their streak when they play host to the Tide.

Georgia has held its opponents to 39.1 percent shooting from the field, including just 34.5 percent over the past three games.

"I think when you look at Georgia, you got to look at their team," Grant said. "They're playing 11 guys, and those guys seem to understand what they need to do offensively to maintain their efficiency and then defensively, they've done a really good

job."

Although the Tide has been strong on the defensive end for much of the season in its own right, it has struggled in recent games offensively. Grant said the team can't allow their offensive woes to carry over on the defensive end.

"I think for us it's no secret that we've struggled from an offensive standpoint the last few games," he said. "I think there's ebbs and flows over the course of a game, there's ebbs and flows over the course of a series of games. I think the thing that we want to do is make sure that we're getting good shots. And for us, understanding no matter what

happens on the offensive end, it can't affect our focus and effort on the defensive end."

Senior guard Andrew Steele said the team's overall intensity will likely increase as the team heads into the final stretch of the regular season.

"As you get closer towards the tournament, the sense of urgency picks up, because you realize you're kind of running out of time to make a case, whether or not you kind of play your way in or whether you try to solidify where you are," Steele said.

"At the beginning [of the season] you want to set the tone for what kind of team you want to be, then once you get toward the end you want to

make sure you finish strong."

Sophomore guard Levi Randolph said the Tide must prepare accordingly when it faces Georgia in the always-tough task of playing a conference road game.

"There's a lot of distractions when you go on the road, but the mental aspect is what's most important," Randolph said. "You have to come focused and ready to play, and try to block everything out. It's the players and coaches that are the ones on the court controlling everything, and you just have to stay focused and play the game."

The game is scheduled to tip off Tuesday at 8 p.m. CT and will be televised on ESPNU.



CW | Shannon Auvi

Anthony Grant said Monday that his team will have to prepare to play a physical game against UGA.

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COLUMN

Tide's 'smaller sports' receive less recognition, fans than other athletic teams

By Caroline Gazzara

When you think about the SEC, the first thing that comes to mind is football. Basketball might pop up, but mainly it's football. At Alabama, football is life. Fans live and die for it and people who don't really like the sport will start to get into it. But compared to other sports such as golf and swimming and diving, die-hard fans aren't so common. The real question is, where are the fans?

Now I'm not hating on football—believe me, I'm a die-hard Tide fan—but the amount of commotion isn't the same for all sports. I've been to more non-football games since coming to Alabama, and it's rather drastic how much of a difference there is in the fans.

For instance, look at our soccer team. There are four stands in the soccer complex that barely get halfway full. On average, there were about 210 attendees per game. More people

“

If a sport isn't ranked, hasn't won a championship recently, or didn't dominate in the SEC, then the students don't know about it. We see promotional posters for gymnastics on corkboards and restaurant walls, but we don't see anything about golf or rowing. And yes, we do have a rowing team.

attended games when there was a theme such as The Power of Pink, but other than that not many people showed up.

It's not that the fans don't support all of the teams. If someone says "Roll Tide" for any sport, everyone will reply with "Roll Tide." The loyalty is there but the attendance isn't always.

Fans don't always know when there's a game being held or if it's special. For tennis, does anyone really know off-hand when the next match is unless they actually follow the tennis teams? Or for swimming and diving,

does anyone know that Alabama made it into the SEC championship?

It's not hard to get swept away with the big sports like football, basketball, softball and gymnastics but if they weren't NCAA champions, would the fans be just as supportive? Some students say they only go to games because either the teams are winning and they want to be a part of that or because they are well-advertised.

Compared to the football program, advertising for other sports isn't as extreme. If a sport isn't ranked, hasn't won

a championship recently, or didn't dominate in the SEC, then the students don't know about it. We see promotional posters for gymnastics on corkboards and restaurant walls, but we don't see anything about golf or rowing. And yes, we do have a rowing team.

Last week was National Signing Day and the UA Athletics Facebook page posted every football recruit that signed. They didn't post any other sport's recruits until the end of the day, however. Football recruited 25 new players. Track and field/cross country recruited 12 new runners. You don't see the same amount of posts or special pictures about track and field like you do with football.

If people aren't informed of what's happening in our athletics department, then fans won't show up to games. Women's basketball on Sunday had 1,311 people attend the game and a majority of the attendees were Girl Scouts. There was also

a large number of the opposing team's fans cheering on Arkansas.

The Athletic's Facebook page does an adequate job of promoting the upcoming events but the viewers aren't always as gung-ho about lesser-known sports. More people commented on the upcoming gymnastics meet because they know we are nationally ranked and because it is against Auburn.

As students, we want the convenience of knowing what's happening at all hours of the day. The only problem with that is that without constantly advertising and publicizing events, we won't remember or go to a game. I've had more people message me asking me what I was doing and when I told them I was at a game they would question if we really had a game or not. They would also go further with wishing that they knew about the games earlier because they would've liked to have gone.

If that's not enough proof that people want to be fans but don't know about the games, then I don't know what is.

I know without a doubt that more people would attend if they knew there was something going on in the athletic world. Students that grew up playing a sport still have the passion to go to a game and watch our team play. I make sure to attend all the home swimming and diving meets because I used to swim and I enjoy following our team and its success. But if we don't go out and research sports outside of the main four, we don't know what's going on.

There is a fan inside everyone, but they don't show up if they don't know what's going on. Sports don't get the fans they want to get because people aren't always in the know of what's happening. And that's why smaller sports don't get the fans.

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HOROSCOPES

Today's Birthday (02/12/13). Your solar year begins a season of social fun, creativity and romance. For about five months, old partnerships are best, and promotions attract attention. A career choice in summer blazes trails for the rest of 2013 and beyond. Go play! To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) -- Today is an 8 -- Communications go the distance today. Present practical data, and get the word out. Share a commitment and inspire others, who take it the extra step. Listen for the gold.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) -- Today is a 9 -- New information emerges. Speak up; you could earn a bonus. New financial arrangements are possible. Keep track of spending, and create a game plan. Tap into hidden resources.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) -- Today is a 7 -- Convince your partner by inventing a fabulous fantasy. Discuss financial implications. More planning is a good idea. Ask probing questions about priorities. Proceed to the next level: design.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Share discoveries and listen to your partners. Find ways to save time by working smarter. A small investment now produces high returns. Ask for more and get it.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Today is a 7 -- It's a good time to learn from someone you love, someone who comes up with brilliance. Do the homework you've been avoiding for an epiphany. This makes you irresistible.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Today is a 9 -- Persuade a family member into

going along for the ride. Bring home a happy surprise. Advance to the next level of your practical plan for prosperity. Keep a secret.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) -- Today is an 8 -- Your clever wit attracts new business. Gather information and learn quickly. The news is all good. Graduate to the next level. Allow your partner temporary veto power.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- Follow a wise relative's advice, and let words lead to surrender. Be vocal about what you want. Get materials for a creative project. Listen to your heart's song.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) -- Today is a 9 -- An amazing discovery validates your work. Step outside the box. Others ask for your advice. Deliver your message in writing, or give a speech. Consult friends for feedback.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Today is a 9 -- Watch for new information. Fan the flames by broadcasting it. Your past work speaks well for you. Accept assistance. Reveal your ideas in private. Record feelings in your journal.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) -- Today is an 8 -- There are new assignments coming in, and the money motivates. There's a power play. Figure out how to go farther to resolve practical questions. Provide leadership and persuasion.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) -- Today is a 9 -- Let others know what you want. Promise something better later and mean it. More becomes available. Invest in efficiency. You gain public recognition. Phone home if you're away.

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 - Gymnast's goal
 - Deli bread
 - Art on skin, slangily
 - Draw upon
 - Not as much
 - Call-roping gear
 - Candid sort
 - Street toughs
 - Diamond Head's island
 - Aromatic drinks
 - Go on Iptoe
 - Small songbird
 - Wine area near Turin

- DOWN**
- "Star Wars" gangster
 - No longer squeaky
 - Xbox battle game
 - Told to go
 - Asian tie
 - Asian's guy
 - Grating voice
 - One might get stuck in a jam
 - Video-sharing website
 - Radius's limb
 - Committed penalty
 - Randall who played Felix Unger
 - Chip in a chip
 - Supermodel Banks
 - Marsh stalk
 - Tolstoy's Karenina
 - Snowmobile brand
 - "and weep!" poker winner's cry
 - Take back
 - Smart guy?
 - More like Felix Unger
 - African countries on the Mediterranean, e.g.
 - Mediation agcy.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

By Melanie Miller 2/12/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

D	O	F	F	G	A	P	S	W	A	N	E	S
E	R	O	O	W	E	N	A	L	A	M	O	
L	I	A	R	F	A	L	A	R	I	P		
H	O	M	E	M	O	R	T	G	A	G	E	
I	N	S	T	O	R	E	T	A	N	N	E	D
M	I	G	S	A	M	I	S	E	E	M	A	R
A	M	A	T	I	O	I	L	S	E	M	I	S
C	O	M	E	M	O	N	D	A	Y	T	I	E
Y	A	M	M	S	E	S	H	E				
S	T	A	T	U	S		S	H	O	R	T	E
I	N	T	E	R	N	A	L	M	E	O		
G	O	T	T	I	N	E	A	P	A	R	C	S
E	X	A	L	T	D	A	R	E	I	S	E	E
M	O	S	E		S	L	E	D				

35 Congeals
36 Target practice supply
37 "... one giant ___ for mankind"
42 Cunning
45 Washington Monument, for one
49 Universal blood type, for short
50 Related to flying
54 Had lunch in

55 Foot bones
56 Letter carrier's org.
57 Leave speechless
58 Marine eagle
60 Vegas event
61 Kindergartner's reward
63 Tiny bit
65 Wanted-poster letters
66 Sailor's pronoun
67 Attila, notably

Sudoku

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

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MEN'S GOLF

Thomas prepares to begin his sophomore season

By Andrew Clare
Contributing Writer

There are not a lot of golfers out there who can have the same type of success in their first year of college play as Alabama golfer Justin Thomas did in his freshman year last season.

In his first year at the Capstone, he won the Jack Nicklaus Award, which goes

out to the national player of the year. He also won the Phil Mickelson Award, which goes to the nation's top freshman, and was named a Ping first team All-American, a Freshman All-American, the Southeastern Conference Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year.

Last season, Thomas also captured the Fred Haskins Award which goes to the nation's most outstanding collegiate golfer.

Haskins award winners have gone on to compete in 42 Ryder Cups, win 28 majors and win 250 PGA tour events. Past winners of the Haskins Award consist of Arizona State's Phil Mickelson, Stanford's Tiger Woods and UAB's Graeme McDowell.

In 2012, the Goshen, Ky., native had nine top-10 finishes and six top-5 finishes in 12 starts last season, and helped the Crimson Tide reach the National Championship match last year against the University of Texas. He also set the school scoring record with an average score of 70.44.

"I learned a lot from it," Thomas said. "It was a great year for me; I think I learned a lot mentally and just with game and coaches helping with the start of my collegiate career."

In order to have a successful season and possibly return back to the national championship match, Thomas plans on not putting extra pressure on himself and putting the last season behind him.

"I think if I put that pressure



UA Athletics

Justin Thomas won the Jack Nicklaus Award for the national player of the year during his freshman year.

on myself, I just make things worse not only for myself but for the team as well, which is most important," Thomas said. "What happened last year is great and a lot of fun, but it literally has nothing to do with what is going on this season."

Over the summer, Thomas played in a few amateur tournaments to help him gain the

experience and prepare him for this season. The biggest tournament Thomas played in was the Palmer Cup where he represented the United States.

"It is a special honor to be able to play for your country," head coach Jay Seawell said. "The Palmer Cup was a great experience and has helped Justin develop into a better golfer."

With the season starting this Sunday, Thomas and the Tide are looking forward to possibly avenging last season's national championship defeat.

"I'm just really looking forward for the season to start," Thomas said. "It feels like it's been forever since we played a college event, I'm excited for things we can do this season."

SOFTBALL

Softball home opener against South Alabama cancelled for expected inclement weather

CW Staff

The Alabama softball team's home opener against South Alabama, scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 12, has been cancelled due to expected inclement weather and wet field conditions. A makeup date has not been determined.

The Crimson Tide opened its season by winning the UNI-Dome Classic in Cedar Falls, Iowa this past weekend. The Tide earned five wins on the opening weekend. Alabama outscored its opponents, 43-12, scoring

eight or more runs in four of the five games.

Alabama will now continue tournament play on the road as it will head to Fort Myers, Fla., to participate in the FGCU/La Quinta Inn and Suites Tournament. The Alabama team will open play in Florida against Appalachian State on Friday, Feb. 15.

Haylie McCleney named the SEC Softball Freshman of the Week

Alabama outfielder Haylie

McCleney (Morris, Ala.) was named the Southeastern Conference Freshman of the Week, the league office announced Monday. McCleney helped lead the Crimson Tide to an undefeated 5-0 record at the UNI-Dome Classic this past weekend.

McCleney put together one of the best opening weekends in Tide history. In her first collegiate action, McCleney batted .722 (13-for-18) with nine runs, four RBI, two doubles, a triple, two home runs, two walks and

five stolen bases.

She reached base three or more times in each contest and had three hits in four of the five games. She also scored at least one run every game and stole one base or more in four of the games on top of playing stellar defense.

In the win against Drake, the rookie batted 3-for-4, with an inside the park home run, a triple, scored twice and drove in two. Against NDSU, McCleney went 3-for-3, scored three runs, hit a double and a home run, and stole a base.

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