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Board of Trustees Selects Robert Altenkirch as New UAH President

KARA MILLION
Staff Writer

On September 20, the women’s studies program at UAH hosted Dr. Judith A. Leavitt from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Dr. Leavitt gave a lecture on how the methods of helping a woman give birth have changed over the years. Dr. Leavitt began her lecture with a chart about how women went from giving birth in the home to a hospital.

On Aug. 6, 2011, Dr. Laurel Stanfields stepped in as the new coordinator for the UAH office of Disability Support Services. The DSS office is primarily concerned with upholding the requirements of federal law and the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations for campus accessibility for students with disabilities.

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The cross country teams have already put together some impressive performances this year and their most recent races at the Florida State Invitational continue to provide optimism for the rest of the season. The men’s team displayed another fantastic performance finishing third overall and the top Division II team in the field.

NASA Satellite Falls to Undetermined Location on Earth

JONATHAN KEENUM
Staff Writer

A six-ton NASA climate satellite met its end last week when it came crashing back to Earth early Saturday.

NASA has stress to the public not to touch any pieces of the spacecraft that may have made it to land, due to the risk of very sharp edges. NASA is also asking those who may find a piece of the satellite not to sell any of the pieces and to report that it has been found.

NASA confirmed the satellite hit in the Pacific Ocean, near American Samoa. NASA is currently awaiting additional information from the Joint Space Operations Center in San Antonio, Texas, and northern Minnesota of observ-ers catching glimpses of UARS as it fell through the atmosphere. Researchers also have started that some pieces have landed in western Can-adia. NASA has received no official report as of yet and doesn’t believe any of the satellite could have possibly hit land.

"If the re-entry point was at the predicted time, then all that debris wound up in the Pacific Ocean," Johnson said. "The only way debris could have probably reached land would be if the re-entry occurred after (the predicted time)."

"UAH weighed more than six tons when lifted into orbit by Space Shuttle Discovery in 1991. The biggest intact piece to survive the descent through the atmosphere would most likely be a 300-pound piece of the spacecraft’s structure. NASA predicted that UARS would break into 26 pieces and fall over a 500-mile radius.

NASA is currently awaiting more information from the Joint Space Operations Center and eyewitnesses in order to make a closer approximation on where and when the satellite hit.

"From the outset of this search process, we surveyed the entire faculty, staff and student body to hear what they were looking for in UAHuntsville’s next president," Portera said. "This is a very special place with rare opportunities for growth. . . . I am extremely proud to recommend him as UAHuntsville’s sixth president."

Altenkirch earned his Ph.D. from Purdue University and has an extensive background in astrophysics and solar physics research. He served as dean of engineering at Mississippi State University (1983-1995) and went on to become vice president. He was subsequently appointed president at NITT.

In each position he has worked to further cutting-edge research, improve student life and alumni relations, and encourage the recruitment of high-achieving students from diverse backgrounds. In fall of 2011, the enrollment number at NITT reached a record high of 9,500. Additionally, during his tenure contract and grant awards increased by more than 100 percent, and the university made significant investments in new research facilities.

Portera and the Board of Trustees are united in their confidence that Altenkirch will be a perfect fit for the needs and focus of UAH.
UAH Appoints New Disability Support Services Coordinator, Dr. Laurel Standley

KARA MILLION
Staff Writer

On Aug. 6, 2011, Dr. Laurel Standley stepped in as the new coordinator for the UAH office of Disability Support Services. The DSS office is primarily concerned with upholding the requirements of federal law and the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations for campus accessibility for students with disabilities.

"UAH has a very inclusive policy for our curriculum," Standley said. "We aim to make the curriculum, as well as the campus, accessible to everyone."

Standley functions as both an advocate and a gatekeeper for the DSS office. She assists students with getting the required documentation of their disabilities and works to implement accessible structures in buildings, as well as accommodations in academic curricula.

"The key to success," she noted, "is that it needs to be highly individualized."

UAH Seeks to Create a Quidditch Team

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Staff Writer

The push for students interested in creating a Quidditch team at UAH has found its way to Facebook. An official page to help spread the word to other students around campus may help UAH form a team to compete in the International Quidditch Association.

The Facebook page allows for students to discuss various topics, such as roles, tryouts and even t-shirt designs. The page also serves to inform students with up-to-date news pertaining to the status of receiving funding or being recognized as a club by SGA.

Wizards and witches typically play Quidditch, a sport made popular by the Harry Potter book series, on broomsticks. For UAH students and other Muggles, or non-magical folks, Quidditch has been modified in several ways that don't recognize the sport's origins in the books.

For UAH students, the only unique aspect of their version of Quidditch is that fewer people will be playing with the addition of a Chudleighs Quidditch League. The team will initially be allowed to assist, the more they learn. Objects like the Kelly pad of the physicians was a great help when they were needed. The technology moved away. The physicians would perform pelvic exams, give the woman some form of opium to make her feel better, and bring forceps in case they were needed. The technology of the physicians was a great help but sometimes caused infection.

The physicians were only there to assist. The women giving birth, such as episiotomies and c-sections. Extended test times, print enlargement, scribe services and real-time captioning. Standley brings her own unique abilities to the office, as she received her bachelor's degree in sign language interpretation and deaf education.

"I've always worked in the field of diversity of abilities," she said.

Standley is also excited that so many faculty members are expressing interest in making curricula more accessible.

"I receive so many phone calls every week from faculty," she said. "I see a unique side of it. I get to see them at work and shine in this area all across campus."

Students who require more information from the DSS office can contact it at (256) 824-6203 or visit the website at www.uah.edu/counselingdisability. The office is located in Madison Hall, room 136.

See QUIDDITCH on Pg. 4

Dr. Judith Leavitt Lectures on the Medicalization of Birth

STEPHANIE DAVIDSON
Staff Writer

On Sept. 20, the women's studies program at UAH hosted Dr. Judith A. Leavitt from the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Leavitt gave a lecture focused on the ways in which the methods of helping a woman give birth have changed over the years.

Leavitt began her lecture with a chart showing how women went from giving birth in the home to in a hospital. Before the 20th century, it was the tradition for women to give birth in their homes with friends, who were mothers, in attendance to help them. The men typically waited in another room in the home. Only the poor gave birth in hospitals back then. Around 1938, however, that changed. The numbers went from almost zero hospital births to around 50 per cent.

Leavitt went on to discuss two types of births, beginning with the colonial home births. The traditional or "social" birth was usually a female event. The woman giving birth would have her family and female friends, who had children, around her to help her. While the woman was in labor, the other women would try to make her as comfortable as possible and tell her own childbirth stories. This was thought to be the proper way to bring a child into the world because the woman was in control of the situation. She was in her home and her domain. She knew where the things she needed would be. She was also surrounded by family and friends to lend a hand both physically and emotionally.

During these types of child-births, unless there were not enough women to help, the men waited in another room of the home. A letter Leavitt shared said the woman only wanted other female friends around because "only a woman can know what a woman is suffering or has suffered." Women knew it was very possible to die while giving birth and most women knew someone who had passed away in childbirth.

As time progressed, physicians came onto the scene. They were usually males and were called in by the women. At first, physicians were only there to assist. The women still made all the decisions. The physicians would perform pelvic exams, give the woman some form of opium to make her feel better, and bring forceps in case they were needed. The technology of the physicians was a great help but sometimes caused infection.

The more the physicians were allowed to assist, the more they learned. Objects like the Kelly pad were introduced to help with cleanliness. Physicians figured out that cleanliness was essential to child birthing and would try their best to be as clean as possible. Occasionally, physicians offended women by wanting to sanitize an area before the procedure.

The move of child birthing to the hospital was a big thing. Leavitt suggested that there are five main reasons this move happened. The first is the "shadow of maternity." Women knew, at a certain age, they were expected to reproduce. They also knew about mortality rates and postpartum problems, so giving birth was a daunting task to some.

The second reason was the growth in understanding of germs and bacteria. Hospitals were much easier to sterilize than homes. The third reason was the breakdown of the network. When a woman gave birth in the home, she wanted her family and friends around her. In time, people became busier and busier and could not wait around through hours and hours of labor. Another problem was that the woman's family or friends had moved away.

The fourth reason was new technology. The physicians had figured out ways to assist a woman giving birth, such as episiotomies and Caeasarian sections. The fifth reason was the hospital itself. There were more doctors and nurses there that were trained in helping a woman in labor.

See BIRTH on Pg. 4
Soccer Teams Face Tough Matches in Conference Play

JONATHAN KEENUM  
Staff Writer

The UAH men’s and women’s soccer teams are entering that time of the year when the most vital matches take place—conference play.

The men’s team has had a roller coaster of a season so far, starting with a 7-0 blowout against Talladega followed by a heart-breaking 2-1 loss a few days later against Lincoln Memorial. After alternating a win and loss, the Chargers pulled off a huge upset against 11th-ranked Montevallo, thanks to another fantastic performance by freshman Kyle Simmons. UAH was not as fortunate in their first road test of the year at North Georgia, falling 6-2. The team was scheduled to play No. 25 Saint Leo this past Sunday, but the match was canceled due to inclement weather.

UAH now stands at 4-3 and is scheduled to play at Covenant Oct. 1 before heading home and opening conference play against Harding on Oct. 7. The Chargers continue conference play Oct. 9, remaining at home to take on Ouachita Baptist.

The women’s team has struggled since their thrilling home-opening win against Delta State. The Lady Chargers went on to drop five straight matches, being outscored 13-4 during that stretch. Despite the tough games, UAH was able to pull out an early conference win in September in an exciting 2-1 double overtime decision at West Alabama. The women could not maintain that momentum into the next game and could not keep up against No. 20 Saint Leo, which won the contest 3-1.

The loss dropped the Lady Chargers to 2-6 overall on the year; however, UAH has yet to lose a conference game and remains 1-0 in conference standings. The women continue conference play Sept. 30 at home against Valdosta State, which is entering its first year in the Gulf South Conference. See SOCCER on Pg. 4.

Men’s Soccer  
Record 4-3-0  
GSC 0-0-0

Date  
Opponent  
Site  
Time

October 1  
Covenant Away  
7:00 p.m.

October 7  
Harding Home  
3:30 p.m.

October 9  
Ouachita Baptist Home  
3:30 p.m.

Women’s Soccer  
Record 2-6-0  
GSC 0-0-0

Date  
Opponent  
Site  
Time

September 30  
Valdosta State Home  
2:00 p.m.

October 1  
West Georgia Home  
1:00 p.m.

October 7  
Harding Home  
1:00 p.m.

October 9  
Ouachita Baptist Home  
1:00 p.m.

Volleyball  
Record 5-9  
GSC 0-0

Date  
Opponent  
Site  
Time

September 30  
New Orleans Away  
7:00 p.m.

October 1  
West Florida Away  
2:00 p.m.

October 4  
North Alabama Away  
7:00 p.m.

Ice Hockey  
Record 0-0

Date  
Opponent  
Site  
Time

October 1  
Lake Superior State Home  
7:00 p.m.

October 2  
Lake Superior State Home  
3:00 p.m.

October 7  
Western Michigan Away  
6:00 p.m.

October 8  
Western Michigan Away  
6:00 p.m.

Infinity College Bookstore sells and rents UAH textbooks at lower prices. You’ll save a fortune by getting used books or renting whenever possible, and you’ll be prepared long before classes start. If you change classes, don’t worry. Infinity’s generous return policy has you covered. To find out more, check out their website: infinity-books.com/huntsville

Everything costs you more these days. Food is expensive, tuition is always rising, and gas prices are getting ridiculous. Wouldn’t it be nice if prices went down for once? Good news! Infinity College Bookstore recently opened on Holmes Avenue, just two minutes from campus.

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New Bookstore Serving UAH Proves to be Top Choice for Students

Everything costs you more these days. Food is expensive, tuition is always rising, and gas prices are getting ridiculous. Wouldn’t it be nice if prices went down for once? Good news! Infinity College Bookstore recently opened on Holmes Avenue, just two minutes from campus.

Infinity College Bookstore sells and rents UAH textbooks at lower prices. You’ll easily save 10% or more on the cost of textbooks at Infinity. Over the course of a college career, this could save the average student $300-$500.

Infinity College Bookstore buys textbooks year-round. Students frequently find that they get more money for textbooks at Infinity than anywhere else. Infinity will often buy books that are missing CD’s and access codes. They even buy some old editions and customized editions!

While you’re at Infinity selling your books, be sure to ask about reserving used books for the spring. You’ll save a fortune by getting used books or renting whenever possible, and you’ll be prepared long before classes start. If you change classes, don’t worry. Infinity’s generous return policy has you covered.

To find out more, check out their website: infinity-books.com/huntsville

Cash for Books!

Text BOOKS to 77948 to get 10% bonus cash when you sell books to Infinity

Messaging and data rates may apply
From QUIDDITCH on Pg. 2

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From BIRTH on Pg. 2

They are called “Brought to Bed”
two of which are on childbirth.
and “Make Room for Daddy.”

It is the mark of an
educated mind to
be able to entertain
a thought without
accepting it.

-Aristotle