Running Mates Counteract Candidate Weaknesses

SARAH FISHER
News Writer

"I was just your average hockey mom," touted Sarah Palin during her vice presidential acceptance speech, "who signed up for the PTA." Sarah Palin may be inexperienced, but she can certainly relate to ordinary Americans and give a flowery speech. But is nominating this self-described everyday-mother-of-five-children enough to vitally reinvigorate the core socially conservative Republican base that has been key to Bush's electoral success? And, perhaps more importantly, what about those highly coveted undecided voters?

James Dobson, the godfather of Focus on the Family, who said previously that he would not vote for John McCain, apparently reversed his internal conflict and said, "If I went into the polling booth today, I would pull the lever for John McCain." If Dobson's conversion is any indication of the larger evangelical base Republican decision-makers have reenergized, it could serve as a highly influential set of voters.

According to Pew Research Center, in 2004, white evangelicals constituted 23% of the US population and 37% of the Republican Party. For many of these potential voters, social issues, especially abortion, are unbreakable standards of political figures. If McCain's pro-life views and lifestyle off some voters, Sarah Palin's image as a reformer may draw undecided voters over to the Republican side. Though her past political life is just now current under national scrutiny, Palin, in an attempt to convince moderate voters, stresses her ability to stop corruption, earmarking, and wasteful spending in Alaska. Will this be enough to garner independent support?

A Short Life But Lasting Legacy

TRISHA HANCOCK
Freelance Writer

September 15, 2008 will be remembered for different reasons: the dreaded beginning of the week, a hard test, or even a lost sports match. However hundreds of people will remember it because this was the day that UAH lost one of its own. This past Monday, third year UAH student Sarah Chapman was killed when she was riding her bike and a SUV struck from behind. She was promptly taken to Huntsville Hospital where she passed away a brief time later.

The University quickly offered its full and entire backing in helping students cope and come to terms with what had happened. The school provided several ways in which to help students, including allowing students to talk to counselors, excusing Wednesday classes so that students could go to the funeral, and hosting a candlelight vigil in remembrance of Sarah's life.

Sarah was a student who was a hard worker as well as deeply involved with University activities. She was a member of Kappa Delta Sorority, Communication Arts Honor Society, Honors Program, and the Lancers. She was also involved with community service in which she participated in Up Till Dawn, COMPASS as well as numerous other activities. The director of university relations at the UAH Joel Lonergran said, "She represented the best of UAH."
UAH Students on Global Excursions

BETH FAULK
News Writer

This past summer, 57 students traveled abroad as part of the UAH Global Studies Program. Students from diverse majors - Aerospace engineering and nursing to history and foreign language - studied in Germany, Mexico, Italy, and England over summer break. In addition to improving language skills, getting a few more credit hours, and listening to lectures outside the classroom, those who participated in global studies also had a chance to learn in a hands-on global setting. Students discovered the satisfaction of navigating through the foreign transportation systems and the excitement of meeting a historical figure.

Elisabeth Spalding traveled to Germany as a part of Legacies of the Third Reich class. Spalding's favorite memory, before her feet got blisters, was of a lazy day in Munich, wandering around "taking pictures of everything that stood still long enough" and learning to "appreciate the [German] language aesthetically." Spalding also noted that the trip inspired her to take up the German language.

The Legacies of the Third Reich class spent lectures in Huntsville discussing the rise and fall of the Nazi regime as well as how Germany has dealt with that history. Spalding noted that the class excursion to Dachau, a concentration camp, made an enormous impact. She commented that walking around the prayerful memorial to a horrific piece of human history made her even more aware that "sixty years ago something very different had been going on there."

Another student on the German trip, Jennifer Staton, said that the highlight of her trip was meeting Franz Muller, a surviving member of the White Rose, a famous student resistance movement in Nazi Germany. Staton said, "I did my research paper on the White Rose, and it was amazing to actually meet a surviving member of the group."

The National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984 effectively established a national drinking age by reducing the annual federal highway apportionment of any state who allowed residents less than 21 years of age to purchase or publicly drink alcohol. The high drinking age in the U.S. is an anomaly; the vast majority of nations who have legal drinking ages give alcohol consumption rights to either 16 or 18 year olds.

The initiative has garnered criticism from the American alcohol awareness group. "Adults under 21 are deemed incapable of voting, signing contracts, serving on juries and enlisting in the military, but are told they are not mature enough to have a beer."

McCardell uses his background in U.S. history to support the initiative's goal by asking "How many times must we relearn the lessons of prohibition?" The group claims that the higher drinking age has the effect of producing more clandestine drinkers rather than stopping consumption, just as it did when alcohol was outlawed altogether. This in turn leads to more dangerous drinking behaviors and causes young people to engage in other illegal activities such as using fake IDs. According to the initiative these "ethical compromises" made in order to obtain alcohol generally "erode respect for the law."

The initiative has garnered much criticism from alcohol awareness groups and bureaucrats alike. Its most vocal detractor is Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) who issued a press release in August denouncing the initiative as irresponsible. MADD claims that the group "uses deliberately misleading information to confuse the public on the effectiveness of 21 law."

MADD cites statistics from the National Institute on Alcohol and Alcoholism to support their claim that the 21 drinking age has helped decrease alcohol related traffic fatalities by as much as 60%.

Other critics accuse the university leaders of trying to pass the underage and binge drinking problem.
In a press release on September back further testing while it was providing power to a section of the Earth. However lack of participation present in SGA then there are going to be several means to fill when elections come around in the next two weeks.

Dr. Hawk's deployment emphasized the importance of not being a mere recipient of news on the larger political life of this country. "After I got the call that I was being mobilized," explained Hawk, "I remember driving around town and I would sit at a stoplight and look over at the next person and think: what if you were told all of the sudden you are leaving behind your job, your husband and your eleven year old son. It's harder than rocket science. Hawk also had to deal with the everyday impracticalities of leaving behind her job, her husband, and her eleven year old son. Among the lessons learned from her deployment was that her supportive family could carry on without her, even if they struggled. "I have found you can survive on pizza and donuts for seven months."

"It's harder than rocket science. But does this seem like the kind of thoughts on what should be done in Iraq she admitted that there are no easy solutions to this politically complicated situation. However, she encouraged everyone to participate in the discussion about Iraq and advised students "Don't abdicate from the debate just because you are young."
Flying Monkey Arts offers films, concerts, and more

STEPHANIE KALOI
Senior News Writer

If you’re new to town, or just have yet to explore all of what Huntsville has to offer, you may be intrigued by the variety of musical acts and film screenings at the Flying Monkey Arts Center, located at Lowe Mill, 2211 Seminole Drive. The Flying Monkey is a non-profit community arts collective that ‘encourages, supports, and promotes events, workshops, and studios featuring but not limited to music, film, theater, dance, puppetry, visual and performance art with a focus on experimental works for mature audiences.”

Sounds intriguing, does it not? The Flying Monkey has consistently encouraged and presented a variety of innovative, artistic performers and exhibits, and is truly a haven for all who are remotely interested in anything beyond the usual. The end of September is positively buzzing with numerous events to suit various types of artistic curiosity.

On Thursday, September 25, Jay Clark and Mark McCumber will grace the stage at Lowe Mill. Admission is $8, and the concert begins at 8 p.m. Clark, a Winchester, Tennessee native who currently lives in Hazel Green, has been honing his brand of singer-songwriter since 1992. He has an academic background in Wildlife Science, he completed his Master’s in the program at the University of Tennessee in 1999, but a musical background rooted deeply in issues of the mind and soul. Clark will be supporting his second album, Progress, which was released in February 2006. McCumber, who hails from Gold Hill, Colorado, is also of the singer-songwriter musician stock, (in addition to writing and singing his songs, he plays guitar, mandolin, banjo, harmonica, piano, bouzouki, cello, electric bass, and upright bass—the name a few!), McCumber plays self-described “Bentgrass music,” which he says “grows from a love of both golf and Americana roots music.”

The following day, Friday September 26, the Monkey will be screening the cult classic Forbidden Zone. The science-fiction musical, which was directed by Richard Elfman, was first released in 1980. The film is centered on the Hercules family, who might be described as not-so-normal by quite a few. The family moves into a new house in Venice, California, and discover their basement contains a door to the Sixth Dimension. Naturally, chaos and adventure ensue, especially once the daughter in the family, Frenchy, opens the door to the forbidden zone. The Huntsville-based band, The Counterclock Wise, will be playing live the same evening. The band boasts that “awful strings abound [with] enough clammering and thunder claps to bring down the walls!”

Saturday, September 27, sees the return of Chip Gulbro and Friends, a wildly popular swing-violin band that plays jazz from the 1930’s to the present day. The group has played the Monkey numerous times, and also had spots at the downtown favorite Sam and Greg’s. Band members include Nick Walker, (on the upright bass), Mark Copeland, (on guitar), Soderman Grable, (drums), and Chip Gulbro, (on violin).
votes in key battleground states? Or will her social record in line with the Christian Right alienate centrist voters?

The Obama campaign, mindful of Republican accusations emphasizing Obama’s inexperience, chose Senator Joe Biden, the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, as Obama’s vice presidential nominee. While Democratic leaders hope that Biden will reassure voters that the Obama ticket is ready to deal with national policy, those who once criticized Obama for his youth and inexperience now point to Joe Biden as the ‘Washington establishment’ against which Obama has campaigned. However, Richard Holbrooke, a former UN ambassador, points out that Biden “knows the world leaders, he knows the Congress, he knows the issues and he passes the first test — he’s qualified to be president.”

Regardless of his qualifications, the media has not given Biden a fraction of the coverage Sarah Palin received. Both Palin and Biden hope to compliment their running mate in the general election in November but even Palin may soon realize that just because she is a woman does not mean that die-hard Clinton supporters or undecided women will vote for her. Indeed, when liberal minded women truly examine the issues, they often see Palin’s nomination as overt pandering to female voters.

Thomas Watts, a UAH political science and philosophy major, commented, “If you want to talk about a candidate that will push for women’s rights, then Biden has pushed for more legislation for equal pay for equal work and to protect women against domestic violence . . . For people to assume that Obama’s ticket is sexist is contradictory to their voting record. But it is silly season in politics, and I hope people wake up and notice what has proven to be an almost unforceable law.

The initiative has gained national attention despite the small number of presidents and chancellors who have signed it since its inception. This is due in part to the prominence of some of its signatories which include the presidents of Duke, Clark, Colgate, Tufts, and Syracuse. Whether or not the initiative will influence lawmakers remains to be seen. However, the media and scholarly attention the group has garnered makes it clear that they have already achieved their main objective: bringing the national drinking age debate back to the forefront.

GLOBAL
FROM PG. 2

ward to the global studies opportunities this coming summer. Future classes include a nursing class in England, photography class in England, intensive French course in France, Russian culture in Russia, a class in Rome, and Spanish language course in Mexico. In addition, Dr. Mebane and Mr. Harper will be traveling to England with a joint English and Global Studies class.

Interested? Be sure to check out the UAH global studies website at http://www.uah.edu/colleges/liberal/global/ and be on the look out for study abroad opportunities!

UAH’s Sarkis Baltaian Plays to Sold-Out Crowd at Carnegie Hall
KATE BLAKE
New Writer

On Sept. 20, UAH Assistant Professor of Music Sarkis Baltaian performed classical and Armenian piano works on stage at New York City’s Carnegie Hall. He shared the stage with a number of other classical musicians, all selected for the event as alumni of the scholarship fund of the Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU), which organized the event.

Dr. Baltaian was chosen to perform as a multiple recipient of an AGBU scholarship, which are given exclusively to individuals of Armenian descent. Other performers included Alexander Nazaryan on viola, Raffi Dimanian on French horn and mezzo-soprano Lilian Solange Merdadian. The recital was an alumni celebration of sorts, bringing the performers together for the first time to play classical and Armenian compositions. Featured works included Armenian songs, pieces by Gabriel Fauré and compositions by the Armenian composer Babadjanian, which Dr. Baltaian played with cellist Ana Kalayjian and his own sister, the violinist Aroutune Baltaian. The energy of his fellow performers, he says, “contributes to great music making.”

Of course, the audience agreed. “The hall was sold out,” Dr. Baltaian says. “The capacity crowd rewarded me and my colleagues with standing ovations.” As for the nine-foot Steinway Carnegie Hall provided for the performance, he enthuses, “It’s the most magnificent instrument — it played on its own.”

But this isn’t the first time Dr. Baltaian has graced Carnegie Hall. He debuted there in 1999, and says of the famed venue, “The walls are filled with music.” World-renowned for his talent — one reviewer, Professor Vasil Karanjidiev of Bulgarian National Radio, says of him that he is a “perfect master of the instrument” — one suspects this won’t be his last performance there, either.

Got story ideas? Email:
Editor@exponent.uah.edu

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Good People: Making Good Things Happen.
Cross Country Claims Victory At Home

RAYMOND GILSTRAP
Senior Sports Writer

Last Saturday, the UAH Chargers and the Lady Chargers Cross Country teams competed in their first and only home meet of the season, the Fleet Feet Sports/Earl Jacoby Memorial Race, and both teams came out on top. The meet was held at Sharon Johnston Park on a Saturday morning that saw steady, but light rain, and a nice, cool breeze. The weather was perfect for a cross country meet and the 15th-ranked women's team edged out Division I opponent University of Evansville to capture first place with 53 points to Evansville's 56 points, while the men's team blew away the competition with a spectacular 29 points—second place Evansville had 40 points—and was led by junior Mark Temple, who finished first out of 71 runners.

“The race worked out fine for us,” Temple commented after running the eight mile course about how the Chargers ran to victory. “We opened up just real nice and easy and controlled and then, we worked together as a team to stay up front.”

The individual meet champion, Temple finished with a time of 26:11.1. Sophomore Josh Moshier continued to have a great start to the season by finishing third and just three seconds under his career-high 8K mark with a time of 26:36.3.

“Training went well over the summer for me personally,” Mosher commented before the race on how he has improved tremendously since last season when he was a freshman. “For a lot of the guys too, [training] went well, the season has gotten off to a good start, and I think we have a good season ahead of us.”

Junior Will Rodgers and Kameron Ulmer finished fourth and sixth with times of 26:39.8 and 26:44.6, and the Chargers had four runners in the top ten. In the 5K race, senior All-American Erin Zellers commented after the race that she continued to have a great start to the season by finishing third and just three seconds under his career-high 8K mark with a time of 26:36.3.

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### Campus Calendar

**Wednesday, Sept. 24**
- ACE Movie: "Sex and the City," UC Exhibit Hall, 9 p.m.

**Saturday, Sept. 27**
- Soccer vs. Ouachita Baptist, Charger Soccer Field: Men's Game — 1 p.m., Women's Game — 3:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Sept. 30**
- Volleyball vs. Montevallo, Spragins Hall, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, Oct. 1**
- Society for Ancient Languages presents "Rome and the Good Life," Union Grove Gallery, 7:30 p.m.
- Grad Finale (for December 2008 graduates), UC Exhibit Hall, 11 a.m. — 2 p.m.
- Art collection by Brandon Gardner, Salmon Library Gallery, through Oct. 31

**Thursday, Oct. 2**
- OMA Leadership Roundtable Forum and Social. Madison Hall 133, 5:30 p.m.
- Music Forum: Karen Young Recital Preview, Roberts Recital Hall, 9:35 a.m.
- Archaeology Society presents "Mycenaean Coastal Worlds," Dr. Thomas T. Tartaron, U. of Pennsylvania, Chan Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**Friday, Oct. 3**
- Women's Soccer vs. North Alabama, Charger Soccer Field, 3:30 p.m.
- Omicron Delta Kappa Induction Ceremony, UC 126, 3— 5 p.m.

**Sunday, Oct. 5**
- Faculty Recital by Karen Young, voice, Roberts Recital Hall, 3 p.m.

**Monday, Oct. 6**
- Volleyball vs. Lee, Spragins Hall, 6 p.m.
- Art work by Barron Hall and Robmat Butler, Union Grove Gallery through Oct. 17

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### Crossword

**Across**
1. Carpeting choice
5. Hari (spy) 
9. Severe
14. Saturn or Mercury
15. Megastar
16. Misplaces
17. Latch (onto)
18. Booever
19. Remote target?
20. Band of nutty siblings?
23. Topic for Hoyle
24. Part of H.M.S.
25. Like Van Gogh's night
28. Gab
32. Puget sound site
33. Father
35. Greetings
36. TV's Paternal bookie?
40. "The Greatest"
41. Stately-trees
42. M*A*S*H setting
43. Urban play area
46. Crunchy vegetable
47. Scale notes
48. Swears
50. Cone-headed family singers?
55. Dates
56. "Psycho" motel
57. Game delayer
58. Latin 101 verb
59. Liqueur flavoring
60. "Picnic" playwright
61. Talk wildly
62. Trials
63. RR employee
64. Eats

**Down**
1. Epic story
2. Ship's frame
3. Proton's place
4. City in Genesis
5. Gently
6. Clay brick
7. Guided trips
8. Choir member
9. Gibson of tennis
10. Hidden
11. U.S. ally in W.W.II
12. Tiger's props
13. Inexact fig.
14. Boor
15. Remote target?
16. Misplaces
17. Latch (onto)
18. Boobery
19. Remote target?
20. Band of nutty siblings?
21. Clara Barton, for one
22. Passed
25. Couches
26. Song syllables
27. __ good faith (2wds)
28. All in favor
29. Cry of accomplishment
30. Pop quantity
31. Op-ed piece
33. Ella's forte
34. Publicity
35. Greetings
36. TV's Paternal bookie?
37. Perch
38. Distorts
39. Reinforces
40. "The Greatest"
41. Stately-trees
42. M*A*S*H setting
43. Urban play area
46. Crunchy vegetable
47. Scale notes
48. Swears
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58. Latin 101 verb
59. Liqueur flavoring
60. "Picnic" playwright
61. Talk wildly
62. Trials
63. RR employee
64. Eats

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### Sudoku

Complete the grid so that every row, column, and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusive.

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### Outquote

_Smartness runs in my family. When I went to school I was so smart my teacher was in my class for five years._

— George Burns

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### Crossword

_Smartness runs in my family. When I went to school I was so smart my teacher was in my class for five years._

— George Burns

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**Solutions to last issue's puzzles:**

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   1 9 5 7 2 6 8 4 3
   6 8 3 1 5 4 7 2 9
   7 2 4 3 8 9 5 1 6
   4 5 8 9 6 3 2 7 1
   2 3 6 5 7 1 4 9 8
   9 1 7 2 4 8 3 6 5
   8 6 4 1 3 2 9 5 7
   5 4 9 8 1 7 6 3 2
   3 7 2 6 9 5 1 8 4
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**Quotation Quote**

_Smartness runs in my family. When I went to school I was so smart my teacher was in my class for five years._

— George Burns
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