Not Just Fun and Games: Playstation 3 Helps Further Study of Black Holes

Take a Ride: UAH Competes in NASA’s Great Moonbuggy Race

Financial Aid Night Hopes to Help Ease Cost of University Expenses
"Interdependence" Tree to be Shown at Panoply

ABIGAIL BROWN
Senior Arts & Leisure Writer

Last semester, visiting art professor Jennifer Marsh introduced her collaborative art initiative, International Fiber Collaborative, to UAH. This semester, Marsh is at it again, teaching a Public Art course which incorporates a public art collaborative project much like that done with IFC.

The course, "Technical Problems: Public Art Sculpture," teaches advanced art students the business essentials that are often left untouched in classes that concentrate on the creative elements. The coursework includes much research and business planning which educates students about attaining funding, scheduling interviews, and running workshops in local schools. Of the six students, Marsh compliments, "I think they're going to conquer the world."

The world tomorrow, maybe, but for now they are zoning in on Panoply Arts Festival (April 24-26 at Big Spring International Park). The students are prepping a huge collaborative project which reflects the focus of IFC. A striking 18 foot tree which Marsh hopes will mimick a living oak will sit proudly amongst its real-life counterparts at park during Panoply. The tree is composed of a steel mainframe with branches that each hold approximately 150 leaves. The tree will stand one week prior to, during, and one week after Panoply.

A children's association in Costa Rica is also supplying some leaves. The notion of a collaborative project is pretty clear—people working together to make one whole product—but perhaps the tree is not. Marsh explains that a tree best illustrates the theme and title of the project: "Interdependence." The tree illustrates the give and take of both the project and the daily activity of our lives. Marsh explains on the IFC website: "Much like a live tree is interdependent on its leaves and roots for survival, societies are interdependent on the greater whole, family units, communities, and countries."

Right now, about one tenth of the tree is completed. Marsh and her students are working diligently to get both sponsors and contributors. If you are interested in contributing a leaf or leaves, visit the IFC's website at www.internationalfibercollaborative.com or drop Jennifer Marsh a line at 614-561-9057. The deadline for submission is March 15.

Unfortunately, and as the saying goes, all good things must come to an end. "Interdependence" may be Marsh's last hoorah here at UAH since as her time here ends this semester. However, Marsh is encouraged by the arrival of a yet another collaborative opportunity. The project is under wraps for now, but expect a big reveal sometime this summer. Marsh hints that it may be the largest of her collaborative projects yet and that its arrival will be in 2010.
Campus Wide Fitness Competition Kick Off Begins

LISA BARBELLA
Senior News Writer

UAH's fourth annual Just Move It Initiative fitness competition will begin on Friday, January 23rd at the UAH fitness center. The competition will officially commence with an opening ceremony at 12 pm followed by a mile long walk around campus directed by President David Williams.

The campus-wide exercise contest is sponsored by the UAH Health and Physical Education department to encourage healthy fitness and nutrition habits among UAH students, faculty, and staff.

To help participants meet their exercise and health goals the Just Move It Initiative will include lectures and group events focused on fitness, nutrition, and general wellness.

To register for the competition visit uah.edu/wellness/fitness or call jmi@uah.edu.

Photography Exhibit Depicts Humanitarian Work in Ghana

KATE BLAKE
Staff Writer

An exhibition of photographer and UAH alumnus Roman Alokhin's travels throughout Ghana will open in the Salmon Library Gallery on January 12, with a reception for Alokhin at 4 p.m. on January 15 in the library presentation room.

Alokhin, who received his bachelor's degree from UAH in 1999 and his master's in 2004, visited Ghana in November of 2007 to document the work of FOCOS, a nonprofit organization of orthopedic surgeons who provide surgical and medical skeletal care in Ghana. The organization was started by Dr. Khene Bella Bouchie, who in 2000 performed a spinal reconstruction on Alokhin himself. As thanks, Alokhin explains, "I wanted to do something special for him and his organization." Alokhin's photographs illuminate the organization's work, depicting the children who will be operated on as well as the actual surgeries. In addition, the exhibition will feature photographs from Alokhin's travels around Ghana.

"The black and white photographs, taken with a traditional camera, do not focus on the poverty usually portrayed in snapshots of African life," Rather, says Alokhin, they are "candid street and cultural scenes." Acquiring the subjects' consent was difficult, he adds, because Africans are used to negative portrayals. Further, he adds, "It was hard to explain to the people there that once I ask them for permission to photograph, the photo that I wanted to take is already gone."

The January 15 reception will also feature a slideshow of Alokhin's current project, as well as guest speakers Jose Betancourt and native Ghanaian Kwaku Gyasi, both UAH professors. The exhibition runs until January 30.

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Swing Dance Classes Teach Students to Cut a Rug

KATE BLAKE
Staff Writer

Fisk Jubilee Singers to Perform on UAH campus

BETH FAULK
Staff Writer

The Fisk Jubilee Singers, an acapella ensemble from the historical Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, will be performing at UAH on Thursday, January 15th, as part of UAH’s annual Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration. The concert will begin at 4:00 p.m. on January 15th in the University Exhibit Hall. It is free and open to the public; no tickets are required.

"We are excited to bring this historical group to our campus to commemorate the life and legacy of this great foremother," says Kimberley Chantry-Williams, Assistant Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. "It is important for us to remember the contributions that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. made to our country with the UAH campus as its focal point of community, and we hope to inspire students, faculty and staff to acknowledge the value of cultural diversity in an effort to strengthen our community."

The Fisk Jubilee Singers are an American a cappella ensemble that tours worldwide, performing "Negro Spirituals," songs once sung by African American Slaves prior to the Civil War. The ensemble was formed in 1871 at Fisk University, the first college that was open to everyone, regardless of race or gender. The group soon went on tour to raise money for the University at various events, suffering from financial troubles.

Their first public performance was at Oberlin College in Ohio, for a national group of preachers. The Fisk Jubilee Singers were even featured in a PBS documentary called Singers: Sacrifice and Glory. The Fisk Singers made history once again in 2007 when they were invited to Ghana by the U.S. Embassy to help celebrate the country's 50th independence anniversary.

Spring Theatre Productions Offer More Drama than Reality TV

ABIGAIL BROWN
Senior Arts & Leisure Writer

If you are less than enthused about any of the new TV shows popping up this season or cringe at the plethora of dean-filled reality shows, now might be the time to appreciate the finer things in life, like theatre. Most of us have dragged ourselves to concerts, plays, and musicals just for class credit, but maybe it is time we become a little more willing to experience outside entertainment outside of the box.

This spring, UAH and the city of Huntsville have Broadway classics, small-time plays, and traditional musicals running their rounds. All, more or less, are more intellectually stimulating than "Rock of Love Bus 3" and "Bromance" and they certainly don't make you feel like taking a shower afterward. But if it is difficult to pull you away from the tube, perhaps a proper segue will do the trick.

Have you ever seen the show "Strangers with Candy" in which actress Amy Sedaris plays a forty-something woman enduring the pains of high school? Or, maybe you have enjoyed such books as "Me Talk Pretty One Day" and "Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim" by David Sedaris? If so, you have probably heard of Renaisance Theatre on Meridian Street. It's written by the aptly named "Talent Family," Amy and David Sedaris.

Here are some keywords from "Liz" for you to contemplate: cheese balls, "The Chastity Parade," llamas, and recovering alcoholics. Sound intriguing? It has been described as "always hilarious and frequently touching" and "a clever and charming piece" that is "quite possibly one of the most hysterical plays to hit the stage in a number of years."

If you're not enticed by "Liz," you may want to check out more traditional productions such as playwright August Wilson's "Fences" or the award-winning "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." "Fences" has attained major awards such as the Tony and the Pulitzer. It tells the tale of former superstar of Negro baseball Troy Maxson who "sees the world as corroded mostly of fences which enclose him." Ritterness consumes him and because of that Maxson forbids his son from pursuing his dream of becoming a major league baseball prime because of his own failure and hardship. But what Maxson cannot understand is that while contesting that society builds fences to keep him out, he is erecting a fence that holds his family in.

"Chitty Chitty Bang Bang," which debuted on film in 1968 and is now a musical production, will be produced by the Broadway Theatre League in Huntsville. The BTL website describes "Chitty" as "the story of a magical car that sails the seas and flies through the air," which follows the car's nutty inventor, his kids, and his loony grandfather on an adventure full of song, dance, and trickery. "Chitty runs from Jan. 27 to Feb. 1 at the VBC Concert Hall.

UAHuntville's Theatre line-up has diminished this spring from three to two productions, but the choice to slim down may produce greater results. The first production is the cult-classic musical, "The Little Shop of Horrors." It runs February 26-29 and March 4-7 in the Chan Auditorium. Tickets are $12 for adults and S6 for students.

The second show, which gained much success with sold-out shows in the fall, is "Couples Counseling Killed Kate." It plays April 8-11 in Morton Hall Studio 106. Ticket prices are unavailable at this time but will most likely reflect the prices from the fall production which were $10 for adults and $5 for students. For more information, contact David Harwell at 824-6909 or stop by Morton Hall 325. The UA-Huntsville Theatre website advertises that playwright Mark Roberts, the Executive Producer and writer for "Two and a Half Men," will be in attendance April 10 and 11.

A full range of theatrical productions for the Huntsville area this spring are as follows.

Broadway Theatre League: "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" (Jan. 27 to Feb. 1), "Spamalot" (Feb. 17-22), "Happy Days" (May 1-3). VBC Concert Hall. Call 536-1655 or visit the box office on Monroe Street at the VBC.
MORE USED BOOKS
Than the Library of Congress
Chargers Return Home After Nearly Two Months Away

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Senior Sports Writer

This past weekend was the first trip home for the Chargers hockey team since the November 8th showdown against Mississippi. It was a 2-1. On Friday and Saturday, the Chargers took on College Hockey America (CHA) opponent Robert Morris, seeking revenge from a tie and loss to Robert Morris earlier in the season. Last time, Robert Morris had home ice advantage; this time, the advantage went to UAH.

The Chargers were coming off of a huge win against Harvard on December 28th. They kept that momentum against Robert Morris and although they didn’t win both games, they came away with a 5-2 victory last Friday night and a 2-2 tie on Saturday. Senior forward Matt Sweazey and freshman forward Cody Campbell led the way for the Chargers against the Robert Morris Colonials, and in front of the home crowd UAH got off to an impressive start in Friday’s game. Almost two minutes into the action, sophomore forward Andrew Coburn scored the opening goal of the game with assistance from Neil Raffatelli and Campbell. Next, Sweazey scored his first goal of the night with a little help from senior captain and defenseman Scott Kachnak and Campbell.

The second period began with UAH taking a three-goal lead after Campbell seized the opportunity to score a goal in addition to his two assists that he had tallied already. Junior defenseman Brandon Roshko and sophomore forward Andrew Coburn assisted with Campbell’s score. The Chargers then held the Colonials to the final period until Robert Morris scored two back-to-back goals within five seconds of each other, bringing the game to a 3-2 score. The game was close again and the Chargers wouldn’t settle for that. On the next power play, of which UAH had a 5 to 3 man advantage on the ice, Sweazey slapped in his second goal of the night compliments of Roshko and Kalinchuk. Sweazey would also be involved in the last goal that the Chargers scored when he set-up a shot from center ice by senior forward Josh Murray.

On Saturday night, the Chargers and the Colonials went at it again and this time, the game was a lot more evenly matched then the showdown of the night before. The opening period ended with neither team finding the back of the net. But then, the Chargers began the second period with a quick score from junior forward Tom Train and once again, Sweazey and Roshko’s numbers were called with the assist. UAH then went up 2-0 when junior forward Kevin Morrison scored from the left wing.

But then, just like the previous night, Robert Morris would not go down without a fight. “Robert Morris is a strong team and we feel we match up well against them,” Barker also said before the two games. “They do not seem to give up going by the two goals leads we had on them in both games we have played them this year.”

Facing yet another two-goal deficit, the Colonials battled back against the home team and the home crowd. In the final two periods, they capitalized on two power play opportunities to even the score, and the game would end in a draw.

Sweazey and Campbell both received weekly accolades. Sweazey was named CHA Offensive Player of the Week, while Campbell was named CHA Rookie of the Week. This was the third time this season that Campbell received such an honor.

Looking forward to the next meeting with Robert Morris, the Chargers first have to take to the ice on the road against Western Michigan this weekend. Then, it is on to battle it out against Robert Morris for the remainder of the season.

The Chargers are 2-4-2 in CHA this season and will be making a run for the championships during the second half of the season. The opponents in CHA are the third highest for a single game in UAH school history. The Lady Chargers then ended the holidays with a triple-overtime loss to the University of Michigan, 89-83.

In hockey, the boys in blue took on Ferris State in two back-to-back games, as well as Wisconsin and Harvard in the Badger Hockey Showdown in Madison, Wisconsin.

The Chargers lost both games to Ferris State in their first ever return trip to Big Rapids since the 1965-66 hockey season. Because of his brilliant play against the Bulldogs of Ferris State, freshman forward Cody Campbell was named Offensive Player of the Week for College Hockey America (CHA).

The Chargers were then shut out in the first game of the Badger Hockey Showdown against the University of Wisconsin before beating Harvard to snap a six-game losing streak. The game marked the first time UAH faced off against Harvard and a 4-1 victory was a nice icebreaker for the Chargers. Senior forward Josh Murray led the charge scoring two goals in the contest.

Now that school is back in session, for the seasons of basketball and hockey continue. Up next for men and women’s basketball is an away game against Montevallo tomorrow night beginning at 5:30 pm, while the hockey team travels to Kalamazoo, Michigan this weekend for a two-game series against Western Michigan.

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Senior Sports Writer

While students took time away from school throughout the month of December, the hockey and basketball teams here at UAH continued their winter schedules as though school was still in session. Over the holidays, blue and white replaced the traditional colors of red and green whenever the Chargers took to the court or skated out on the ice.

The Chargers basketball team was probably the hottest of the three teams during the frostily cold winter break, winning four out of five contests, including four straight victories. After the two-game hard break with the Harding Classic basketball tournament. Their first opponent was the Bisons of Harding University, the host school of the tourney, and the Bisons defended their home court well. The Chargers fell 78-57 to Harding, a school that has been giving UAH a hard time this academic year in all sports, particularly the recent Cross Country season. During the game, Harding shot 60 percent and outscored UAH 41-33 in the second half of play.

In the second game of the Harding Classic, the Chargers tipped off against Southern Arkansas and the final score nearly mirrored the score of the game against Harding, except in favor of UAH this time around. The Chargers defeated Southern Arkansas 71-54, which began their four-game winning streak. After the two-game Harding Classic, the men’s basketball team returned to Spragins Hall and won their second straight game against rival Arkansas-Monticello. The team lost 71-54 against Arkansas-Monticello and then beat Lincoln Memorial 83-76, Senior guard Ashley Boykin nearly scored half of UAH’s points in that game with a career-high 40 points, which was the third highest for a single game in UAH school history. The Lady Chargers then ended the holidays with a triple-overtime loss at home to Oakland City, 89-83.

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CAMPUS CALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 15
• Student art presentation and reception. Roman Alohkin. Photographing Ghana. Louis Salmon Library, 4 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 19
• Martin Luther King Holiday, No Classes.

Tuesday, Jan. 20
• Honors Forum: "Art Won't Hurt You: Understanding Contemporary Art." Jill Johnson, Department of Art and Art History. Frank Franz Hall, 11:10 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 21
• UAH music event: Dubravka Tomsic master class, Robers Recital Hall, 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, Jan. 22
• Music Department Forum: Dr. Carolyn Sanders, Dr. David Ragsdale, Robers Recital Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 23
• "International Fiber collective and Public Art." Jennifer Marsh, Department of Art and Art History, Frank Franz Hall, 3 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 24
• Movie Night at the UC "Wanted" 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 28
• Bowling with Ace at 9:00 p.m. Place TBA

Crossword

Across
1. Endure
5. Sense
9. Tots' rests
13. Like many NYPD tips
14. Philosophy
15. Give the eye
16. Underdog's fastener?
19. Polish off
20. Book after John
21. Legends
22. Punchers
23. Court order
24. Be a battyskin
27. "Beg pardon..."
28. Bloody 2004 thriller
31. + part
32. Mark for life
33. Mystique
34. Advice on how to tie a shoe
35. Campus groups
36. Reef dwellers
37. Tokyo, once
38. Like some relationships
39. Synonym of 24A
40. Turkish VIP
41. Connive
42. Play parts
43. Mercury and Saturn
44. Pantry stock
45. Bush activity
46. Cup brand
47. Half a cocktail
48. Universal tieup?
49. Top-rated
50. Salzburg vista
51. Notion
52. Universal tieup?
53. Fish eggs
54. Broadway legend
55. Top-rated
56. Middays
57. Mature
58. Makes lace
59. Finishes, with "up"
60. Parks of Montgomery

Down
1. Michigan, e.g.
2. Eleanor Roosevelt's first name
3. Target of a sweep
4. "We know drama" channel
5. Disney
38. Red-tag events
39. Pub pals
40. Glenn, Ford, and others
41. Card game for three
42. Red-tag events
43. Pub pals
44. Glenn, Ford, and others
45. Card game for three
46. Puzzler's buffalo
47. MS word choice
48. Pack away
49. The Stooges, for one
50. Salzburg vista
51. Notion
52. Universal tieup?
53. Fish eggs
54. Broadway legend

Quoteable Quote

Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

• • • Albert Einstein

Sudoku

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Solutions to last issue's puzzles:
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