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The Crimson White

Many students uninformed about administrators

By ERICA STRATTON
Staff Reporter

Many UA students are having difficulty finding information about the makeup and actions of the administration. *The Crimson White* queried 122 students at random this week to see if

they could correctly identify the University's president (Robert Witt), provost and vice president for academic affairs (Judy Bonner) and vice president for student affairs (Margaret King, though Kathleen Cramer, who held the position before King was hired, was also accepted as a correct answer).
Though 97 students (roughly 79.5

percent) correctly answered that Witt was president, only 16 could do so for King or Cramer (roughly 13.1 percent), and only three (roughly 2.5 percent) knew Bonner's name. During the survey, one student asked, "What is a provost and what does she do?"
Asked whether they were aware of the hiring of the University's new

divisional vice presidents, many students responded they were not aware any of the positions were vacant. Students who were interviewed generally said they were interested, but a lack of readily available information keeps them from being aware of the administrators' actions.
"I'm too busy to look up information, so unless it's in the newspaper

on a day that I have time to read it, I never hear anything about it," said Amanda Carr, a sophomore in the Culverhouse College of Commerce and Business Administration. Other students simply declared they were only interested if the administrators were discussing an

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One hundred twenty-two UA students were asked if they knew who occupied certain administrative positions. Of those surveyed:



President: Robert Witt
79.5% knew
20.5% did not know



Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost: Judy Bonner
2.5% knew
97.5% did not know



Vice President for Student Affairs: Margaret King (interim VP Kathleen Cramer also accepted as an answer)
13.1% knew
86.9% did not know



Presidential battle starting to heat up

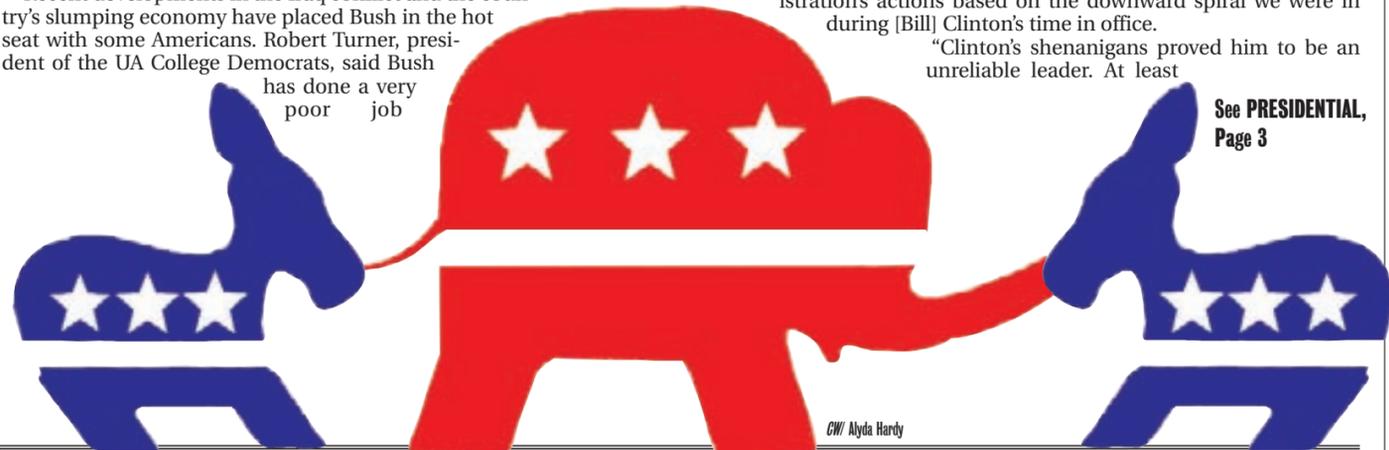
Bush on hot seat while Democratic money leader Dean focuses efforts on young voting demographic

By SARAH KATE SULLIVAN
Staff Reporter

From the Ferguson Center to Julia Tutwiler Hall, many UA students are already making stands in support of or against President Bush's administration in advance of the 2004 election. Recent developments in the Iraq conflict and the country's slumping economy have placed Bush in the hot seat with some Americans. Robert Turner, president of the UA College Democrats, said Bush has done a very poor job

and has left a lot to be desired. "Look at our economy and the ... people that lost their jobs in his first year in office," he said. "The war in Iraq is costing us a soldier a day and a billion dollars per week. The environment is the worst it has ever been, and the Patriot Act signed under his administration is taking away our civil liberty as Americans to be innocent until proven guilty." Other students like senior Jason Payne, a self-professed Republican from Sumiton, said they still believe in Bush. "Considering the responsibility placed on the shoulder of the president, I think he is doing a fantastic job," Payne said. "I justify his administration's actions based on the downward spiral we were in during [Bill] Clinton's time in office." "Clinton's shenanigans proved him to be an unreliable leader. At least

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Genome researcher returns with humble attitude

By TIFFANY SUMMERVILLE
Administrative Affairs Editor

Richard Myers shuffled behind a wooden lectern adjusting the microphone attached to his starched shirt. His normal attire — a white lab coat — was replaced Monday night by slacks and a dress shirt. Instead of being positioned behind a microscope gazing up at the faces of his colleagues at Stanford University, Myers was glancing at the faces of college students, the family and friends he grew up with in Tuscaloosa. But Myers' perception of himself is more humble than the perception some of the 18-year-old college freshmen in the audience

held of him. The perception was so strong students came out on a slightly rainy Monday night to hear a lecture not too different from one they might hear in the Molecular Biology 101 class they would easily have skipped at the slightest prospect of rain. Myers thinks he is just a hometown Tuscaloosa boy who returned to his alma mater, the University, to give a lecture about his scientific work — work that already has worldwide implications. Myers was surprised to be in familiar surroundings, and he told the audience gathered in the Ferguson Center Theater he remembered watching movies in that very room while earning his undergraduate degree in biochemistry from the

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UA student Lauren Britt meets Richard M. Myers, a UA graduate who spoke Monday about genetics research at the Ferguson Center Theater.

Committee: Homosexuality should be in protective policy

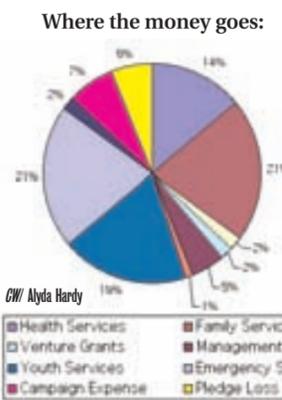
Resolution recommends homosexuality be included in UA's equal-opportunity policy

By CHRIS OTTS
Senior Staff Reporter

Taking a cue from the SGA Senate, the Faculty Senate steering committee passed a resolution Tuesday recommending that sexual orientation be added as a protected category to the University's equal-opportunity and non-discrimination policies. The resolution, which states that "discrimination based upon sexual orientation is condemned, and systems and practices embodying such discrimination be dismantled," will go before the full senate next Tuesday. Faculty Senate President John Mason said the resolution reaffirms the group's stance against discrimination. A 2000 Senate resolution states the group's opposition to "all instances of prejudice, racism, sexism and bigotry." "This reaffirms what we have done before and affirms our support for including sexual orientation as a type of discrimination in the University's policies," Mason said. As outlined in its equal opportunity policies, the University is not allowed to discriminate against people because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability or veteran status. Sexual orientation is not listed. The Faculty Senate resolution comes on

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UA, community begin United Way campaign



By ALEX WADDELL
Staff Reporter

The University has already raised 11 percent of its \$200,000 goal in its annual fundraising campaign with the United Way of West Alabama. For the past few years, the University has been the largest single contributor to UWWA funds

because it is the largest employer in Tuscaloosa. The University has been involved with UWWA for more than 30 years. "The University's participation is extremely important to our campaign," said Homer Butler Jr., executive director of UWWA. "When we hit the [University] goal, that will be 7 percent of our total goal." This year's campaign theme is "Solving Problems — UA

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Flag policy left blowing in the wind

By LORIANNE HINE
Senior Staff Reporter

No further discussion has taken place about a proposed ban on letting students hang flags or posters from their dormitory windows since last month, Dean of Students Tom Strong said Tuesday. The UA Student and Campus Life Committee met last month and discussed a proposal for the Office of Residential Life to ban on-campus students from displaying the items in windows.

"Our organization ... [formed] the proposal, and then we handed it off to the Campus Life Committee."

—ALLAN GUENTHER
Res Life assistant marketing, public relations director

"Res Life has tabled the issue," said Strong, a member of the committee. Strong said he does not know of any student organizations that have reviewed the proposal since it was tabled. He also said he is not aware of any other action that has been taken on the flag policy issue. Allan Guenther, assistant marketing and public relations director for Res Life, also indicated the proposal has been tabled indefinitely.

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Check us out online at www.cw.ua.edu

the World IN Brief

CAMPUS

Rutgers lecturer to discuss longevity research

Monica Driscoll of Rutgers University will speak about biological research in the areas of aging and longevity Thursday at 4 p.m. in 202 Biology Building.

Driscoll's lecture, "Elaborating Cellular and Molecular Mechanisms of Aging, Longevity and Healthspan in C. elegans: Lessons and Themes from Simple Old Animals," is the second in the UA Center for Mental Health and Aging's 2003-04 Scientific Seminar Series co-sponsored by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute Research Program.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call Denise Cleveland at 348-7512.

The Liar showing this week

The department of theatre and dance's production of *The Liar* by Carlos Goldoni will be performed today through Sunday at the Allen Bales Theatre. The comedy, a new translation by Tunc Yalman, is about a young man who has fun with his mischievous lies after returning home from a long journey. Tickets are \$12 for general admission, \$10 for senior citizens and UA faculty and staff, and \$8 for students. Show times are 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the box office at 348-3400.

Candlelight vigil to remember domestic violence victims

The Interfraternity Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Panhellenic Association and Women's Resource Center will sponsor a candlelight vigil at Denny Chimes tonight at 6 to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

The chimes will ring 27 times for the number of domestic violence homicide victims in Alabama last year. In addition to the vigil, purple ribbons will be displayed across campus to show support for the fight against domestic violence. For more information, call the WRC at 348-5040.

Love Your Body Day set for today

The University will observe Love Your Body Day today, billed as a day of action to speak out against media advertisements and images of women that are seen as offensive, harmful, dangerous and disrespectful.

University Recreation, Students for Gender Justice and the Russell Student Health Center will have information tables about women's health and healthy body images. The tables will be in the Ferguson Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

UA NAACP chapter to host Walk for Life

The UA chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will hold the Walk for Life tonight from 6 to 9.

Participants will meet in Ferguson Center Room 309 for a brief health forum at 6 p.m. and then go to the Quad to participate in the walk. Refreshments will be served.

Diversity Coalition to sponsor second race lecture tonight

The Coalition for Diversity and Inclusiveness will sponsor a lecture by School of Law professor Al Brophy tonight at 7:30 in 304 Bidgood Hall.

Brophy will speak on "Remembering and Litigating Jim Crow: The Case of the Tulsa Riot, 1921." Anyone may attend.

Area event to benefit Camp Smile-A-Mile

The Rollin' Oldies Vehicle Open Show "Under the Oaks" will be held Saturday in Moundville near Hale County High School. Proceeds will benefit Camp Smile-A-Mile, an organization that aides children with cancer.

Registration for participants will be held from 9 a.m. until noon. Judging will be from noon to 3 p.m., and awards will be presented at 3 p.m. Admission is free. Tractor and pre-vehicle registration fee is \$12, and costs \$15 the day of the show. For more information, call Price Howell at 371-2633 or Charles McAteer 345-7555.

LOCAL

Voters in Birmingham, Montgomery decide mayoral races

BIRMINGHAM (AP) — Montgomery Mayor Bobby Bright was voted into a second term in Tuesday's election, while Birmingham Mayor Bernard Kincaid faces a runoff.

Kincaid, a first-term incumbent with a good-government campaign, received the most votes in Birmingham's election, but not enough to avoid a runoff with City Councilwoman Carole Smitherman. Kincaid led the field of 18 candidates with 32 percent, or 14,442 votes. Smitherman followed with 23 percent, or 10,185 votes. The two will meet in a Nov. 4 runoff.

WEB POLL RESULTS

Should the Tuscaloosa City Council have banned grilling on apartment balconies and near apartment buildings?

- 21.4% Yes
- 78.6% No

Total votes: 98

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CAMPAIGN

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leading the way." The campaign began with a kickoff Sept. 30.

About 100 faculty and staff members attended the event, where refreshments were served, the UA jazz ensemble performed and Big Al took pictures with coordinators, said Carolyn Dahl, chairwoman of the UA United Way Campaign.

UA President Robert Witt spoke on the importance of the UWVA and UA participation to improve the community.

He also requested a 5 percent increase from last year's goal of \$190,500.

GENOME

Continued from Page 1

University.

Now, many degrees and awards later, Myers is director of the Stanford Human Genome Project and one of the researchers whose name will go down in scientific history because of his successful sequence of the human genome for the first time last April. The work opened doors to the study of causes of more than 11,000 genetic disorders affecting humans worldwide.

"[I] put it on a scale of what many consider man landing on the moon," said Guy Caldwell, UA assistant professor of biological sciences, in his introduction of Myers. "The Human Genome Project will impact us directly, as opposed to just being inspiring to us."

Myers, who started his genetic research to sequence the human genome in 1990, worked with a worldwide team of researchers for 13 years, and determined the order of chemicals in the human chromosome two years before planned — just in time to celebrate his project's discovery on the 50th anniversary of the description of the double-helix structure of human genetic material known as DNA in 1953.

By sequencing the human genome, Myers' research has opened the doors to discovering the parts of human DNA that are different in individuals with genetic diseases.

"Clearly, the uses of this are immediate, and there are many of them," he said.

Because of Myers' discovery, almost 32,000 human genes have been identified and sequenced.

"This is really important because 15 years ago we knew probably 500 of them," he said. "So it's a huge increase in knowledge in a very short period of time. We know the causes of a lot of diseases that are due to DNA sequencing differences."

Parkinson's disease, sickle cell anemia, cystic fibrosis, muscular dystrophy and breast cancer are among the 11,000 diseases — resulting from differences in one gene — being studied extensively after the success of the Human Genome Project.

Myers predicts this research will result in dramatic effects in the field of science in the next 10 years by allowing scientists to identify the basic causes or contributors of most human diseases. Such identification will result in faster, cheaper, more automated technology such as genetic testing.

"We'd like to see this help people," Myers said.

Recalling his alma mater, Myers said he returned to the University to discuss his recent findings because his family still lives in Tuscaloosa and because he has not forgotten where his interest in scientific discovery first began.

"Because I went here, I feel like I owe it [to the University to come and speak]," he said. "I'm particularly fond of the University and Tuscaloosa because it made a huge difference to me."

Impressed by the attentiveness of the students in attendance and the intelligence of the questions they posed, Stan Bloom, whose endowment sponsored the lecture series, said he was impressed by

"President Witt has been active with the United Way in every community he's lived in," said Michael Reilly, chairman of the community campaign of UWVA. "He has reached the highest level of personal giving himself."

Butler also felt encouraged by Witt's positive message and dedicated interest in the cause.

"A good campaign really has to start at the top and filter down," Butler said.

The UWVA serves 27 different charities including the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Tuscaloosa County and West Alabama AIDS Outreach.

"The United Way has a

long history of connecting different agencies," Dahl said.

"It has a community-wide approach and doesn't single out any one agency."

The campaign will officially end Nov. 7.

A celebration will be held Dec. 4 at the Bryant Conference Center to announce the amount reached, and to focus on thanking the several hundred campus coordinators.

Reilly and other United Way volunteers expressed their desire to give to those in need of assistance through the United Way.

"There are two types of people in this world: givers and takers," Reilly said.

"I would rather be a giver."

Myers' achievements.

"I think that he is extremely bright, and I thought that his subject was particularly good," he said.

Joe Hornsby, director of the Blount Undergraduate Initiative, and other UA faculty selected Myers to speak for the lecture series. Hornsby referred to Myers as the top of his field in human genetics and as a role model for students aspiring to have an

impact on others through their various fields of study.

"I think it tells students that anything is possible, that the University of Alabama gives students the great educational springboard of becoming the top of their field," he said.

David Stange, a freshman biology major in the BUJ, said he was impacted hearing Myers speak of his research.

"This guy is going to be a Nobel Peace Prize winner,"

INFORMED

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issue that directly affected them, such as parking problems or raises in tuition.

Another problem students complained about is that they often only find out about decisions the administrators have made long after the actions have been finalized.

As for suggestions that could improve communication between UA administrators and students, Ryan Mitchell, a senior in C&BA, suggested *The CW* create a weekly column devoted to administrative actions and issues.

Other students' suggestions included a Web site, an increase in open discussion forums and more in-depth administrative reporting by *The CW*.

Stange said. "Not too often do you get to speak to a guy who is 'god' in genetics."

Downplaying his credentials, Myers said he just believes study and research pay off with huge rewards that can have worldwide implications.

"You don't have to be a genius to do it," he said. "You just have to be dedicated, be reasonable, smart and make some good decisions."

SGA FALL BAND PARTY

FEATURING

TROUBLE

Tuesday, October 28th
10:00 P.M. - 2:00 A.M.
at Gallette's

All proceeds go to the student book scholarship fund. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the SGA office on the 3rd floor of the Ferguson Center.

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Expires 11/30/03

PRESIDENTIAL

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Bush admits when he is wrong. I believe that the downward spiral is finally leveling off."

But Turner called Bush's tax policy regressive and needless.

"Tax cuts for the rich are a slap in the face and are senseless in the midst of a recession. As a Democrat, I support tax cuts for the lower- and middle-class, hard-working families, and his request for \$87 billion from Congress to aid the Iraqi war is ridiculous," he said.

Turner is not the only student on campus who opposes Bush's economic tactics. Freshman political science major Paul Brown, a self-professed die-hard Libertarian, criticized Bush's budget policies.

"His spending is outrageous, especially for a Republican," Brown said. "He has spent more than any other president in the past."

Bush's economic policies have caught some fire in recent months, but the hottest topic for debate has been foreign policy and the aftermath of the war with

Iraq. "Bush gave us false pretense for going to war, and we never found weapons of mass destruction. Though I am happy that Saddam Hussein is out of power, I do not believe Iraq was an imminent threat," Turner said.

"The American people voted for Al Gore, but the Supreme Court put George Bush in office. I strongly believe that if Al Gore were president now, we would not be fighting the war against Afghanistan and Iraq. Bush has hurt domestic policy, environmental policies and severed our international ties."

Senior communications major Brad Allen of Long Beach, Calif., expressed a similar opinion about U.S. foreign policy.

"He keeps talking about weapons of mass destruction when there are none. He keeps talking about bringing peace to the Iraqis, and we still have no peace," Allen said.

"There is just no good justification for the war. If we

"Tax cuts for the rich are a slap in the face and are senseless in the midst of a recession. As a Democrat, I support tax cuts for the lower- and middle-class, hard-working families, and Bush's request for \$87 billion from Congress to aid the Iraqi war is ridiculous."

—ROBERT TURNER
President of UA College Democrats

went around trying to make peace in every country, we would be going to war with Syria and every other country on the globe. It's Bush's plan for world domination."

Blows toward Bush from Democratic students have not stirred the faith of freshman Mary Stackhouse, a member of the College Republicans and a telecommunication and film and Spanish major.

"I have always been in favor of Bush and staunchly believe he has done a good job [with] the tragedy of Sept. 11," she said. "He is most certainly justified in going to war. His actions were necessary for protecting our country because the risk of weapons of mass destruction was great enough for a call to arms no matter if they have been

unearthed yet in Iraq or not."

As students across American campuses take sides in the debate over the Bush administration, Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean

has been perhaps the most visible of the president's opponents to focus on rallying the support of the college-age demographic.

Dean has the largest campaign fund of the nine major Democratic presidential candidates, and he is second among the party's contenders in many polls, trailing only former Gen. Wesley Clark.

Michael Whitney is a spokesman for "Generation Dean," a 16,000-member organization affiliated with 425 high schools, colleges and communities. He said Generation Dean has sponsored the recent "Raise the Roots" tour, in which Dean has traveled for four days on an eight-city tour speaking at rallies and town hall meetings.

"The turnout has been amazing," Whitney said. "We have seen 10,000 young people come out."

He claims the desire of young people to become active in government is the main reason for Dean's focus on the youth demographic.

"For so long, politicians have ignored young people because they do not vote. But that is solely because young people do not believe that politicians care about their needs," Whitney said.

He boasted that most of Dean's campaign staff, including the political director, webmaster, field director and scheduler, are under age 30. Whitney is a sophomore at American University in Washington, D.C.

"Young people really care about civil liberties, health care, jobs and the economy," he said. "Dean is so appealing to them because they see themselves in him. They are socially progressive, fiscally conservative, and that is Dean's perspective across the board."

Only 36 percent of people between the ages of 18 and 24 voted in the 2000 general election. Whitney said he expects 59 percent of those voters to come out to the polls.

FLAG

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"Our organization served on the front end by forming the proposal, and we then handed it off to the Campus Life Committee," Guenther said.

Guenther also said the Resident Assistant Association, whose delegates last met Oct. 6, did not discuss the proposed flag policy. Guenther serves as adviser to the RAA. He said he was not aware of any discussion that has taken place among members of the Residence Hall Association either.

Efforts to reach RHA President Krista Stringer for comment this week were unsuccessful.

Strong said the next opportunity for discussion of the flag policy would be in November at the Student and Campus Life Committee's next meeting. He said no agenda has been set for the meeting. Strong said a subcommittee has been organized to discuss the idea of revising the free speech zone policy, which says completely free speech — such as protests — on campus can only be demonstrated at the Crimson Promenade near the Ferguson Center. He said there should be a consensus before the end of the semester on the free speech zone issue.

Former UAH art teacher slain in apparent robbery

The Associated Press

MERIDIANVILLE — Jack Dempsey, a retired teacher of visual arts at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and a central figure in the city's arts community, was found slain at his Meridianville home.

A relative found him dead Sunday afternoon at the home where he lived alone, 4 miles north of Huntsville. He was 75.

Sgt. Paul Yox of the

Madison County Sheriff's Department said Dempsey died of a single gunshot. He said robbery appeared to be the motive because Dempsey's wallet and red Chevrolet truck were taken. The truck was later recovered and two suspects were identified, he said Tuesday afternoon.

Dempsey, who was retired from UAH, was remembered by art department chairman Glenn Dasher as the school's

first teacher of visual arts and "the pivotal person" in the program.

Artist Maria Hoch of Pensacola, Fla., described her former teacher as "amazing."

"He leaves an indelible impression on you. I owe everything as an artist to him," she told *The Huntsville Times* in a story Tuesday.

Another former student, Marylyn Coffey of Huntsville, said Dempsey "had his own aesthetic theories, and they

were more elaborate and interesting than any book."

Dempsey's involvement in the arts went beyond UAH.

His classes at the Huntsville Art League were the league's most popular, league spokeswoman Mary Champion said.

For years Dempsey headed the Huntsville Poetry Society that met monthly at Shaver's Book Store.

John Shaver said Dempsey was the heart and soul of the group.

POLICY

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the heels of September's SGA Senate Resolution 6-03, which also calls for homosexuals to be protected in the University's nondiscrimination policies and enjoins UA President Robert Witt, the administration and the Faculty Senate to support such an action.

UA's faculty senate in April adopted a nearly identical resolution calling for the protection of gays under its university's equal opportunity policy, a factor that influenced the UA Faculty Senate to consider its own resolution.

Mason said the new resolution "perfectly articulates" the language of the previous Faculty Senate resolution, the SGA Senate resolution and UA policies. He said he is fully confident it will pass the full Senate next week.

In other business, Hank

Lazer, assistant vice president for undergraduate programs and services, attended the meeting to field committee members' opinions on Dead Week policies. Dead Week, sometimes referred to as "study week" in administrative circles, is the final week of regular classes in the semester. It is supposed to be "dead" because teachers are not to assign any tests or major assignments during that week.

Lazer said he has met with a student focus group and assistant and associate deans in various colleges to gauge common problems associated with Dead Week policies, such as teachers giving their exams during Dead Week instead of finals week and the definition of an extended/major assignment or project.

Committee members agreed a teacher's rescheduling of an exam to Dead Week at the "consent of the class" is prohibited under UA policies and should not be tolerated.

But the committee seemed to agree there is ambiguity as to what constitutes a major or extended assignment, which is not supposed to be due during Dead Week. Lazer said that was the focal point of the discussion.

"Unfortunately there is no definition [of a major assignment] that fits all disciplines," he said.

Finally, the committee decided to table a resolution honoring UA faculty athletics representative Gene Marsh. The resolution would express appreciation to Marsh for his six years of service at the post.

Committee members, though they agreed with the resolution's position, moved that it be delayed until a lawsuit against Marsh plays out.

Former Alabama assistant football coaches Ivy Williams and Ronnie Cottrell named Marsh as one of several defendants, including the NCAA, in a lawsuit claiming Williams and Cottrell are jobless after

having their names smeared in an NCAA investigation that led to sanctions against the Alabama football program.



The Locker Room

POLO

Ralph Lauren
Fall Arrivals

The Locker Room

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Take A Break from Midterms!

Join Us for a Luau at the New Rec Center Pool Complex!

Enjoy Free Food, Leis, Grass Skirts, Prize Giveaways, Music and a Limbo Contest!

Don't forget your swimsuit... the pool is heated!

Thursday, October 16
8pm - Midnight

This event is open to ALL students at the University of Alabama and is sponsored by CCSO & Tide after Ten..

Showing This Week at Ferguson Theater



Reese WITHERSPOON
LEGALLY blonde 2
RED WHITE & BLONDE

Thursday, October 16 • 7:00, 9:00 • 11:00 PM
Friday, October 17 • 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 PM and 1:00 AM
Saturday, October 18 • 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 PM and 1:00 AM
Sunday, October 19 • 3:00 PM

Admission: \$1 Cash or Bama Cash



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- Blackened Chicken Alfredo \$6.99
- Vegetable Pasta \$5.99

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- Turkey Club Wrap \$5.99
- Chicken Caesar Wrap \$5.99
- Orleans Style Poboyas \$7.99

SPECIAL EVENTS

Thursday Oct. 16th - TROT LINE
Friday Oct. 17th - ADELAYDA. ALL TOMORROWS PARTIES. THE ASHES
Saturday Oct. 18th - DANCE NIGHT
Monday Oct. 21th - MONDAY NITE FOOTBALL
Tuesday Oct. 22nd - ACOUSTIC CAFE
Wednesday Oct. 23rd - KARAOKE

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Parking veto a move in the right direction

Zoned parking creates a lot of headaches for resident students, especially those living in the southeast and southwest areas of the campus. It's often difficult enough to find a parking spot near home, and the parking doesn't get freed up any when the RVs come to town or the sororities have chapter meetings, either.

But that doesn't mean it's a good idea to hand out virtual "get-out-of-jail-free" cards with every ticket received, which is sort of what the SGA Senate's parking resolution would have recommended if it had passed: a one-ticket limit per 24 hours for parking in the same erroneous zone. Thus, if students had gotten tickets for parking in a faculty spot at 8 a.m., they would be free to park in various other faculty spots for the rest of the day.

That's only going to help ticketed students push other members of the UA community into the wrong parking zones so they get ticketed, too, in a kind of nasty cycle. If we as students are going to abide by these admittedly flawed parking rules, we might as well actually abide by them, rather than reward those who break the rules.

On top of that, any SGA Senate resolution would probably have been moot, because it's doubtful the administration would go along with giving students an easy way out of the parking system.

But the administration didn't have to take such drastic measures as leaving the resolution forgotten on a desk to get dusty until it fell down a crack and was lost for the ages. SGA President Katie Boyd took care of that by vetoing the resolution (the first time any of us can remember that happening in the SGA in a long time) in a rather interesting and refreshing display of independence.

It's a good sign for the SGA, an organization whose members are too rarely seen at odds with each other. After all, conflicting ideas and heated debates are a staple of other, larger forms of government. Questioning and review are both good policies to have, and the expression of differing viewpoints is often necessary for reaching the best solution to a problem.

Boyd's flexing of her executive muscle worked out to everyone's advantage. She proved she wasn't a pushover, and the SGA was rescued from passing a problematic resolution.

It's too bad southeast and southwest resident students don't have a little bit more wiggle room in their allotted parking, but that's a matter best changed by rezoning, not a simple disregard for rules.

Our View is the consensus of The CW editorial board.

Israel not to blame for violence in Middle East

By JOSHUA SIMON

After reading Heather Mechler's column Monday, I decided to take her advice and "investigate" a little Middle Eastern history. In this editorial, I will present a few quotes, maps of U.N. resolutions and general history that should save you the trouble of looking it up yourself.

I believe we all agree that Israel has a right to exist as a sovereign nation. The Arab world definitely did not, and it is arguable as to whether it does now.

A map of U.N. Resolution 181 of 1947, a partition plan that would have divided Israel into an Israeli and a Palestinian state, can be found online at <http://domino.un.org/maps/m0082.gif>.

The Jews delightfully accepted this plan, which allowed them some desert land, amounting to a little over half of what Israel is today.

The Arabs, on the other hand, rejected the idea of having a single Jew in their midst and decided to attack the day after Israel declared its independence in May of 1948.

It started with the armies of Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Yemen

trying to "throw the Jews into the sea," which was the popular battle cry for these countries. However, Israel rightfully won its independence. At this point, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip were slightly smaller than originally planned but, nonetheless, the bulk of both territories.

I have a question: Would there even be a state called Israel if these armies had won? Absolutely not. But the West Bank and Gaza Strip or "Palestinian state" remained, not "wiped off the map" by Israel but instead occupied by Jordan and Egypt respectively.

The unanimous endorsement of surrounding Arab states was typified by President Abdur Rahman Aref of Iraq, who declared, "The existence of Israel is an error which must be rectified. This is our opportunity to wipe out the ignominy which has been with us since 1948. Our goal is clear — to wipe Israel off the map."

It is worthy to note that from 1949-67, there was never even an effort for the Palestinians to become a state when the Jordanians and Egyptians occupied them.

It is also hilarious that Yasser Arafat formed the Palestine Liberation Organization in 1964, which was three years

before Israel occupied their territory. Are you confused? It basically means Arafat was sending homicide bombers into the heart of Israel when all he really had to do was ask his friend King Hussein of Jordan to hand over the occupied territory.

If you were wondering how Israel came to occupy the territory, it was during another attempt to blot out Israel. Egypt, Jordan and Syria massed their armies along the borders of tiny little Israel in 1967, but through superior military intelligence, American aid or what I like to call God's favor, Israel once again fended off the hostile aggression.

These were not the only times when Israel has become an ideal target for destruction. Israel was forced to hold these occupied territories for its own safety.

Ever since the creation of the state, it has been a victim of constant terror.

There are hindrances to the peace process, and they go by the names of Hamas and Islamic Jihad. These people are not martyrs, and they do not fight for freedom. They blow up innocent people on buses, in cafes or during religious holidays. They mass-

murder innocent civilians along with their own miserable, God-forsaken lives.

Since when in the history of earth has it been acceptable to target civilians as a means of warfare?

When Israel tries to stop these murderers at all costs, they are labeled monsters. Israel was complying with the Roadmap, as it has done with every peace proposition laid before it in the past, when, of course, Hamas claimed responsibility for a horrendous volley of murderous strikes.

The problem here is not Israel, and there are poor, unfortunate, peace-loving Palestinians who fall victim as well. Israel will not continue to exist in a constant state of war and violence.

It is time for America to step up and support the land of Israel. Terror is not acceptable anywhere, as we know from our experience, yet it happens in Israel on a regular basis.

I would love nothing more for both sides to live in peace and harmony, but that is absolutely impossible until the terrorist groups are eliminated.

Joshua Simon is a junior in the College of Arts & Sciences.



CW Nick Beadle

Greek bashing is not how to even playing field

By SAMEUL HAQUE

Joseph Grabill, chairman of the Capstone Coalition, formerly known as the Independent Voters Association, has been gracious enough to let me take the lead in shaping the future of our organization.

You haven't heard much from us because we're transitioning into a new philosophy centered on getting the subcultures of our student body to come to terms with each other. The issues that divide us should be resolved rather than being used as political weapons. This column is an outline of how we think and, consequently, what our role will be at the Capstone.

The foremost travesty the student body has on its conscience is the persistent failure of our political factions to behave in a manner conducive to solving the cultural problems at our school. The University's cultural divisions need to interact in a profoundly different way; otherwise, our school will continue to be perceived as a segregated vestige of the Old South.

If the greeks dominate student government positions, what do they possibly have to gain? Respect. Being greeks at the University carries a stigma, and greeks are always on the defensive regarding minority issues. At universities like Auburn, Florida and Georgia, greek membership ranges around 50 percent. At the University, it's more like 20 percent.

If the greeks here were less concerned with maintaining their "traditional" image, the University would have an integrated and diverse greek population more than twice as large as it is right now.

Regarding their voting practices, the problem isn't that the greeks back unqualified people, but rather that their bloc-voting behavior discourages leadership on campus. It's fine for the greeks to have an agenda, and there's nothing

wrong with being political. But why not open it up and give independent candidates a shot at getting greek votes?

Independents feel they don't really have a chance against the greeks. That's why greeks get bashed in so many editorials and why they get ostracized from the rest of the University. As a matter of principle, greeks should vote in accordance with the philosophical values outlined in their charters, unless all of that is just an excuse to party.

Most non-greek students don't really care about campus politics, but those who do tend to hold a virulent strain of thought portraying themselves as valiant heroes against the Machine. Whatever. The Machine is just a bunch of college kids. You've probably had classes with them ... ooh, scary.

Everyone already knows about the lack of diversity, about the pressure to conform and about the crap they pull come election time. No, the greeks aren't perfect, but neither is anyone else. Greeks vote, and not only that, they bring in a ton of money for this school and for charity, too.

When you attack greeks just for being greek, when you play the race card over and over again and when you don't have a platform beyond "greeks suck," then you're causing voter apathy rather than curing it.

If independent candidates would focus as much effort on working hard, building accomplishments and mobilizing voters as they do on "why greeks suck," they'd meet with much more political success. In case you haven't noticed, non-greeks outnumber greeks here more than three to one. If greeks go out and vote, that's fair play.

It's not like many independents go to the greek houses and talk to them about their concerns as voters. Independents need to try that,

and they should also try getting in touch with the Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Association. Then let us know what happens.

The Capstone Coalition: What are we going to do about it?

Though the organization as a whole is the Capstone Coalition, the IVA is being retained as our political division. We will not endorse candidates, but we will assist student leaders, greek or independent, seeking to mobilize and communicate with voting audiences in accordance with our principles.

The IVA arm will be responsible for actively communicating policy criticism and suggestions to the SGA and to the administration. Typical coalition meetings will consist of moderated debates on SGA legislation, administrative policy and student body issues with the aim of developing solutions. We will also print *The Coalition Report*, a political journal concerning the same topics.

We understand that the University's political problems represent a deeper problem of social disunity, and that these problems are best solved through social means. As a result, we will initiate social functions between the traditionally white greek organizations and more ethnically diverse groups. Additionally, we will assist the IFC and Panhellenic in attracting a pool of minority rushees for each Rush period.

The University's standards of politics and culture must be aligned with the standards of 21st-century America. The Capstone Coalition will do what it takes to bring that about.

Sameul Haque is chief of staff of the Capstone Coalition.

CW's Homecoming coverage inadequate

I find it trite and insulting that *The Crimson White* did not give adequate, or in this case any, news coverage to many events that took place during the past Homecoming weekend.

The Road and River Relay event, which I'm told has been an annual event for UA Homecoming for a number of years, was ignored in Monday's edition of *The CW*. As a competitor in the event, it is disheartening to devote time, energy and money to pursue a goal, achieve that goal and fail to be recognized, even by a publication which has devoted itself to "Serving the University of Alabama..."

It is understandable if no student reporters were available to cover the event, especially considering the myriad array of other such events taking place throughout the previous week and Saturday. However, editors in charge of compiling Homecoming news coverage could have suggested a simple blurb or graphic highlighting the results of the event, a process that should take not longer than one hour.

I would like to thank all volunteers who made the Road and River Relay event possible, even though weather conditions were far from favorable and probably limited the teams wishing to participate. A second "thank you" should also be extended to the teams and competitors within those teams who chose to run, ride, paddle and sprint in hopes of a simple medal and a simple thanks (and what should have been a mention in the campus media).

As a member of the winning relay team, the UA Cycling Club, it is my hope that in the future, *The CW* might seek to expand its news and sports coverage beyond the crowds (and money) of football to find the stories off the beaten path (as clichéd as it might be).

*Patrick Beeson
Graduate student, C&IS*



CW/ File

Alabama's volleyball team, shown going up for a ball in a match against Auburn last year, will hit the road to face the Tigers tonight. The team is 7-10 on the season so far, including a 2-4 SEC mark.

Time for volleyball's Iron Bowl

Alabama, Auburn resume rivalry on the Plains tonight

By **BUDDY HUGHES**
Sports Reporter

Unless they have been living in a cave for most of their lives, people know the Alabama/Auburn rivalry is one of the biggest rivalries in college athletics. In any sport, whenever the Crimson Tide and Tigers square off, it is an electric atmosphere. Both teams take their intensity and effort to a higher level.

The same rule applies to volleyball. It is no coincidence that the highest-ever attendance at an Alabama volleyball game was against Auburn.

The Tide and Tigers will face each other for the first time this year in Auburn tonight.

Alabama coach Judy Green said the volleyball players understand the importance of the rivalry.

After playing a weak non-conference

schedule to start the year, Auburn has struggled against the SEC's tougher competition.

So far, Auburn has not won a conference game this year in six chances. Green knows the Tigers will be geared up for the match.

"You always hear coaches in every sport saying when Auburn and Alabama play just throw the record books out the window," Green said. "Anything can happen."

Auburn's struggles in the SEC may make them seem like a paper tiger, but Green said playing a weaker schedule and getting early wins helped the rebuilding Tigers gain confidence. Green has not overlooked Auburn just because it is struggling.

"I know one thing," Green said. "After watching them on film, they are going to be ready to play Alabama."

The rivalry has been lopsided in recent years, with the Tide winning the last six matches. That is good for a team coming off two home losses to Georgia and Florida like the Tide is. One of the team's goals will be to keep up its defensive and passing intensity that gave Florida a run for its money.

Another key for Alabama will be serving. The Tide committed 27 serving errors combined against Georgia and Florida compared to six service aces.

Two players to watch out for are junior Kory Tull and sophomore Kelly Potter. Both players had career days serving against Auburn last year. Tull recorded seven service aces, while Potter had four service aces.

After its trip to the Plains, the Tide will hit the road again to play Tennessee on Sunday.

Shula inscrutable on QB question

About the only thing that's different from this point last week is the fact that Brandon Avalos has a segment of experience and Brodie Croyle's left shoulder injury is getting a little bit better.

Nevertheless, Alabama head coach Mike Shula is still mum on who will be the starting

quarterback when Alabama travels to Ole Miss on Saturday. The only certainty is that Spencer Pennington, who started and was injured in the game at Georgia, will not play.

"The worst thing we can do is announce one way or the other and that not be the case," Shula said. "We'll take it day-to-day."

With that being said, it appeared likely that Avalos would get most of the practice repetitions again this week.

"We'll see how he feels today and see how much time he'll [Croyle] get in practice and take it today, tomorrow and the next day," Shula said.

"We've got a plan ready if he's going to be in there. We've got a plan ready if Brandon [Avalos] is going to be in there. They're not as far apart as people might think they are."

In his first start, Avalos threw the ball only seven times as the Crimson Tide's running game was effective against Southern Miss. He completed three of those attempts for 11 yards and one interception.

Offensive coordinator Dave Rader did not say whether Alabama would run the ball 50 times against the Rebels.

See **NOTEBOOK**, Page 6



FOOTBALL NOTEBOOK
Drew Champlin

The SGA would like to thank its Homecoming Committee for their hard work.

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Thanks to all of you who participated in the University Programs Homecoming Events! We hope you enjoyed the shows. A special thank you goes to the Delta Chi Fraternity. Don't forget to keep an eye out for upcoming November events...



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NOTEBOOK

Continued from Page 5

"Of course it's possible, but is it practical? I'm not sure," Rader said.

"We think we have a good plan for things for Brandon and things for Brodie. A great majority of that, we think both can do. There were things that Brandon can do that we didn't get a chance to show you."

Shula and Rader were pleased with the way Avalos, a redshirt freshman, led the Tide to a 17-3 victory in his first start; not so much by his offensive production, but by the way he carried himself on and off the field.

"He will be a better quarterback from [his first start]," Rader said. "Brandon Avalos won over the quarterbacks, the huddle, the offensive unit and he won over the team. So much of what he did to win the game happened before kickoff on Saturday."

Avalos attributed it to his pregame preparation.

"Every game is won before kickoff," he said. "I believe the game is won in the film room and on the practice field. What you see is what you see, then you take care of it."

Croyle practiced for the first time since his injury in the Georgia game, and split the repetitions with Avalos. He is sporting two braces on his left shoulder, one to protect it from separating "out and up" and one to protect it from separating "out and down."

"I'm trying to get back in rhythm," Croyle said. "I wasn't [throwing] like I wanted to on the first day back, but I'm still rusty."

2003 MLB League Championship Series

N.Y. Yankees 4

Boston 2

N.Y. Yankees lead series 3-2

Florida 8

Chicago Cubs 3

Series tied 3-3

Alabama softball team ready to start a new year on a brand-new field

By **DREW CHAMPLIN**
Sports Editor

When Alabama softball coach Patrick Murphy puts his team on the field in Saturday's second annual Fall Brawl Tournament, he'll essentially be standing on a new field.

The Alabama Softball Complex has been in existence since 2000, but after a regional was marred by wet field conditions, officials determined the field needed to be redone.

"They redid the field in the summer and fall," Murphy said. "In the regional, the drainage wasn't what it was supposed to be. Scott Urbantke and the ground crew decided to start over. We didn't want this happen again, so we have new drainage, new grass and a new sprinkler system."

What Murphy does have stepping onto the new field Saturday is a veteran team. Only three newcomers highlight a team that went to the Women's College World Series last year in Oklahoma City. The players who led the team as freshmen and sophomores are now juniors and seniors.

"This is the first time in a long time where it's junior-

senior dominated," Murphy said. "It's kinda neat because they aren't afraid to say something now. Maybe they thought they shouldn't or couldn't early on, but now that they are juniors and seniors, they say a lot more."

Returning seniors include first baseman Jackie McClain, pitcher Erin Wright and outfielder Angela Johnson. The leading returning juniors are outfielders Ashley Courtney and Jackie Wilkins.

Murphy said he was most pleased with the sophomore class. He doesn't expect pitcher/third baseman Stephanie VanBrakle and infielders Staci Ramsey and Dominique Accetturo to go through any type of sophomore slump.

"Steph, Dom and Staci are so much more mature," Murphy said. "They know what's going on, they know what to expect, and that's the biggest difference."

Murphy said if he could single one person out for her play in fall practice, it would be Accetturo. She started at second base last season but struggled at times, hitting only .237 last season.

"Her focus is better, her leadership is better, and her work ethic is twice as good as it was last year," Murphy said.

"I think you'll see a big change out of her."

Alabama will play three games against state junior college teams Saturday. The Crimson Tide will play Central Alabama Community College at 2 p.m., Jefferson State Community College at 4 p.m. and Shelton State Community College at 6 p.m.

Next weekend, the Tide will host its first annual alumni game, where the current squad will play against members from the previous seven Tide teams.

Among the alumni in attendance will be Olympian Kelly Kretchman, former All-America pitcher Shelley Laird, former All-America first baseman Ginger Jones and players from the first Alabama softball team such as Kelly McQuade and J.C. Chapman.

Murphy said attendance would be free, and the game will likely start at 10 a.m. due to the Alabama-Tennessee football game starting at 2:30 p.m.



Alabama senior outfielder Angela Johnson returns for a fourth season at the Capstone this year. Johnson, Erin Wright, Jackie McClain and Capper Reed comprise the team's senior class.

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How does your religion view organ donation?

ASSEMBLY OF GOD	Donation is highly supported by the denomination. The decision to donate is left to the individual.
BAPTIST	Organ donation is encouraged as an act of stewardship and of compassion for those who are suffering.
BUDDHIST	Donation is a matter of individual conscience. A high value is placed on acts of compassion.
CATHOLIC	Organ and tissue donation is an act of charity and love. Pope John Paul II has stated that Christians should accept this as a challenge to their generosity and fraternal love.
CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST	The decision to donate is left to the individual.
EPISCOPAL	A resolution in 1982 recognizes the life-giving benefits of donation. All Christians are encouraged to become donors "as part of their ministry to others in the name of Christ, who gave His life that we may have life in its fullness."
HINDU	The decision to donate is left to the individual. Organ transplantation can be used to alleviate the suffering of other human beings.
INDEPENDENT EVANGELICAL	The decision to donate is left to the individual. Nothing in Scripture contradicts organ donation.
ISLAM	Muslim scholars belonging to various schools of Islamic law have cited the principle of the priority on saving human life and have permitted organ donation and transplantation as a necessity to procure that noble end.
JUDAISM (ALL BRANCHES)	Organ donation is a contemporary Mitzvah. When a human life can be saved, it must be saved.
LUTHERAN	Donation contributes to the well being of humanity and can be "an expression of sacrificial love for a neighbor in need."
METHODIST	The United Methodist Church encourages all Christians to become organ donors as part of their ministry to others in the name of Christ.
PRESBYTERIAN	Members are encouraged to be organ donors.

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ORYX

Continued from Page 8

improved version of human life. In the Crakers, Crake has eliminated aggression, disease and the fear of death. Atwood leaves this question unresolved, letting the reader decide what to make of the situation she sets up.

Atwood's writing style is well-polished and descriptive. The reader gets a good sense of the characters; Snowman, Jimmy, Crake and Oryx each have tangible attitudes, motives and emotions.

If the narrative and some of the language is choppy, it serves to imitate a man trying to cope with and understand the massive change he has witnessed. For instance, the word 'ersatz' stands apart from simpler words, and it appears enough times to become distracting. However, since

Snowman spends most of the novel trying to remember as many words as he can, this habit can be attributed to his desperate attempts to preserve his language.

Oryx and Crake is eerily relevant in regard to recent events linked to the human genome project, stem cell research and especially the recent worldwide panics involving the SARS and West Nile viruses and mad cow disease.

As for the overall emotional affect of the novel, Atwood gives the reader a rather dark view of humanity and its future. However, she does not leave the reader without any hope. Snowman makes a discovery in the last chapter that takes some of the tension from his situation.

The novel's end hinges on an important decision Snowman must make: Can he trust humanity, himself or any version of it? Atwood stops the

narrative at the peak of Snowman's choices.

Oryx and Crake, though emotionally dense, is an intriguing take on the future. It has a little something for everyone: interesting scientific ideas, recent philosophical issues and even a good, old-fashioned love triangle.

Lisa Rudden is managing editor of Marr's Field Journal, the University's undergraduate literary and art journal.

DEREK

Continued from Page 8

recently released an album titled *Soul Serenade*; the album includes a number of band originals as well as a new arrangement of the John Coltrane-popularized jazz classic "Afro Blue."

Following its gig in Tuscaloosa, the band will travel to Montgomery for a show at the Capri Theater and then to Gadsden, where it will play

at the Center for Cultural Arts. Though the Derek Trucks Band frequently fills small theaters to capacity, employees of the somewhat more intimate 4th & 23rd feel confident their establishment will successfully accommodate not only the band, but also its legions of fans.

"I definitely think [the show] will sell out," bartender Trevor Gnemi said. "We'll try and fit in the maximum capacity."

"We're really excited about it. We're getting this place cleaned up ... It should be a really good show."

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7th Avenue: 2 blocks from campus, 2 bedroom, new kitchen. \$385. Delview 345-4600

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Campus- 3 bedroom apartment top floor of house, completely separate. Fall 2003, lease and deposit required, no pets. 752-1277

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Campus: Cobblestone Courts. Small one bedroom efficiency. Very nice! One block from campus. Serving University students for fifteen years. \$225. No pets. Deposit required. 752-1277.

Campus: Small one bedroom efficiencies behind university strip. \$300 per month. Utilities included. Lease and deposit required. Call 752-1277.

Claymont Apartments - 1 Bedroom Units. First Month Free. Perfect for Students. \$325. Call Bobbie 553-7504 Delview

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175 SHARE RENTALS
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Unprecedented overtures from potential lovers may create an atmosphere of sensuality and tension. Before midweek, nonverbal communications are unusually compelling. Pay close attention to the complex social and romantic signals of others.

250 SPRING BREAK
Ownership, long-term possession or financial documents are important to loved ones. Let others find clarity in small details. At present, your efforts are best used to foster creativity or inspire group participation in the workplace.

250 SPRING BREAK
Unique social invitations may prove unusually complicated. Romantic triangles and mildly unethical attractions are ongoing themes. Trust your first instincts and study hidden motives for valuable clues. Remain true to established values.

250 SPRING BREAK
Public debate will bring closure to a recent social or group disagreement. Key relationships need to evolve. Carefully consider the doubts and long-term ideals of family members.

250 SPRING BREAK
Team negotiations and accountability are themes over the next eight days. Older colleagues ask for your leadership or approval. Pay attention to rules, daily regulations or employment standards. Accuracy and precision will prove vital to the success of group projects.

250 SPRING BREAK
Romance may be draining. Expect unusual requests, comments or observations from loved ones. Intimate discussions, public affections and long-term promises will be difficult to avoid. Stay alert and demand clearly defined priorities.

250 SPRING BREAK
Business and romantic partnerships may experience minor tensions. Negotiated goals and long-range promises will require added dedication. Reaffirm established rules or expectations.

250 SPRING BREAK
Workplace projects may be quickly postponed. Areas of concern involve disrupted communications, lost ambition or the recent failures of a colleague. Team promotions, financial plans and corporate funding will prove unpredictable.

250 SPRING BREAK
A long-term friend may provide unique insights into the actions of a loved one. Subtle hints and messages will bring clarity to family or romantic disputes. Study the advice of friends, relatives and colleagues.

250 SPRING BREAK
Home relationships may begin a brief but intense phase of social conflict. Group dynamics and deeply felt family needs will require serious discussion. Be supportive but avoid emotional triangles.

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Flyers not working? Place a classified ad!

Wednesday's Horoscope
MYSTICSTARS By Larisa Serik

Aries (March 21-April 20)
Public debate will bring closure to a recent social or group disagreement. Key relationships need to evolve. Carefully consider the doubts and long-term ideals of family members.

Taurus (April 21-May 20)
Team negotiations and accountability are themes over the next eight days. Older colleagues ask for your leadership or approval. Pay attention to rules, daily regulations or employment standards. Accuracy and precision will prove vital to the success of group projects.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)
Close colleagues may be critical of fast improvements or new team suggestions. Fear of workplace change is an ongoing concern for younger co-workers. Reassure others of their importance.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)
Social wisdom and sudden intuitions may provide unique information. Private business dynamics or hidden workplace politics will be made public. Long-term loyalties and history between colleagues are key issues. Watch for valuable clues and expect ongoing tensions.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)
Romance may be draining. Expect unusual requests, comments or observations from loved ones. Intimate discussions, public affections and long-term promises will be difficult to avoid. Stay alert and demand clearly defined priorities.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Business and romantic partnerships may experience minor tensions. Negotiated goals and long-range promises will require added dedication. Reaffirm established rules or expectations.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)
Workplace projects may be quickly postponed. Areas of concern involve disrupted communications, lost ambition or the recent failures of a colleague. Team promotions, financial plans and corporate funding will prove unpredictable.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)
A long-term friend may provide unique insights into the actions of a loved one. Subtle hints and messages will bring clarity to family or romantic disputes. Study the advice of friends, relatives and colleagues.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)
Home relationships may begin a brief but intense phase of social conflict. Group dynamics and deeply felt family needs will require serious discussion. Be supportive but avoid emotional triangles.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
Unexpected overtures from potential lovers may create an atmosphere of sensuality and tension. Before midweek, nonverbal communications are unusually compelling. Pay close attention to the complex social and romantic signals of others.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)
Ownership, long-term possession or financial documents are important to loved ones. Let others find clarity in small details. At present, your efforts are best used to foster creativity or inspire group participation in the workplace.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20)
Unique social invitations may prove unusually complicated. Romantic triangles and mildly unethical attractions are ongoing themes. Trust your first instincts and study hidden motives for valuable clues. Remain true to established values.

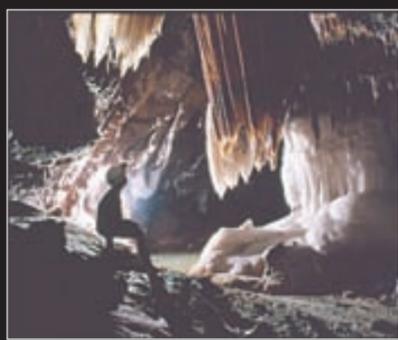
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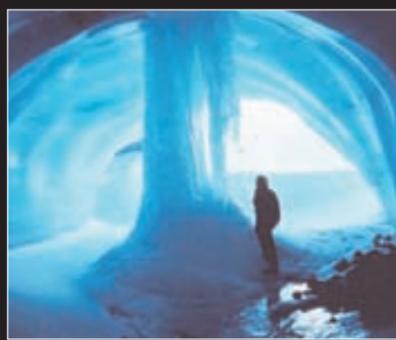


directed by Jacques Cluzaud and Michel Debats (2001)

now playing at the ferg
Winged Migration – A documentary on the migratory patterns of birds was shot over the course of three years on all seven continents.



Courtesy/ Marc Tremblay & Diana Gietl



Courtesy/ Charles Anderson



CW/ Elliot Knight

Photos of caves from around the world hang like stalactites in the Smithsonian exhibit in Smith Hall.

Museum of Natural History goes spelunking

FROM STAFF REPORTS

For centuries explorers have searched underground, underwater and within ice to discover the properties of caves and to admire their formations and beauty.

Today's cave explorers have taken modern technology to unexplored areas using the technology of film to bring the hidden world of caves to those unwilling to travel underneath to explore. Bringing caves to the explorers and to the interested, The Alabama Museum of Natural History in Smith Hall is hosting "Caves: A Fragile Wilderness."

A new exhibit organized by the National Museum of Natural History and circulated by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, the exhibit will be on display until Jan. 25. Included in the exhibit are 39 spectacular photographs by National Speleological Society members of the world's most remote and fragile caves located in places ranging from Alaska to Malaysia. The photos feature cave

entrances, passages, formations and unusual life forms.

Working in cooperation with the NSS, the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History developed "Caves: A Fragile Wilderness" to complement its presentation of the IMAX film *Journey into Amazing Caves*. The Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service is circulating the exhibition.

The NSS is the largest caving organization in the world with more than 12,000 members in 180 chapters in the United States and abroad. The NSS' primary, stated goals for 60 years have been to protect, conserve, explore and study caves.

NSS members include explorers who discover new passages, biologists who study the secrets of life in caves, cartographers who define and map caves, and cave specialists who develop plans to protect and manage cave resources. NSS members volunteer thousands of hours a year to clean caves and restore damaged formations.

Each year, SITES helps share the wealth of Smithsonian collections and research programs each year with millions of people outside Washington, D.C.

One of the Smithsonian's four National Programs, SITES makes available a wide range of exhibitions about art, science and history.

The exhibitions are displayed in museums, libraries, science centers, historical societies, community centers, botanical gardens, schools and shopping malls. In 2002, SITES celebrated 50 years of working to connect Americans to their shared cultural heritage.

Exhibition descriptions and tour schedules are available online at www.sites.si.edu. For more information on the NSS, visit the society's Web site at www.caves.org. The Alabama Museum of Natural History is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and retirees. More information is available by calling 348-7550, or amnh.ua.edu.



CW/ Elliot Knight

This crystal formation is on display along with other items at the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History exhibit in Smith Hall. The exhibit titled "Caves: A Fragile Wilderness" will be on display through Jan. 25.

Derek Trucks Band to perform at 4th & 23rd

By **GRAHAM FLANAGAN**
Entertainment Editor

Slide-guitar phenomenon Derek Trucks and his band will perform tonight at 4th & 23rd in downtown Tuscaloosa.

The band has gained a sizeable following in recent years after playing at such well-regarded music festivals as Bonnaroo in southern Tennessee and the High Sierra Music Festival in northern California.

By incorporating a myriad of musical styles into its repertoire, such as jazz, blues, rock, Latin and Indian music, the Derek Trucks Band continues to solidify its reputation as one of the most eclectic acts on the live music scene. Trucks, who played more



Courtesy/ www.derektrucks.com
Derek Trucks plays at the Dogwood Festival in Atlanta last April.

than 350 shows as the guitarist for the Allman Brothers in 2000 and 2001, is supported by Kofi Burbridge (brother of bass-great Oteil) on keyboards and flute, Todd Smallie on bass, Yonrico Scott on drums and percussion and Mike Mattison on lead vocals. The Derek Trucks Band

See **DEREK**, Page 7

Oryx and Crake poses relevant scientific questions

By **LISA RUDDEN**
Marr's Field Journal

Is there such a thing as too much knowledge? Is there a boundary that technology should not cross? These are some of the questions Margaret Atwood poses in her newest novel, *Oryx and Crake*, released in June.

This newest addition to a growing list of works is often compared to her 1985 post-apocalyptic novel, *The Handmaid's Tale*, in which the U.S. government has been gunned down and most women are forced to be baby vessels for rich couples. Where *The Handmaid's Tale* dips a tentative toe into science fiction, *Oryx and Crake* takes a flying leap. Instead of addressing various forms of repression, this newest novel explores what humans could do with endless possibilities.

Set some time in the non-distinguishable future, the novel's main character, Snowman, spends most of his time remembering his life before he was the only human being left on earth. Atwood mixes haunting flashbacks of Snowman's former life as Jimmy with chunks of the

dim, abandoned present.

As Jimmy, the protagonist struggles to be a "word person" in a strictly math and science world. He constantly competes with his best friend Crake, especially

The glimpses the reader gets of Jimmy's world are compelling, if not a little creepy.

over the affections of the beautiful Oryx. As Snowman, he scavenges for food and watches over the naïve Crakers, a genetically enhanced upgrade of the human race.

The glimpses the reader gets of Jimmy's world are compelling, if not a little creepy. People no longer seem to be afraid of terrorists using bombs to destroy life. Instead, they fear new, complex bioforms, or biological weapons. To feel safe, most people live in filtered compounds sponsored by scientific corporations, and they never venture out into the dangerous suburbs, or pleeblands.

Scientists have perfected the gene-splicing process, enabling them to create such creatures as pigoons (organ-harvesting pigs), wolvoogs (innocent-looking wolves), rakunks (raccoon-skunks) and snats (snake-rats). In all the glory of science, the concept of liberal arts is reduced to rhetoric and advertising.

In the aftermath of this progressive age, Atwood uses Snowman's cynical reflections to acknowledge the question of technology. The eerily smart pigoons and the wolvoogs have broken loose and become wild, posing a threat to Snowman and the Crakers. The reader begins to question why people would make such potentially dangerous creations.

Atwood sets up the plausible fate of humanity as a complete failure of technology to sustain life after a certain boundary is crossed. It is, after all, Crake's technology that wipes out humanity as we know it. At the same time, however, Crake's tinkering also creates completely new and seemingly

See **ORYX**, Page 7